

Dear Ms. Humes,

I am writing to you to ask that the U.S. Census count incarcerated people in the districts they consider home, rather than in the arbitrary location where they are incarcerated. I have read a lot about prison gerrymandering and understand that by counting incarcerated people as residents where they are incarcerated, despite their inability to vote in these districts, we are taking away representation from the districts where the incarcerated people lived prior to incarceration - and thus, the communities studies have demonstrated they will most likely return to. The communities most hurt by this policy tend to be black, Hispanic, and poor, meaning their ability to advocate for their needs is already severely hampered; we make it worse by taking away members of their community and the proportional representation those members would have added.

Please change the way the Census counts incarcerated people this year - to one of self-designation or the incarcerated person's last known address.

Thank you,

Elly Kalfus