

deemed to be a request for public comment on the proposed amendment. *At the same time the Commission votes to publish proposed amendments for comment, it shall request public comment on whether to make any amendments retroactive. As stated in Rule 5.1, supra, generally, amendments will be given prospective application only.*

The notice of proposed amendments also shall provide, where appropriate and practicable, reasons for consideration of amendments, a summary of or reference to information that is relevant to the issue(s), and whether the Commission possesses information on the issue(s) that is publicly available. In addition, the publication notice shall include a deadline for public comment and may include a notice of any scheduled public hearing(s) or meetings on the issue(s).

In the case of proposed amendments to guidelines or issues for comment that form the basis for possible guidelines amendments, to the extent practicable, there shall be a minimum period of public comment of at least 60 calendar days prior to final Commission action on the proposed amendments.

[FR Doc. 96-25366 Filed 10-2-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 1505-01-D

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## SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

### Public Meeting

The U.S. Small Business Administration, Region V, Minnesota District Advisory Council, located in the geographical area of Minneapolis/St. Paul, will hold a public meeting on Friday, November 15, 1996, at 11:30 a.m., at the Decathlon Club, 1700 East 79th Street, Bloomington, Minnesota, to discuss such matters as may be presented by members, staff of the U.S. Small Business Administration, or others present.

For further information, write or call Edward A. Daum, District Director, U.S. Small Business Administration, 610-C Butler Square, 100 North Sixth Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403, (612) 370-2306.

Dated: October 1, 1996.

Michael P. Novelli,

Director, Office of Advisory Councils.

[FR Doc. 96-25711 Filed 10-7-96; 8:45 am]

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### Public Meeting

The U.S. Small Business Administration, Region I, Providence,

Rhode Island District Advisory Council, will hold a public meeting on Thursday, October 10, 1996, at 8:00 a.m., at the Providence Marriott, Charles at Orms Streets, Providence, Rhode Island 02904, to discuss such matters as may be presented by members, staff of the U.S. Small Business Administration, or others present.

For further information, write or call Joseph P. Loddo, District Director, U.S. Small Business Administration, 380 Westminster Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02903, (401) 528-4561.

Dated: October 1, 1996.

Michael P. Novelli,

Director, Office of Advisory Councils.

[FR Doc. 96-25712 Filed 10-7-96; 8:45 am]

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## OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

### Request for Public Comment: Deregulation Measures in Japan

**AGENCY:** Office of the United States Trade Representative.

**ACTION:** Request for written comments regarding deregulation measures in Japan.

**SUMMARY:** The Government of the United States plans to submit to the Government of Japan comments regarding economic deregulation measures by the Government of Japan. The United States Trade Representative (USTR) solicits comments from interested parties regarding specific laws, regulations, or regulatory practices in Japan, the removal or modification of which would improve market access for United States products or services.

**DATES:** Comments are due on or before noon on October 18, 1996.

**ADDRESSES:** Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20508.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Byron Sigel, Director for Japanese Affairs, (202) 395-5070, or Joanna McIntosh, Assistant General Counsel, (202) 395-7203.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On March 31, 1996, the Government of Japan published revisions to its 1995 Deregulation Action Plan. The Government of Japan intends to announce further revisions to this Action Plan next spring.

Prior to the announcement of the revisions in March 1996, the United States Government held several consultations with the Government of Japan regarding deregulation and competition policy issues. On

November 21, 1995, the Government of the United States, under the coordination of the Office of the United States Trade Representative, submitted to the Government of Japan specific written comments regarding the deregulation process, competition policy issues, administrative reform process, and specific suggestions for deregulation measures. The comments submitted by the Government of the United States are available for public inspection and copying in the USTR Reading Room: Room 101, Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20506. An appointment to review the comments may be made by calling Brenda Webb (202) 395-6186. The USTR Reading Room is open to the public from 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. The list of issues raised in the comments is provided in the attached appendix.

The Government of the United States plans to consult further with the Government of Japan regarding the measures announced last spring as well as additional deregulation and competition policy measures and issues. The Government of the United States plans to submit to the Government of Japan further specific comments addressing these areas.

### Request for Public Comment

Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on specific laws, regulations, or regulatory practices in Japan, the removal or modification of which would improve market access for United States products or services. Comments need not be limited to the sectors covered by the deregulation measures previously announced by the Government of Japan or commented on by the United States Government, but may address any sector. Comments should identify and explain the laws, regulations, and regulatory practices in sufficient detail to allow a full understanding of the regulatory issues and market access concerns.

In addition to comments regarding specific laws, regulations, or regulatory practices, USTR is interested in receiving comments from interested persons regarding regulatory processes and procedures, for example regarding transparency or review of administrative actions, which affect market access. USTR also solicits comments regarding the specific experiences and suggestions of interested parties with respect to competition laws and policies and their enforcement in Japan, as well as other laws and policies which may facilitate or tolerate anticompetitive conduct.