



American Statistical Association

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June 12, 2009

The Honorable Harry Reid
Majority Leader
The United States Senate
Washington, DC

Dear Majority Leader Reid,

As president of the American Statistical Association with its 18,000 members, I write to urge you to expedite the confirmation of Robert M. Groves as director of the U.S. Census Bureau by the U.S. Senate. With the 2010 Census rapidly approaching, it is imperative to have Groves sworn in as soon as possible.

Groves is superbly qualified to lead the U.S. Census Bureau. As I've written previously, Groves, a Fellow of the American Statistical Association, is an accomplished and highly regarded statistician. As the director of the University of Michigan Survey Research Center; former director of the Joint Program in Survey Methodology; and former associate director of statistical design, standards, and methodology at the U.S. Census Bureau, he has the experience to successfully lead the bureau through the 2010 Census; plan for the 2020 Census; and direct the bureau's economic, demographic, and other vital programs. A first-rate scholar who has written many books and scores of papers, and served on 10 National Academies panels (chairing two), Groves will ensure that the U.S. Census Bureau maintains its reputation for producing the highest quality scientific products.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sally C. Morton".

Sally C. Morton, PhD

(An identical version of this letter was sent to Minority Leader Mitch McConnell.)