



**REPRESENTATIVE GENE WHISNANT
OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HOUSE DISTRICT 53**

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Rep. Whisnant Speaks at U.S. Census Office Ceremony

“Gene urges people to participate; it is the law and is important”

Representative Gene Whisnant (R-Sunriver) spoke at the January 14, 2010 Local U.S. Census Redmond office open house. He along with U.S. Census officials and Redmond Mayor George Endicott and Redmond School District Superintendent Vickie Fleming urged people to participate and explained the importance of current and correct census data.

Rep. Whisnant explained that conducting a census every ten years is the law under Article 1, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution and that a census is very important.

Rep. Whisnant reported: “Examples of the importance of current and correct census data is that (1) population data determines the number of U.S. House of Representative members per state; (2) population data determines the geographic area of representation of Oregon’s 30 Senators and 60 Representatives; (3) a significant amount of federal and state funding is determined by population numbers; and (4) federal, state, and local policy makers use population data.”

There is a possibility that Oregon gains a congressional seat based upon our population growth.

Gene also described the interesting political action which will occur in Oregon in 2011 called “redistricting or reapportionment” as required by the Oregon Constitution and as a result of the 2010 Census. George Wills recently stated redistricting is an action whereby the “candidates chose their voters.” Rep. Whisnant clarified that the political party in power will chose its voters.

The allocation of many federal and state funds is based upon census data. In March 2010, the census forms will be mailed with just 10 questions to answer.

You can learn more about the 2010 Census at <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/>

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Picture attached below- Representative Whisnant speaking at the Open House

