

# CENSUS PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the next decennial Census will be taken in 2010 as required under Article 1, section 2, of the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, each year the federal government directs billions of dollars to state, local, and tribal governments by using Census data; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, Montana received \$10.5 billion in federal funding, of which nearly \$1.8 billion was allocated based on Census data; and

WHEREAS, Montana ranked near the bottom of the 50 states in the 2000 Census in terms of how many of its people were missed in the count; and


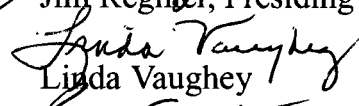

WHEREAS, the Montana Department of Commerce estimates that this undercount might have cost Montana up to \$43.2 million in federal funds; and

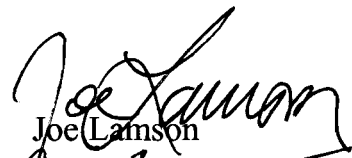
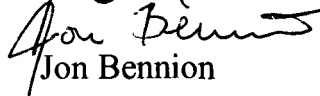
WHEREAS, Census data are also used to determine boundaries for state and local legislative and congressional districts; and

WHEREAS, by law, an individual's responses to the Census may not be shared with anyone, including other federal agencies or law enforcement entities.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, the members of the MONTANA DISTRICTING AND APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION, do hereby encourage all Montanans to participate fully in the Census 2010 and to help ensure all those living in Montana are counted.

Dated January 6, 2010

  
Jim Regnier, Presiding Officer  
  
Linda Vaughey  
  
Pat Smith

  
Joe Lamson  
  
Jon Bennion