

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION:
QUESTIONS FOR THE RECORD**

**NOMINATIONS HEARING
JUNE 16, 2020**

**Written Questions Submitted to Mary Toman, Nominee to be Under Secretary of
Commerce for Economic Affairs, Department of Commerce**

Submitted by the Hon. Jerry Moran

Question 1. The economy is measured by the data collected by BEA and the ongoing Census. The current year has created many challenges in collecting data in a timely manner across all sectors and in conducting the decennial census because of COVID. How will you instill in the public, and stakeholders, confidence in the data being collected?

Response: *If confirmed, I look forward to working with BEA and the Census Bureau to ensure that timely and accurate data collection continues. Both agencies have made adjustments because of COVID-19. We must ensure that technology and methodologies continue to be adapted to maintain accuracy during the current public health emergency. I would look forward to working with you and your staff in a cooperative effort so that we instill in the public, and stakeholders, confidence in the data collected.*

Question 2. The components of the DOC that you will oversee is vital to the nation's economy and representation in Congress. Data integrity is crucial. What do you feel are the greatest risks to security of the information collected by BEA and Census and how will you address them if confirmed?

Response: *Yes, data integrity is crucial, and the public is increasingly aware of both the value of data and the risks to data security. It is paramount that risks such as cybersecurity issues are identified and mitigated. The Census Bureau is bound by Title 13 of the U.S. Code, which is fundamental to the collection and security of data. If confirmed, I will work hard to help explain and reassure our fellow Americans that they can trust us to safeguard their personal information. I would look forward to working in partnership with you and your staff on these issues.*