From: Geri Stengel [mailto:geri@venturen eer.com]

 Sent: Friday, October 20, 2017 11:33 AM

 To: PRAcomments <PRAcomments@doc.gov>; Norman, Patrice C <patrice.c.norman@census.gov>

 Cc: Susana Martinez Restrepo <s.martinezrestrepo@core.woman.org>

 Subject: Research on Women-Owned Businesses

Jennifer and Patrice, my company, Ventureneer, and CoreWoman recently took over the State of Women-Owned Businesses which American Express OPEN publishes on an annual basis. The 2017 update based on 2012 Census numbers will be released in the next few weeks. I have also done research for National Women's Business Council on <u>Hispanic Women Entrepreneurship</u>. This research used the Survey of Business Owned extensively.

In addition, I write in <u>Forbes</u> and elsewhere about women's entrepreneurship. I rely heavily of Census numbers to track changes and address barriers that still need to be overcome.

I have only just become aware of the possible change in methodology in the SBO. If I understand the changes correctly, it will no longer be possible to track non-employer firms by gender, race and ethnicity.

Is it too late to comment on the proposed change? I think there are many in the women's entrepreneurship ecosystem that would want to join Susana, my research partner, in commenting on the proposed change.

Regards,

Geri

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www.ventureneer.com www.stengelsolutions.com From: Robert Fairlie [mailto:rfairlie@ucsc.edu] Sent: Wednesday, October 04, 2017 6:58 PM To: PRAcomments <<u>PRAcomments@doc.gov</u>> Subject: Comments on Proposed ABS Data Collection

I have been conducting research on small businesses for over twenty-five years. The data provided in the SBO are extremely valuable for research and policy making. I have worked on numerous research projects and government policies in which we have used the data especially by race, ethnicity, gender and immigrant status. These data are essential for understanding inequality in business and designing policies to alleviate these disparities. One of the most important outcomes that I have studied is job creation. Im concerned that the focus is changing to only employer businesses. I understand that it's easier and deaner to track these businesses, but the non-employers are also extremely important. Much of the inequality by race and gender in business is through the distinction between owning a non-employer and employer business. I hope that this is not lost.

Please contact me if you need any additional information.

Robert Fairlie

Professor of Economics, University of California, Santa Cruz Research Associate, NBER http://people.ucsc.edu/rfairlie/

From: Andrew Reamer <areamer@gwu.edu> Sent: Sunday, August 20, 2017 3:18 PM To: Patrice C Norman (CENSUS/EWD FED) Cc: Kitty Smith Evans; Jennifer Jessup

Subject: Annual Business Survey -- draft ICR materials

Dear Patrice,

On behalf of the American Economic Association's Economic Statistics Committee, I am writing to request a copy of the draft survey instruments and supporting documents for the Annual Business Survey, as indicated by the Federal Register notice of August 7, 2017. Thanks for your attention to our request and we look forward to receiving the materials.

Sincerely,

Andrew Reamer

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