



**THE CENSUS
PROJECT**
Supporting quality measures of
America's economy and places

 The Leadership Conference

 **READY
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COUNCIL FOR A STRONG AMERICA

September 16, 2021

The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen, Chair
Commerce, Justice, Science Subcommittee
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Matthew Cartwright, Chair
Commerce, Justice, Science Subcommittee
House Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jerry Moran, Ranking Member
Commerce, Justice, Science Subcommittee
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Robert Aderholt, Ranking Member
Commerce, Justice, Science Subcommittee
House Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Shaheen, Ranking Member Moran, Chair Cartwright, and Ranking Member Aderholt,

On behalf of the coalitions and thousands of census stakeholders in the public, private, non-profit, and academic sectors that we represent, we are writing to express our strong support for including the Administration's proposed spending anomaly for the Census Bureau in the impending Fiscal Year 2022 continuing resolution (CR).

As you know, on September 7, the White House released a list of federal programs and activities requiring funding above current fiscal year appropriations. The list included a request to support the U.S. Census Bureau's Periodic Censuses and Programs account "with a rate for operations of \$1.1 billion to cover key operations of the 2020 and 2030 Decennial Censuses, the Economic Census, and the Data Ingest and Collection for the Enterprise (DICE) program." We understand that funds supporting these activities are depleted and must be restored. Without the anomaly, the White House says these activities will be "negatively impacted."

Census stakeholders believe these activities must be sustained to ensure a successful conclusion of the 2020 Census, including the delivery of high-quality decennial census data products, and to launch preparations for the 2030 Census—both of which are constitutionally mandated. Further, the Economic Census, which generates data essential to understanding the American economy, is entering peak operations. Likewise, the DICE program is making important progress that would be derailed by any funding delays. For these reasons, we urge you to include the Administration's proposed Census Bureau funding anomaly in the next CR.

Thank you for considering our views regarding this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact us if our communities can be of assistance to you and your colleagues as you work to reconcile and pass the CR and a final FY 2022 Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations bill.

Sincerely,

Howard Fienberg, Co-Director
The Census Project



Barry Ford, President & CEO
Council for a Strong America/ReadyNation



Wade Henderson
Interim President & CEO



Mary Jo Hoeksema, Co-Director
The Census Project



Arturo Vargas, Chief Executive Officer
NALEO Educational Fund



John C. Yang, President and Executive Director
Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC

cc: The Honorable Patrick Leahy
The Honorable Richard Shelby
The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
The Honorable Kay Granger