

Speeches and messages: 1968 (2 of 2): Statement on bill to create mid-decade census

Senator Daniel K. Inouye Papers

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STATEMENT BY SENATOR DANIEL K. INOUE BEFORE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
POST OFFICE AND CIVIL SERVICE ON BILL TO CREATE MID-DECADE CENSUS

February 14, 1968

The massive social legislation enacted by the Congress in the past decade has prompted a growing interest in the proposed mid-decade census.

The reason for this interest is obvious. Our communities are confronted with the need to move rapidly ahead in the health, education, and welfare areas and they need as many facts about their growth as they can command before launching new programs.

We all know that the end of the Vietnam conflict will only make this issue more pressing.

The need for fresh information is even more vital in Hawaii where our population growth -- up 17.9 per cent since the 1960 census -- is almost twice the national average.

The mid-decade census will not be a duplicate of the decennial census but, rather, it will take into account the extent to which current information is available from other sources and will make maximum use of sampling procedures consistent with statistical needs.

This flexibility should enable us to achieve the utmost in benefits from this most valuable tool for long-range planning purposes.

As a footnote, I should like to add that the Kingdom of Hawaii conducted a census every six years from 1860 to 1896.

In view of the rapid growth of our affluent society, I do not believe that we can ignore this need any longer.