

travelers will be randomly subject to INTEX. Based on initial pilot tests conducted to date, U.S. citizens and certain alien travelers with diplomatic status will be detained no more than 3 to 5 minutes on average. The INTEX process for all other alien travelers will take an average of 30 minutes. Depending on the traffic volume of the POE, between one and five compliance inspections will be conducted per day at each POE. Conducting between one and five INTEX exams at pilot land border and air POEs will yield data concerning about 1,800 inspections over a 30-day period. This amount of data will enable the Inspections program to quantify program effectiveness in detecting inadmissible aliens through the primary inspections process.

Dated: June 25, 1998.

**Doris Meissner,**

*Commissioner, Immigration and Naturalization Service.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Bureau of International Labor Affairs

#### Agency Information Collection

#### Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Senior Technical Assistance Register (STAR)

**AGENCY:** Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB), Department of Labor.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Labor, 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/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) [44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)]. This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently the Bureau of International Labor Affairs is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension of the Senior Technical Assistance Register (STAR). The Department of Labor is particularly interested in comments which:

- 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;

- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed 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., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

**DATES:** Written comment must be submitted by August 31, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments are to be submitted to Bureau of International Labor Affairs, Department of Labor, Room S-5006, 200 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20210, telephone (202) 219-7633. Written comments limited to 10 pages or fewer may also be transmitted by facsimile to (202) 219-5613.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Contact Jack Luther, Office of Foreign Relations, Bureau of International Labor Affairs, U.S. Department of Labor, Room S-5006, 200 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20210. Telephone: (202) 219-7633 ext. 149. Copies of the referenced information collection request are available for inspection and will be mailed to persons who request copies by telephoning Jack Luther at (202) 219-7633 ext. 149.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background

The Senior Technical Assistance Register (STAR) is a program of the Bureau of International Labor Affairs of the United States Department of Labor which identifies persons interested in providing advisory services to developing countries in which the Department of Labor is providing development assistance. The Register identifies specialists in the fields of labor and social affairs who would be willing to volunteer their services to the Department for short term overseas technical assistance assignments in their particular areas of expertise.

##### II. Current Actions

This notice requests an extension of the current Office of Management and Budget approval of the Senior Technical Assistance Register. Extension is necessary to continue to identify

persons who would be interested in this program.

*Type of Review:* Extension.

*Agency:* Bureau of International Labor Affairs.

*Title:* Senior Technical Assistance Register (STAR).

*OMB Number:* 1225-0064.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Total Respondents:* 10.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

*Total Responses:* 10.

*Average Time per Response:* 23 minutes.

*Estimated Total Burden Hours:* 230.

*Total Annualized capital/startup costs:* 0.

*Total initial annual costs:* (operating/maintaining systems or purchasing services): 0.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request. The comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: June 25, 1998.

**Sudha Haley,**

*Area Advisor, Near East, North Africa and South Asia.*

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BILLING CODE 4510-28-M

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Office of the Secretary

#### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

June 25, 1998.

The Department of Labor (DOL) has submitted the following public information collection requests (ICRs) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). A copy of each individual ICR, with applicable supporting documentation, may be obtained by calling the Department of Labor, Departmental Clearance Officer, Todd R. Owen ((202) 219-5096 ext. 143) or by E-Mail to Owen-Todd@dol.gov.

Comments should be sent to Office of The Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attn: OMB Desk Officer for BLS, DM, ESA, ETA, MSHA, OSHA, PWBA, or VETS, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 ((202) 395-7316), within 30 days from the date of this publication in the **Federal Register**.

The OMB is particularly interested in comments which:

- 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;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed 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., permitting electronic submission of responses.

*Agency:* Pension Welfare Benefits Administration.

*Title:* Notice of Participants and Beneficiaries and the Federal Government of Electing One Percent Increased Cost Exemption.

*OMB Number:* 1210-0105 (extension).

*Frequency:* On occasion.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit.

*Number of Respondents:* 479.

*Total Responses:* 94,854.

*Estimated Time per Respondent:* 2 minutes.

*Total Burden Hours:* 3,162 hours.

*Total annualized capital/startup costs:* 0.

*Total annual costs (operating/maintaining systems or purchasing services):* 270,000.

*Description:* The Mental Health Parity Act of 1996 requires parity between the dollar limits imposed on mental health benefits and those imposed on medical/surgical benefits offered by group health plans and group health insurance coverage offered by issuers. Plans may be exempted from this requirement if parity would result in an increase in cost of at least one percent and participants and beneficiaries and the federal government are notified. This information collection request covers notifying participants and beneficiaries and to the federal government when a plan elects the increased cost exemption.

*Title:* Calculation and Disclosure of Documentation of Eligibility for Exemption.

*OMB Number:* 1210-0106 (extension).

*Frequency:* On occasion.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit.

*Number of Respondents:* 1,364.

*Total Responses:* 3,527.

*Estimated Time per Respondent:* 2 minutes.

*Total Burden Hours:* 118 hours.

*Total annualized capital/startup costs:* \$2,420,000.

*Total annual costs (operating/maintaining systems or purchasing services):* \$10,000.

*Description:* The Mental Health Parity Act of 1996 requires parity between the dollar limits imposed on mental health benefits and those imposed on medical/surgical benefits offered by group health plans and group health insurance coverage offered by issuers. Plans may be exempted from this requirement if parity would result in an increase in cost of at least one percent and participants and beneficiaries and the federal government are notified. Upon receipt of the notice, participants and beneficiaries may request and receive at no charge a summary of the information on which the exemptions were based. This information collection request covers the calculation and disclosure of information on which the exemption was based.

*Agency:* Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration.

*Title:* Notice of Group Health Plan's Use of Transition Period, and Posting Thereof.

*OMB Number:* 1210-0107 (extension).

*Frequency:* On occasion.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit.

*Number of Respondents:* 286.

*Total Responses:* 286.

*Estimated Time per Respondent:* 2 minutes.

*Total Burden Hours:* 10 hours.

*Total annualized capital/startup costs:* 0.

*Total annual costs (operating/maintaining systems or purchasing services):* \$1,200.

*Description:* The Mental Health Parity Act of 1996 requires parity between the dollar limits imposed on mental health benefits and those imposed on medical/surgical benefits offered by group health plans and group health insurance coverage offered by issuers. Plans may be exempted from this requirement if parity would result in an increase in cost of at least one percent and participants and beneficiaries and the federal government are notified. Plans electing increased cost exemption during all or part of the first quarter of 1998 under the rule's transition provisions must notify the federal government and post a copy of the notice in the workplace. This information collection request covers

notice and posting concerning the use of the transition period.

**Todd R. Owen,**

*Departmental Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 98-17347 Filed 6-29-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-29-M

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Office of the Secretary

#### Participation by OSHA Personnel in State Plan Enforcement Litigation

On January 21, 1998, the Office of the Solicitor of the Department of Labor issued a memorandum to the Assistant Secretary for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) concerning participation by OSHA Personnel in State Plan Enforcement Litigation. A copy of that memorandum is annexed hereto as an Appendix.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Miriam McD. Miller, Co-Counsel for Administrative Law, telephone number (202) 219-8188, ext. 135.

Signed at Washington, DC this 23rd day of June 1998.

**Ronald G. Whiting,**

*Deputy Solicitor of Labor for Regional Operations.*

#### MEMORANDUM FOR CHARLES JEFFRESS

Assistant Secretary for Occupational Safety and Health

From: Marvin Krislov, Deputy Solicitor for National Operations

Ronald Whiting, Deputy Solicitor Regional Operations

Subject: Participation by OSHA Personnel in State Plan Enforcement Litigation

This is in response to requests by OSHA for advice as to the application of the Department of Labor regulations at 29 CFR sec. 2.20 *et seq.*, to participation by employees of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration in occupational safety and health enforcement cases brought by states which administer occupational safety and health state plans approved by OSHA under section 18 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, 29 U.S.C. 667.

Regulations at 29 CFR § 2.20 (frequently referred to as the "subpoena regulation") provide that the appropriate Deputy Solicitor of Labor shall instruct Departmental employees how to respond to a request for information or testimony in connection with any litigation in which the U.S. Department of Labor is not a party. The public policies underlying the subpoena regulation include the following: (1.) conservation of governmental resources; (2.) minimizing governmental involvement in controversial matters unrelated to official business; (3.) centralization of the dissemination of information; (4.) avoiding the expenditure of government time and money in aid of private purposes. It may be of interest to you that OSHA receives by far a greater number of