



UNIVERSITY
of VIRGINIA

Weldon Cooper Center
for Public Service

The Honorable Tim Kaine
United States Senate
231 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Kaine:

I write to bring to your attention a proposal currently under consideration by the Census Bureau related to the release of data from the upcoming 2020 Census. This proposal is not reflected in any pending legislation, nor can its potential impact be confined to a single topical area, such as homeland security or human services. The process the Census Bureau is considering has implications for every community, planning process, and public service in Virginia, and its effects will reverberate for the entire decade ahead.

Please find enclosed a memorandum to Governor Ralph Northam prepared at the University of Virginia Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service. We crafted this memorandum to describe the proposal by the Census Bureau that will distort all data from the 2020 census at the local and regional levels, leaving those in Virginia who rely on credible data at a loss.

Our hope is that sufficient attention to and comment on this issue may encourage the Bureau to reverse their plans, and we have described in the memorandum what steps may be taken to express views to the Bureau. We are working through networks of data users, municipal organizations, and other entities to encourage advocacy against this proposed change in how data is released.

Of course, as a member of Congress, you may be in a position to exert greater influence on this process than can individual citizens or data users.

If, after reading the memorandum, we can assist with your engagement in the issue, please let us know.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

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