



Dear Friends,

It is critically important for everyone to be counted in the U.S. 2010 Census. Much of the funding that Wethersfield and the State of Connecticut receive is based on the information that is obtained by the census. The data is also used to determine how many seats a state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives.

April 1st is Census Day, which is the date that people should use to reference the number of people who are living in their home. I know that you may be concerned about the census workers that may come to your homes; I have included on the reverse side some information to protect yourself from fraud during this collection. I want to assure you that the census is safe and confidential. If you return your census form in a timely manner, a census representative may not even need to visit your home. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

*Russell G. Morin*

Russell.Morin@cga.ct.gov

Home: 860-257-3876  
Capitol: 860-240-8585

Legislative Office Building, Room 4115  
Hartford, CT 06106-1591



*the House Democrats of Connecticut*

[www.housedems.ct.gov/Morin](http://www.housedems.ct.gov/Morin)

# RUSSELL A. MORIN

Assistant Majority Leader | State Representative

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State Representative  
**RUSSELL A. MORIN**

860-240-8585 [www.housedems.ct.gov/Morin](http://www.housedems.ct.gov/Morin)



## The 2010 U.S. Census Will Begin Soon

### Timeline:

**March:** A census form will be mailed to you. If you fill out the form and mail it back promptly, no census taker will need to contact you.

**April-July:** Census workers will then visit the homes of people who have not returned their forms in order to collect the census information.

### Background:

When you fill out the census form, you are making a statement about what resources your community needs. Accurate data reflecting changes in your community are crucial in apportioning seats in the U.S. House of Representatives and in deciding how money is allocated for things like hospitals and schools. The Census Bureau is prohibited from disclosing individual information to anyone, including the FBI, CIA, or any other law enforcement agency. Census employees take an oath of nondisclosure and are sworn for life to protect the data.

### Safety Tips:

Protect yourself. Be alert. Don't be a victim of fraud or identity theft. Make sure you are speaking with an authorized census worker. Here are some ideas from the Better Business Bureau:

- Before sharing information, ask to see the census worker's identification badge and confidentiality notice.
- Do not share information such as your social security number, credit card number or banking information. An authorized census worker will not need or ask for this information.
- Authorized census workers will not ask for donations.
- A census worker will not contact you via email.
- Do not let anyone you do not know into your house, even a census worker.

Please report any suspicious behavior to our local police department at 860-571-2971.

### Easy to Complete and Important:

The 2010 Census form is one of the shortest in history, it is easy to fill out, confidential and important to our community. Census data determines federal and state funding, and is used every day by businesses and non-profits, as well as government to make critical decisions about where to locate, invest and grow. I hope you will join me in participating in the 2010 US Census!

You can learn more about the census at:  
[www.2010.census.gov](http://www.2010.census.gov)

*For more information please contact me:*

**Russell A. Morin**

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Capitol: 860-240-8585

[Russell.Morin@cga.ct.gov](mailto:Russell.Morin@cga.ct.gov)

[www.housedems.ct.gov/Morin](http://www.housedems.ct.gov/Morin)

