

112TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 3079

To make participation in the American Community Survey voluntary, except with respect to certain basic questions, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 10, 2012

Mr. PAUL (for himself, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mr. VITTER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

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## A BILL

To make participation in the American Community Survey voluntary, except with respect to certain basic questions, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. PARTICIPATION IN AMERICAN COMMUNITY**  
4 **SURVEY TO BE VOLUNTARY.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection  
6 (b), no criminal penalty shall apply, under section 221 of  
7 title 13, United States Code, or any other provision of law,  
8 for refusing or willfully neglecting to answer questions in  
9 connection with the survey, conducted by the Secretary of

1 Commerce, which is commonly referred to as the “Amer-  
2 ican Community Survey”.

3 (b) EXCEPTIONS.—Nothing in subsection (a) shall—

4 (1) apply in the case of a question that elicits  
5 only 1 or more of the items of information described  
6 in subsection (c); or

7 (2) be considered to waive any penalty imposed  
8 by reason of conduct described in section 221(b) of  
9 title 13, United States Code.

10 (c) INFORMATION DESCRIBED.—The items of infor-  
11 mation described in this subsection are as follows:

12 (1) The name of the respondent.

13 (2) Contact information for the respondent.

14 (3) The date of the response.

15 (4) The number of people living or staying at  
16 the same address.

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