

Office of Management and Budget, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: DOJ Desk Officer, Washington, DC 20530. Additionally, comments may be submitted to OMB via facsimile to (202) 395-7285. Comments may also be submitted to the Department of Justice (DOJ), Justice Management Division, Information Management and Security Staff, Attention: Department Clearance Officer, Suite 850, 1001 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20530. Additionally, comments may be submitted to DOJ via facsimile to (202) 514-1590.

Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information should address one or more of the following four points:

1. 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;
2. Evaluate the accuracy of the agencies estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
3. Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
4. 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.

Overview of the Information Collection

1. *Type of Information Collection:* Revision of a currently approved collection.

2. *Title of the Form/Collection:* Application for Registration (DEA Form 225) and Application for Registration Renewal (DEA Form 225a).

3. *Agency form number:* DEA Form 225, DEA Form 225a; Applicable component of the Department of Justice sponsoring the collection: Office of Diversion Control, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice.

4. *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:* Primary: Business or other for-profit, Other: individuals or households, Not-for-profit institutions and State, Local or Tribal Government.

The Controlled Substances Act requires all firms and individuals who manufacture, distribute, import, export, conduct research or dispense controlled substances to register with DEA.

Registration provides a closed system of distribution to control the flow of controlled substances through the distribution chain.

These revisions of the forms will not add any burden to the affected public. The subject forms are being revised to provide the ability to use an Optical Character Reader (OCR) for form processing and to provide for registrants Social Security Number and/or Tax Identification Number. The OCR will enable DEA to increase efficiency and accelerate processing of registrant applications. Social Security Number and/or Tax Identification Numbers are requested to correctly identify registrants, to expedite application processing, database integration and telephone system upgrades.

5. *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond:* 10,000 respondents at 1 response per year at 30 minutes per response.

6. *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* 5,000 annual burden hours.

Public comments on this proposed information collection is strongly encouraged.

If additional information is required contact: Mr. Robert B. Briggs, Clearance Officer, United States Department of Justice, Information Management and Security Staff, Justice Management Division, Suite 850, Washington Center, 1001 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20530.

Dated: December 18, 1997.

Robert B. Briggs,

Department Clearance Officer, United States Department of Justice.

[FR Doc. 97-33571 Filed 12-23-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Drug Enforcement Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities; Revision of a Current Approved Information Collection: Comment Request

ACTION: Notice of information collection under review; Application for Registration (DEA Form 224) and Application for Registration Renewal (DEA Form 224a).

Office of Management and Budget approval is being sought for the information collection listed below. This proposed information collection was previously published in the **Federal Register** on July 7, 1997 at 62 FR 36306,

allowing for a 60-day public comment period.

The purpose of this notice is to allow an additional 30 days for public comments until January 23, 1998.

Written comments and/or suggestions regarding the item(s) contained in this notice, especially the estimated public burden and associated response time, should be directed to the Office of Management and Budget, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention DOJ Desk Officer, Washington, DC 20530. Additionally, comments may be submitted to OMB via facsimile to (202) 395-7285. Comments may also be submitted to the Department of Justice (DOJ), Justice Management Division, Information Management and Security Staff, Attention: Department Clearance Officer, Suite 850, 1001 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20530. Additionally, comments may be submitted to DOJ via facsimile to (202) 514-1590.

Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information should address one or more of the following four points:

1. 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;

2. Evaluate the accuracy of the agencies estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

3. Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

4. 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 submissions of responses.

Overview of the Information Collection

1. *Type of Information Collection:* Revision of a currently approved collection.

2. *Title of the Form/Collection:* Application for Registration (DEA Form 224) and Application for Registration Renewal (DEA Form 224a).

3. *Agency form number:* DEA Form 224, DEA Form 224a; Applicable component of the Department of Justice sponsoring the collection: Office of Diversion Control, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice.

4. *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:* Primary: Business or other for-profit, Other: individuals or households, Not-for-profit institutions and State, Local or Tribal Government.

All firms and individuals who distribute or dispense controlled substances must register with the DEA under the Controlled Substances Act. Registration is needed for control measures over legal handlers of controlled substances and is used to monitor their activities.

These revisions of the forms will not add any burden to the affected public. The subject forms are being revised to provide the ability to use an Optical Character Reader (OCR) for form processing and to provide for registrants Social Security Number and/or Tax Identification Number. The OCR will enable DEA to increase efficiency and accelerate processing of registrant applications. Social Security Number and/or Tax Identification Numbers are requested to correctly identify registrants, to expedite application processing, database integration and telephone system upgrades.

5. *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amounts of time estimated for an average respondent to respond:* 355,000 respondents at 1 response per year at 12 minutes per response.

6. *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* 71,000 annual burden hours.

Public comments on this proposed information collection are strongly encouraged.

If additional information is required contact: Mr. Robert B. Briggs, Clearance Officer, United States Department of Justice, Information Management and Security Staff, Justice Management Division, Suite 850, Washington Center, 1001 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20530.

Dated: December 18, 1997.

Robert B. Briggs,

Department Clearance Officer, United States Department of Justice.

[FR Doc. 97-33572 Filed 12-23-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-09-M

Reports Midyear Population Counts and Advance Year-end Population Counts—National Prisoner Statistics 1997.

The proposed information collection is published to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies. Comments are encouraged and will be accepted for sixty days from the date listed at the top of this page in the **Federal Register**. This process is in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

Request written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information. Your comments should address one or more of the following four points:

(1) 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;

(2) 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;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) 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.

If you have additional comments, suggestions, or additional information, especially regarding the estimated public burden and associated response time, please write to Dr. Jan M. Chaiken, Director, Bureau of Justice Statistics, 810 Seventh St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20531. If you need a copy of the collection instruments with instructions, or have additional information, please contact James Stephan at (202) 616-3289, or via facsimile at 202-307-1463.

Overview of this information collection:

(1) Type of information collection. Revision of currently approved collection.

(2) The title of the Form/Collection: Prison Population Reports Midyear Counts; and Prison Population Report Advance Year-end Counts—National Prisoner Statistics 1997.

(3) The agency form number and the applicable component of the Department sponsoring the collection. Form: NPS-1A; and NPS-1B. Corrections Unit, Bureau of Justice

Statistics, Office of Justice Programs, United States Department of Justice.

(4) Affected public who will be asked to respond, as well as a brief abstract: Primary: State Departments of Corrections. Others: The Federal Bureau of Prisons. For the NPS-1A form, 52 central reporters (one from each State, the District of Columbia, and the Federal Bureau of Prisons) responsible for keeping records on inmates will be asked to provide information for the following categories:

(a) As of June 30, 1996 and June 30, 1997, the number of male and female inmates under their jurisdiction with maximum sentences of more than one year, one year or less; and unsentenced inmates; and

(b) As of June 30, 1996 and June 30, 1997, the number of male and female inmates in their custody with maximum sentences of more than one year, one year or less; and unsentenced inmates.

For the NPS-1B form, 52 central reporters (one from each State, the District of Columbia, and the Federal Bureau of Prisons) responsible for keeping records on inmates will be asked to provide information for the following categories:

(a) As of December 31, 1996 and December 31, 1997, the number of male and female inmates under their jurisdiction with maximum sentences of more than one year, one year or less; and unsentenced inmates;

(b) The number of inmates housed in county or other local authority correctional facilities, or in other state or Federal facilities on December 31, 1997 solely to ease prison crowding;

(c) As of the direct result of state prison crowding during 1997, the number of inmates released via court order, administrative procedure or statute, accelerated release, sentence reduction, emergency release, or other expedited release; and

(d) The aggregate rated, operational, and design capacities, by sex, of each State's correctional facilities at year-end 1997.

The Bureau of Justice Statistics uses this information in published reports and for the U.S. Congress, Executive Office of the President, practitioners, researchers, students, the media, and others interested in criminal justice statistics.

(5) An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time needed for an average respondent to respond: 52 respondents each taking an average 2.5 hours to respond.

(6) An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection: 130 annual burden hours.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Office of Justice Programs

Bureau of Justice Statistics; Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

ACTION: Notice of Information Collection Under Review: Prison Population