

collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). This program helps to ensure that the data the Department gathers can be provided in the desired format, that the reporting burden on the public (time and financial resources) is minimized, that the public understands the Department's collection instruments, and that the Department can accurately assess the impact of collection requirements on respondents.

Currently, the Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA) is soliciting comments concerning the extension of a currently approved collection of information arising from the Department's regulation at 29 CFR 2590.701-5, which requires group health plans and health insurance issuers to furnish a written certificate suitable for establishing prior creditable coverage to participants and dependents who are or were covered under the group health plan upon the occurrence of specified events. A copy of the information collection request (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the office shown in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office shown in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice on or before September 18, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties are invited to submit written comments regarding the information collection request and burden estimates to Susan G. Lahne, Office of Policy and Research, Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue NW., Room N-5718, Washington, DC 20210, (202) 693-8410, FAX (202) 219-4745 (these are not toll-free numbers). Comments may also be submitted electronically to the following Internet e-mail address: ebsa.opr@dol.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Subsection (a) of 29 CFR 2590.701-5 requires a group health plan and each health insurance issuer offering group health insurance coverage under a group health plan to furnish certificates of creditable coverage to specified individuals under specified circumstances. EBSA previously submitted an ICR concerning the requirement to provide certificates of creditable coverage to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review under the PRA and received approval under OMB Control No. 1210-0103. The ICR approval is currently

scheduled to expire on October 31, 2006.

II. Desired Focus of Comments

The Department is particularly interested in comments that:

- Evaluate whether the 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 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., by permitting electronic submission of responses.

III. Current Action

This notice requests comments on an extension of information collections arising from the requirement under 29 CFR 2590.701-5 to provide certificates of creditable coverage. The Department is not proposing or implementing changes to the existing information collections at this time. A summary of the ICR and the current burden estimates follows:

Agency: Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration.

Title: Establishing Prior Creditable Coverage.

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

OMB Number: 1210-0103.

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

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Respondents: 2,600,000.

Responses: 21,000,000.

Total Estimated Burden Hours: 260,000.

Total Burden Cost (Operating and Maintenance): \$18,500,000.

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

Dated: July 13, 2006.

Susan G. Lahne,

Office of Policy and Research, Employee Benefits Security Administration.

[FR Doc. E6-11403 Filed 7-18-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-20-P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employee Benefits Security Administration

Proposed Extension of Information Collection; Request for Public Comment Notice of Special Enrollment

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor (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) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). This program helps to ensure that the data the Department gathers can be provided in the desired format, that the reporting burden on the public (time and financial resources) is minimized, that the public understands the Department's collection instruments, and that the Department can accurately assess the impact of collection requirements on respondents.

Currently, the Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA) is soliciting comments concerning the extension of a currently approved collection of information arising from the Department's regulation at 29 CFR 2590.701-6, which requires a notice of special enrollment to be provided to employees who are offered an initial opportunity to enroll in a group health plan. A copy of the information collection request (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the office shown in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office shown in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice on or before September 18, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties are invited to submit written comments regarding the information collection request and burden estimates to Susan G. Lahne, Office of Policy and Research, Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Room N-5718, Washington, DC 20210, (202) 693-8410, FAX (202) 219-4745 (these are not toll-free numbers).

Comments may also be submitted electronically to the following Internet e-mail address: ebbsa.opr@dol.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Subsection (c) of 29 CFR 2590.701-6 requires group health plans to provide a notice describing the plan's special enrollment rules to each employee who is offered an initial opportunity to enroll in the group health plan. The special enrollment rules described in the notice of special enrollment generally provide enrollment rights to employees and their dependents in specified circumstances occurring after the employee or dependent initially declines to enroll in the plan. EBSA previously submitted an ICR concerning the notice of special enrollment to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review under the PRA and received approval under OMB Control No. 1210-0101. The ICR approval is currently scheduled to expire on October 31, 2006.

II. Desired Focus of Comments

The Department is particularly interested in comments that:

- Evaluate whether the 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 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., by permitting electronic submission of responses.

III. Current Action

This notice requests comments on an extension of information collections arising from the notice of special enrollment required under 29 CFR 2590.701-6. The Department is not proposing or implementing changes to the existing information collection at this time. A summary of the ICR and the current burden estimates follows:

Agency: Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration.

Title: Notice of Special Enrollment.

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

OMB Number: 1210-0101.

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

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Respondents: 2,600,000.

Responses: 9,200,000.

Total Estimated Burden Hours: 1.

Total Burden Cost (Operating and Maintenance): \$77,000.

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

Dated: July 13, 2006.

Susan G. Lahne,

Office of Policy and Research, Employee Benefits Security Administration.

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NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

National Council on the Humanities; Meeting

July 13, 2006.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended) notice is hereby given the National Council on the Humanities will meet in Washington, DC on July 27-28, 2006.

The purpose of the meeting is to advise the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities with respect to policies, programs, and procedures for carrying out his functions, and to review applications for financial support from and gifts offered to the Endowment and to make recommendations thereon to the Chairman.

The meeting will be held in the Old Post Office Building, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC. A portion of the morning and afternoon sessions on July 27-28, 2006, will not be open to the public pursuant to subsections (c)(4), (c)(6) and (c)(9)(B) of section 552b of Title 5, United States Code because the Council will consider information that may disclose: Trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential; information of a personal nature the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy; and information the premature disclosure of which would be likely to significantly frustrate implementation of

proposed agency action. I have made this determination under the authority granted me by the Chairman's Delegation of Authority dated July 19, 1993.

The agenda for the sessions on July 27, 2006 will be as follows:

Committee Meetings

(Open to the Public)

Policy Discussion

9-10:30 a.m.

Challenge Grants—Room 415

Education Programs—Room 315

Federal/State Partnership—Room 507

Public Programs—Room 420

(Closed to the Public)

Discussion of Specific Grant

Applications and Programs Before the Council

10:30 a.m. until Adjourned

Challenge Grants—Room 415

Education Programs—Room 315

Federal/State Partnership—Room 507

Public Programs—Room 420

2:30-3:30 p.m.

National Humanities Medals—Room 527

The morning session on July 28, 2006 will convene at 9 a.m., in the 1st Floor Council Room M-09, and will be open to the public, as set out below. The agenda for the morning session will be as follows:

A. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

B. Reports

1. Introductory Remarks

2. Staff Report

3. Congressional Report

4. Reports on Policy and General Matters

a. Challenge Grants

b. Education Programs

c. Federal/State Partnership

d. Public Programs

e. National Humanities Medals

The remainder of the proposed meeting will be given to the consideration of specific applications and closed to the public for the reasons stated above.

Further information about this meeting can be obtained from Ms. Heather Gottry, Acting Advisory Committee Management Officer, National Endowment for the Humanities, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20506, or by calling (202) 606-8322, TDD (202) 606-8282. Advance notice of any special needs or accommodations is appreciated.

Heather Gottry,

Acting Advisory Committee, Management Officer.

[FR Doc. E6-11397 Filed 7-18-06; 8:45 am]

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