

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1941

To direct the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to standardize the use of core-based statistical area designations across Federal programs, to allow between 120 and 180 days for public comment on any proposed change to such designations, and to report on the scientific basis and estimated impact to Federal programs for any proposed change to such designations, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 27, 2021

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

A BILL

To direct the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to standardize the use of core-based statistical area designations across Federal programs, to allow between 120 and 180 days for public comment on any proposed change to such designations, and to report on the scientific basis and estimated impact to Federal programs for any proposed change to such designations, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Metropolitan Areas
3 Protection and Standardization Act of 2021” or the
4 “MAPS Act of 2021”.

5 **SEC. 2. REQUIREMENTS FOR MODIFICATION OF CBSA**
6 **STANDARDS.**

7 (a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

8 (1) **CORE-BASED STATISTICAL AREA.**—The
9 term “core-based statistical area” has the meaning
10 given the term by the Office of Management and
11 Budget in the Notice of Decision entitled “2010
12 Standards for Delineating Metropolitan and
13 Micropolitan Statistical Areas”, published in the
14 Federal Register on June 28, 2010 (75 Fed. Reg.
15 37246), or any successor to that Notice.

16 (2) **DIRECTOR.**—The term “Director” means
17 the Director of the Office of Management and Budg-
18 et.

19 (b) **REQUIREMENTS.**—

20 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—Before the Director rec-
21 ommends, adopts, or implements any change to the
22 standards for a core-based statistical area, the Di-
23 rector shall—

24 (A) require the complete reporting of the
25 use of core-based statistical area designations
26 as standardized by the Office of Management

1 and Budget in accordance with the amendments
2 made by subsections (c) and (d);

3 (B) allow for public comment on any pro-
4 posed change to the standards for a core-based
5 statistical area for a period of not less than 120
6 days and not more than 180 days; and

7 (C) submit a public report, produced in ac-
8 cordance with paragraph (2), to the Committee
9 on Homeland Security and Governmental Af-
10 fairs of the Senate and the Committee on Over-
11 sight and Reform of the House of Representa-
12 tives on—

13 (i) the scientific basis, criteria, and
14 methodology for any such change to exist-
15 ing standards, including clear quantitative
16 thresholds for determining any future sta-
17 tistical redesignations; and

18 (ii) the complete list of Federal pro-
19 grams that would be impacted by any such
20 change to existing standards, including the
21 estimated impact on a county level to Fed-
22 eral services, opportunities, and funding of
23 these programs, which shall be made avail-
24 able in a searchable format and consistent

1 with the reporting described in subpara-
2 graph (A).

3 (2) REQUIRED CONSULTATION.—The Director
4 shall—

5 (A) for purpose of reporting the informa-
6 tion described in paragraph (1)(C)(i), consult
7 with domestic and international experts in sta-
8 tistics and demographics, including government
9 experts at the Bureau of the Census and other
10 relevant agencies, to assess and justify what
11 scientific basis, criteria, and methodology
12 should determine a region’s descriptive status
13 as metropolitan or nonmetropolitan, including
14 any other necessary categories; and

15 (B) for purpose of reporting the informa-
16 tion described in paragraph (1)(C)(ii), consult
17 with program staff and other relevant entities,
18 such as representatives from State, local, and
19 tribal governments, as well as representatives
20 from the business community.

21 (c) AGENCY USE OF STATISTICAL STANDARDS.—
22 Section 3504(e) of title 44, United States Code, is amend-
23 ed—

24 (1) in paragraph (8)(B)(ii), by striking “and”
25 at the end;

1 (2) in paragraph (9)(B), by striking the period
2 at the end and inserting “; and”; and

3 (3) by adding at the end the following:

4 “(10) collaborate with Federal agencies to
5 study and disclose any impact to Federal programs
6 based on implementation of paragraph (3), including
7 agencies that use statistical standards for both sta-
8 tistical and non-statistical purposes.”.

9 (d) STANDARDIZATION.—

10 (1) PROGRAM INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS.—

11 Section 6102(a)(2) of title 31, United States Code,
12 is amended—

13 (A) by redesignating subparagraph (G)
14 and subparagraph (H);

15 (B) in subparagraph (F), by striking
16 “and” at the end; and

17 (C) by inserting after subparagraph (F)
18 the following:

19 “(G) use of core-based statistical area des-
20 ignations (as chosen from a standardized list
21 determined by the Office of Management and
22 Budget), for purposes including prime recipient
23 eligibility for, and distribution of, the funding;
24 and”.

1 (2) FEDERAL FUNDING ACCOUNTABILITY AND
2 TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2006.—The Federal Funding
3 Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (31
4 U.S.C. 6101 note) is amended—

5 (A) in section 2(b)(1)—

6 (i) by redesignating subparagraph (G)
7 as subparagraph (H);

8 (ii) in subparagraph (F)(ii), by strik-
9 ing the period at the end and inserting a
10 semicolon; and

11 (iii) by inserting after subparagraph
12 (F) the following:

13 “(G) use of core-based statistical area des-
14 ignations (as chosen from a standardized list
15 determined by the Office of Management and
16 Budget), for purposes including prime recipient
17 and subrecipient eligibility for, and distribution
18 of, the funding; and”;

19 (B) in section 3(b)—

20 (i) in paragraph (3)(B), by striking
21 “and” at the end;

22 (ii) in paragraph (4)(B), by striking
23 the period at the end and inserting “;
24 and”;

1 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “(5) for each program activity, the use of core-
4 based statistical area designations (as chosen from a
5 standardized list determined by the Office of Man-
6 agement and Budget), for purposes including prime
7 recipient and subrecipient eligibility for, and dis-
8 tribution of, the funding.”.

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