

FESAC STATEMENT ON DATA SHARING

December 14, 2007

The Federal Economics Statistics Advisory Committee (FESAC) recommends that legal and practical barriers to the sharing of business data among the Bureau of Economic Analysis, the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Bureau of the Census be removed. Removing barriers to sharing business data will improve the measurement of key national indicators on the health of the American economy as well as improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the agencies. Accordingly, measures should be taken immediately to enable the sharing of Federal Tax Information among these statistical agencies under the framework of the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act (CIPSEA). This improvement in data sharing must be achieved in a manner that is consistent with maintaining the confidentiality and integrity of the data.