

105TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. CON. RES. 12

Expressing the sense of the Congress with respect to the collection of data on ancestry in the decennial census.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 17, 1997

Mr. TORRICELLI (for himself, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. GLENN, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. SARBANES) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Governmental Affairs

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## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress with respect to the collection of data on ancestry in the decennial census.

Whereas the decennial census of population is the only source of complete and comparable information on the ethnic composition of the United States;

Whereas no other source can provide as accurate and reliable data on the changing ethnic composition of the population of the United States at the national, State, and local levels as is provided by the decennial census;

Whereas ancestry data, together with other demographic and socioeconomic data, collected in the decennial census assists policymakers in assessing patterns of assimilation,

mobility, and achievement on the part of different population subgroups of the United States;

Whereas the United States Commission on Civil Rights uses census ancestry data to monitor unlawful discrimination based on national origin; and

Whereas ancestry data collected in the decennial census is used by many other individuals and entities, including Federal, State, and local governmental agencies, educators, service providers, businesses, and researches: Now, therefore, be it

1        *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*  
2 *concurring),*

3 **SECTION 1. SENSE OF THE CONGRESS.**

4        It is the sense of the Congress that the Secretary of  
5 Commerce should ensure that the information requested  
6 in the 2000 decennial census of population with respect  
7 to ancestry will be at least as comprehensive as the infor-  
8 mation that was requested in the 1990 decennial census  
9 (in terms of the content of the information and the range  
10 of respondents from whom that information is sought).

11 **SEC. 2. TRANSMISSION TO THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE.**

12        The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit a copy  
13 of this concurrent resolution to the Secretary of Com-  
14 merce.

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