percent will not be counted by mail or phone. At $25 million for each 1 percent, that's $875 million to follow up with nonresponding households. And even after hiring a half a million temporary employees, and spending weeks going door to door, not everyone will be counted. No census has ever counted everyone. The difference is that we now have the technology and scientific tools to estimate how many people were missed, and to correct the census so that it is as inclusive as possible.

The 1990 census missed almost 2 percent of the population. If that were spread evenly across groups of people and across the country, not too many stakeholders would care. But the undercount is not random. Less than 1 percent of whites were missed, but over 5 percent of African-Americans were missed. On Indian reservation the census missed 12 percent.

In 1990 the census included an experimental method to correct these mistakes—to account for those who are missed and to correct for those who are counted twice. In the end, the Secretary of Commerce chose not to use those adjustments, and we have lived with those inequities for the past 7 years. Every year millions of dollars are lost by States whose population was underestimated.

The vast body of scientific evidence shows that these errors can be corrected in a way that is fair to all. Three separate panels of experts at the National Academy of Sciences have recommended that these errors be corrected. The techniques for correcting the census have been endorsed by professional organizations like the American Statistical Association and by groups like the National Association of Counties. The inspector general at the Commerce Department has endorsed correcting these errors, as has the General Accounting Office.

Well, you must be asking yourself by now, just who opposes a more accurate census. Unfortunately, some Members of this body will pay any price to get the wrong answer. They are not on the Appropriations Committee have yet to fund the census at the requested level, much less, give the Census Bureau more money.

One of the objections they raise to the methods proposed for the 2000 census is that they are not allowed under current law. I disagree with their interpretation of the law. This bill makes it clear that once the Census Bureau makes a good faith effort at an enumeration, the count can be supplemented by other methods to achieve a more accurate count.

Mr. Speaker, we must all work for the most accurate census possible in 2000. If we do not, it will be the American public who loses. My bill will make a more accurate census possible, and ensure that any confusion over current law is eliminated. I urge that it be passed quickly.

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw my colleagues' attention to a constituent of mine who has worked tirelessly to serve her community. Sheila Montero's work at the Community Action Committee of Cape Cod and the islands has assisted many elderly and low-income families throughout the years.

My predecessor, Congressman Gerry Studds, has the honor of representing the 10th District, working hand in hand with committed people like Sheila Montero to make life better for her fellow residents of southeastern Massachusetts.

At the request of Mr. Studds, I would like to submit a statement he made last fall on behalf of Ms. Montero, recognizing her work in such to these worthy endeavors.

Over the past 24 years, I have had the honor of serving the people of Cape Cod and islands in the U.S. Congress, and throughout that period you have committed yourself to the efforts of the Community Action Committee.

Much of our efforts over these years has been inspired by the work you have done, day in and day out, under some of the most challenging of circumstances. And while you have done a great deal to make my visits to Community Action productive and enjoyable, I want you to know just how much I appreciate all you have done to dramatically help improve the lives of so many others.

Simply put: You have made enormous contributions to improve the quality of life on Cape Cod and the islands. So tonight, it is a pleasure for me to join with all your many friends in extending to you my deepest thanks and congratulations for you all your kindness and friendship.

Finally, I want you to know that when I arrive home to stay in the near future, my first request of Congressman DELAHUNT will be to ask that he place this letter into the Congressional Record.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise to thank and congratulate the National Exchange Club and their local chapters. The Exchange Club of Copperas Cove, TX, is celebrating its 25th anniversary.

The National Exchange Club is the largest and oldest exclusively American civic organization, as well as the first civic organization to allow women members. It is dedicated to serving and protecting the Nation's communities through such programs as the National Exchange Foundation for the Prevention of Child Abuse. The Copperas Cove Exchange Club distinguished itself by winning several awards at the State and national level for their superior community service. Over the past 25 years, Cove Exchange Clubs promoted a "city built for family living" by promoting patriotism through their "gives a day, gets a wave" and "Proudly We Hail" programs and by sponsoring the Exchange Sunshine Home for senior citizens. They also recognize excellence in education by honoring teachers and providing academic scholarships to outstanding students.