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8-30-1990

News Release - 1990-08-30b

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news release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

30 August 1990

WASHINGTON, D C -- "Have we been accurately counted?" is a question south Texas Congressman Kika de la Garza today asked adding "I believe there is a strong possibility the answer is no."

Earlier this year the Census Bureau conducted a precensus local review. At that time the bureau tabulated housing unit counts, by block, from its address file. These figures were compiled and corrected in advance of Census Day. Local officials were provided with appropriate maps and tallies of housing units for census blocks and were requested to identify the blocks where errors existed. This information was provided to local governments in order to provide an opportunity to identify any discrepancies.

"Subsequent to this precensus local review and to the preliminary population counts that have just been released from the bureau, I am led to believe that there may have been an undercount in the 15th District," said the Congressman who added that the **"population counts have been released for informational purposes only and that it is important to point out that the Census Bureau is releasing these partial and preliminary data for that sole purpose."** The south Texas representative went on to say "that is why it is so important that the next step in the process, the postcensus local review, accurately reflect the population of our area."

The postcensus local review program which the Census Bureau has begun will provide housing counts by block to all 39,000 governmental units for review, much like the precensus local review program conducted earlier this year. This will provide local governments an additional opportunity to review the counts before they become final. The Census Bureau will be able to recanvass discrepancies brought to their attention by local officials. **Local governments will have 15 working days to review and challenge potential inaccuracies.**

If any of the cities in the 15th District are aware of verifiable discrepancies please, please, please make them known to the Regional Census Center. The address and phone number are as follows: Mr John E Bell, Regional Director, Bureau of the Census, Suite 210, 6303 Harry Hines Blvd, Dallas, Tx 75235-5228 -- 214-767-7488. "I cannot stress too strongly how important it is to do so," said Rep de la Garza. "Only by doing so can our area and our state be adequately represented."

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