

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5599

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 5, 2008

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and
Public Works

AN ACT

To designate the Federal building located at 4600 Silver Hill Road in Suitland, Maryland, as the “Thomas Jefferson Census Bureau Headquarters Building”.

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

1 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds that—

3 (1) Thomas Jefferson, as Secretary of State in
4 1790, supervised the first modern census in world
5 history;

6 (2) the 1790 census was the first national cen-
7 sus in the United States and the first periodic cen-
8 sus in the modern nation-state era;

9 (3) Jefferson urged President Washington to
10 veto the first apportionment bill presented by Con-
11 gress on the grounds that it was unconstitutional,
12 and Jefferson’s own apportionment formula was
13 adopted and used until 1840;

14 (4) Jefferson’s mastery of numbers and statis-
15 tical analysis helped alert the Nation to the impor-
16 tance of accuracy in the numbers used to describe
17 the society and pointed to methods that later im-
18 proved census taking;

19 (5) Jefferson offered population corrections to
20 the European diplomatic community to more accu-
21 rately convey the fast-growing United States popu-
22 lation, which had been undercounted in previous cen-
23 sus taking;

24 (6) Jefferson believed in the importance of ter-
25 ritorial expansion and insisted on equal representa-

1 tion for the territories that were to join the Union
2 as States;

3 (7) Jefferson supervised the first census in
4 world history that gave to the people more than it
5 took from them, being designed less to extract taxes
6 or raise a militia than to apportion political power
7 to the people of the United States according to their
8 numbers; and

9 (8) Jefferson's role in establishing a republic
10 based on principles of representation underscores the
11 historical significance of the United States census
12 and the way the Government views and governs
13 itself today.

14 **SEC. 2. DESIGNATION.**

15 The Federal building located at 4600 Silver Hill
16 Road in Suitland, Maryland, shall be known and des-
17 ignated as the "Thomas Jefferson Census Bureau Head-
18 quarters Building".

19 **SEC. 3. REFERENCES.**

20 Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document,
21 paper, or other record of the United States to the Federal
22 building referred to in section 2 shall be deemed to be

- 1 a reference to the “Thomas Jefferson Census Bureau
- 2 Headquarters Building”.

Passed the House of Representatives June 4, 2008.

Attest: LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk.