

deny adequate and effective protection for intellectual property rights or deny fair and equitable market access to U.S. persons who rely on intellectual property protection. Those countries that have the most onerous or egregious acts, policies, or practices and whose acts, policies or practices have the greatest adverse impact (actual or potential) on relevant U.S. products are to be identified as priority foreign countries. Acts, policies or practices which are the basis of a country's designation as a priority foreign country are normally the subject of an investigation under the section 301 provisions of the Trade Act.

USTR may not identify a country as a priority foreign country if it is entering into good faith negotiations, or making significant progress in bilateral or multilateral negotiations, to provide adequate and effective protection of intellectual property rights.

In identifying countries that deny adequate and effective protection of intellectual property rights in 2000, USTR will focus special attention on other countries' compliance with their TRIPS obligations—many of which came due on January 2000—as well as their efforts to reduce piracy of optical media (music CDs, Video CDs, CD-ROMS, and DVDs) and prevent unauthorized government use of computer software.

Section 182 contains a special rule regarding actions of Canada affecting United States cultural industries. The USTR is obligated to identify any act, policy or practice of Canada which affects cultural industries, is adopted or expanded after December 17, 1992, and is actionable under Article 2106 of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Any such act, policy or practice so identified shall be treated the same as an act, policy or practice which was the basis for a country's identification as a priority foreign country under section 182(a)(2) of the Trade Act (i.e., such acts, policies or practices shall be the subject of a section 301 investigation under the "Special 301" procedures), unless the United States has already taken action pursuant to Article 2106 of the NAFTA.

USTR must make the above-referenced identifications within 30 days after publication of the National Trade Estimate (NTE) report, i.e., no later than April 30, 2000.

Requirements for Comments

Comments should include a description of the problems experienced and the effect of the acts, policies and practices on U.S. industry. Comments should be as detailed as possible and

should provide all necessary information for assessing the effect of the acts, policies and practices. Any comments that include quantitative loss claims should be accompanied by the methodology used in calculating such estimated losses. Comments must be in English and provided in twenty copies. A submitter requesting that information contained in a comment be treated as confidential business information must certify that such information is business confidential and would not customarily be released to the public by the submitter. Confidential business information must be clearly marked "BUSINESS CONFIDENTIAL" in a contrasting color ink at the top of each page of each copy. A non-confidential version of the comment must also be provided.

All comments should be sent to Sybia Harrison, Special Assistant to the Section 301 Committee, Room 100A, 600 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20508, and must be received no later than 12:00 noon on Friday, February 18, 2000.

Public Inspection of Submissions

Within one business day of receipt, non-confidential submissions will be placed in a public file, open for inspection at the USTR Reading Room, in Room 101, Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC. An appointment to review the file may be made by calling Brenda Webb, (202) 395-6186. The USTR Reading Room is open to the public from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Joseph Papovich,

Assistant USTR for Services, Investment and Intellectual Property.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

[FHWA Docket No. 99-6693]

Notice of Request for Extension of Currently Approved Information Collection: Certification of Enforcement of Vehicle Size and Weight Laws

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the requirements in section 3506(c)(2)(A) of

the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the intention of FHWA to request the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to renew its clearance of the currently approved information collection identified below under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before March 10, 2000.

ADDRESSES: All signed, written comments should refer to the docket number that appears in the heading of this document and must be submitted to the Docket Clerk, U.S. DOT Dockets, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001. All comments received will be available for examination at the above address between 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Those desiring notification of receipt of comments must include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or postcard.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Tom Klimek, (202) 366-2212, Federal Highway Administration, Office of Freight Management and Operations, Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590. Office hours are from 7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Certification of Enforcement of Vehicle Size and Weight Laws.

OMB Number: 2125-0034.

Background: Title 23, U.S.C. 141, requires each State, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico to file an annual certification that they are enforcing their size and weight laws on Federal-aid highways and that their Interstate System weight limits are consistent with Federal requirements to be eligible to receive an apportionment of Federal highway trust funds. Section 141 also authorizes the Secretary to require States to file such information as is necessary to verify that their certifications are accurate. To determine whether States are adequately enforcing their size and weight limits, each must submit an updated plan for enforcing their size and weight limits to the FHWA at the beginning of each fiscal year. At the end of the fiscal year, they must submit their certifications and sufficient information to verify that the enforcement goals established in the plan have been met. Failure of a State to file a certification, adequately enforce its size and weight laws, and enforce weight laws on the Interstate System that are inconsistent with Federal requirements, could result in a specified reduction of its Federal highway fund

apportionment for the next fiscal year. In addition, section 123 of the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95-599, 92 Stat. 2689, 2701) requires each jurisdiction to inventory (1) its penalties for violation of its size and weight laws, and (2) the term and cost of its oversize and overweight permits.

Respondents: The State Departments of Transportation (or equivalent) in the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 4,160 hours. This number has not changed from the last approved OMB clearance.

Frequency: The reports must be submitted annually.

Authority: 23 U.S.C. 141; 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A); 23 CFR 657; Section 123, P.L. 95-599, 92 Stat. 2701; 49 CFR 1.48.

Issued on: January 4, 2000.

Michael J. Vecchietti,

Director, Office of Information and Management Services.

[FR Doc. 00-483 Filed 1-7-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Reports, Forms and Recordkeeping Requirements; Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Information Collection Request (ICR) abstracted below has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its expected burden. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following information collection was published on May 20, 1999 [64 FR 27615].

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before February 9, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Tom Howard, (202) 366-0170, Office of Highway Policy Information, Federal Highway Administration, 400 7th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001. Office hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: A Guide to Reporting Highway Statistics.

OMB Number: 2125-0032.

Type of Request: Renewal of a currently-approved information collection.

Affected Public: State and local governments of the 50 United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the four territories (American Samoa, Guam, Northern Marianas, and Virgin Islands).

Abstract: The Guide to Reporting Highway Statistics provides for the collection of information by describing policies and procedures for assembling statistical data from the existing files of State agencies on motor-vehicle registration and fees, motor-fuel use and taxation, driver licensing, highway taxation and finance, and other related subjects, and the reporting of these data to the FHWA. The data collected in accordance with the Guide is used by the Federal, State, and local levels of government for transportation policy decision making and is published annually in FHWA's Highway Statistics and Our Nation's Highways. In addition, the FHWA is required to provide a biennial report to Congress, The Status of the Nation's Surface Transportation System: Conditions and Performance, to determine future highway needs. The data collected under the Guide is also a primary data source used in apportioning Federal-aid highway funds under the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st century (TEA-21), which significantly increased the amount of Federal funds that rely on State-reported motor fuel as an apportionment factor in distributing Federal funds to the States.

Estimated Burden: The total estimated annual burden for all respondents for the annual collection of data for the Guide is 40,880 hours.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503, Attention: DOT Desk Officer. Comments are invited on: whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the Department's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. A comment to OMB is most

effective if OMB receives it within 30 days of publication of this Notice.

Issued on: January 4, 2000.

Michael J. Vecchietti,

Director, Office of Information and Management Services.

[FR Doc. 00-482 Filed 1-7-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

January 4, 2000.

The Department of Treasury has submitted the following public information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling the Treasury Bureau Clearance Officer listed. Comments regarding this information collection should be addressed to the OMB reviewer listed and to the Treasury Department Clearance Officer, Department of the Treasury, Room 2110, 1425 New York Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20220.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before February 9, 2000 to be assured of consideration.

Internal Revenue Service (IRS)

OMB Number: 1545-0430.

Form Number: IRS Form 4810.

Type of Review: Extension.

Title: Request for Prompt Assessment Under Internal Revenue Code Section 6501(d).

Description: Form 4810 is used to request a prompt assessment under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 6501(d). IRS uses this form to locate the return to expedite processing of the taxpayer's request.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit, Individuals or households, Farms, Federal Government.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 4,000.

Estimated Burden Hours Per Respondent: 30 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Total Reporting Burden: 2,000 hours.

OMB Number: 1545-0916.

Regulation Project Number: EE-96-85 NPRM and EE-63-84 Temporary.

Type of Review: Extension.

Title: Effective Dates and Other Issues Arising Under the Employee Benefit Provisions of the Tax Reform Act of 1984.

Description: These temporary regulations provide rules relating to