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Hi-Beams for the Economic Road Ahead:

The Importance of the 2012 Economic Census for Business and Government Decision-Making

DATE:

Monday, Sept. 26, 2011

TIME:

12:00 p.m.

LOCATION:

Rayburn House Office Building, Room B-340

(Complimentary box lunches will be provided.)

We hope you will be able to attend this important briefing.

Please RSVP to Juliane Baron or Mary Jo Hoeksema at 202.341.7283 or paabriefing@popassoc.org.

This will be a widely attended event.

The American Economic Association cordially invites you to attend a briefing, *Hi-Beams for the Economic Road Ahead*.

During these topsy-turvy economic times, federal and local policymakers and business and industry leaders depend on data from the U.S. Economic Census to assess and forecast the state of the economy. The Economic Census provides the foundation for measures of economic growth, productivity, prices, product markets, business startups, and other information invaluable to decision-makers in the private and public sectors alike.

Conducted regularly for over 200 years, the Economic Census gathers information from nearly 5 million American businesses every five years, from the national to the local level. The last economic census covered 2007, before the recession's onset. Numbers gathered through the 2012 Economic Census are essential to support informed economic and business decision-making in the crucial years immediately ahead.

At this briefing, distinguished speakers representing federal fiscal policy, state and local government, and the business community will discuss the importance of the Economic Census and illustrate how the data inform decisions critical to the health of our economy. The Census Bureau says that inadequate fiscal year 2012 funding will result in the cancellation of this vital national resource for 2012.