

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 3649

To provide for an interim census of Americans residing abroad, and to require that such individuals be included in the 2010 decennial census.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 14, 2000

Mrs. MALONEY of New York (for herself, Mr. FROST, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. SCHAKOWSKI, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. BLAGOJEVICH, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. BENTSEN, Ms. LEE, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. RUSH, Mr. FILNER, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. CUMMINGS, and Ms. MCKINNEY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform

A BILL

To provide for an interim census of Americans residing abroad, and to require that such individuals be included in the 2010 decennial census.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Census of Americans
5 Abroad Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

1 (1) an estimated 3,000,000 to 6,000,000 Amer-
2 icans live and work overseas while continuing to vote
3 and pay taxes in the United States;

4 (2) Americans residing abroad help increase ex-
5 ports of American goods because they traditionally
6 buy American, sell American, and create business
7 opportunities for American companies and workers,
8 thereby strengthening the United States economy,
9 creating jobs in the United States, and extending
10 United States influence around the globe;

11 (3) Americans residing abroad play a key role
12 in advancing this Nation's interests by serving as
13 economic, political, and cultural "ambassadors" of
14 the United States; and

15 (4) the major business, civic, and community
16 organizations representing Americans and companies
17 of the United States abroad support the counting of
18 all Americans residing abroad by the Bureau of the
19 Census, and are prepared to assist the Bureau of
20 the Census in this task.

21 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
22 gress that—

23 (1) the Bureau of the Census should undertake
24 a census of all Americans residing abroad in a spe-

1 cial census, and that the necessary funding should
2 be appropriated for this purpose;

3 (2) the Bureau of the Census should, after com-
4 pleting that special census, review the means by
5 which Americans residing abroad may be included in
6 the 2010 decennial census; and

7 (3) the Bureau of the Census should take ap-
8 propriate measures to provide for the inclusion of
9 Americans residing abroad in the 2010 decennial
10 census and decennial censuses thereafter.

11 **SEC. 3. COUNTING OF AMERICANS RESIDING ABROAD.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Commerce
13 shall—

14 (1) using any authorities available to the Sec-
15 retary under section 182 or any other provision of
16 title 13, United States Code, take a special census
17 of all Americans residing abroad as of April 1, 2003
18 (in this Act referred to as the “special census”);

19 (2) submit the final tabulations under the spe-
20 cial census to the President and Congress within 9
21 months after the date specified in paragraph (1),
22 broken down into all appropriate categories,
23 including—

1 (A) Americans residing abroad affiliated
2 with the Federal Government, and their de-
3 pendants; and

4 (B) Americans residing abroad not affili-
5 ated with the Federal Government, and their
6 dependents;

7 (3) not later than June 30, 2005, submit to the
8 President and Congress a report containing any rec-
9 ommendations the Secretary may have with respect
10 to the inclusion of Americans residing abroad in fu-
11 ture decennial censuses, including—

12 (A) counting methodologies;

13 (B) the purposes for which any informa-
14 tion could or should be used; and

15 (C) whether Americans residing abroad
16 can be included in the 2010 decennial census
17 for purposes of the apportionment of Rep-
18 resentatives in Congress among the several
19 States and, if so, how that should be done; and

20 (4) take appropriate measures—

21 (A) to provide for the inclusion of Ameri-
22 cans residing abroad in the 2010 decennial cen-
23 sus and decennial censuses thereafter; and

24 (B) to make use of the information ob-
25 tained from such censuses for such purposes as,

1 and to the maximum extent that, the Secretary
2 considers feasible and appropriate.

3 (b) INTERIM REPORT ON SPECIAL CENSUS.—Not
4 later than June 30, 2002, the Secretary of Commerce
5 shall submit to the committees of Congress having legisla-
6 tive jurisdiction over the census a report which shall
7 include—

8 (1) a summary of how the plans and prepara-
9 tions for carrying out the special census are pro-
10 ceeding;

11 (2) a brief description or outline of how the tab-
12 ulations in the special census are to be carried out;
13 and

14 (3) information identifying any experts, consult-
15 ants, interest groups, or other persons outside the
16 Bureau of the Census who were consulted in connec-
17 tion with the special census.

18 (c) CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION; PEN-
19 ALTIES.—The provisions of section 9 and chapter 7 of title
20 13, United States Code, shall apply with respect to the
21 special census.

22 (d) LIMITED USE OF DATA.—The data obtained
23 from the special census may not be used for any purpose
24 not specifically provided for under this section.

1 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
2 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be
3 necessary to carry out this Act.

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