

Opportunity to Support the Census Bureau in Fiscal Year 2027: Congressional Appropriations Portal Submissions

Re: TIPS ON FILING APPROPRIATIONS PORTAL REQUESTS

Congress is preparing for Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 appropriations, even though the President's budget has not yet been submitted to Congress.

To inform their individual funding priorities and interests, members of Congress open web-based portals on their home pages to solicit input from stakeholders and constituents. The websites for members of the U.S. House of Representatives are accessible at www.house.gov, while the U.S. Senators' sites are available at www.senate.gov.

If your organization engages with federal policymakers and prioritizes funding for the U.S. Census Bureau, it is important to take advantage of this opportunity to encourage full support for the Census Bureau in Fiscal Year 2027.

The portals are not standardized, and the level of requested information varies. However, at a minimum, most portals ask for a summary of the request and how the program impacts individuals in a member's district or state (in 200 words or less). Below is language and funding level information your organization may use and adapt if you choose to submit requests in support of funding the U.S. Census Bureau in FY 2027.

If a member's site prompts you to prioritize the request for your organization, please know that the higher you rank the priority, the more likely it will resonate with an office.

Thank you for considering this opportunity to communicate interest in funding the Census Bureau in FY 2027.

Funding Level

FY 2026 enacted—\$1.49 billion

FY 2026 Budget Request—Not available yet (President has not released yet)

FY 2027 Funding Recommendation from The Census Project – \$2.1 billion

Suggested Summary of Programmatic Request for U.S. Census Bureau

With only three years before the 2030 Census, Fiscal Year 2027 is a crucial year for decennial preparations in which the agency will be analyzing data collected from the 2026 Census Test about novel enumeration strategies and technologies and preparing for the 2028 Dress Rehearsal. Adequate support for decennial census preparations now will reduce the risk of requiring unplanned, additional funding in the peak years at the end of the decade and improve

the agency's ability to conduct an inclusive, accurate, cost-efficient count in 2030. In addition to fulfilling its constitutional mandate to prepare for the next decennial census, the Census Bureau needs robust funding to sustain and enhance its other operations and surveys, including the American Community Survey (ACS) and Population Estimates Program, which monitor changes in the U.S. population throughout the decade, inform public and private sector decision-making, and guide the annual allocation of over \$2.8 trillion in federal funding.