

and reached for her purse, opening her wallet and produced the note from that night (6 years later). I wonder if she would have saved a pay stub with a minimum wage increase?

Folks, there is more to running a business than a lot of you may think. With an increase in wages, hiring will cease, and perhaps we will not be able to touch the life of some young person as I did years ago. I live and work in Eastern NC and I am proud to do business here. Please let me do it my way. Our friends, neighbors, and associates live in towns with names such as Beulaville, Kenansville, Mt. Olive, Kinston and Grifton, not Camelot.

Thanks,

KENNETH K. MOORE,
President/Founder.

THE CENSUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, tonight is a very important evening because the University of Florida Gators will become the national champions in basketball. It is very exciting for someone who graduated from the University of Florida many years ago to see an exciting young team of freshmen and sophomores that are going to be successful against the supposedly more experienced team from Michigan State. So it will be an exciting evening, and I am looking forward to it.

But I am actually rising tonight, Madam Speaker, to speak about the census. We are in the middle of the Census 2000. Officially, this past Saturday, April 1, was Census Day, and that was the day we wanted to have everyone counted where they are. It is a chance to get a snapshot of America that is taken every 10 years going back to 1790, when Thomas Jefferson conducted the first one. This is a chance to not only count people, and that is the constitutional purpose, to count people where they are so we can do apportionment and redistricting in this country, but it is also important to get that snapshot because the Federal government has grown so large over the past decades that it is in need of information to help fund those programs.

Today, over \$180 billion a year of Federal dollars will flow out of Washington to States and local communities based on census information. In addition, we have the money that flows out of State capitals, whether it is in Tallahassee or wherever in the United States. The money will flow to the communities based on census data. So it is so critical to our own communities to get the most accurate count and not get undercounted, because the money will flow; and it is not right if a community gets underfunded.

There is money for education, there is money for health care, there is money for highways. And if we have people there using those services, communities want to get their fair share of the money. So that is why this is so

critical, so I encourage everybody to complete the forms if they have not. If a census worker comes knocking on the door over the next few months, please cooperate and get those forms completed.

The projected goal is a 61 percent response rate in the mail. Hopefully, we will do better. I am confident that we will do better than 61 percent. Somewhere between 65, 66 percent, I think, would be a great accomplishment. I would be very pleased if we can get that high. Because the higher the percentage we get in response, the fewer people we have to send out knocking on doors to get that information. So if the forms do not get completed, what will happen is that community runs the risk of not getting an accurate count, and second of all, the Federal Government just has to spend money going out and knocking on the door to collect that information. And that is a waste of actual tax dollars.

The Census Bureau this year has done a good job in a number of areas. Paid advertising. For the first time in history, they have used paid advertising. And the advertising does more than just make people aware of the census. It is designed to help motivate people to complete the census forms. It shows this is important. It shows classrooms being affected, or emergency, or fire protection that is needed, and that is all related to it.

The outreach efforts have been very successful. Census in the Schools. I have been going into schools to promote the census, and I think that is very useful. A lot of Members have gone to public service announcements. I know many of my colleagues have developed them. I know I have in my area, and they have played often on the cable television. I know my ratings in Sarasota County is above the area in the State of Florida because of the response rate. So I am excited about the response rate so far, and we will know more by the end of this week.

There has been a lot of controversy about this long form. And I know there is a lot of concern about privacy. We are always debating privacy concerning medical issues and for financial institutions, so the privacy issue will continue to be a problem faced by the Federal Government. But first of all, the questions, beyond the first core questions, which on the short form are the first six questions, are really needed for the constitutional purposes of redistricting and reapportionment. They really are important questions and they really will be kept confidential. There are very strict laws within the Census Bureau to not let any of that information out.

Last week the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) and myself were out actually helping with the homeless count the other night. Before we went out with census workers, we had them raise our right hands and take an oath that we would not disclose that information. As Members of

Congress we get all these other clearances for confidential information, but not with the Census Bureau. But there are very strict laws that have been enforced and will be enforced for anyone in the Census Bureau that discloses any information. So I feel confident this information will be kept confidential.

Now, I know this area of distrust. I know a lot of people do not trust this administration because of many things, but there are a lot of things contributing to it. My neighbor across the street was complaining because she had the long form, and my wife was helping her fill it out last week. One question she refused to fill out was her telephone number. Well, the State of Florida sold drivers licenses with photographs a couple of years ago, and so there is that suspicion that government will disclose that information. It will not happen here.

This information is not shared with the IRS; it is not shared with the FBI, the Secret Service. They cannot get the information. INS, Immigration and Naturalization, cannot get the information. So it will be kept confidential. So I ask everyone to please complete their forms.

THE MICROSOFT CASE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. INSLEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, I am compelled to address the House tonight about the decision by the Federal District Court in the Microsoft case, and I rise today on behalf of two groups of people that I think deserve a voice in this debate. The first group is the American consumers and the second group are the people who work and dedicate their lives to the products they create for American consumers at Microsoft.

I would like to address the beliefs of the American consumers first, because I will warrant that if we go out and we ask our constituents, Should the Federal Government break up Microsoft?, the answer will be a resounding no. From the State of Maine to the State of Washington, people do not believe that the Federal Government will help their lives, will advance the Internet, will advance software one inch by breaking up this engine of creative growth.

And the Americans are right when it comes to this belief. American consumers are right in having the belief that this industry is healthy. This is not a sick industry that demands the physician of the Federal Government to come rescue it. And the evidence is clear: American consumers know that they are getting better products, faster products, less expensive products every day with Microsoft as it is currently configured.

Look at the evidence. This industry has grown from 290,000 workers in 1990

to 860,000 productive workers today. It has grown from 24,000 companies in 1990 to 57,000 companies today. Where is the stranglehold on creativity when we have doubled the number of companies in the software business in the last decade? This industry today has contributed \$20 billion, \$20 billion, to our trade balance. The reason is creative people are doing creative work.

And I will tell my colleagues one thing, Madam Speaker, when I talk to people across this country, they tell me they know they are getting better products, and they do not trust the American government to try to define through judicial fiat what products these software engineers, who are geniuses, should give to the American consumers. Products should be defined by what the American consumers want, not what the Federal Government wants.

I want to touch now on a message from the folks who work at Microsoft, Madam Speaker. I represent thousands of people who get up in the morning and work commonly 12 to 14 hour days to try to bring their creative talents to bear to create new products for the American people.

They have done a good job and they are doing a good job and they are going to continue to do a good job creating new products for America. The reason is that the people at Microsoft in Redmond, Washington, are not going to be distracted, they are not going to be deterred, they are not going to stop their efforts to continue that creative growth by the fact that this case will go to the appellate court because they realize this is the first step in a long process. They trust the American appellate courts and trust that ultimately the will of the American consumers will prevail in this case.

Microsoft should continue to be creative and should not be broken up.

THE CENSUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, this is Census Day plus three. My message to the American people is that if they have not already filled out and returned their census questionnaire, do it today. Do it this very minute. It is everyone's civic responsibility. I am very pleased that the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER), the Chair of the Subcommittee on Census, joins me in this message.

□ 1900

As of today, over 53 percent of Americans have responded to the census, with 47 percent to go. To the remaining 47 percent, I say please do their civic responsibility and fill out the form.

This was going to be our main message tonight here on the floor. But in-

stead, regretfully, and with some disbelief, we must also stand here and ask what is going through the minds of some of our colleagues both here in the House of Representatives, in the Senate, and on the campaign trail.

With 47 percent of the American people still not being heard from, 2 days before census day, we have Members of Congress, who should all know better, standing up, holding press conferences and telling the American people that the census is optional.

Is it that some in the majority are undercount-aholics, they cannot help themselves but they want an inaccurate census? We have Members of Congress saying that they "believe in voluntarily cooperating" with the Government; but, beyond that, they will not follow the law. Since when did following the law in this country become a voluntary thing? Do they want participation, or do they want to make participation in the census optional?

What is really disingenuous is the fact that most of the questions on the long form have been around for decades. What is really amazing with this newfound concern about the census is that, over 2 years ago, really 3 years ago also, the content of the long and short forms and while it was being finalized, every single Member of the House of Representatives and the United States Senate received a detailed list of the questions to be asked, including a description of the need for asking it, along with the specific legal requirement supporting it.

Notification of Congress is required by Title 13, for a very good reason. That is to prevent the very situation that we face today, major leaders in our country literally telling the American people that the census is optional.

Members of Congress, every single Member of Congress, received this book "Preparing for the Census: Questions Planned for Census 2000, Federal Legislative and Program Uses." They received this book in 1997, and they received it in 1998. I know that all of the Members who are complaining about this census received it. Do they not read their mail?

The time for input and to ask questions was when we were formulating the census, not now, not during the census, not days before census day. The questions asked by the census represent a balance between the needs of our Nation's communities and the needs to keep the time and effort required to complete the form to a minimum.

Only information required by Congress, not the Census Bureau, but required by Congress to manage and evaluate Federal programs is collected by the census. Federal and State funds for schools, employment services, housing assistance, road construction, day-care, hospitals, emergency services, programs for seniors, and much more are distributed based on these census figures. We must all work to make them as correct as possible.

We should remember that the Census Bureau has gone to great effort to make both the short and long forms as brief as possible. The 2000 Census short form contains eight questions, down from nine in 1990, and it takes about 10 minutes to fill it out. Ten minutes every 10 years to perform our civic duty on the needs in our community, is that too much to ask? It is shorter than 1990.

Also, the 2000 Census long-term contains 53 questions, down from 57 in 1990. We have the shortest long form in decades. It is four questions less than the 1990 Census.

The only new questions in the census were added to really evaluate welfare reform, and the question that was added is asking grandparents how many of them are caregivers. Does the Senator from Mississippi think that this question should be optional?

I am a little bit confused, because the same people who today are making such a fuss over the long form just 6 months ago literally tried to add a question to the short form, which everyone has to complete. Some of the Senators raising questions also cosponsored an amendment offered by Senator HELMS which would have asked every American what their marriage status was and add it to the short form.

Come on Senator, the head of the Senate, he cannot have it both ways. He cannot be lobbying for additional questions and then turn around and say that it is too long, that answering them should be optional.

Some of my friends who have been with me fighting for an accurate census, and many of them are on the floor with me tonight, they know because they were there when opponents of an accurate census threatened to shut down the Government twice over the census and the budget and a flood relief bill was held hostage, and we had to have the anti-modern count language removed.

Listen, believe me, these people who have fought to get the census forward to this point, they believe that the actions that are taking place now are intentional sabotage, the equivalent of a statistical shutdown of the Government by a small fraction of the GOP.

I really do not believe that, and I do not want to believe it. I think the answer is much simpler. I think the people criticizing the long form either do not know or maybe do not care how essential this information is to solving the problems of the people of our country. If they do not know what the problems are, then they do not have to spend the resources and the time and effort to correct the problems.

Let us look at the plumbing question that some of the Senators have raised. Well, it may shock some Senators but there are places in this country where Americans do not have plumbing, in the Colonias in Texas, on Indian reservations. And I really do say that in rural communities, even in Mississippi, what some elected officials are essentially saying is that they do not care