

The original documents are located in Box 47, folder “6/16/76 HJR92 Statistics for Americans of Spanish Origin or Descent” of the White House Records Office: Legislation Case Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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APPROVED

JUN 16 1976

86/16/76

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION

WASHINGTON

Last Day: June 23

June 15, 1976

Signed in Ceremony,
Rose Garden, 11:00 AM
Statement + remarks
issued 6/16/76

Archives
6/16/76

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT
FROM: JIM CANNON
SUBJECT: H.J. Res. 92 - Statistics for
Americans of Spanish origin or descent

Attached for your consideration is H.J. Res. 92, sponsored by Representative Roybal and Representative Schroeder.

The enrolled bill requires various actions by Federal statistics-gathering agencies to promote the improvement and expansion of social and economic statistics relating to Americans of Spanish origin.

A detailed explanation of the provisions of the bill is provided in OMB's enrolled bill report at Tab A.

OMB, Max Friedersdorf, Counsel's Office (Lazarus), Ted Marrs and I recommend approval of the enrolled bill and the attached signing statement which has been cleared by the White House Editorial Office (Smith).

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign H.J. Res. 92 at Tab B.

That you approve the signing statement at Tab C.

Approve _____ Disapprove _____





EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

JUN 14 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Enrolled Resolution H.J. Res. 92 - Statistics
for Americans of Spanish origin or descent
Sponsor - Rep. Roybal (D) Calif. and Schroeder (D)
Colorado

Last Day for Action

June 23, 1976 - Wednesday

Purpose

Requires various actions by Federal statistics-gathering agencies to promote the improvement and expansion of social and economic statistics relating to Americans of Spanish origin.

Agency Recommendations

Office of Management and Budget	Approval (Signing statement attached)
Department of Commerce	Approval
Department of Agriculture	No objection
Department of Health, Education, and Welfare	No objection to section 2; defers to other agencies on remainder
Department of Labor	Does not recommend veto

Discussion

H.J. Res. 92 is based on findings that a large number of Americans of Spanish origin or descent suffer from poverty and discrimination, and that governmental and private organizations would be assisted in determining accurately their urgent and special needs through improved evaluation of their economic and social status. The resolution states that commitment of resources can only occur when there is

an accurate and precise estimate of need.

To accomplish this objective, the resolution would require:

-- The Department of Labor, in cooperation with the Department of Commerce, to develop methods for improving and expanding unemployment statistics relating to Americans of Spanish origin or descent (section 1).

-- The Departments of Commerce; Labor; Health, Education, and Welfare; and Agriculture to collect and publish regularly statistics indicating the social, health, and economic condition of such Americans (section 2).

-- The Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in cooperation with the Secretary of Commerce and heads of other data-gathering Federal agencies, to develop a Government-wide program for collecting, analyzing, and publishing data with respect to such Americans (section 3).

-- The Department of Commerce, in cooperation with appropriate governmental agencies and various population study groups and experts, to undertake a study to determine necessary steps for developing creditable estimates of census undercounts of such Americans (section 4).

-- The Secretary of Commerce to ensure that, in data-collection activities of the Census Bureau, Spanish language questionnaires, bilingual enumerators, and other methods are used to recognize the needs and concerns of the Spanish-origin population (section 5).

-- The Department of Commerce to implement an affirmative action program within the Census Bureau for the employment of personnel of Spanish origin or descent, and to report on the progress of this program to the Congress within one year after enactment (section 6).

According to the reports of the House and Senate Post Office and Civil Service Committees, the basis for this legislation is the controversy which arose over the alleged undercount of Americans of Spanish origin or descent in the 1970 decennial Census. While both committees noted that the Census Bureau is already making efforts to resolve this problem in the 1980 Census, they expressed the view that the enrolled resolution would improve the entire statistical information base relating to such Americans and would assist in assuring a fair allocation of Federal funds which are based on statistical data, such as unemployment data.

In reports and testimony, the concerned Federal agencies favored the objectives of the resolution, although noting that there is already considerable ongoing activity in this area and that additional efforts would depend on resource availability. Various revisions were proposed for reasons of cost and practicality, as well as for technical reasons; these revisions were generally adopted by the Congress before the resolution was passed in its final form.

Agency views

Commerce endorses the broad goals of the resolution and recommends approval "in view of the broad and substantial interest in the Congress and the Spanish-American community for improved statistics, as encouraged by the resolution." Commerce notes that the Census Bureau is actively working toward the data improvement called for in the resolution, indicates uncertainty as to what additional specific efforts would be required, and states that it has not been able to determine if any significant cost increases are involved in carrying out sections 2 and 3, although the rest of the resolution would not require increased costs.

Agriculture also supports the objectives of the resolution, but notes that it has limited resources to comply with the data collection requirements and that to do so would be expensive and duplicative of Census collection activities. The Department, accordingly, states that it raises no objection to enactment of this legislation on the understanding that it will be able to rely on Census Bureau collection resources and will not be required to develop a separate duplicative collection process.

HEW states that it is not persuaded of the necessity for the legislative requirement which section 2 of the resolution would impose, since it is currently involved in gathering much of the information described in that section and plans to expand and improve its data collection efforts. Nevertheless, HEW has no objection to the section because it would not require any activities not already planned.

Labor supports the general objective of this legislation, and does not recommend a veto. Labor notes that section 1 of the enrolled resolution, requiring development of methods for improving and expanding unemployment data for Americans of Spanish origin or descent, is significantly improved over earlier versions, but might well require the allocation of additional resources on a continuing basis,

while many other worthwhile programs also demand the Department's attention. Nevertheless, Labor is developing and will continue to develop statistical programs in this area in cooperation with other agencies.

* * * * *

Although, as noted in the agency views expressed above, much of the activity required in H.J. Res. 92 is already ongoing, and some additional resources may be required to meet its various provisions, we recommend that you sign this resolution. We have attached a draft signing statement in the event that you wish to issue one.

Naomi R Sweeney

Acting Assistant Director for
Legislative Reference

Enclosures

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I am pleased to be signing today H.J. Res. 92, a measure which emphasizes the need for a sound program of Federal statistics regarding the millions of Americans of Spanish origin or descent.

As stated in the preamble to this Joint Resolution, Spanish-origin Americans have made significant contributions to enrich American society and have served our nation well in time of war and peace. To encourage and assist their full participation in all aspects of American life, it is important that we have adequate and accurate information about their economic and social conditions.

Such information, gathered through the major statistical programs of the Federal Government, can help provide the basis for action on the part of governments at all levels -- Federal, State, and local. In addition, action by private organizations can better assist Americans of Spanish origin and descent in achieving a better life.

The major Federal statistical agencies already gather and publish much of the data required for determining the conditions and needs of this often disadvantaged group. And these agencies have made significant improvements in their efforts to help assure that such needed information is available.

I applaud these efforts and the increased impetus they will receive as a result of the enactment of H.J. Res. 92.



**GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**
Washington, D.C. 20230

JUN 10 1976

Honorable James T. Lynn
Director, Office of Management
and Budget
Washington, D. C. 20503

Attention: Assistant Director for Legislative Reference

Dear Mr. Lynn:

This is in reply to your request for the views of this Department concerning H. J. Res. 92, an enrolled enactment

"Relating to the publication of economic and social statistics for Americans of Spanish origin or descent."

The purpose of H. J. Res. 92 is to improve and expand social and economic statistics concerning Americans of Spanish origin and descent.

Section 1 of H. J. Res. 92 requires the Department of Labor, in cooperation with the Secretary of Commerce, to develop methods for improving and expanding unemployment statistics among such Americans.

Section 2 requires the Departments of Commerce, Labor, Health, Education, and Welfare, and Agriculture to collect and publish regularly, statistics providing indicators of the social, health, and economic condition of such Americans.

Section 3 requires the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in cooperation with the Secretary of Commerce and heads of other data-gathering Federal agencies, to develop a Government-wide program for collection of data on such Americans.

Section 4 requires the Secretary of Commerce, in cooperation with appropriate Federal, State and local agencies and various population study groups, to study and determine what steps are necessary for developing credible estimates of undercounts of such Americans.



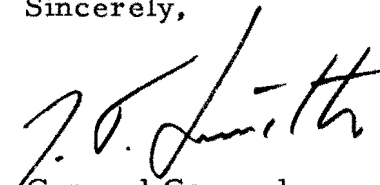
Section 5 requires the Secretary of Commerce to provide for Spanish-language questionnaires and bilingual enumerators in the collection of data.

Section 6 requires the Secretary of Commerce to implement within the Bureau of the Census an affirmative action program for the employment of personnel of Spanish origin or descent and to report to the Congress within one year after enactment on the progress of such program.

The Department of Commerce endorses the broad goals of the resolution; in fact, to the extent possible, the Department's Bureau of the Census is actively engaged in working toward the data improvements called for in the resolution. It is uncertain what specific additional efforts would be required through enactment of this legislation. On balance, however, the Department recommends that H. J. Res. 92 be approved by the President in view of the broad and substantial interest in the Congress and the Spanish-American community for improved statistics, as encouraged by the resolution.

With regard to the budgetary implications of the resolution, section 1 does not commit the Department to any specific additional resource requirements at the present time. The costs of carrying out the requirements of sections 2 and 3, however, are unclear. Due to a lack of specificity in the resolution, the Department has not been able to determine if any significant cost increases are involved. It is not anticipated that sections 4, 5, or 6 of the resolution would result in any appreciable cost to the Federal Government.

Sincerely,



General Counsel



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20250

June 14, 1976

Honorable James T. Lynn
Director, Office of Management
and Budget
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Mr. Lynn:

This is in reply to the request of your office for our views and recommendations on H. J. Res. 92, an enrolled bill "Relating to the publication of economic and social statistics for Americans of Spanish origin or descent."

Sec. 2 of the bill, states "The Department of Commerce, the Department of Labor, the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, and the Department of Agriculture shall each collect, and publish regularly, statistics which indicate the social, health, and economic condition of Americans of Spanish origin or descent."

This Department supports the objectives of the bill, however, we have limited resources to comply with the data collection requirements of the bill. Regular data collection activities of this Department relating to the social, health, and economic conditions of people generally, and Americans of Spanish origin and descent, in particular, are limited in nature. Persons of Spanish origin or descent represent a small portion of the population in rural areas and most surveys conducted in this Department do not enumerate enough such persons to allow reliable analysis of their condition. Also, analyses conducted in this Department which provide publication of information on Americans of Spanish origin or descent are based on Census data. For this Department to collect data on the social, health, and economic conditions of Americans of Spanish origin or descent would be expensive and a duplication of Census collection activities.

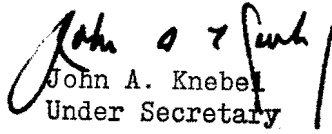
Section 3 of the bill provides for a government-wide program of collection, analysis and publication of data. From discussion with the other involved agencies it is this Department's understanding it will be able to rely on Bureau of Census collection resources and will not be required by the bill to develop a collection process duplicative

Honorable James T. Lynn

2

of or in addition to that of the Census Bureau in the Department of Commerce. On this understanding we raise no objection to enactment of this legislation.

Sincerely,


John A. Knebel
Under Secretary



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

JUN 11 1976

The Honorable James T. Lynn
Director, Office of Management
and Budget
Washington, D. C. 20503

Dear Mr. Lynn:

This is in response to your request for a report on H.J. Res. 92, an enrolled bill "Relating to the publication of economic and social statistics for Americans of Spanish origin or descent."

In short, we have no objection to enactment of section 2 of the enrolled bill, and defer to the Federal agencies more directly affected regarding the other sections of the bill.

The only section of the enrolled bill of direct concern to the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare is section 2, which requires this Department, along with the Departments of Commerce, Labor, and Agriculture, to collect and publish statistics indicative of the social, health, and economic condition of Americans of Spanish origin or descent.

The Department recognizes the need for undertaking the activities which would be required by section 2, and is currently involved in gathering much of the information described in that section. In view of our current activities and plans to expand and improve our data collection efforts, we are not persuaded of the necessity for the legislative requirement which section 2 would impose. Nevertheless, because that section would not require the Department to perform any activities not already planned, we have no objection to its enactment.

We defer to the Department of Commerce and other interested Federal agencies regarding the other sections of the bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marjorie Lynch". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Under Secretary

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

JUN 11 1976

Honorable James T. Lynn
Director
Office of Management and Budget
Washington, D. C. 20503

Dear Mr. Lynn:

This is in response to your request for our views on the enrolled enactment of H.J. Res. 92, relating to the publication of economic and social statistics for Americans of Spanish origin or descent.

This Department supports the general objective of this legislation, to provide a sound statistical program relating to persons of Spanish origin or descent. This Department has testified to this effect before the House Subcommittee on Census and Statistics on March 21, 1975, as well as on May 28, 1974.

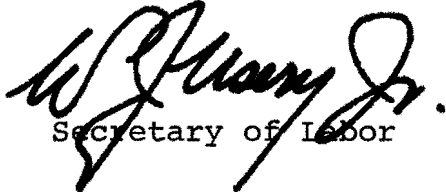
Section 1 of the Resolution requires that this Department, in cooperation with the Commerce Department, develop methods for improving and expanding the collection, analysis and publication of unemployment data relating to this minority group. At present the Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes such data on a quarterly basis. An earlier version of this legislation would have required monthly publication of such statistics. Language in another earlier Resolution requiring this Department and the Commerce Department to conduct a study of the feasibility of monthly publication of such data has also been removed. Thus, section 1 constitutes a significant improvement over earlier versions of this legislation. However, it should be pointed out that efforts aimed at "improving and expanding" the unemployment statistics program for this minority group might well require the allocation of additional resources on a continuing basis.

While we fully recognize the importance of developing adequate statistics for persons of Spanish origin or descent, many other worthwhile programs also demand our attention. Nevertheless, within the limited resources at our disposal, we are developing and will continue to develop statistical programs in this area in cooperation with other agencies.

On other specific provisions of this Resolution, we defer to the views of the agencies more directly concerned, such as the Office of Management and Budget and the Departments of Commerce, Agriculture and Health, Education and Welfare.

Accordingly, this Department does not recommend that the President veto this legislation.

Sincerely,


Secretary of Labor

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 15, 1976

SIGNING CEREMONY
FOR
HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 92

Wednesday, June 16, 1976
11:00 - 11:15 a. m. (15 minutes)
The Rose Garden

From: William J. Baroody, Jr. (P)

I. PURPOSE

To sign H. J. Resolution 92 relating to the publication of economic and social statistics for Americans of Spanish origin or descent, with ceremony, to recognize the significant contributions of the more than twelve million Americans of Spanish speaking background.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS AND PRESS PLAN

A. Background:

1. The National Congress of Hispanic American Citizens is in convention in Washington this week, at the Pentagon City Quality Inn, and this signing ceremony is scheduled today in order that they may attend.
2. Americans of Spanish origin or descent have made significant contributions to enrich American society and have served the nation well in time of war and peace. A large number of them have suffered from racial, social, economic, and political discrimination and are denied basic opportunities which would enable them to begin to lift themselves out of the poverty they now endure.

3. This Bill will provide improved evaluation of the economic and social status of the more than twelve million Americans of Spanish origin and will assist State and Federal Government agencies and private organizations in the accurate determination of the urgent and special needs of these people.
4. Under the provisions of this Bill, the Department of Labor in cooperation with the Department of Commerce, the Department of HEW, the Department of Agriculture, the Director of OMB, and heads of other data-gathering Federal agencies will develop methods for a Government-wide program for collection, analysis, and publication of unemployment, social, health, economic and other data relating to Americans of Spanish origin or descent.
5. The data collected and published as a result of this Bill will be used to recognize the needs and concerns of the Spanish origin population and to increase employment of personnel of Spanish origin.

B. Participants:

Representatives of the House and Senate Committees which sponsored this Bill, and representatives of Spanish groups and associations. (List to be provided).

C. Press Plan: Full Press.

III. TALKING POINTS:

To be provided by Bob Orben in cooperation with Bill Baroodly, Jr.

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO. *427*

Date: June 15, 1976

Time: *1115am*

FOR ACTION:

Paul Leach *OK*
 Dick Parsons *ok* cc (for information):
 Myron Kuropas *ok*
 Max Friedersdorf *OK*
 Ken Lazarus *OK*
 Robert Hartmann (signing statement attached)

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: June 16

Time: noon

SUBJECT:

H.J. Res.92 - Statistics for Americans of Spanish origin or descent

ACTION REQUESTED:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> For Necessary Action | <input type="checkbox"/> For Your Recommendations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare Agenda and Brief | <input type="checkbox"/> Draft Reply |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For Your Comments | <input type="checkbox"/> Draft Remarks |

REMARKS:

Please return to Judy Johnston Ground Floor West Wing

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

K. R. COLE, JR.
For the President

THE WHITE HOUSE

6/15/76
2:35 p.m.
J

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: June 15, 1976

Time: 1115am

FOR ACTION: Paul Leach
 Dick Parsons cc (for information): Jack Marsh
 Myron Kuropas Jim Cavanaugh
 Max Friedersdorf Ed Schmults
 Ken Lazarus
 Robert Hartmann (signing statement attached)

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: ~~June 16~~ ^{June 15} Time: ~~noon~~ ^{twilight}

SUBJECT:

H.J. Res.92 - Statistics for Americans of Spanish origin or descent

ACTION REQUESTED:

- For Necessary Action
- For Your Recommendations
- Prepare Agenda and Brief
- Draft Reply
- For Your Comments
- Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Please return to Judy Johnston Ground Floor West Wing

6/15 copy sent to researching - g

*OK on redraft
[Signature]*

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

James M. Cannon
For the President

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: June 15, 1976

Time: 1115am

FOR ACTION: Paul Leach
 Dick Parsons cc (for information): Jack Marsh
 Myron Kuropas Jim Cavanaugh
 Max Friedersdorf Ed Schmults
 Ken Lazarus
 Robert Hartmann (signing statement attached)

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: June 16

Time: noon

SUBJECT:

H.J. Res.92 - Statistics for Americans of Spanish origin or descent

ACTION REQUESTED:

- For Necessary Action
- For Your Recommendations
- Prepare Agenda and Brief
- Draft Reply
- For Your Comments
- Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Approval. RJP

Please return to Judy Johnston Ground Floor West Wing

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James M. Cannon
For the President

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: June 15, 1976

Time: 1115am

FOR ACTION:

Paul Leach
 Dick Parsons
 Myron Kuropas
 Max Friedersdorf
 Ken Lazarus

cc (for information): Jack Marsh
 Jim Cavanaugh
 Ed Schmults

Robert Hartmann (signing statement attached)

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: June ~~15~~ ¹⁶Time: ~~noon~~ ^{1:30}

SUBJECT:

H.J. Res.92 - Statistics for Americans of
 Spanish origin or descent

ACTION REQUESTED:

 For Necessary Action For Your Recommendations Prepare Agenda and Brief Draft Reply For Your Comments Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Please return to Judy Johnston Ground Floor West Wing

No objection -- Ken Lazarus 6/15/76

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

James M. Cannon
 For the President

Date: June 15, 1976

Time: 1115am

FOR ACTION: Paul Leach
Dick Parsons
Myron Kuropas
Max Friedersdorf
Ken Lazarus
Robert Hartmann (signing statement attached)

cc (for information): Jack Marsh
Jim Cavanaugh
Ed Schmults

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: June 16

Time: noon

SUBJECT:

H.J. Res.92 - Statistics for Americans of Spanish origin or descent

ACTION REQUESTED:

For Necessary Action

For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

Draft Reply

For Your Comments

Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Please return to Judy Johnston Ground Floor West Wing

ok → *James M. Cannon*

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

James M. Cannon
For the President

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

ACTION MEMORANDUM

6/15/76
2:35p.m.
LOG NO.:
Time: 1115am
de/JMCM
9
to Res 6/15 5:50 AM

Date: June 15, 1976

FOR ACTION: Paul Leach
Dick Parsons
Myron Kuropas
Max Friedersdorf
Ken Lazarus
Robert Hartmann (signing statement attached)

cc (for information): Jack Marsh
Jim Cavanaugh
Ed Schmults

to DJ S
6/15 3:17
GAMS

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: June 15/76 Time: ~~noon~~ 5:00p.m.

SUBJECT: H.J. Res.92 - Statistics for Americans of Spanish origin or descent

ACTION REQUESTED:

- For Necessary Action
- For Your Recommendations
- Prepare Agenda and Brief
- Draft Reply
- For Your Comments
- Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Please return to Judy Johnston Ground Floor West Wing

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

James M. Cannon
For the President

Statement

~~TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES~~

W.A. 176
H.S. Res.

I am pleased to be signing today H.J. Res. 92, a measure which emphasizes the need for a sound program of Federal statistics about the millions of Americans of Spanish origin or descent.

As stated in the preamble to this Joint Resolution, Spanish-origin Americans have made significant contributions to enrich American society and have served this nation well in time of war and peace. To assist them in participating fully in all aspects of American life, it is important that we have adequate and accurate information about their numbers and economic and social conditions.

Such information, gathered through the major statistical programs of the Federal Government, can help provide the basis for action on the part of governments at all levels-- Federal, State, and local--as well as private organizations, to assist Americans of Spanish origin or descent in achieving a better life.

The major Federal statistical agencies already gather and publish much of the data required for determining the conditions and needs of this often disadvantaged group. And these agencies have been making significant improvements in their efforts to help assure that such needed information is available.

I applaud these efforts and the increased impetus they will receive as a result of the enactment of H.J. Res. 92.

Census data

JUN 15 1967
THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: June 15

Time: 945am

FOR ACTION: Paul Leach
Bill Seidman
Alan Greenspan
Max Friedersdorf
Ken Lazarus

cc (for information): Jack Marsh
Jim Cavanaugh
Ed Schmults

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: June 16

Time: 1000am

SUBJECT:

S.532-Wood Act payments

ACTION REQUESTED:

For Necessary Action

For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

Draft Reply

For Your Comments

Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Please return to Judy Johnston, Ground Floor West Wing

*no comment
JCS*

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

James M. Cannon
For the President

Statement

~~TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES~~

I am pleased to be signing today H.J. Res. 92, a measure which emphasizes the need for a sound program of Federal statistics about the millions of Americans of Spanish origin or descent.

As stated in the preamble to this Joint Resolution, Spanish-origin Americans have made significant contributions to enrich American society and have served this nation well in time of war and peace. To assist them in participating fully in all aspects of American life, it is important that we have adequate and accurate information about their numbers and economic and social conditions.

Such information, gathered through the major statistical programs of the Federal Government, can help provide the basis for action on the part of governments at all levels-- Federal, State, and local--as well as private organizations, to assist Americans of Spanish origin or descent in achieving a better life.

The major Federal statistical agencies already gather and publish much of the data required for determining the conditions and needs of this often disadvantaged group. And these agencies have been making significant improvements in their efforts to help assure that such needed information is available.

I applaud these efforts and the increased impetus they will receive as a result of the enactment of H.J. Res. 92.

THE WHITE HOUSE

June , 1976

6/15/76

Mr. Linder:

From Judy Johnston, in advance
of the cover memo.

Correspondence has for typing.
Will deliver to you in the morning.

Katie

Statement

~~TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES~~

I am pleased to be signing today H.J. Res. 92, a measure which emphasizes the need for a sound program of Federal statistics ^{regarding} ~~about~~ the millions of Americans of Spanish origin or descent.

As stated in the preamble to this Joint Resolution, Spanish-origin Americans have made significant contributions to enrich American society and have served ^{our} ~~the~~ nation well in time of war and peace. To ^{encourage and assist} ~~assist~~ ^{their full participation} ~~them in participating~~ ~~fully~~ in all aspects of American life, it is important that we have adequate and accurate information about their ~~numbers and~~ economic and social conditions.

Such information, gathered through the major statistical programs of the Federal Government, can help provide the basis for action on the part of governments at all levels-- Federal, State, and local, ^{In addition, action by} ~~as well as~~ private organizations ^{can} ~~to~~ ^{better} assist Americans of Spanish origin ^{and} ~~of~~ descent in achieving a better life.

The major Federal statistical agencies already gather and publish much of the data required for determining the conditions and needs of this often disadvantaged group. And these agencies have ^{made} ~~been making~~ significant improvements in their efforts to help assure that such needed information is available.

I applaud these efforts and the increased impetus they will receive as a result of the enactment of H.J. Res. 92.

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I am pleased to be signing today H.J. Res. 92, a measure which emphasizes the need for a sound program of Federal statistics regarding the millions of Americans of Spanish origin or descent.

As stated in the preamble to this Joint Resolution, Spanish-origin Americans have made significant contributions to enrich American society and have served our nation well in time of war and peace. To encourage and assist their full participation in all aspects of American life, it is important that we have adequate and accurate information about their economic and social conditions.

Such information, gathered through the major statistical programs of the Federal Government, can help provide the basis for action on the part of governments at all levels -- Federal, State, and local. In addition, action by private organizations can better assist Americans of Spanish origin and descent in achieving a better life.

The major Federal statistical agencies already gather and publish much of the data required for determining the conditions and needs of this often disadvantaged group. And these agencies have made significant improvements in their efforts to help assure that such needed information is available.

I applaud these efforts and the increased impetus they will receive as a result of the enactment of H.J. Res. 92.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STATISTICS RELATING TO
AMERICANS OF SPANISH ORIGIN OR DESCENT

MAY 6, 1975.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of
the Union and ordered to be printed

Mrs. SCHROEDER, from the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service,
submitted the following

REPORT

together with

SUPPLEMENTAL VIEWS

[To accompany H.J. Res. 92]

The Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, to whom was referred the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 92) relating to the publication of economic and social statistics for Americans of Spanish origin or descent, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with amendments and recommend that the joint resolution as amended do pass.

AMENDMENTS

The amendments are as follows:

On page 2, beginning in line 3, strike out "Bureau of the Census," and insert in lieu thereof "Department of Commerce, shall".

On page 2, line 6, strike out ", in addition to quarterly,".

On page 2, line 8, strike out "That the Bureau of the Census and" and insert in lieu thereof "The Department of Commerce,".

On page 2, line 9, insert a comma immediately after "Labor".

On page 2, beginning in line 9, strike out "undertake further efforts to" and insert in lieu thereof "shall each".

On page 2, line 10, insert a comma immediately after "collect" and immediately after "regularly".

On page 2, line 11, strike out "provide indicators of" and insert in lieu thereof "indicate".

On page 2, beginning in line 14, strike out "the Director of the Bureau of the Census" and insert in lieu thereof "the Secretary of Commerce".

On page 3, line 3, strike out "Bureau of Census" and insert in lieu thereof "Department of Commerce".

On page 3, strike out lines 9 through 13, and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SEC. 5. The Department of Commerce shall provide for the development and use of bilingual questionnaires and enumerators in the collection of data.

SEC. 6. The Department of Commerce shall implement an aggressive affirmative action program within the Bureau of the Census for the employment of personnel of Spanish origin or descent and shall submit a report to Congress within one year of the enactment of this Act on the progress of such program.

Amend the preamble by striking out "Western Hemisphere".

EXPLANATION OF AMENDMENTS

All the amendments, except the amendment adding a new section 6 to the bill, are technical amendments correcting grammar or printing errors; word and phrase omissions and corrections; and agency designation corrections.

The amendment adding new section 6 to the bill adds a requirement that the Department of Commerce submit a report to the Congress, within one year after the date of enactment of the bill, on the progress achieved by the Bureau of the Census on the affirmative action program mandated in this section.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this legislation is to develop methods to improve and expand the social and economic statistics concerning Americans of Spanish origin or descent which are collected by various Federal agencies—the Bureau of the Census, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Department of Agriculture, and the Office of Management and Budget—thereby correcting the inadequacy of current statistics on Americans of Spanish origin and the attendant problems that this causes in terms of equitable allocation of governmental funds and political representation.

COMMITTEE ACTION

H.J. Res. 92 was introduced January 14, 1975, by Congressman Edward Roybal and was cosponsored by Congresswoman Patricia Schroeder.

Hearings were held on the legislation by the Subcommittee on Census and Population on March 14, 1975. The bill was reported with an amendment by the Subcommittee on March 25, 1975. The bill was considered by the full Committee on Post Office and Civil Service at its meeting April 17, 1975, and was ordered reported with amendments by a voice vote.

STATEMENT

The basic need for this legislation was illustrated by the inadequacy of the 1970 decennial Census in regard to the accurate counting of Americans of Spanish origin or descent.

Subsequent to the publication of the "official" 1970 Census figures, allegations were made by minority groups that there had been substan-

tial undercounts of their segment of the population. Although it was generally agreed that there was, indeed, an undercount of Spanish origin Americans, this fact could be neither verified nor disproved by the Government because of the lack of vital statistics regarding Spanish origin Americans against which the population count by the Bureau could be compared.

This situation is indicative of the obstacles which Spanish origin individuals and groups have faced and continue to face in attempting to accurately assess their needs and properly address their problems.

During extensive hearings held during the 93d and 94th Congress on this legislation, witnesses from the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights and representatives of various Spanish origin groups cited numerous examples of governmental insensitivity to the need for more accurate information on Spanish origin Americans. In this regard, the Committee found that the Bureau is aware of past problems encountered in attempting to count Spanish origin Americans and is working to improve its data collecting efforts as they related to this segment of our population.

The Committee expects that this awareness on the part of the Bureau will lead to a vast improvement in the 1980 Census data collected on American of Spanish origin.

In the interim, it is felt that other action is necessary to improve the statistics gathered not only by the Bureau of the Census but other Federal agencies regarding Spanish origin Americans.

Unemployment statistics published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics is based on information obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), which is conducted monthly by the Bureau of Census. The CPS is a survey of approximately 50,000 households throughout the United States carefully chosen to be representative of the total population. This survey is not large enough to meet the standards for statistical "reliability" set by the Bureau of the Census to allow publishing of monthly unemployment figures for Spanish origin Americans. As a result, the Bureau of Labor Statistics only publishes a quarterly average estimate of the unemployment rate for the Spanish origin population.

Because the allocation of certain Federal program funds is based on these statistics, the Committee is of the opinion that the best data possible is imperative in order to provide fair and just allocation of such funds. Hence, the requirement that a cost and feasibility study be undertaken to determine whether or not publishing a monthly nationwide unemployment rate among Americans of Spanish origin is possible.

Also, the Committee is convinced that currently there is no satisfactory Government-wide program relating to collection of data relating to Spanish origin Americans. By requiring the Office of Management and Budget and the Department of Commerce to develop such programs, a serious inequity will be corrected.

The Committee also found that it would be of great value if the Bureau of the Census would immediately begin consultation with appropriate Government groups and individuals to develop the data necessary to check the 1980 Census for possible undercounts of Spanish origin people. The Committee is hopeful that the recently formed "Census Advisory Committee on the Spanish Origin Population for the 1980 Census" will be a major help in this effort. A major thrust of

this provision is to insure that the States and local governmental units keep complete vital statistic data on all Americans—which would include noting the ethnicity of individuals on birth and death certificates.

A major point made by Spanish origin groups at the hearings in this Congress and those in the 93d, is the deep abiding distrust Spanish origin Americans have both for officials of any kind and survey forms. The Spanish origin groups believe it would facilitate the data gathering process and improve the chances of an accurate survey if bilingual enumerators collected data personally from the Spanish community. This would enable the enumerators to explain the importance of the survey, to stress the confidentiality of the information collected, and to assist in locating persons missed by the Census.

The Committee would expect the Bureau of the Census, under this legislation, to greatly increase its efforts in regard to hiring Spanish speaking and Spanish origin enumerators who would be conducting the field interviews and also, to develop and use bilingual questionnaires to help in the effort to minimize any possible undercount of Spanish origin Americans.

Finally, the Committee understands that the Census Bureau is in the process of implementing an affirmative action program. By letter to the subcommittee, dated April 11, 1975, the director of the Bureau of the Census sets forth figures of its employees of Spanish origin as follows:

There are 165 full-time and intermittent employees presently on the personnel rosters of the Bureau of the Census who have been identified as being of Spanish origin. These are distributed among the headquarters and various field offices as follows:

	Full time	Inter- mittent
Headquarters offices	44	--
Boston, Mass.	--	1
New York, N.Y.	1	25
Philadelphia, Pa.	--	1
Detroit, Mich.	1	2
Chicago, Ill.	--	12
Kansas City, Kans.	1	8
Seattle, Wash.	--	6
Charlotte, N.C.	--	--
Atlanta, Ga.	1	6
Dallas, Tex.	3	19
Denver, Colo.	4	15
Los Angeles, Calif.	2	13

Because Civil Service regulations do not permit the direct questioning of present or potential employees as to their national origin or race, such figures as are available are developed primarily in connection with equal opportunity programs. There may be other employees of Spanish origin who are not included in the above figures.

The Committee is disappointed in the number of Spanish origin and descent personnel which the Bureau currently employs, as outlined above, and urges the Bureau to undertake greater efforts to employ individuals of Spanish origin or descent.

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

Section 1 of the bill directs the Department of Labor, in cooperation with the Secretary of Commerce, to determine the feasibility and cost of developing and publishing monthly the nationwide unemployment rate among Spanish origin Americans.

Section 2 requires the Department of Commerce, the Department of Labor, and the Department of Agriculture to further address efforts to collect and publish regularly statistics providing indicators of the social and economic condition of Americans of Spanish origin or descent.

Section 3 of the bill requires the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in cooperation with the Secretary of Commerce and heads of other data gathering Federal agencies, to develop a Government-wide program for collection of data on Americans of Spanish origin or descent.

Section 4 directs the Secretary of Commerce, in cooperation with the appropriate state and local agencies and various population study groups, to study and determine what steps are necessary for developing creditable estimates of undercounts of Spanish origin Americans in future censuses.

Section 5 of the bill would require the Secretary of Commerce to provide for bilingual questionnaires and enumerators in the collection of data.

Section 6 directs the Secretary of Commerce to implement within the Bureau of the Census an aggressive affirmative action program for the employment of personnel of Spanish origin or descent and to report to the Congress within 1 year after enactment on the progress of such a program.

Costs

Section 1 of the bill will result in a one time expenditure of \$150,000.

Sections 2 and 3 of this legislation will result in a one time cost to the Census Bureau of not more than \$500,000. At this time it is not possible to provide a reliable estimate of additional costs to other agencies of the Government due to the fact that the extent of their participation in the studies is not presently ascertainable.

Sections 4, 5, and 6 of H.J. Res. 92 will not result in any appreciable cost to the Government.

COMPLIANCE WITH CLAUSE 2(1)(3) OF RULE XI

With respect to the requirement of Clause 2(1)(3) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives—

(A) The Subcommittee on Census and Population is vested under the Committee Rules with legislative and oversight jurisdiction and responsibility over the subject matter of H.J. Res. 92 and made no specific findings and recommendations in connection with its oversight responsibilities during the hearings on this resolution;

(B) Since section 308(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 is not yet in effect, no statement under this paragraph is furnished;

(C) No estimate and comparison of costs has been received by the Committee from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office, pursuant to section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974; and

(D) The Committee has received no report from the Committee on Government Operations of oversight findings and recommendations arrived at pursuant to Clause 2(b) (2) of Rule X.

INFLATIONARY IMPACT STATEMENT

Pursuant to Clause 2(1) (4) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee has concluded that the insignificant costs to be incurred under H.J. Res. 92 will not result in any inflationary impact on prices and costs in the operation of the national economy.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

If enacted, H.J. Res. 92 would not make any change in existing law.

ADMINISTRATIVE VIEWS

Correspondence from the Department of Commerce relating to H.J. Res. 92 are set forth below.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE,
SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC STATISTICS ADMINISTRATION,
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS,
Washington, D.C., April 4, 1975.

HON. PATRICIA SCHROEDER,
Chairwoman, Subcommittee on Census and Population, Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

DEAR CHAIRWOMAN SCHROEDER: This is in reply to Congressman Rousselot's request for estimates of the cost of implementing those requirements of H.J. Res. 92 which are concerned with providing economic and social statistics for Americans of Spanish origin and descent (specifically, sections 1-3).

As regards section 1, determining the feasibility and cost of developing and publishing monthly unemployment data, I would first note that such data are now produced monthly by the Bureau of the Census and made available to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. These data, of course, because of the relatively smaller number of Spanish-origin persons in the population, are somewhat less reliable than are the data for other population groups. However, these monthly unemployment estimates can still be utilized in many areas of planning, research, and evaluation, if one is aware of the sampling variability attached to the estimates.

Were the Bureau to be requested to provide monthly unemployment data on persons of Spanish origin with greater reliability, an expansion of the Current Population Survey would be required with concomitant cost increases. The exact cost, of course, would reflect the degree of improvement desired. Because of the possible substantial cost implications in any expansion of the CPS, we would suggest instead that the problem be approached in a series of stages. The first

would consist of a methodological and developmental project to explore the most efficient means of achieving the stated objective at a minimum cost. Approximately one year and \$150,000 would be required for this purpose. At the same time we would propose to discuss with the Department of Labor and other users of these statistics alternative levels of reliability which could be achieved at much less cost, yet meet the policy needs for these data. Subsequently, we would prepare a statement detailing the alternatives and presenting the cost implications. One possibility, for example, would consist of expanding the sample to provide the same reliability for the estimate of unemployment of the Spanish-origin group as now exists for the Black population. This range of possibilities would permit the Congress to weigh the cost implications against the expected gains in reliability.

To illustrate one extreme, the preparation of monthly unemployment data for the Spanish-origin group with a level of reliability approximately equivalent to that for the total population would require an increase of some 15 fold in the number of Spanish-origin households interviewed each month. We estimate that the cost of such an expansion might cost between \$45 and \$50 million each year. Achieving this level of reliability on a quarterly basis might cost between \$25 and \$30 million per year. Finally, even to provide this level of improved reliability for an annual estimate might require a cost increase of some \$10 million per year.

I am unable to provide estimates of the cost of implementing sections 2 and 3 of the resolution since they require the extensive participation and involvement of one or more other Federal agencies, even beyond those specified in the resolution. Our best judgment at this time is that the Census Bureau might require between \$300,000 and \$500,000 to participate fully in the studies specified in the resolution.

Although all costs cited above are rough approximations, we trust that they will be helpful to the Committee in its deliberations.

Sincerely,

VINCENT P. BARABBA,
Director, Bureau of the Census.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE,
SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC STATISTICS ADMINISTRATION,
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS,
Washington, D.C., April 14, 1975.

HON. DAVID N. HENDERSON,
Chairman, Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Following an open hearing on March 21, the Subcommittee on Census and Population ordered reported on March 25 to the full Committee H. J. Res. 92, "Relating to the publication of economic and social statistics for Americans of Spanish Origin or descent." Our understanding is that the only amendment made to the legislation was to delete the words "Western Hemisphere" in the fourth line of the first "Whereas." In the report on the legislation submitted by the Department of Commerce and also in my testimony before the Subcommittee on March 21, the need for an amendment to section 5 was expressed. We would like to call this amendment to your attention and set forth the reasons why the Bureau feels it necessary.

Our concern is with page 3, lines 9 and 10 which read:

"Section 5. The Bureau of the Census shall provide for the development and use of bilingual questionnaires and enumerators in the collection of data. . . ."

A clear distinction must be drawn between "Spanish-language questionnaires and "bilingual" questionnaires. A Spanish-language questionnaire is essentially a separate Spanish version of the English questionnaire. A bilingual questionnaire is one containing both English and Spanish on the same questionnaire (i.e., both languages on the same piece of paper). In the context of a decennial census, Spanish-language questionnaires cause some operational problems and added costs, but the Bureau anticipates that satisfactory procedures can be worked out after field pretesting in the next few years. On the other hand, bilingual questionnaires pose such major problems and risks that the Bureau must warn against any Congressional call for their use.

The census questionnaire is a key element in the success of the entire program. The design of the questionnaire strikes a very delicate balance among many needs—the respondent, the enumerator, printing, logistics, processing, cost, etc. To the extent that the questionnaire fails in its job, costs go up, time is lost, and most important, the quality of the information is impaired. For example, how the respondent and enumerator react to the questionnaire—how difficult they perceive it to be—is a critical matter.

To put two languages on the questionnaire would not just double its size but would make filling out the questionnaire more difficult. The sheer appearance of a bilingual questionnaire can make the form seem so burdensome that the entire self-enumeration approach is jeopardized. The increased complexity of the form would undoubtedly slow down and decrease the effectiveness of the field review performed to spot missing or incomplete responses. Central office clerical operations would be similarly affected. As a matter of fact, the additional space requirements might preclude designing the questionnaires to be machine-readable, as they were in the 1970 census. Slowdowns in the data collection and processing stages would obviously lead to delays in producing the census results, starting with the official population counts needed for reapportionment/redistricting purposes.

Enclosed is one of the questionnaires (Form D-3) used in the 1970 census. Its size, format, and content reflect many complex operational and technical considerations. A simple perusal of this document—visualizing what it might look like if a second set of words were put alongside the present English words—underscores the basis for our critical concern.

Our suggestion for amendment, which we feel would keep intact the intent of the section, is as follows:

"The Secretary of Commerce shall ensure that, in the Bureau of the Census' data-collection activities the needs and concerns of the Spanish-origin population are given full recognition through the use of Spanish language questionnaires, bilingual enumerators, and other such means as deemed appropriate by the Secretary."

We respectfully suggest also that, in order to conform with the provisions of Reorganization Plan #5 of 1950 and 13 USC 4, all references to the Bureau of the Census elsewhere in the legislation should be to the Secretary of Commerce. The responsibilities assigned to the Secretary would, of course, be carried out by the Bureau of the Census.

Additionally, we are enclosing a copy of a letter dated April 4, 1975 to Chairwoman Schroeder in which we have set forth the estimated costs involved in H.J. Res. 92. There is no mention of the costs of section 5, since we strongly object to it, do not consider it feasible, and have no way of making even a rough calculation of its potential cost impact on the total census program.

Please do not hesitate to call on me if I can furnish any additional information.

Sincerely,

VINCENT P. BARABBA,
Director, Bureau of the Census.

SUPPLEMENTAL VIEWS ON HOUSE JOINT
RESOLUTION 92

The problem which H.J. Res. 92 attempts to resolve is one that properly deserves the attention of the Congress. We all share a concern for the census undercount that we know occurs in Spanish-speaking communities.

However, this legislation raises more questions than it answers, the costs of carrying out its various requirements have not been adequately considered, and we wonder whether the Committee could not have done a better job in preparing this bill for the House.

The first section of the legislation would require an immediate study to determine the feasibility and cost of developing and publishing monthly reports on the nationwide unemployment rate among Americans of Spanish origin or descent.

While this may have merit, it appears to be an example of statistical overkill, and probably will invite requests from other ethnic groups for equal treatment.

The Bureau of the Census points out that the exact cost of providing monthly unemployment data on persons of Spanish origin would depend on the degree of data improvement desired.

For example, the Bureau estimates that the preparation of monthly unemployment data for the Spanish origin group with a level of reliability approximately equivalent to that for the total population would cost between \$45 and \$50 million each year. Achieving this level of reliability on a quarterly basis might cost between \$25 and \$30 million.

We suggest that if the proponents of this resolution were more precise in the results they want to achieve, the Members of the House would have a better idea of the financial commitment this resolution entails. We hope the debate in the House will establish some legislative intent on this point.

The cost of implementing sections 2 and 3 of the resolution are equally uncertain. Section 2 mandates the Bureau of the Census, the Department of Labor, and the Department of Agriculture to collect and publish regular statistics which provide indicators of the social and economic conditions of Americans of Spanish origin. Section 3 mandates a government-wide program for the collection of data with respect to Americans of Spanish descent or origin.

The Bureau of the Census is unable to estimate the cost of implementing these sections, since, as they say, "they require the extensive participation and involvement of one or more other Federal agencies, even beyond those specified in the resolution." The best estimate of cost for Bureau of the Census participation is between \$300,000 and \$500,000.

(10)

Our point again is that inadequate attention was given to these cost estimates in Committee. While the provisions of the resolution may seem reasonable on the surface, we may be overreaching ourselves when the time comes to providing the funding.

The requirement in section 5 of the resolution for the development and use of bilingual questionnaires again emphasizes the lack of subcommittee attention to the possible consequences of its proposal.

The Bureau of the Census tried to steer the subcommittee away from such a requirement, but without success. In its letter of April 14 to the Committee, the Bureau said:

To put two languages on the questionnaire would not just double its size but would make filling out the questionnaire more difficult. The sheer appearance of a bilingual questionnaire can make the form seem so burdensome that the entire self-enumeration approach is jeopardized. The increased complexity of the form would undoubtedly slow down and decrease the effectiveness of the field review performed to spot missing or incomplete responses.

In other words, as we read the Bureau's comments, section 5 could well be self-defeating to the major purpose of the resolution.

In place of section 5, the Bureau of the Census recommends language which would ensure full recognition of the needs and concerns of the Spanish-origin population through use of Spanish language questionnaires and bilingual enumerators. This seems to us to be a more practical approach.

Section 6 of the resolution, as contained in the Committee amendment, raises a serious question of intent. The section speaks of implementing "an aggressive affirmative action program for the employment of personnel of Spanish origin".

What is meant by "aggressive" and why is that word needed to describe an affirmative action program? An "affirmative action program" is just that. At what point does it become aggressive, and are some programs to be more aggressive than others? Undoubtedly, no matter what effort is made in an affirmative action program, it will not be aggressive enough for some critics.

The mere hiring of Spanish-origin personnel does not necessarily satisfy the purpose of this legislation, and it is not that easy to address the problem. To begin with, there are three major groups who could be generally identified as "Spanish origin or descent", these being Puerto Ricans, Mexican-Americans of the Southwest, and Cubans. However, each has different and diverse occupational, social, and residential situations. Since the intent of this legislation is to help those who are not fluent in English and because one of their major obstacles in achieving their ambitions is their lack of fluency in English, it may be that we should be approaching this as an educational problem as well.

When the legislation speaks of hiring Spanish-origin personnel, what really is meant is the hiring of people of Spanish origin who are fluent in Spanish, because being of Spanish descent is of no value in

solving the problems of census undercounts unless you have the language fluency.

The questions we raise in these supplemental views are intended to be constructive and helpful, since we support and encourage the underlying purpose of the legislation. We feel therefore that this legislation should be brought before the House under a rule permitting perfecting amendments. In this way, the House could produce a more polished bill which would be more in keeping with its commendable purpose and intent.

EDWARD J. DERWINSKI.
ALBERT W. JOHNSON.
JAMES M. COLLINS.
GENE TAYLOR.
BENJAMIN A. GILMAN.
ROBIN L. BEARD.
TRENT LOTT.

○

IMPROVEMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STATISTICS RELATING TO AMERICANS OF SPANISH ORIGIN OR DESCENT

MAY 14, 1976.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. STEVENS, from the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service,
submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H.J. Res. 92]

The Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, to which was referred the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 92) relating to the publication of economic and social statistics for Americans of Spanish origin or descent, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon with an amendment to the preamble and recommends that the joint resolution as amended do pass.

AMENDMENT

The preamble of H.J. Res. 92 is amended by striking the fourth paragraph entirely and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Whereas improved evaluation of the economic and social status of Americans of Spanish origin or descent will assist State and Federal Governments and private organizations in the accurate determination of the urgent and special needs of Americans of Spanish origin or descent; and.

EXPLANATION OF THE AMENDMENT

The amendment adding a new fourth paragraph to the preamble is intended to correct the false impression that, to quote from the original paragraph, "there is not a regular, nationwide evaluation of [the] economic and social status" of Americans of Spanish origin or descent. In fact, the Census Bureau currently provides regular statistical reports on the social and economic characteristics of the population of Spanish origin on a nationwide basis.

As the Department of Commerce pointed out in its letter of May 11 to the committee: "included in these reports is information on the number of persons of Spanish origin and their basic demographic

characteristics, such as age, sex, family relationship, family size, and marital status. In addition, data are presented on educational attainment levels, employment status, occupation, and income."

In making this amendment, which was adopted unanimously by the committee during its business meeting of May 11, 1976, the committee has sought to correct the mistaken impression that such information is not collected and published, while at the same time retaining the full force of the original language by emphasizing the need to improve the extent and quality of economic and social data pertaining to Americans of Spanish origin or descent.

PURPOSE

This legislation is intended to further the development of those methods requisite to the improvement and expansion of social and economic statistics concerning the American Spanish-origin population as collected and published by the Bureau of the Census, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, the Department of Agriculture, and the Office of Management and Budget. In so doing, the shortcomings of current statistical bank of data on Americans of Spanish origin and the attendant difficulties this causes in terms of fair distribution of governmental funds and political representation can be corrected.

BACKGROUND

The basis for this legislation rests in the controversy which arose over the apparent undercount of Americans of Spanish origin or descent in the 1970 Census. Although the Bureau of the Census itself was unable to verify that the figures of the 1970 census were incorrect, the fact that in January 1974, the Bureau reported that as of March 1973 the Spanish-origin population was 10.7 million, an improbable increase of over 17 percent since the 1970 census, suggests an undercount did indeed occur. The 1974 report of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, titled "Counting the Forgotten—The 1970 Census Count of Persons of Spanish Speaking Background in the United States," agreed that an undercount did exist citing: (1) the Bureau's own estimate of the black undercount in the 1970 census; (2) privately sponsored reports and surveys of the Spanish-origin population; and (3) the methodology used by the Bureau of the Census in 1970 to identify this significant minority of the American people. Among those methods used by the Bureau including an indirect measure in the 15 percent sample survey that sought information about Spanish speaking birth or parentage, Spanish surname, Spanish language use in the respondent's home. Positive responses to questions of this sort were used to identify Americans of Spanish origin or descent; the only direct measure of this group was contained in the 5 percent sample survey. An important factor in the undercount of the Spanish population in the United States was the unavailability of a bilingual or Spanish questionnaire. Moreover, certain questions used in the 1970 census did not lend themselves to a meaningful response from members of Spanish speaking background. For example, when respondents were asked to identify the "Color or Race" of household members, categories were

limited to: "white," "Negro or Black," "Indian (American)," "Japanese," "Chinese," "Filipino," "Hawaiian," "Korean," or "other."

Since 1970, the Bureau of the Census has made a sincere and promising effort to devise strategies which will more effectively enumerate Americans of Spanish origin. It is expected that efforts such as the creation of the "Census Advisory Committee on the Spanish Origin Population for the 1980 Census" will serve to greatly reduce past undercounts.

It is hoped that this resolution will further these efforts, particularly by providing for Spanish language questionnaires and bilingual enumerators. Enumerators fluent in Spanish will be particularly important to correcting these problems of undercount, because of their ability to explain the importance of the survey, to stress the confidentiality of the information being collected, and to assist the Bureau of the Census in locating and identifying those persons missed in enumeration process.

Above and beyond that which is being conducted by the Bureau of the Census, there are dimensions of social and economic data pertaining to the Spanish-origin community not gathered by the Bureau of the Census, but other agencies of the Federal Government. Perhaps most importantly are the monthly unemployment statistics published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, which are based upon the Current Population Survey, or CPS, conducted by the Bureau of the Census. The Current Population Survey is composed of 50,000 household, representative of the total population of the United States. The present size of the survey is insufficient to meet the standards of reliability which the Bureau of the Census demands for statistical quality of monthly unemployment figures for Americans of Spanish origin or descent. Consequently, the Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes unemployment data for the Spanish origin population on a quarterly basis as an average estimate.

The allocation of funds for certain Federal programs are based on this unemployment data, with the result that a fair and adequate distribution of program monies cannot be guaranteed among Spanish-background community. This legislation recognizes that inequity and seeks to move the Federal program for the collection of unemployment statistics in the direction of developing monthly national unemployment figures for Spanish-origin Americans.

Beyond the concern for unemployment information, there also exists a certain lack of coordination and attention to a comprehensive Government-wide program relating to the collection of data relating to Americans of Spanish origin or descent. Under the leadership of the Office of Management and Budget and the Department of Commerce, it is believed an efficient and effective program of statistical collection can be developed to give a reliable and comprehensive socioeconomic profile of Spanish-origin Americans, on a par with that available for the general population of the United States.

SECTIONAL ANALYSIS

Section 1 of the bill directs the Department of Labor, in cooperation with the Department of Commerce, to develop methods of improving and expanding the collection, analysis, and publication of unemployment figures for Spanish-origin Americans.

Section 2 directs the Department of Commerce, the Department of Labor, the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, and the Department of Agriculture, to collect and regularly publish data pertaining to the socio-economic conditions of Americans of Spanish origin or descent.

Section 3 requires the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in cooperation with the Secretary of Commerce and the heads of other data-gathering Federal agencies, to develop a Government-wide program for the collection of data on Americans of Spanish origin or descent.

Section 4 directs the Department of Commerce, in cooperation with the appropriate state and local agencies and various population study groups, to study and determine what steps are necessary in the development of credible estimates of undercounts of Spanish-origin Americans in future censuses.

Section 5 of H.J. Res. 92 requires the Secretary of Commerce to ensure that in the taking of future censuses, and in the course of the Bureau of the Census' other data-collection activities, there will be provided Spanish-language questionnaires and bilingual enumerators.

Section 6 directs the Department of Commerce to implement an affirmative action program for the employment of personnel of Spanish origin or descent within the Bureau of the Census and to report to Congress within one year after enactment on the progress of such program.

COMMITTEE ACTION

H.J. Res. 92 was ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Post Office and Civil Service with an amendment to the preamble on May 11, 1976, by a voice vote. The bill is similar in nature and purpose to S.J. Res. 115, introduced by Senator Domenici (for himself, Mr. Brock, Mr. Hartke, Mr. Humphrey, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Stevenson, Mr. Stone, and Mr. Williams), and referred to this committee on July 29, 1975.

COST

According to House Report 94-190, to accompany H.J. Res. 92, Section 1 of the bill will result in a one-time expenditure of \$150,000. Sections 2 and 3 of this legislation will result in a one-time cost of not more than \$500,000 for the Bureau of the Census. This is based upon information supplied to the Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Census and Population by the Director of the Bureau of the Census, in a letter dated April 14, 1975.

It is not anticipated that Section 4, 5, or 6 of the bill would result in any appreciable cost to the Federal Government.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

A request for a report from the Congressional Budget Committee was made on April 27, 1976. At the time of filing this report, a reply from the Congressional Budget Office had not been received.

AGENCY VIEWS

GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE,
Washington, D.C., May 11, 1976.

HON. GALE MCGEE,
*Chairman, Committee on Post Office and Civil Service,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is in reply to your request for the Department's views concerning H.J. Res. 92, a resolution "Relating to the publication of economic and social statistics for Americans of Spanish origin or descent."

The Department of Commerce endorses the broad goals of the resolution; however, the Census Bureau is already publishing some of the data requested in the resolution.

The preamble of the resolution on page 2 states that there is not a regular, nationwide evaluation of (the) economic and social status (of the Spanish origin) population. However, the Census Bureau currently provides regular statistical reports on the social and economic characteristics of the population of Spanish origin for the Nation as a whole. Beginning with data collected in November 1969, and continuing in March 1971, 1972, 1973, and 1974, the Census Bureau has published annual reports on the population of Spanish origin. Included in these reports is information on the number of persons of Spanish origin and their basic demographic characteristics, such as age, sex, family relationship, family size, and marital status. In addition, data are presented on educational attainment levels, employment status, occupation, and income. The Census Bureau plans to continue the publication of this annual statistical portrait of the current status of the Spanish-ancestry population in America based on the March Current Population Survey. Geographic detail are not available in this report.

The Census Bureau also regularly publishes data on the Spanish-origin population collected in other months by supplements to the Current Population Survey covering school and college enrollment in October of each year, birth expectations and number of children born in each June, and voter participation and registration based on a survey conducted after the general elections in even-numbered years. Nationwide estimates are available without geographic detail.

Section 2 of the resolution calls for the Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census), the Department of Labor, the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, and the Department of Agriculture to undertake further efforts to collect and publish, regularly, statistics which provide indicators of the social, health, and economic condition of Americans of Spanish origin or descent. As the preceding paragraphs indicate, the Bureau of the Census has developed in the past few years an ongoing program of collecting and publishing statistics on selected socioeconomic conditions of this important population group for the Nation as a whole. While we are committed to improving the program, significant "further efforts" depend on continuing assessments of what is needed and feasible, as well as the availability of resources for program expansion.

Section 4 would require the Bureau of the Census, in cooperation with various groups and experts, to determine what steps would be necessary for developing creditable estimates of undercounts of Americans of Spanish origin or descent in future censuses. The pursuit of the steps necessary to ensure an accurate count of the various important groups in the population is and has been an accepted responsibility of the Census Bureau, which is already undertaking steps to assure an accurate count of Americans of Spanish origin in 1980. The Bureau has initiated a study to determine the feasibility of measuring the coverage of Americans of Spanish origin in the 1980 Census.

If the preamble of the resolution is modified to reflect the fact that the Census Bureau currently provides annual estimates of the population of Spanish origin for the Nation as a whole, the Department could support enactment of House Joint Resolution 92.

We have been advised by the Office of Management and Budget that there would be no objection to the submission of our report to the Congress from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Sincerely,

General Counsel.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

Enactment of H.J. Res. 92 would result in no changes in existing law.

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Ninety-fourth Congress of the United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

*Begun and held at the City of Washington on Monday, the nineteenth day of January,
one thousand nine hundred and seventy-six*

Joint Resolution

Relating to the publication of economic and social statistics for Americans of Spanish origin or descent.

Whereas more than twelve million Americans identify themselves as being of Spanish-speaking background and trace their origin or descent from Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Central and South America, and other Spanish-speaking countries; and

Whereas these Americans of Spanish origin or descent have made significant contributions to enrich American society and have served their Nation well in time of war and peace; and

Whereas a large number of Americans of Spanish origin or descent suffer from racial, social, economic, and political discrimination and are denied the basic opportunities they deserve as American citizens and which would enable them to begin to lift themselves out of the poverty they now endure; and

Whereas improved evaluation of the economic and social status of Americans of Spanish origin or descent will assist State and Federal Governments and private organizations in the accurate determination of the urgent and special needs of Americans of Spanish origin or descent; and

Whereas the provision and commitment of State, Federal, and private resources can only occur when there is an accurate and precise assessment of need: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Department of Labor, in cooperation with the Department of Commerce, shall develop methods for improving and expanding the collection, analysis, and publication of unemployment data relating to Americans of Spanish origin or descent.

SEC. 2. The Department of Commerce, the Department of Labor, the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, and the Department of Agriculture shall each collect, and publish regularly, statistics which indicate the social, health, and economic condition of Americans of Spanish origin or descent.

SEC. 3. The Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in cooperation with the Secretary of Commerce and with the heads of other data-gathering Federal agencies, shall develop a Government-wide program for the collection, analysis, and publication of data with respect to Americans of Spanish origin or descent.

SEC. 4. The Department of Commerce, in cooperation with appropriate Federal, State and local agencies and various population study groups and experts, shall immediately undertake a study to determine what steps would be necessary for developing creditable estimates of undercounts of Americans of Spanish origin or descent in future censuses.

H. J. Res. 92—2

SEC. 5. The Secretary of Commerce shall ensure that, in the Bureau of the Census data-collection activities, the needs and concerns of the Spanish-origin population are given full recognition through the use of Spanish language questionnaires, bilingual enumerators, and other such methods as deemed appropriate by the Secretary.

SEC. 6. The Department of Commerce shall implement an affirmative action program within the Bureau of the Census for the employment of personnel of Spanish origin or descent and shall submit a report to Congress within one year of the enactment of this Act on the progress of such program.

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

*Vice President of the United States and
President of the Senate.*

June 16, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I am pleased to be signing today H.J. Res. 92, a measure which emphasizes the need for a sound program of Federal statistics regarding the millions of Americans of Spanish origin or descent.

As stated in the preamble to this Joint Resolution, Spanish-origin Americans have made significant contributions to enrich American society and have served our nation well in time of war and peace. To encourage and assist their full participation in all aspects of American life, it is important that we have adequate and accurate information about their economic and social conditions.

Such information, gathered through the major statistical programs of the Federal Government, can help provide the basis for action on the part of governments at all levels -- Federal, State, and local. In addition, action by private organizations can better assist Americans of Spanish origin and descent in achieving a better life.

The major Federal statistical agencies already gather and publish much of the data required for determining the conditions and needs of this often disadvantaged group. And these agencies have made significant improvements in their efforts to help assure that such needed information is available.

I applaud these efforts and the increased impetus they will receive as a result of the enactment of H.J. Res. 92.

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JUNE 16, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed H. J. Res. 92--Statistics for Americans of Spanish origin or descent. This bill requires various actions by Federal statistics-gathering agencies to promote the improvement and expansion of social and economic statistics relating to Americans of Spanish origin.

H. J. Res. 92 is based on findings that a large number of Americans of Spanish origin or descent suffer from poverty and discrimination, and that governmental and private organizations will be assisted in determining accurately their urgent and special needs through improved evaluation of their economic and social status. The resolution states that commitment of resources can only occur when there is an accurate and precise estimate of need.

The resolution will require:

The Department of Labor, in cooperation with the Department of Commerce, to develop methods for improving and expanding unemployment statistics relating to Americans of Spanish origin or descent.

The Departments of Commerce; Labor; Health; Education, and Welfare; and Agriculture to collect and publish regularly statistics indicating the social, health, and economic condition of such Americans.

The Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in cooperation with the Secretary of Commerce and heads of other data-gathering Federal agencies, to develop a Government-wide program for collecting, analyzing, and publishing data with respect to such Americans.

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OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
AT THE SIGNING CEREMONY
FOR H.J. RESOLUTION 92

THE ROSE GARDEN

11:04 A.M. EDT

Distinguished Members of Congress, ladies and gentlemen:

Let me add a very special welcome to the White House to the Members of the Board of Directors of the National Congress of Hispanic American Citizens who are meeting in Washington this week.

I met many of you at the swearing in of Sam Martinez a few weeks ago and it is good to see you all again.

Today I look forward to signing House Joint Resolution 92, a measure which emphasizes the need for a sound program of Federal statistics concerned with the millions of Americans of Spanish origin or descent. These Americans represent an important contribution, as well as influence, not only to the enrichment of our society, but to its continuing growth and diversity.

Mexican-Americans, Puerto Ricans, Cuban-Americans and other Spanish origin Americans have served this Nation with honor in peace as well as in war. To assist them in participating fully in all aspects of American life, more adequate and accurate information is required. Such information gathered through major statistical programs of the Federal Government can help provide the basis for action to assist Americans of Spanish origin or descent in achieving a better life.

The major Federal statistical agencies in HEW, the Departments of Labor, Commerce and others already gather and public much of the data required and have made significant improvement in their efforts to assure that such needed information is available. However, we can do much better and I applaud the additional impetus that will come as a result of the enactment of this resolution.

MORE

Let me thank all of you who have participated in and worked hard to bring this resolution to completion. It is so important that we in government listen to the ideas and concerns expressed from outside government and that we maintain a constant dialogue with many parts of our dynamic and diversified society.

Your efforts and your dedication move us into a brighter and more satisfying future.

Thank you very much, and I again congratulate those Members of the Congress who have participated in the work on behalf of this resolution.

END

(AT 11:08 A.M. EDT)

June 11, 1976

Dear Mr. Director:

The following bills were received at the White House on June 11th:

H.J. Res. 92 ✓
H.R. 11559 ✓

Please let the President have reports and recommendations as to the approval of these bills as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Linder
Chief Executive Clerk

The Honorable James T. Lynn
Director
Office of Management and Budget
Washington, D.C.