

(1) Tax return information will be kept confidential.

(2) Tax return information will be used solely for the purpose directed by the taxpayer.

(3) Tax return information will be stored in locked containers when not in use.

(4) Tax return information will not be discussed unless specifically referring to the taxpayer's application.

(5) Tax return information will not be further disclosed, traded, bartered, or sold without the express authorization of the taxpayer (i.e., the Contractor will be required to obtain another authorization from the taxpayer for further disclosures).

Requested Comments

The Internal Revenue Service is seeking comments and input from industry, federal, state and local agencies and taxpayers concerning the piloting/implementation of this concept. In particular, the Internal Revenue Service is interested in responses to the following, but will appreciate all comments or reactions to the proposed pilot:

1. Based on commercial practice, what would be the best vehicle to deliver this product (e.g., encrypted Internet, encrypted e-mail, encrypted modem with digitized signature pads, etc.)? What issues do each of these methods raise with regards to security, authentication, safeguarding data, etc.?

2. How might companies and/or industry sectors self regulate the safeguarding of sensitive taxpayer information?

3. Please comment on the effort which businesses and agencies expend in income verification on an annual basis.

4. Do you, your company or agency currently do sensitive transactions related to income verification or tax resolution issues over the Internet or via e-mail? Are most of these types of interactions internet-based or paper-based? Is your office fully automated (i.e., do all employees have a computer, e-mail and Internet accessibility?)

5. Is there common knowledge and use in your industry of the IRS' Form 4506 and the ability to receive a copy of a paper return, return transcript, W-2 or verification of non-filing?

6. What on-line experiences have you encountered in which privacy and safeguarding of income verification or tax resolution information have been at issue? In what instances have they appeared at risk? In what instances were they well protected? In what ways have businesses or organizations been responsive to privacy and information safeguarding concerns? Have you had

any negative experiences in protecting your privacy on line?

7. What circumstances give rise to good privacy and information safeguarding protection in a traditional business setting or on line?

8. Please comment on whether you feel an electronic transcript system should be made universally available to any business requiring income verification or tax resolution. Would 24-hour delivery of income verification by the IRS accomplish accelerated processing of a loan, grant or subsidy or resolution of a tax issue?

9. Please comment on the proposed 24-hour delivery versus the current seven (7) to ten (10) day process. What advantages would you, your business or agency have if the information were available in a "real time" on-line basis?

10. Please comment on whether you feel third-party entities would maintain the confidentiality and security of the provided return information.

11. Do you, your business or agency regularly sell customer information for marketing or advertising purposes?

12. What do you, your business or agency see as methods to increase confidentiality, security and improve customer service to the taxpayer in providing electronic transcripts?

13. What do you, your business or agency see as elements of enforcement mechanisms necessary for maintaining effective confidentiality, security or enhancing customer service to the taxpayer?

14. What do you, your business or agency see as the main advantage(s) and disadvantage(s) of such a system?

15. What would you, your business or agency identify as an appropriate consequence for any mishandling, misuse or unauthorized disclosure of your tax return information by a third party that requires taxpayer information to process a loan, grant or subsidy or resolve a tax issue?

16. What existing privacy policies do you, your business or agency follow? In what ways do they effectively address concerns about privacy in the information to which they apply? In what ways do they fail?

17. Please comment on what you think the responsibilities of the government, businesses or agencies are in protecting taxpayer data. To what extent do these parties have a right to collect and use information to further their commercial interests?

18. Should the government have an interest in reducing the proliferation of taxpayer consent-based disclosures?

19. Please comment on whether you think that a growth in taxpayer consent-based disclosures will have an impact

(positive or negative) on voluntary tax law compliance by the taxpayers.

20. Would you, your business or agency be amenable to paying a user fee for this accelerated service? If so, what would you see as a reasonable charge for this service?

21. What would you, your business or agency see as a viable means of authenticating the taxpayer to the IRS within this electronic format? What form of electronic signature (e.g., selection of a personal identification number, signing digitized signature pad, a public key-private key system, etc.) would be best and would ensure legal recourse?

22. What type of information do you, your business or agency use in processing applications for income verification for loans, grants, subsidies, etc.? Is this information corroborated with information secured from other private or public agencies?

23. Please comment on the types of written reports and statistical accounting required by the pilot participants.

24. Please comment on the draft RFP (Draft Request For Proposals TIRNO-99-R-00043) at the IRS' website (www.procurement.irs.treas.gov/opportun.htm) including input on contractual boundaries, rules and regulations.

25. Please indicate your industry type or if you are an individual.

Dated: August 30, 1999.

Robert E. Barr,

Assistant Commissioner, Electronic Tax Administration.

[FR Doc. 99-23789 Filed 9-10-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Bureau of the Public Debt

Proposed Collection: Comment Request

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently the Bureau of the Public Debt within the Department of the Treasury is soliciting comments concerning the Resolution Authorizing

(1) Disposition of Securities Held by Organization, and (2) Execution and Delivery of Bonds of Indemnity.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before November 12, 1999, to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESS: Direct all written comments to Bureau of the Public Debt, Vicki S. Thorpe, 200 Third Street, Parkersburg, WV 26106-1328.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the form and instructions should be directed to Vicki S. Thorpe, Bureau of the Public Debt, 200 Third Street, Parkersburg, WV 26106-1328, (304) 480-6553.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Resolution Authorizing (1) Disposition of Securities Held by organization, and (2) Execution and Delivery of Bonds of Indemnity.

OMB Number: 1535-0052.

Form Number: PD F 1011.

Abstract: The information is requested to establish the authority of an organization to dispose of registered United States securities and/or execute bonds of indemnity.

Current Actions: None.

Type of Review: Extension.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit/not-for-profit institutions.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 485.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 30 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 243.

Request for Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Dated: September 7, 1999.

Vicki S. Thorpe,

Manager, Graphics, Printing and Records Branch.

[FR Doc. 99-23680 Filed 9-10-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-39-P

UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY

Culturally Significant Objects Imported for Exhibition Determinations: "Only the Best": Masterpieces of the Calouste Gulbenkian Museum, Lisbon

AGENCY: United States Information Agency.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the following determinations: Pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Act of October 19, 1965 (79 Stat. 985, 22 U.S.C. 2459), Executive Order 12047 of March 27, 1978 (43 FR 13359, March 29, 1978), and Delegation Order No. 85-5 of June 27, 1985 (50 FR 27393, July 2, 1985), I hereby determine that the objects to be included in the exhibit, "Only the Best": Masterpieces of the Calouste Gulbenkian Museum, Lisbon imported from abroad for the temporary exhibition without profit within the United States, are of cultural significance. These objects are imported pursuant to loan agreements with the foreign lenders. I also determine that the exhibition or display of the exhibit objects at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY., from on or about November 15, 1999 to on or about February 27, 2000, is in the Public Notice of these determinations is ordered to be published in the **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information, contact Carol Epstein, Assistant General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, 202/619-6981, and the address is Room 700, U.S. Information Agency, 301 4th Street, SW Washington, DC 20547-0001.

Dated: September 7, 1999.

Les Jin,

General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 99-23782 Filed 9-10-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8230-01-M

UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY

Culturally Significant Objects Imported for Exhibition Determinations: "Still-Life Paintings From the Netherlands, 1550-1720"

AGENCY: United States Information Agency.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the following determinations: Pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Act of October 19, 1965 (79 Stat. 985, 22 U.S.C. 2459), Executive Order 12047 of March 27, 1978 (43 FR 13359, March 29, 1978), and Delegation Order No. 85-5 of June 27, 1985 (50 FR 27393, July 2, 1985). I hereby determine that the objects to be included in the exhibit "Still-Life Paintings from the Netherlands, 1550-1720" imported from abroad for temporary exhibition without profit within the United States, are of cultural significance. These objects are imported pursuant to a loan agreement with the foreign lenders. I also determine that the exhibition or display of the listed exhibit objects at the Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, OH, from on or about October 31, 1999, to on or about January 9, 2000, is in the national interest. Public Notice of these determinations is ordered to be published in the **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For a copy of the list of exhibit objects or for further information, contact Carol Epstein, Assistant General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, United States Information Agency, at 202/619-6981, or USIA, 301 4th Street, SW., Room 700, Washington, DC 20547-0001.

Dated: September 8, 1999.

Les Jin,

General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 99-23783 Filed 9-10-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8230-01-M

UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY

Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs; Program Title: The FREEDOM Support Act/Future Leaders Exchange (FSA/FLEX) Program; Inbound, NIS Secondary School Initiative

NOTICE: Request for proposals.

SUMMARY: The Youth Programs Division/Office of Citizen Exchanges of the United States Information Agency's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs announces an open competition for the FREEDOM Support Act (FSA)