

and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the Office of Disability Employment Policy is soliciting comments concerning the proposed collection of needs assessment data through the National Survey of Sub-minimum Wage (14 c) Certificate Recipients. A copy of the proposed information collection request (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the addressee section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the **ADDRESSES** section below on or before November 3, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Faith S. Kirk, U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Disability Employment Policy, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Suite S-1303, Washington, DC 20210.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

This project is a research activity of the Training and Technical Assistance for Providers (T-TAP) project. Funded by the Office of Disability and Employment Policy (ODEP) at the U.S. Department of Labor, T-TAP is a joint project of the Institute for Community Inclusion at the University of Massachusetts at Boston and Virginia Commonwealth University. The project provides a program of technical assistance and training that will be delivered and disseminated nationally to community-based providers including community rehabilitation providers and other public agencies who use the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) section 14 (c) special minimum wage certificates. The overall goal of the T-TAP project is to assist community providers to increase access to regular wage employment in the competitive labor market. Collection of needs assessment data is necessary to identify barriers for organizations serving individuals with disabilities in finding integrated employment at a competitive rate.

The Cooperative Agreement's data collection component is authorized pursuant to Public Law 106-554, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of

2001, which established ODEP within the Department of Labor to bring a heightened and permanent focus for increasing the employment of persons with disabilities and to develop initiatives to "further the objective of eliminating employment barriers to the training and employment of people with disabilities." The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2002, pursuant to Public Law 107-116, has reauthorized this authority.

The data collected from this survey will provide descriptive information on the current use of 14 (c) Special Wage Certificates by Community Rehabilitation Programs in the United States. Specifically, the survey will look at perceived organizational barriers to achieving competitive employment outcomes for individuals with significant disabilities. This will include organizations' perceived training and resource needs related to moving their programs from 14 (c) to integrated employment outcomes. The information generated by the survey will be used by ODEP for policy analysis and subsequent policy development and recommendations. In addition, T-TAP [VCU and ICI] will use the information to design and disseminate resources and training materials as well as provide technical assistance to Community Rehabilitation Programs (CRP). Part of disseminating this information will include writing journal articles, fact sheets, online seminars and web postings, conference presentations, or other literature that can be used by ODEP, T-TAP, CRPs, organizations, and others interested in facilitating competitive employment for individuals with disabilities.

II. Review Focus

The Department of Labor is particularly interested in comments that:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the execution of the project's mission, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting

electronic submissions of responses to the extent reasonable.

III. Current Actions

This is a notice to seek OMB approval of new survey instrument for the Office of Disability Employment Policy, U.S. Department of Labor.

Type of Review: New.

Agency: Office of Disability Employment Policy.

Title: National Survey of Sub-minimum Wage (14 c) Certificate Recipients.

OMB Number: 1230-NEW.

Affected Public: Non-Profit Institutions.

Purpose of Information Collection: Research and Program Planning.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 341.

Total Annual Responses: 341.

Percentages of electronic collection: 25%.

Total Annual Hours Requested: 170.5.

Costs: [in thousands of dollars].

Total Annualized Capital/Start-up \$: \$0.

Total Annual Costs (O&M): \$0.

Frequency of Reporting: One Time.

Total Burden Cost (capital/startup): \$0.

Total Burden Cost (operating/maintaining): \$0.

Comments submitted in response to this comment request will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; comments will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: August 28, 2003.

John R. Davey,

Director, Office of Operations, Office of Disability Employment Policy.

[FR Doc. 03-22502 Filed 9-3-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employee Benefits Security Administration

Proposed Extension of Information Collection; Comment Request

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor (the Department), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of

1995 (PRA 95) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). This helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed.

Currently, the Employee Benefits Security Administration is soliciting comments concerning the information collection entitled Annual Report for Multiple Employer Welfare Arrangements (Form M-1) contained in the Department's regulation at 29 CFR 2520.101-2, Multiple Employer Welfare Arrangements and Certain Other Entities that Offer or Provide Medical Care to the Employees of Two or More Employers. A copy of the ICR may be obtained by contacting the office listed in the addresses section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office shown in the **ADDRESSES** section below on or before November 3, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Gerald B. Lindrew, Office of Policy and Research, U.S. Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Room N-5647, Washington, DC 20210. Telephone: (202) 693-8410; Fax: (202) 219-5333. These are not toll-free numbers.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), codified as part 7 of Title I of the Employee Retirement Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), was enacted to improve the portability and continuity of health care coverage for participants and beneficiaries of group health plans. In the interest of assuring compliance with part 7, HIPAA also added section 101(g) to ERISA permitting the Secretary of Labor (the Secretary) to require multiple employer welfare arrangements (MEWA) as defined in section 3(40) of ERISA to report to the Secretary in such form and manner as the Secretary might determine. To assist MEWAs and other entities with reporting, the Department published a final rule providing guidance for determining compliance and a form to be used for the annual report. Form M-1, the information collection provision of the regulation, is required to be filed by MEWAs and by other entities described in the regulation. The purpose of the information collection is to provide the Secretary with information to determine the extent to which the requirements of part 7 of ERISA are being carried out in

connection with the provision of benefits consisting of medical care.

II. Desired Focus of Comments

The Department is particularly interested in comments that:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

III. Current Action

This notice requests comments on the extension of the information collection request (ICR) included in the regulation, Form M-1. The Department is not proposing or implementing changes to the existing ICR at this time.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection of information.

Agency: Employee Benefits Security Administration, Department of Labor.

Titles: Annual Report for Multiple Employer Welfare Arrangements and Certain Entities Claiming Exception (Form M-1).

OMB Number: 1210-0116.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions.

Respondents: 741.

Frequency of Response: Annually.

Responses: 3,718.

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 2,336.

Total Burden Cost (Operating and Maintenance): \$143,650.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of the ICR; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: August 28, 2003.

Gerald B. Lindrew,

Deputy Director, Office of Policy and Research, Employee Benefits Security Administration.

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BILLING CODE 4510-29-M

NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

National Endowment for the Arts; National Council on the Arts Teleconference—Agenda Change

Pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), as amended, notice is hereby given that the agenda for the teleconference of the National Council on the Arts, to be on September 12, 2003 from 2 p.m.-3 p.m. may include general discussion in addition to discussion of the American Jazz Masters award.

Any interested persons may participate, as observers, in Council discussions and reviews that are open to the public. If you need special accommodations due to a disability, please contact the Office of AccessAbility, National Endowment for the Arts, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20506, 202/682-5532, TTY-TDD 202/682-5429, at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting.

Further information with reference to this teleconference meeting can be obtained from the Council Operations office, National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, DC 20506, at 202/682-5433.

Dated: August 28, 2003.

Kathy Plowitz-Worden,

Panel Coordinator, Office of Guidelines and Panel Operations.

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NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

National Endowment for the Arts; Fellowships Advisory Panel

Pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), as amended, notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Fellowships Advisory Panel, Literature section (Prose) to the National Council on the Arts will be held on September 22-24, 2003 in Room 415 at the Nancy Hanks Center, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20506.

A portion of this meeting, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on September 24th, will be open to the public for policy discussion. The remaining portions of this meeting, from 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on September 22nd, from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on September 23rd, and from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. on September 24th, will be closed.

The closed portions of these meetings are for the purpose of panel review, discussion, evaluation, and