

This is what needs to be changed. I have an amendment to the bill that will change this. I hope all my colleagues will pay attention to it.

ON THE CENSUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today that the President nominated Dr. Kenneth Prewitt to be the next director of the Bureau of the Census. Dr. Prewitt is the current president of the Social Science Research Council. He has been senior vice president of the Rockefeller Foundation, the director of the University of Chicago's National Opinion Research Corporation, chairman of the Political Science Department at the University of Chicago, and vice president of the American Academy of Arts and sciences.

He has also served on the boards of trustees of Washington University, Southern Methodist University, the Center for Advanced Study and Behavioral Sciences, National Opinion Research Corporation, and the German American Academic Council. He has a long and distinguished career as an administrator and researcher with publications too numerous to mention. He is highly regarded by his colleagues for his scholarship and professionalism.

Mr. Speaker, I was very disappointed that the chairman of the Subcommittee on the Census chose to attack Dr. Prewitt just hours after he was nominated. The chairman referred to Dr. Prewitt as, and I quote, yet another statistical shell. It is just that kind of attack that makes it so difficult to recruit highly qualified and talented individuals to public service. I hope the chairman will apologize to Dr. Prewitt. However, I do not feel that that is likely.

Last week one of the chairman's staff was reported to have made a comment infused with political and racial overtones. This was in an article written by David Broder entitled *Playing Hard Ball on the Census in the Washington Post*, and it was referenced earlier in the comments of my colleague the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SANCHEZ). The staff member said, and I quote: Someone should remind Bill Daley that if he counts people the way he wants to, his brother could find himself trying to run a majority-minority city.

Unfortunately, rather than repudiate that statement or even to acknowledge that it was a poor choice of words, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER) offered a feeble excuse that the quote was taken out of context. He is unwilling to apologize for the racial innuendos uttered by his staff. I do not think there is much hope that he will apologize for an abusive comment about a public servant.

Instead, the chairman keeps trying to rewrite history. He tries to call this

the Clinton census plan. The truth of the matter is that the plan was created by Dr. Barbara Bryant under President Bush. President Bush signed into law legislation passed by Congress calling for the National Academy of Sciences to advise the Census on planning the 2000 census to be less expensive and more accurate than the census of 1990.

When the planning process initiated by Dr. Bryant and the recommendations of the National Academy of Sciences came together, we had a plan for a census that would be more accurate and less expensive, just as Congress directed. That plan has been endorsed by the American Statistical Association, the Council of Professional Associates on Federal Statistics, the National Association of Business Economists, the Association of University Business and Economic Research, the Association of Public Data Users and many, many others.

Only one organization seems to favor a less accurate and more expensive census in 2000, and that is the Republican National Committee.

The sad truth is that the Census Bureau has developed a plan that will count everyone who lives in America, including blacks and Latinos and the poor and Asians and whites, everyone. But some Members of Congress do not want that to happen. Why? Because they believe not counting certain minorities and the poor is to their political advantage.

The Census Bureau has developed a plan that will count everyone who lives in this country, a plan that is more accurate and less expensive, but some Members of this body do not want that to happen. Instead they want to spend more money to make sure that the census is less accurate. Why? Because they believe that a less accurate census is to their political advantage.

The opponents of a fair and accurate census try to smear the Census Bureau, claiming that the 2000 census will be manipulated for political purposes.

If the opponents have their way, the 2000 census will be manipulated for political purposes, not by the Census Bureau, but by those who want to continue the errors of the past for their own political gain.

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garded by his colleagues for his scholarship and professionalism.

Mr. Speaker, I am disappointed that the Chairman of the Subcommittee on the Census chose to attack Dr. Prewitt just hours after he was nominated. The Chairman referred to Dr. Prewitt as "yet another statistical shell." It is just that kind of scurrilous attack that makes it so difficult to recruit highly qualified and talented individuals for public service. I hope the Chairman will apologize to Dr. Prewitt. However, I don't think that is likely.

Last week one of the Chairman's staff was reported to have made a comment infused with political and racial overtones. The staff member said "Someone should remind Bill Daley that if he counts people the way he wants to, his brother could find himself trying to run a majority-minority city." Unfortunately, rather than repudiate that statement, or even to acknowledge that it was a poor choice of words, Mr. Miller offered a feeble excuse that the quote was taken out of context. If he is unwilling to apologize for the racial innuendoes uttered by his staff, I don't think there is much hope that he will apologize for an abusive comment about a public servant.

Instead, the Chairman keeps trying to rewrite history. He tries to call this the Clinton census plan. The truth of the matter is that this plan was created by Dr. Barbara Bryant under President Bush. President Bush signed into law legislation passed by Congress calling for the National Academy of Sciences to advise the census on planning the 2000 census to be less expensive and more accurate than 1990.

When the planning process initiated by Dr. Bryant and the recommendations of the National Academy of Sciences came together, we had a plan for a census that would be more accurate and less expensive—just as Congress had directed. That plan has been endorsed by the American Statistical Association, The Council of Professional Associates on Federal Statistics, the National Association of Business Economists, the Association of University Business & Economic Research, the Association of Public Data Users, and many others.

Only one organization seems to favor a less accurate and more expensive census in 2000: the Republican National Committee.

The sad truth is that the Census Bureau has developed a plan that will count everyone who lives in America including Blacks and Hispanics and the poor and Asians and Whites—everyone. But some members of Congress do not want that to happen. Why? Because they believe not counting minorities and the poor is to their political advantage.

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The opponents of a fair and accurate census try to smear the Census Bureau claiming that the 2000 census will be manipulated for political purposes. If the opponents have their way, the 2000 census will be manipulated for political purposes—not by the Census Bureau, but by those who want to continue the errors of the past for their own political gain.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. BARTLETT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BARTLETT addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

CONGRATULATIONS TO J. KIRK SULLIVAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend a good friend and an Idahoan who has spent many untold hours working for the betterment of his community, his business, our great State of Idaho and the country.

J. Kirk Sullivan has been a leader in Idaho's business community for many years, and now he is preparing to retire. It is important to note how his achievements and interests have made a difference for so many people, not only in Idaho but throughout the country. Although Kirk was not born in Idaho, and we are going to be willing to forgive him for that, much of his career has been spent working in Idaho. He will retire as a vice president of Boise Cascade Corporation.

He has been a leader in the pulp and paper industry and spent countless hours working with government officials to ensure that business operates in the best manner possible. Most recently he led a team to negotiate the resolution to a very difficult environmental issue, a proposal called the cluster rule. The original proposal would have shut down dozens of paper mills and cost hundreds of jobs.

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The new proposal adopted with Kirk's leadership provided continued improvement in the industry's environmental performance and saved those critical jobs upon which families across this country rely.

It is this kind of effort by Kirk Sullivan finding common sense solutions that benefit both the environment as well as the economy and the jobs that our families depend on that has made him such an important leader in Idaho.

He has been honored for his service for Idaho's business and selected by the University of Idaho for various awards, including the Honorary Doctor of Science and a Presidential citation.

His community involvement is varied and reaches from the Children's Home Society of Idaho to the board of directors for the Boise Master Chorale Board, to the Idaho Congressional Awards Program.

I might note that I just came here from the Washington, D.C. National Congressional Awards Program in which the Idaho program which Kirk Sullivan so strongly supports was recognized as the strongest State program for the congressional awards system in America.

We just awarded the Gold Metal of Honor to six of Idaho's young, bright people who have come up through the ranks because of the leadership of people like Kirk Sullivan helping to make a difference for our youth. Kirk Sullivan has always sought out the best in his community and has found ways to highlight it.

I am pleased now to congratulate Kirk Sullivan for the tremendous efforts he has undertaken. We know that this is not the end of his service to Idaho and to his country, but I am pleased to count him among my many friends.

I along with many and most of the rest of Idaho, in fact, with the many friends that Kirk has in Idaho, wish him the very best in his retirement. Congratulations, Kirk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. DeLAURO addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

CAMPAIGN FINANCE INVESTIGATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DIAZ-BALART). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MICA) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor tonight as a Member of the House Committee on Government Reform and Oversight in an effort to shed some light on what we have been doing.

The Committee on Government Reform and Oversight is one of the most important committees of Congress. When I came to Congress in 1993, I selected that committee because it is really one of the most important responsibilities in Congress.

Our committee really dates back to 1808 when the Founding Fathers began to see the creation of more and more of a Federal bureaucracy and Federal agencies. They did not really trust the appropriators, and they did not trust the legislators who created programs or those who funded the programs. They set up a separate investigative panel. This goes back to 1808, and that is the genesis of the committee on which I serve, the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

It is an important committee in Congress because it is vital to our system. There are many other systems that are similar to the American system but not that have all the checks and balances that the Founding Fathers have put together.

One of our most important responsibilities is to conduct investigations. If you go out and talk to the general public, my colleagues and many people say, well, we are investigating too much, or there is too much cost to investigations; and that really is not the case in our system. That is part of our system and part of the process.

The current Committee on Government Reform and Oversight is also known as the Burton Committee. It has been very difficult to serve on that committee and do an effective job.

The gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON), myself, and other members of the committee are sent here in the stead of the public and the citizens to conduct their business, to look at investigating the agencies and activities at the Federal level. We have tried to take that on with a certain responsibility and fairness; and it has been, indeed, a very difficult task, even up to today.

Since February, we have been asking for a grant of immunity for four witnesses. We go first to the Department of Justice. This is in our campaign investigation of the foreign money that came into the 1996 campaigns. But we went first to the Department of Justice and requested that we could depose and have these witnesses testify and grant immunity that, back in February, we were granted.

Ever since then, Mr. Speaker, we have seen delay. We have seen one tactic to obstruct this investigation after another. Very frustrating. Back after, again, DOJ gave us permission in February and March, the first vote was to deny granting immunity by the Democrats on April 23, a second vote on May 13.

Finally, today, on the eve of the President going to China have we obtained permission and consent to get a grant of immunity to hear these witnesses to conduct the investigation.

I am concerned about the process, the delay, and obstruction to date. It is a serious matter for the Congress because they have managed now to obstruct this investigation, our responsibility under the Constitution, and what the people sent us here for until this date.

This is the last week this House will be in session before we go on recess. We come back in mid July, and we will be here for approximately 3 weeks. So the plan to obstruct, the plan to delay, the plan to subvert the very process that our Founding Fathers has put together has, indeed, succeeded; and it is unfair, because the American people have a right to know.

The very system that has been abused in this campaign finance process, the very system that set up this investigation and review and this cleansing that takes place through a committee like the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight has, in fact, been obstructed in its responsibility.

Then we have charges that we have been too broad in our responsibilities, in our investigation. We did not create Filegate. We had to investigate it. We did not create Travelgate. We had to investigate it. We did not create this fiasco with campaign financing. We have been charged to investigate it.

We have never in the history of this republic that I am aware of had seven independent counsels. The list goes on