

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request for Employee Surveys in the Benefit/Cost Analysis of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Program

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Submission for OMB review; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Committee for Purchase from People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled (the Committee) is inviting public comment on surveys submitted for review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). The Committee is seeking public comment on surveys being conducted as part of 2 comprehensive Benefit/Cost Analysis of the JWOD Program. This request is for renewal with revisions of a questionnaire for interviews with individuals who are blind or have other severe disabilities employed on contracts authorized under the JWOD Act and for renewal of the Employee Information Form.

DATES: Submit comments on or before December 22, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to Daniel Werfel, Desk Officer for the Committee for Purchase, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503. Requests for copies of the OMB submission and the proposed information collection requests should be submitted to Sheryl Kennerly, Committee for Purchase from People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 310, Arlington, VA 22202-4302.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sheryl Kennerly, Committee for Purchase from People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 310, Arlington, VA 22202-4302, telephone: 703-603-7740, fax: 703-603-0655.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The enabling regulations for the JWOD Act prescribe that the Committee: "Conduct a continuing study and evaluation of its activities under the JWOD Act for the purpose of assuring the effective and efficient administration of the JWOD Act. The Committee may study, independently, or in cooperation with other public or nonprofit private agencies, problems relating to (1) The employment of the blind or individuals with other severe disabilities * * *." (41 CFR Ch. 51-2.2(g)).

As part of the effort to evaluate its activities and study the employment of individuals who are blind or severely disabled, the Committee has initiated a comprehensive analysis of benefits and costs of the JWOD Program. The following survey instruments included in the submission for OMB approval are required to collect data for determining the benefits and costs of the JWOD Program to individuals who are blind or have other severe disabilities and to taxpayers in general. Comments should reference the title of the collection of information to which they apply.

Title: JWOD Employee Interview Questionnaire.

Type of Review: Reinstatement with revisions.

Frequency: One-time.

Affected Public: Individuals who are blind or severely disabled and who participated in the baseline surveys for this study.

Burden Estimate:

Responses: 360.

Total Burden Hours: 180 hours.

Average Burden per respondent: 30 minutes.

Abstract: The burden estimate above is based on actual use of the previous survey questionnaire in baseline interviews with the same individuals who will participate in interviews using the revised follow-up survey. This survey instrument will be used in oral interviews conducted either by telephone or in person depending on individual circumstances. The follow-up survey has been revised based on comments and issues identified during

the baseline interviews. The follow-up survey is significantly shorter than the baseline survey. Data collected will be used to determine long-term effects of employment provided through the JWOD Program.

Title: Employee Mail Questionnaire.

Type of Review: Reinstatement with Revisions.

Frequency: One-time.

Affected Public: Individuals who are blind or severely disabled who participated in the baseline surveys for this study and who are not available for an oral interview.

Burden Estimate:

Responses: 129.

Total Burden Hours: 64.5 hours.

Average Burden per respondent: 30 minutes.

Abstract: This survey contains the same survey questions as the Employee Interview Questionnaire with formatting changes suited for self-administration through a paper format. This survey will be sent to individuals who are not able or available to participate in an oral interview.

Title: JWOD Employee Information Form.

Type of Review: Reinstatement with revisions.

Frequency: One-time.

Affected Public: Nonprofit agencies that employed individuals who are blind or severely disabled who participated in the baseline surveys for this study.

Burden Estimate:

Responses: 82.

Total Burden Hours: 196.8 hours.

Average Burden per respondent: 2.4 hours per agency.

Abstract: This survey will be completed by the nonprofit agencies who currently or previously employed individuals participating in the baseline survey. The information to be collected by this survey will provide critical contact information and will provide employment data that cannot be accurately obtained from each survey respondent. The estimate of burden is based on a similar Employee Information Form completed by the same nonprofit agencies at the baseline stage.

Dated: November 18, 1997.

Beverly L. Milkman,

Executive Director.

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