

JUDY CHU, Ph.D.
28th DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

WASHINGTON, D.C OFFICE
2423 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-5464
(202) 225-5467 (FAX)

PASADENA DISTRICT OFFICE
527 SOUTH LAKE AVENUE, SUITE 250
PASADENA, CA 91101
(626) 304-0110
(626) 304-0132 (FAX)



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

**COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS**
VICE RANKING MEMBER
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
WORKER AND FAMILY SUPPORT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT

**COMMITTEE ON
SMALL BUSINESS**
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
ECONOMIC GROWTH, TAX, AND CAPITAL ACCESS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CONTRACTING AND
INFRASTRUCTURE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON INNOVATION,
ENTREPRENEURSHIP, AND WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Hal Rogers
Chair
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,
and Science
Committee on Appropriations
H-310 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Matt Cartwright
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,
and Science
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Cartwright:

As the Commerce, Justice, Science (CJS) Appropriations Subcommittee considers its Fiscal Year 2024 Appropriations bill, we respectfully request that you prioritize the highest possible funding for the U.S. Census Bureau.

The Decennial Census is a cornerstone of our constitutional system of government determining reapportionment in the U.S. House of Representatives and the Electoral College. Census data helps the private sector make sound investments by identifying underserved or emerging markets and developing business plans and loan applications. Over \$1.5 trillion in Federal funding for healthcare, roads and bridges, education, first responders, rural businesses, and Veterans is allocated annually to states and localities based on census data. Further, census data inform evaluation and research activities conducted by state and local government officials and scientists at U.S. research institutions.

Although the 2020 Census was just recently completed, the Census Bureau is already a third of the way into the 2030 Census planning cycle. Funding for the 2030 Census must begin ramping up early in the decade to support critical testing and operations geared toward achieving an inclusive, accurate, and cost-effective decennial census. Funding shortfalls during the last decade forced the Bureau to scale back strategic field tests—a decision that may have contributed to the less accurate counts of racial and ethnic populations, rural areas, and young children resulting from the 2020 Census. Investing in the 2030 Census now will allow the Bureau to sustain

essential capabilities and schedules and reduce the risk of requiring unplanned, additional funding in the peak planning years later in the decade.

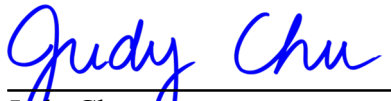
In addition to supporting enhanced 2030 Census preparations, the Census Bureau should pursue other operational improvements, including the consolidation and integration of older surveys and systems into new, more nimble data collections; research on use of administrative records to reduce survey respondent burden; enhancements to the American Community Survey, which is the seminal source of timely, accurate information about our nation's changing demographic and socioeconomic characteristics; and improvements in the Population Estimates program, which cities, counties, towns, tribal governments, and other localities use to assess and meet their communities' unique ongoing needs.

The Census is also the federal government's source of disaggregated racial and ethnic data. Disaggregated data helps policy makers understand differences between diverse subgroups within larger communities, like the Asian American & Pacific Islander (AAPI) community.

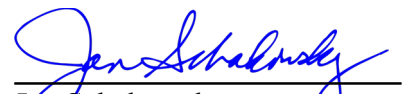
The Census Bureau faces many challenges and opportunities during this upcoming fiscal year, which with additional support from Congress, would assist the agency's modernization plans to make it operationally more efficient and improve data product quality.

Once again, we encourage your subcommittee to make the Census Bureau a high priority in the FY 2024 CJS bill. Thank you for considering our views.


Sincerely,




Judy Chu
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



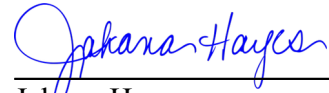
Stacey E. Plaskett
Member of Congress



Sharice L. Davids
Member of Congress



Angie Craig
Member of Congress



Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress



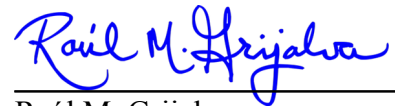
Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



Mary Sattler Peltola
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



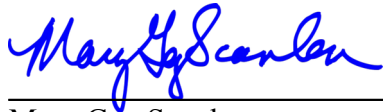
Brian Higgins
Member of Congress



Gwen S. Moore
Member of Congress



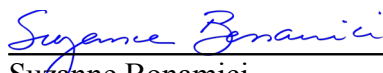
Shontel M. Brown
Member of Congress



Mary Gay Scanlon
Member of Congress



Dean Phillips
Member of Congress



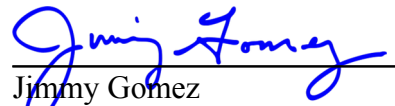
Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress




Adam B. Schiff
Member of Congress




Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress



Lisa Blunt Rochester
Member of Congress



Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress



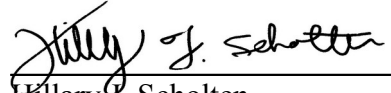
Sara Jacobs
Member of Congress



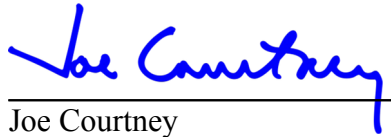
Jasmine Crockett
Member of Congress



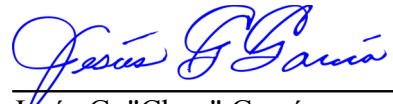
Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress



Hillary J. Scholten
Member of Congress



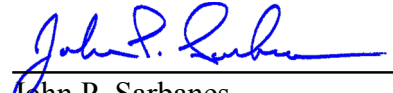
Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Member of Congress



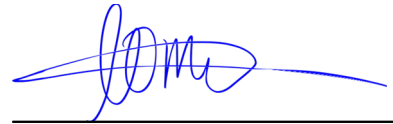
Ruben Gallego
Member of Congress



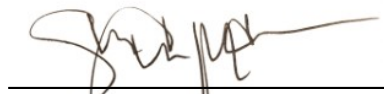
John P. Sarbanes
Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress



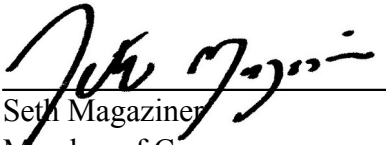
Ilhan Omar
Member of Congress



Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick
Member of Congress




MARK TAKANO
Member of Congress



Seth Magaziner
Member of Congress




Jim Tokuda
Member of Congress




Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress

André Carson


André Carson
Member of Congress




Brian Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress




Cori Bush
Member of Congress




Nikema Williams
Member of Congress



Robert Garcia
Member of Congress



Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress



Darren Soto
Member of Congress

Linda T. Sánchez

Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress