

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM

2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

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May 11, 2020

Dr. Steven Dillingham
Census Bureau Director
4600 Silver Hill Road
Washington, D.C. 20233

Dear Dr. Dillingham:

Enclosed are questions that have been directed to you and submitted for the official record for the hearing on February 12, 2020, titled "Full Committee Hearing with the Census Bureau Director Dr. Steven Dillingham."

Please return your written responses to these questions by Tuesday, May 25, 2020, including each question in full as well as the name of the Member. Your response should be addressed to the Committee office at 2157 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515. Please also send an electronic version of your response by email to Amy Stratton, Deputy Chief Clerk at Amy.Stratton@mail.house.gov.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this request. If you need additional information or have other questions, please contact Elisa LaNier, Chief Clerk, at (202) 225-5051.

Sincerely,

cc 

Carolyn B. Maloney
Chairwoman

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Jim Jordan, Ranking Member

**House Committee on Oversight and Reform Hearing with Census Bureau Director, Dr.
Steven Dillingham
Additional Questions for the Record
Congressman Glenn Grothman (WI-06)**

Dr. Dillingham:

1. If a foreign diplomat that does not live in the consulate has been in the United States for 5 months and is expected to leave shortly, how is this person counted?
2. If a foreign individual in the United States on a temporary work visa that is expected to leave in a few weeks, how is this person counted?
3. If a foreign individual entered the United States on a travel visa, overstayed that visa and is residing in the United States, but indicates that they intend to leave in the next few weeks, how is this person counted?
4. If a U.S. student is studying abroad in Paris, but has a permanent address in Virginia, will this person be counted?
5. College students are to be counted at their college, not their parents' home. However, it is unlikely that parents realize this and are more than likely including the child away at college in the total count for their household. This can result in widespread double counting. Beyond an instruction page, what efforts has the Census Bureau taken to educate parents of college students to not count their child away at college?
 - a. In previous years, how often have you caught this kind of double counting?
6. There are obvious benefits, like access to Federal dollars, to having a larger population in a county or state. These benefits may lead to some individuals providing false information on the census, including the total number of people in a home. For example, a parent who has two children may elect to lie on the census and claim he or she has four children residing in the home. These children can all be under the age of 10 and therefore not counted in the previous census. How is the Census Bureau able to catch these false claims?
7. The Census Bureau relies on self-identification when responding to the race question on the census form. Race data collected by the census is then used for research and planning and funding government programs that provide funds or services for specific groups. Respondents can provide false information about their race, which could alter the data used for these purposes. We know this can happen, as Elizabeth Warren has identified publicly as Native American, even though DNA tests show an ancestor six to ten generations back. Does the Census Bureau employ any efforts to ensure that information on race provided by respondents is accurate?
8. What kind of ramifications does a person face for providing false information on the census?
9. Does any of the Census Bureau's outreach efforts inform people of (1) the importance of providing accurate information and (2) potential ramifications of providing false information on the census?