



August 21, 2025

Dear Representative,

On behalf of the organizations and coalitions we lead, we are writing to express our opposition to HR 151, the Equal Representation Act.

Our members, which include demographers, statisticians, economists, sociologists, geographers, and epidemiologists, conduct scientific and applied research in the public, private, non-profit, and academic sectors. These scientists universally rely on census data to inform their research, evaluation, and training activities. As a result, our organizations work independently and collaboratively to promote an accurate, inclusive, and cost-effective decennial census.

As you know, the decennial census is the nation's largest, most complex peacetime activity requiring almost a decade of preparations, including painstaking research and testing regarding the questionnaire. Understanding how the questionnaire's content and delivery could potentially impact the enumeration of historically hard-to-count populations, in particular, is imperative.

The Equal Representation Act proposes adding a citizenship question to the decennial census and excluding noncitizens from the number of persons used to determine apportionment, bypassing the Census Bureau's objective, robust review process. Taken together, the bill's major provisions could potentially undermine participation in the decennial census and, therefore, ultimately diminish the quality and utility of decennial census data.

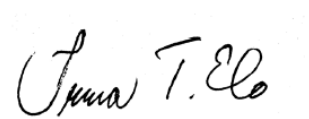
Given these factors, we oppose HR 151. Conversely, we urge Congress to hold hearings, consult experts, and consider legislation that would facilitate and enhance the Census Bureau's ability to fulfill its constitutional mandate and implement a successful decennial census.

Thank you for considering our views.

Sincerely,



Sarah Burgard, President  
Association of Population Centers



Irma Elo, President  
Population Association of America



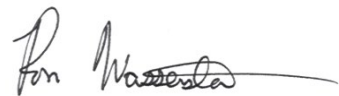
Amy O'Hara  
Association of Public Data Users



Wendy Naus, Executive Director  
Consortium of Social Science Associations



Paul Schroeder, Executive Director  
Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics



Ron Wasserstein, Executive Director  
American Statistical Association