

Sunshine Act, Pub. L. 94-409, that the Securities and Exchange Commission will hold the following meeting during the week of August 25, 1997.

A closed meeting will be held on Thursday, August 28, 1997 at 10:00 a.m.

Commissioners, Counsel to the Commissioners, the Secretary to the Commission, and recording secretaries will attend the closed meeting. Certain staff members who have an interest in the matters may also be present.

The General Counsel of the Commission, or his designee, has certified that, in his opinion, one or more of the exemptions set forth in 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(4), (8), (9)(A) and (10) and 17 CFR 200.402(a)(4), (8), (9)(i) and (10), permit consideration of the scheduled matters at the closed meeting.

Commissioner Hunt, as duty officer, voted to consider the items listed for the closed meeting in a closed session.

The subject matter of the closed meeting scheduled for Thursday, August 28, 1997, at 10:00 a.m., will be:

Institution and settlement of injunctive actions.

Institution and settlement of administrative proceedings of an enforcement nature.

At times, changes in Commission priorities require alterations in the scheduling of meeting items. For further information and to ascertain what, if any, matters have been added, deleted or postponed, please contact:

The Office of the Secretary at (202) 942-7070.

Dated: August 21, 1997.

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-22799 Filed 8-22-97; 1:00 p.m.]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996: Federal Means-Tested Public Benefits Paid by the Social Security Administration

AGENCY: Social Security Administration.

ACTION: Notice of Benefits Paid by the Social Security Administration Meeting the Definition of a "Federal Means-Tested Public Benefit".

SUMMARY: The Social Security Administration announces that, for purposes of title IV of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA), as amended, the only benefits paid by the Social Security Administration which are "Federal means-tested public

benefits" are supplemental security income payments made under title XVI of the Social Security Act. This notice pertains to the eligibility of aliens for certain government benefits during their first 5 years of entry with a specified immigrant status, to aliens who are lawfully admitted for permanent residence who can be credited with 40 qualifying quarters of coverage, and to the operation of alien-sponsor deeming rules.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Diane Blackman, Deputy Associate Commissioner, Office of Program Benefits Policy, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21235, 410-965-3571.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Section 403 of title IV of the PRWORA, enacted August 22, 1996, provides that qualified aliens entering the United States on or after the date of enactment, are ineligible for "Federal means-tested public benefits" during the first 5 years they are qualified aliens, unless they fall within certain specified exceptions. In addition, sections 402 and 435 provide that aliens who are lawfully admitted for permanent residence are eligible for certain Federal benefits if they can be credited, individually and/or from a spouse or parent, with 40 qualifying quarters of coverage. However, qualifying quarters of coverage may not be credited for any quarter in which the individual received a "Federal means-tested public benefit" after December 31, 1996. Similarly, under section 412, aliens who are lawfully admitted for permanent residence are eligible for certain State public benefits if they can be credited with 40 qualifying quarters of coverage but only if they did not receive a "Federal means-tested public benefit" in that quarter after the foregoing date. Also, with respect to the operation of the alien-sponsor deeming rules described in section 421, receipt of "Federal means-tested public benefits" is a factor in determining the duration of the deeming period.

Prior to the enactment of PRWORA, early versions of the bill contained a definition of "Federal means-tested public benefit" that could have encompassed benefits provided by both discretionary spending programs and mandatory spending programs. (These early versions provided that, with certain exceptions, "the term 'Federal means-tested public benefit' meant a public benefit (including cash, medical, housing, and food assistance and social services) of the Federal Government in

which the eligibility of an individual, household, or family eligibility unit for benefits, or the amount of such benefits, or both are determined on the basis of income, resources, or financial need of the individual, household, or unit." 142 Cong. Rec. S8481 (daily ed. July 22, 1996).)

PRWORA was subject to section 313 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, also known as the "Byrd Rule," because it was enacted as a budget reconciliation bill. Under the Byrd Rule, a Senator may raise a point of order to strike or prevent the incorporation of "extraneous" material. A provision in a reconciliation bill will be considered "extraneous" and subject to a point of order if, among other things, "it produces changes in outlays or revenues which are merely incidental to the non-budgetary components of the provision." 2 U.S.C. § 644(b)(1)(D). The legislative history of PRWORA indicates that the Senate understood the significance of the Byrd Rule objection in terms of limiting the scope of the definition of "Federal means-tested public benefit" to mandatory spending programs, while leaving discretionary programs unaffected. See 142 Cong. Rec. at S9403 (daily ed. August 1, 1996) (statement of Senator Chafee); 142 Cong. Rec. at S9400 (statements of Senators Graham, Kennedy and Exon). Therefore, to the extent the definition of "Federal means-tested public benefit" included benefits provided by discretionary spending programs, it was potentially subject to a Byrd Rule objection and thus stricken from the legislation.

During Senate debate on PRWORA, a point of order was raised pursuant to the Byrd Rule. The Presiding Officer sustained the point of order, and the ruling was not appealed. The definition was stricken and PRWORA was ultimately enacted without the term "Federal means-tested public benefit" being defined. H.R. Conference Report No. 725, 104th Congress, 2nd session 381-82 (1996).

In light of the statutory language and legislative history, "Federal means-tested public benefit" applies only to benefits provided by Federal means-tested, mandatory spending programs.

The purpose of this notice is to announce which payments made by the Social Security Administration constitute a "Federal means-tested public benefit" as described above. The Social Security Administration announces that, of the programs it administers, only supplemental security income benefits under title XVI of the Social Security Act are "Federal means-tested public benefits" for purposes of title IV of the Personal Responsibility

and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, as amended.

Dated: August 18, 1997.

Glenna Donnelly,

Assistant Deputy Commissioner for Programs and Policy.

[FR Doc. 97-22697 Filed 8-25-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4190-29-P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice No. 2593]

United States International Telecommunications Advisory Committee (ITAC), Standardization Sector (ITAC-T); Study Groups B and D and Citel Ad-Hoc; Meeting Notice

The Department of State announces that the United States International Telecommunications Advisory Committee (ITAC), Telecommunications Standardization Sector (ITAC-T) Study Groups B and D and CITELE AD-HOC have scheduled meetings to develop United States positions and contributions for upcoming ITU-T meetings dealing with standardization activities of the International Telecommunications Union and preparatory activity for CITELE PCC-I and COM/CITELE. These meetings will take place at the Department of State, at 2201 C Street, NW., Washington, DC beginning at 9:30 a.m. each day and are scheduled to meet all day. The ITAC-T Study Groups B and D dealing primarily with the upcoming meetings of ITU-T Study Groups 7, 8, and 4 will meet September 23 in Room 1207, and the preparatory activities for CITELE meetings will follow in the same room.

Study Groups B and D will meet on November 4, 1997 in Room 1406 to continue preparations for ITU-T Study Group 7 in December, 1997, and the meeting of ITU-T Study Group in January 1998, and the COM/CITELE meeting scheduled for December 1-5, 1997 in Montevideo, Uruguay. A more extensive agenda may be developed and distributed by fax or electronic mail to members prior to the announced meetings including the scheduling of appropriate Ad-Hoc meetings. Other matters within the purview of U.S. Study Group D as well as Ad-Hoc CITELE preparations may be raised.

Members of the General Public may attend this meeting and join in the discussions, subject to the instructions of the Chair. Admittance of public members will be limited to the seating available. In this regard, entrance to the Department of State is controlled. Questions regarding the meeting may be

addressed to Mr. Gary Fereno at (202) 647-0200.

Note: If you wish to attend please send a fax to (202) 647-7407 not later than 24 hours before the scheduled meeting. On this fax, please include subject meeting, your name, social security number, company/organization, and date of birth. One of the following valid photo identifications will be required for admittance: U.S. driver's license with your picture on it, U.S. passport, U.S. Government identification (company ID's are no longer accepted by Diplomatic Security). Enter from the "C" Street Main Lobby.

Dated: August 15, 1997.

Earl S. Barbely,

Chairman, U.S. ITAC for Telecommunications Standardization.

[FR Doc. 97-22583 Filed 8-25-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-45-M

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice No. 2591]

Shipping Coordinating Committee International Maritime Organization (IMO) Legal Committee; Notice of Meeting

The U.S. Shipping Coordinating Committee (SHC) will conduct an open meeting at 10:00 a.m., on Wednesday, October 1, 1997, in Room 2415 U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. The purpose of this meeting is to prepare for the 76th session of the IMO Legal Committee, which will be held October 13-17, 1997, in London, regarding the provision of financial security for seagoing vessels, compensation for pollution from ships' bunkers, a draft convention on wreck removal, the carriage by sea of radioactive materials, and other matters. This meeting will also be a further opportunity for interested members of the public to express their views on whether the United States should ratify the Hazardous and Noxious Substances Convention, adopted in London in May, 1996.

Members of the public are invited to attend the SHC meeting, up to the seating capacity of the room. For further information, or to submit views concerning the subjects of discussion, write to either Captain Malcolm J. Williams, Jr., or Lieutenant Commander Bruce P. Dalcher, U.S. Coast Guard (G-LMI), 2100 Second Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20593, or by telephone (202) 267-1527, telefax (202) 267-4496.

Dated: August 14, 1997.

Russell A. La Mantia,

Chairman, Shipping Coordinating Committee.

[FR Doc. 97-22582 Filed 8-25-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-07-M

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice No. 2592]

Shipping Coordinating Committee, Subcommittee on Safety of Life at Sea and Associated Bodies, Working Group on Stability and Load Lines and on Fishing Vessels Safety; Notice of Meeting

The Working Group on Stability and Load Lines and on Fishing Vessels Safety of the Subcommittee on Safety of Life at Sea will conduct an open meeting at 9 a.m. on Thursday, September 18, 1997, in Room 6103, at U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street, SW, Washington, DC 20593-0001. This meeting will discuss the upcoming 41st Session of the Subcommittee on Stability and Load Lines and on Fishing Vessels Safety (SLF) and associated bodies of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) which will be held on January 26-30, 1998, at the IMO Headquarters in London, England.

Items of discussion will include the following:

- Harmonization of damage stability provisions in the IMO;
- Progress of the Intersessional Correspondence Group on Load Lines issues;
- Technical revisions to the Code on Intact Stability;
- High Speed Craft Code revision;
- Role of the human element, including shipboard loading and stability software; and
- Safety aspects of ships engaged in a ballast water exchange.

Members of the public may attend this meeting up to the seating capacity of the room. Interested persons may seek information by writing: Mr. Paul Cojeen, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, Commandant (G-MSE-2), Room 1308, 2100 Second Street, SW, Washington, DC 20593-0001 or by calling (202) 267-2988.

Dated: August 14, 1997.

Russell A. La Mantia,

Chairman, Shipping Coordinating Committee.

[FR Doc. 97-22584 Filed 8-25-97; 8:45 am]

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