

Population Division  
U.S. Census Bureau  
Room 6H174  
Washington, DC 20233

RE: Proposed 2020 Census Residence Criteria and Residence Situations,  
Docket 160526465-6618-02

I am the Senior Campaign Manager for CREDO Action, a social change network of 4 million activists, made possible by the revenues of our mobile phone company, CREDO Mobile.

Attached please find 47,677 individual public comments collected online by CREDO Action for submission to the comment period on the proposed 2020 Census Residence Criteria and Residence Situations. Individual comments may differ throughout, although the majority read as follows:

"I support changing the Census Bureau's outdated, inaccurate, and unfair practice of counting incarcerated people as residents of the place they happen to be on Census Day. The practice produces bad data, distorts political influence, and harms communities of color. Please bring an end to this practice of prison-based gerrymandering. Ensure an accurate 2020 Census by counting incarcerated people at their home, not prison addresses."

Treating incarcerated people as "residents" of prisons is outdated, inaccurate, and unfair. When government officials use census data with these padded population numbers, they're shifting representation – and therefore shifting political influence – from home communities to prison communities. This primarily harms communities of color, particularly African-American and Latino communities that bear the brunt of disproportionate incarceration rates and a broken criminal justice system.

Last year, when the Census Bureau solicited public comments on how to implement residence guidelines for the 2020 census, the majority of comments were about how incarcerated people are counted, and more than 95 percent of those expressed clear opposition to prison-based gerrymandering. But the recently released draft guidelines for 2020 keep it in effect. Our members urge the Bureau to reconsider its decision and end prison gerrymandering for the 2020 census.

Comments have been separated into 11 separate PDFs to accommodate the delivery.

Please contact me if you have any questions about the attached comment submissions.

Sincerely,

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