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POPULATION ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA and ASSOCIATION OF POPULATION CENTERS

## The Census Needs \$1 Billion in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

February 2009

Last week the House voted on a Stimulus bill that included \$1 billion for the Census. This funding is critical to a successful 2010 Census.

Senator Tom Coburn (R-OK), ranking member on the census oversight subcommittee, has announced his intention to offer an amendment to strip the \$1 billion for the 2010 census out of the economic stimulus bill. He will offer this amendment on the grounds that the funds are not needed now and can wait until a presumed supplemental appropriations bill this spring or summer.

This is not accurate. The Census can not wait. The partnership program is already a year behind where it was leading up to the 2000 Census.

The Census Bureau must hire more enumerators starting next fall. Hiring enumerators (creating jobs) requires more office space, technological infrastructure, and training materials. This planning takes time, and the Bureau can't put these plans into action until it has the financial support from Congress.

Money for more partnership specialists and increased outreach and promotion needed now. Building links to community organizations and leaders must start now; it can't wait. We have recommended tripling the number of partnership specialists, from roughly 700 now to 2,100, and putting most of the additional specialists at the local/community (not regional) level.

### The Census Bureau

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Bill of 2009 includes \$1 billion for the decennial Census. This funding will fully fund the Bureau's communications and outreach plans and help ensure the highest levels of participation in Census 2010--especially among the hard-to-count populations. I urge you to support this bill and thank you for your support.

### National Center for Health Statistics

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Bill of 2009 includes \$40 million for National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). This funding is necessary to sustain the nation's vital statistics data collection system and prevent the loss of essential data. I urge you to support this bill and thank you for your support.

### National Institutes for Health

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Bill of 2009 includes \$3.9 billion for the National Institutes for Health. The NIH needs this money to recover from years of being funded below the rate of inflation and to reinvest in vital medical research training programs. I urge you to support this bill and thank you for

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