Rule 17a–8 under the Act exempts from the prohibitions of section 17(a) mergers, consolidations, or purchases or sales of substantially all of the assets of registered investment companies that are affiliated persons solely by reason of having a common investment adviser, common directors/trustees, and/or common officers, provided that certain conditions set forth in the rule are satisfied.

3. Applicants believe that they may not rely on rule 17a–8 because the Funds may be affiliated for reasons other than those set forth in the rule. Dreyfus, a wholly owned subsidiary of Mellon Bank, serves as investment adviser to both Funds. Mellon Bank directly or indirectly owns with power to vote approximately 71% of the outstanding shares of the Acquired Fund and approximately 92% of the outstanding shares of the Acquiring Fund. Because of this ownership, the Acquiring Fund may be deemed an affiliated person of an affiliated person of the Acquired Fund and vice versa under sections 2(a)(3)(B) and 2(a)(3)(C) of the Act.

4. Section 17(b) of the Act provides that the SEC may exempt a transaction from the provisions of section 17(a) if the terms of the proposed transaction, including the consideration to be paid, are reasonable and fair and do not involve overreaching on the part of any person concerned, and that the proposed transaction is consistent with the policy of each registered investment company concerned and with the general purposes of the Act.

5. Applicants submit that the terms of the Reorganization satisfy the standards set forth in section 17(b), Applicants note that the Boards, including the disinterested directors, found that participation in the Reorganization is in the best interests of each Fund and that the interests of the existing shareholders of each Fund will not be diluted as a result of the Reorganization. Applicants also note that the exchange of the Acquired Fund's shares for the Acquiring Fund's shares will be based on the Fund's relative net asset values and that the Reorganization will be effected on a tax-free basis.

For the Commission, by the Division of Investment Management, pursuant to delegated authority.

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98–14186 Filed 5–28–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010–01–M

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Information Collection Activities: Comment Requests

This notice lists information collection packages that will require submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), as well as information collection packages submitted to OMB for clearance, in compliance with PL. 104–13 effective October 1, 1995, The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The information collection(s) listed below have been submitted to OMB:

1. Representative Payee Evaluation Report—0960–0069. The information on Form SSA–624 is used by SSA to accurately account for the use of Social Security benefits and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments received by representative payees on behalf of an individual. The respondents are individuals and organizations, who (as representative payees) received Form SSA–623/6230 and failed to respond, provided unacceptable responses which cannot be resolved or reported a change in custody.

Number of Respondents: 250,000
Frequency of Response: 1
Average Burden Per Response: 30 minutes
Estimated Average Burden: 125,000 hours

2. Request for Address Information from Motor Vehicles Records; and Request for Address Information from Employment Commissions Records—0960–0341. The information on Forms SSA–L711 and L712 is used by SSA to determine the current address for missing debtors. The respondents are State agencies who have entered into agreements with SSA to provide the requested information.

	SSA–L711	SSA–L712
Number of Respondents.	1,300	1,100.
Frequency of Response.	1	1.
Average Burden Per Response.	2 minutes	2 minutes.
Estimated Annual Burden.	43 hours ..	37 hours.

3. Disability Report—0960–0579. The information collected on Form SSA–3368 is needed for the determination of disability by the State Disability Determination Services. The information will be used to develop medical evidence and to assess the alleged disability. The respondents are applicants for disability benefits.

Number of Respondents: 2,438,500
Frequency of Response: 1
Average Burden Per Response: 30 minutes
Estimated Annual Burden: 1,219,250 hours

4. Work History Report—0960–0578. The information collected on Form SSA–3369 is needed for the determination of disability by the State Disability Determination Services. The respondents are applicants for disability benefits. The information will be used to document an individual's past work history.

Number of Respondents: 1,000,000
Frequency of Response: 1
Average Burden Per Response: 30 minutes
Estimated annual Burden: 500,000 hours

5. Medical History and Disability Report, Disabled Child-0960–0577. The information collected on Form SSA–3820 is needed for the determination of disability by the State Disability Determination Services. The SSA–3820 will be used to obtain various types of information about a child's condition, his/her treating sources and/or other medical sources of evidence. The respondents are applicants for disability benefits.

Number of Respondents: 523,000
Frequency of Response: 1
Average Burden Per Response: 40 minutes
Estimated Annual Burden: 348,667 hours

6. Child-Care Dropout Questionnaire—0960–0474. The information on Form SSA–4162 is used by SSA to determine whether zero earnings years can be dropped out when computing a claimant's benefit. The respondents are applicants for Disability Insurance benefits, who may qualify for a higher primary insurance amount because of having a child in care for certain years.

Number of Respondents: 2,000
Frequency of Response: 1
Average Burden Per Response: 5 minutes
Estimated Average Burden: 167 hours

Written comments and recommendations regarding the information collection(s) should be directed within 30 days to the OMB Desk Officer and SSA Reports Clearance Officer at the following addresses:

(OMB)

Office of Management and Budget, OIRA, Attn: Laura Oliven, New Executive Office Building, Room 10230, 725 17th St., NW., Washington, D.C. 20503.

(SSA)

Social Security Administration, DCFAM, Attn: Frederick W. Brickenkamp, 1–A–21 Operations Bldg., 6401 Security Blvd., Baltimore, MD 21235.

To receive a copy of any of the forms or clearance packages, call the SSA Reports Clearance Officer on (410) 965–4145 or write to him at the address listed above.

Dated: May 21, 1998.

Frederick W. Brickenkamp,

Reports Clearance Officer, Social Security Administration.

[FR Doc. 98–14263 Filed 5–28–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4190–29–P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Bureau of Public Affairs

[Public Notice #2826]

Advisory Committee on Historical Diplomatic Documentation Notice of Charter Renewal and Meeting

The Advisory Committee on Historical Diplomatic Documentation renewed its charter on March 18, 1998. This Advisory committee will continue to make recommendations to the Historian and the Department on all aspects of the *Foreign Relation's* program as well on the Department of State's responsibility under the statute to open its 30-year old and older records for public review at the National Archives and Record Administration. The Committee consists of nine members drawn from among historians, political scientists, archivists, international lawyers and other social scientists who are distinguished in the field of U.S. Foreign Relations.

The Committee will meet next in the Department of State, 2201 ''C'' Street NW, Washington, DC, June 23–24, 1998, in Conference Room 1205. Procedures for declassification of Department records and problems relating to the preparation of the *Foreign Relations of the United States* documentary series will be discussed at the meeting.

The Committee will meet in open session from 9 a.m. through Noon on Tuesday, June 23, 1998. The remainder of the Committee's sessions from 1:45 p.m. on Tuesday, June 23, 1998 until 5 p.m. on Wednesday, June 24, 1998 will be closed in accordance with Section 10(d) of the Foreign Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92–463). The agenda calls for discussions involving consideration of matters not subject to public disclosure under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(1), and the public interest requires that such activities be withheld from disclosure.

Entry to the building is controlled and will be facilitated by advance arrangements. Members of the public desiring access to the open session should, by Thursday, June 18, 1998, notify Gloria Walker, (202) 663–1124, Office of the Historian, of their name, Social Security number, date of birth, professional affiliation, address, and telephone number in order to arrange admittance. This includes both government and non-government admittance. All attendees must use the ''C'' Street entrance. One of the following valid ID's will be required for admittance: any U.S. driver's license with photo, a passport, or a U.S. Government agency ID.

Questions concerning the meeting should be directed to William Z. Slany, Executive Secretary, Advisory Committee on Historical Diplomatic Documentation, Department of State, Office of the Historian, Washington, DC, 20520, telephone (202) 663–1123, (e-mail *pahistoff@panet.us-state.gov*).

Dated: May 14, 1998.

William Z. Slany,

Executive Secretary, Office of the Historian.

[FR Doc. 98–14262 Filed 5–28–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710–11–M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

Notice of the Initiation of a Railroad Research and Development Grant Program in Cooperation with Academic Research Institutions

AGENCY: Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of initiation of grant program and funds availability.

SUMMARY: FRA announces the initiation of a railroad research and development grant program in cooperation with academic research institutions (''Program''). This Program is intended to foster long-range enhancement of FRA's program of research in support of rail transportation by developing cooperative research relationships between the FRA and selected university research organizations. The FRA seeks, via this announcement, to identify specific academic research institutions (broadly referred to hereinafter as universities) that may have expertise useful in complementing the established research program of FRA's Office of Research and Development (OR&D). Selected universities will be expected to buttress FRA's current research program that now operates principally in coordination with non-academic entities.

Funding Authority and Related Information

This program is being undertaken utilizing funds in the Department of Transportation and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 1998 (Pub. L. 105–66), dated October 27, 1997. FRA anticipates awarding a small number of grants (whose combined value is not to exceed approximately $1,000,000, in the aggregate, in Fiscal Year 1998) for approved university research. Applicants are also encouraged to consider sharing the cost of their proposed projects or identifying in-kind contributions. The FRA intends to focus the initial funding associated with this notice on various research and development (R&D) areas of interest relating to or under the general heading of rail safety. In the event future appropriated funds are authorized for the Program, FRA may, at its discretion, provide additional funding for research. Such future grants may focus on rail safety or other rail and adjunct transportation research areas, such as traffic control and intelligent transportation systems.

Eligible Participants

Accredited universities, colleges, major academic research institutions, and other public or private academic institutions of higher learning. All otherwise eligible entities must also have demonstrable specialized expertise in rail transportation research, and have a minimum of five years of railroad or rail-related research experience. Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Minority Institutions (MIs) fitting this description are encouraged to apply. However, no portion of this Program will be set aside exclusively for HBCUs and MIs.

Exchanges and Points of Contact

Exchanges of information between interested parties and the Government, prior to submission of an application for consideration under the Program, are strongly encouraged. Such informal exchanges may provide prospective applicants with preliminary information on the Government's level of interest in prospective works or projects or on the availability of funds. Any exchanges of information must be consistent with all applicable statutory or regulatory procurement integrity requirements. Technical inquiries regarding this notice may be directed to: Dr. Magdy El-Sibaie,