July 23, 2012

The Honorable «GOVNAME»

«GOVADDRESS1»

«GOVADDRESS2»

«GOVADDRESS3»

«GOVCITY», «GOVSTATE» «GOVZIP»«GOVZIP4»

Dear Governor «GOVLAST»:

I am writing to request that you appoint a coordinator for the *FY 2010 and FY 2011 Survey of State Government Research and Development*. The U.S. Census Bureau is collaborating with the National Science Foundation (NSF) to collect research and development (R&D) expenditure information from the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. You may recall that your state participated in the FY 2009 survey. Please note that this year the reporting period will cover two fiscal years (FY 2010 and FY 2011) rather than one. The data collected in this survey are from public records and do not require confidentiality. Your voluntary survey response will be compiled by the Census Bureau and forwarded to NSF, the federal agency charged with collecting and reporting national R&D statistics. These statistics are used to measure states' contributions to our nation's science and technology base, a building block of a strong U.S. economy.

Your state coordinator will have two critical roles. First, we ask the coordinator to confirm the names and contact information for your state departments and agencies that are most likely to contribute to R&D investments. These departments and agencies will receive the web survey questionnaire with five questions about R&D activities, which include both performing and funding R&D. Second, your coordinator serves as the authorizing official for your state's survey response after all departments and agencies complete their survey questionnaires. I am including a copy of the FY 2010/11 survey questionnaire. An electronic copy is available at http://harvester.census.gov/nsf/ under Survey Questions and Definitions (PDF).

Please contact Lisa McNelis, Census Bureau project manager for this survey, with your state coordinator selection by emailing Lisa.Ann.McNelis@census.gov or calling 1-800-622-6193. For the FY 2009 survey, «MRMS» «CONTACTNAME» served as your state's survey coordinator.

Thank you in advance for your continuing help to complete a picture of our Nation's R&D expenditures by state governments.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Groves Director

Enclosures cc: «CONTACTNAME»