

To the Census Bureau –

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on the proposed residence rule with regard to the 2020 Census.

I urge the Census Bureau to change its proposed intent to continue to count incarcerated people where they are temporarily located while in prison. Prisoners clearly gain no benefit from whatever community the prison is located in precisely because they are locked-up. Meanwhile, the distribution of per-capita resources, per the Census count, in home communities of prisoners are skewed lower. As the public is well-aware, there is a bias in the criminal system that disproportionately impacts minority populations. Potentially helpful social services (based on Census numbers) are underfunded in some minority communities that could have helped prevent unnecessary incarceration. The fact that the United States has such a high level of imprisonment is sad and it is critical that the Census process not contribute inadvertently to sustaining this national problem. Further, today's prisoners are tomorrow's neighbors. We want needed social services in the community that prisoners will return to so they can return to being contributing members of the community.

I noticed that another comment to the Census Bureau on the proposed residence rule mentioned that the Census Bureau does have a policy of counting the home location of other populations that are temporarily located elsewhere - namely Members of Congress and boarding school residents. Therefore, it should be easy to extend

this policy to incarcerated people who clearly do not consider prison to be there home.

Thank you for considering my comment.

Regards,

Eileen Grey