

April 6, 2021

Mr. Thomas Smith  
U.S. Census Bureau  
4600 Silver Hill Rd  
Washington, DC 20233

RE: *Federal Register* notice of March 8, 2021, for the U.S. Census Bureau's Business and Professional Classification Report (OMB Number: 0607-0189)

Dear Mr. Smith:

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) is a strong supporter of the Census Bureau's Business and Professional Classification Report (SQ-CLASS). The SQ-CLASS collects information used to replenish the U.S. Census Bureau's survey universe with properly classified new businesses, update administrative information, and update current business data which are used in classifying new businesses in the economic surveys.

BEA relies on the Census Bureau's accurate identification of a new firm's business activity. Accurate classification has far reaching implications for the accuracy of estimates by industry in the input-output accounts and, the gross domestic product (GDP) by industry statistics; the estimates of various components of GDP; the estimates of GDP by state; and for the special studies that rely heavily upon the identification of a firm's principle kind of business.

Please keep BEA informed of any modifications to this form. We are particularly interested in any modifications proposed during the form's approval process. For additional information, please contact Tiffany Burrell, Source Data Coordinator, on 301-278-9618 or by e-mail at [Tiffany.Burrell@bea.gov](mailto:Tiffany.Burrell@bea.gov). Should you need assistance in justifying this form to the Office of Management and Budget, please do not hesitate to contact BEA.

Sincerely,

Dennis J. Fixler  
Chief Economist