

1. On March 14, 2019, while testifying before a congressional committee, Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross said that “The Department of Commerce is fully committed to administering as complete and accurate a decennial census as we can.” Yet, the Census Bureau (a bureaucratic agency that is part of the Department of Commerce) had not met its deadlines and had failed to submit key documents to the House of Representatives Committee on Oversight and Reform at the end of 2020.

Committee Chairperson Carolyn B. Maloney grew concerned after holding a town hall meeting and after reading a *New York Times* report that listed the census’s many issues. In December 2020, she sent a letter to Secretary Ross, urging him to provide documents and to explain the Census Bureau’s position. Maloney stressed that the secretary had not communicated any of the problems listed in the *Times* report to the committee.

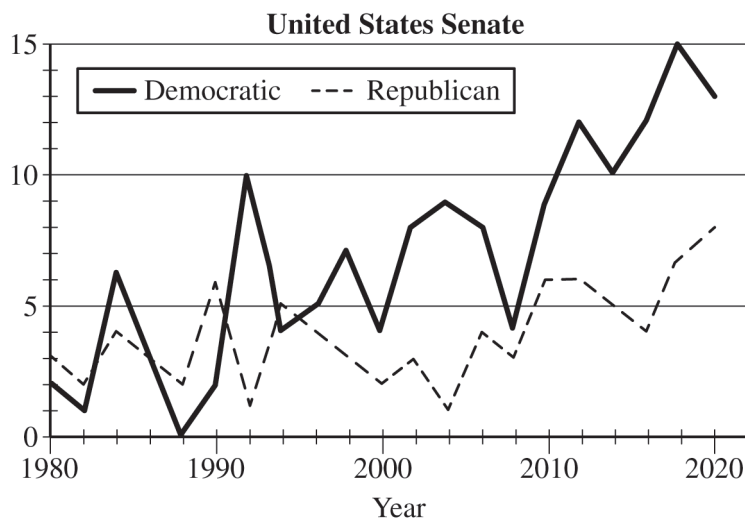
The Constitution mandates a census every ten years in a manner directed by Congress. Chairperson Maloney argued that Secretary Ross, by not being transparent with the committee, was stopping Congress from fulfilling its constitutional duty.

After reading the scenario, please respond to A, B, and C below.

- A. Describe the implied power of Congress being exercised in the scenario.
- B. Explain how the media can influence the use of the power described in part A.
- C. Explain how the chairperson’s actions in the scenario might influence someone engaged in retrospective voting.

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**Begin your response to this question at the top of a new page in the separate Free Response booklet and fill in the appropriate circle at the top of each page to indicate the question number.**

**WOMEN CANDIDATES FOR SENATE BY PARTY, 1980–2020**

Sources: Colorado Public Radio, 2018; Ballotpedia, 2022

NOTE: Data are for candidates in general elections.

2. Use the line graph to answer the questions.

- Identify the year with the fewest number of Democratic women candidates for the Senate.
- Describe the difference in an overall trend in Democratic and Republican women candidates for the Senate as illustrated in the graph.
- Draw a conclusion that explains an overall trend shown in the graph.
- Explain how the data in the graph might affect political participation.

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**Question 1: Concept Application****3 points**

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**A.** Describe the implied power of Congress being exercised in the scenario. **1 point**

**Acceptable descriptions include:**

- Congress is reviewing the actions of the bureaucracy.
- Congress is using oversight by requesting information from the bureaucracy.
- The power of oversight is being exercised when Secretary Ross is testifying under oath in front of the House committee.

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**B.** Explain how the media can influence the use of the power described in part A. **1 point**

**Acceptable explanations include:**

- The media informs voters of an issue, who could then urge Congress to investigate the bureaucracy.
- Congress can learn about the Census's problems through the media and use its oversight powers to resolve them.

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**C.** Explain how the chairperson's actions in the scenario might influence someone engaged in retrospective voting. **1 point**

**Acceptable explanations include:**

- The retrospective voter model predicts that voters who approve of Maloney's actions will be more likely to vote for her in the next election.
- Voters who disagree with Maloney's decision may vote against her in the future, based on the predictions of the retrospective voter model.
- A citizen may choose to vote for Maloney's party in an upcoming congressional election based on Maloney's behavior.
- Voters might choose to not vote for the incumbent president because they were dissatisfied with the performance of the Commerce Secretary, who was nominated by the president.

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**Total for question 1    3 points**