



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop N3-01-21
Baltimore, Maryland 21207-0512

August 8, 2018

Ms. Jennifer Jessup
Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer
U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 6616
14th and Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230

Re: *Federal Register Notice* of July 16, 2018, for the U.S. Census Bureau's Annual Capital Expenditures Survey (OMB Control Number: 0607-0782)

Dear Ms. Jessup:

The Office of the Actuary at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) strongly supports the continued collection of capital expenditures data by the Census Bureau's Annual Capital Expenditures Survey (ACES). The annual capital expenditures collected from this survey for the health care sector are critical to the National Health Expenditures Accounts (NHEA). The NHEA is a detailed economic accounting matrix that estimates total health spending in the United States by provider, payer, and sponsor.

The ACES data is used by the Office of the Actuary to produce annual estimates of investment in private structures and private equipment put in place by the health care sector. Specifically, each year when preparing estimates for the NHEA, CMS uses the following ACES data for the detailed sectors underlying NAICS 62 (health care and social assistance):

- Capital Expenditures for New Structures
- Capital Expenditures for New Equipment

Please keep CMS informed about changes to the ACES. For additional information, please contact Aaron Catlin, Deputy Director in the National Health Statistics Group, at 410-786-3138 or by e-mail at Aaron.Catlin@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen Heffler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Stephen Heffler
Director, National Health Statistics Group
Office of Actuary, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services