

The New York Times
March 21, 2000

Census Focus Is Put on Americans Abroad

By THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON, March 19 -- They pay taxes, and vote, and buy American exports, yet the three million American citizens whom the State Department estimates live abroad are not counted in the nation's census.

Now bills have been introduced in Congress to require a special census of Americans living abroad in 2003. The 2000 census will count only those who work for the federal government, like diplomats or members of the military.

The legislation calls for a trial run at counting Americans overseas, as a blueprint for including them in the 2010 census. The House bill was introduced by Representative Carolyn B. Maloney of Nassau, the ranking Democrat on the subcommittee on the census. Senator John D. Rockefeller IV, Democrat of West Virginia, has introduced a companion bill in the Senate.

The census has been a source of intense debate as members of Congress battle over the statistical sampling that will augment the population counts to be used to redraw Congressional districts.

Americans overseas in the districts of their legal residence, and a failure to count them could make a slight difference in allocations based on the census.

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The New York Times
March 21, 2000

Glock Says It's Near Decision on Joining in Gun Restrictions

By REUTERS

SMYRNA, Ga., March 20 -- The gun maker Glock Inc. is expected to decide in the next few days whether to join in an agreement calling for new restrictions on the manufacture and sale of guns in return for protection from lawsuits, a company official said today.

Under terms of the deal announced on Friday, the government dropped the threat of legal action against Smith & Wesson, the nation's largest and oldest maker of handguns, in return for several safety measures, including a small lock that prevents the trigger from being pulled and the development of "smart-gun technology" that would allow new handguns to be fired only by authorized users.

Gun violence claims more than 30,000 lives and injures 100,000 other people annually in the United States. Gun control advocates have pushed for stricter safety standards since 2 teenagers shot to death 12 students and a teacher at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo., last year.

Paul Januzzo, vice president and general counsel for Glock, a unit of the Austrian gun manufacturer, said the company was doing a cost-benefit analysis of joining the settlement.

"I think it's unworkable, but you've got to weigh that against the cost of a potential boycott," Mr. Januzzo said.

Lawsuits have been pursued by 30 cities and municipalities seeking to recover the rising costs of gun violence across the nation. The federal government, alarmed by recent school shootings, threatened to join the legal assault.

About half of those cities and municipalities have agreed to drop suits pending against Smith & Wesson, which is owned by Tomkins PLC of London, because of the deal.

But other plaintiffs believe it is premature to join the agreement, said Joshua Horwitz, executive director of the Educational Fund to End Handgun Violence, based in Washington.

Mr. Horwitz said some cities wanted more time to examine the terms of the agreement, which caught many off guard.

Some believe the terms are inadequate, he said, because they do not include monetary damages and a requirement that the gun maker turn over internal information about the industry.

"There is still a lot of litigation to go," he said.
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STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS (Senate - October 08, 1999)

CENSUS OF AMERICANS ABROAD ACT

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, millions of Americans live and work abroad. While living abroad, they continue to pay taxes and vote. They are Americans, and they want and deserve to be counted in the decennial Census. In order to achieve this important goal, we must plan and prepare.

The legislation introduced today directs the Secretary of Commerce to use existing authority to conduct a special census of Americans abroad in 2003 to determine how to include this population in the next decennial Census in 2010. While we wish that Americans abroad could be part of the 2000 Census, there unfortunately not the time or opportunity to do so. But it is vital that we act now to ensure that plans are in place for the future.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the **Record**.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the **Record**, as follows:

S . 1715

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the 'Census of Americans Abroad Act'.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS.

(a) **Findings:** Congress finds that--

(1) an estimated 3,000,000 to 6,000,000 Americans live and work overseas while continuing to vote and pay taxes in the United States;

(2) Americans residing abroad help increase exports of American goods because they traditionally buy American, sell American, and create business opportunities for American companies and workers, thereby strengthening the United States economy, creating jobs in the United States, and extending United States influence around the globe;

(3) Americans residing abroad play a key role in advancing this Nation's interests by serving as economic, political, and cultural 'ambassadors' of the United States; and

(4) the major business, civic, and community organizations representing Americans and companies of the United States abroad support the counting of all Americans residing abroad by the Bureau of the Census, and are prepared to assist the Bureau of the Census in this task.

(b) **Sense of Congress:** It is the sense of Congress that--

- (1) the Bureau of the Census should undertake a census of all Americans residing abroad in a special census, and that the necessary funding should be appropriated for this purpose;
- (2) the Bureau of the Census should, after completing that special census, review the means by which Americans residing abroad may be included in the 2010 decennial census; and
- (3) the Bureau of the Census should take appropriate measures to provide for the inclusion of Americans residing abroad in the 2010 decennial census and decennial censuses thereafter.

SEC. 3. COUNTING OF AMERICANS RESIDING ABROAD.

(a) **In General:** The Secretary of Commerce shall--

- (1) using any authorities available to the Secretary under section 182 or any other provision of title 13, United States Code, take a special census of all Americans residing abroad as of April 1, 2003 (in this Act referred to as the 'special census');
 - (2) submit the final tabulations under the special census to the President and Congress within 9 months after the date specified in paragraph (1), broken down into all appropriate categories, including--
 - (A) Americans residing abroad affiliated with the Federal Government, and their dependents; and
 - (B) Americans residing abroad not affiliated with the Federal Government, and their dependents;
 - (3) not later than June 30, 2005, submit to the President and Congress a report containing any recommendations the Secretary may have with respect to the inclusion of Americans residing abroad in future decennial censuses, including--
 - (A) counting methodologies;
 - (B) the purposes for which any information could or should be used; and
 - (C) whether Americans residing abroad can be included in the 2010 decennial census for purposes of the apportionment of Representatives in Congress among the several States and, if so, how that should be done; and
 - (4) take appropriate measures--
 - (A) to provide for the inclusion of Americans residing abroad in the 2010 decennial census and decennial censuses thereafter; and
 - (B) to make use of the information obtained from such censuses for such purposes as, and to the maximum extent that, the Secretary considers feasible and appropriate.
- (b) **Interim Report on Special Census:** Not later than June 30, 2002, the Secretary of Commerce shall submit to the committees of Congress having legislative jurisdiction over the census a report which shall include--
- (1) a summary of how the plans and preparations for carrying out the special census are proceeding;
 - (2) a brief description or outline of how the tabulations in the special census are to be carried out; and
 - (3) information identifying any experts, consultants, interest groups, or other persons outside the Bureau of the Census who were consulted in connection with the special census.
- (c) **Confidentiality of Information; Penalties:** The provisions of section 9 and chapter 7 of title 13, United States Code, shall apply with respect to the special census.
- (d) **Limited Use of Data:** The data obtained from the special census may not be used for any purpose not specifically provided for under this section.

(e) **Authorization of Appropriations:** There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

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Census of Americans Abroad Act (Introduced in the House)

HR 2444 IH

106th CONGRESS

1st Session

H. R. 2444

To provide for an interim census of Americans abroad , the data from which shall be used in deciding whether to count such individuals in future decennial censuses.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

July 1, 1999

Mrs. MALONEY of New York (for herself, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. UNDERWOOD, Mr. FILNER, Mr. OLVER, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. RUSH, Mrs. CLAYTON, Mr. SHOWS, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. BROWN of California, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. BENTSEN, and Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform

A BILL

To provide for an interim census of Americans abroad , the data from which shall be used in deciding whether to count such individuals in future decennial censuses.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the 'Census of Americans Abroad Act'.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS.

(a) FINDINGS- Congress finds that--

(1) between 3,000,000 and 6,000,000 Americans live and work overseas while continuing to vote and pay taxes in the United States;

(2) Americans living abroad help increase exports of American goods because they traditionally buy American, sell American, and create business opportunities for American companies and workers, thereby strengthening the United States economy, creating jobs in the United States, and extending United States influence around the globe;

(3) Americans abroad play a key role in advancing this Nation's interests by serving as economic, political, and cultural 'ambassadors' of the United States; and

(4) the major business, civic, and community organizations representing Americans and companies of the United States abroad support the counting of all Americans abroad by the Bureau of the Census, and are prepared to assist the Bureau of the Census in this task.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS- It is the sense of Congress that--

(1) the Bureau of the Census should undertake a census of all Americans residing abroad in a special census, and the necessary funding should be appropriated for this purpose; and

(2) the Bureau of the Census should, after completing a special census of all Americans residing abroad, review the means by which Americans residing abroad could be included in the 2010 decennial census.

SEC. 3. COUNTING OF AMERICANS ABROAD.

(a) IN GENERAL- The Secretary of Commerce shall--

(1) using any authorities available to the Secretary under section 182 or any other provision of title 13, United States Code, take a census of all Americans residing abroad as of April 1, 2003;

(2) submit the final tabulations under this subsection to the President and the Congress within 9 months after the date specified in paragraph (1), broken down into all appropriate categories, including--

(A) Americans abroad affiliated with the Federal Government and their dependents; and

(B) Americans abroad not affiliated with the Federal Government and their dependents; and

(3) not later than June 30, 2005, submit to the President and the Congress a report containing--

(A) the Secretary's findings as to the feasibility of counting Americans abroad in future decennial censuses of population; and

(B) any recommendations which the Secretary may have regarding the counting of Americans abroad, including--

(i) whether and how Americans abroad could be counted in the 2010 decennial census;

(ii) for what purposes the information could and should be used; and

(iii) whether Americans abroad should be included in the 2010 decennial

census for purposes of the apportionment of Representatives in Congress among the several States and, if so, how that should be done.

(b) INTERIM REPORT- Not later than June 30, 2002, the Secretary of Commerce shall submit to the committees of Congress having legislative jurisdiction over the census a report which shall include--

(1) a summary of how the plans and preparations for carrying out this section are proceeding;

(2) a brief description or outline of how the tabulations referred to in subsection (a) are to be carried out; and

(3) information identifying any experts, consultants, interest groups, or other persons outside the Bureau of the Census who were consulted under this section.

(c) CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION; PENALTIES- The provisions of section 9 and chapter 7 of title 13, United States Code, shall apply to the census carried out under this Act.

(d) LIMITED USE OF DATA- The data obtained from the census taken under this Act may not be used for any purpose not specifically provided for under this section.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS- There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

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