

*Total Annualized capital/startup costs:* \$0.

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

*Description:* Title 29 Part 29 sets forth labor standards to safeguard the welfare of apprentices and to extend the application of such standards by prescribing policies and procedures concerning registration of apprenticeship programs.

**Ira L. Mills,**

*Departmental Clearance Officer.*

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**BILLING CODE 4510-43-M**

*Duration:* Continuing.

*Agency Contact:* Interested persons are invited to submit comments by December 21, 1999 regarding the establishment of the Committee. Such comments should be addressed to: Ausie Grigg, Division of Management Systems, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Room 3255, 2 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20212.

Signed at Washington, D.C. this 22nd day of November, 1999.

**Alexis M. Herman,**

*Secretary of Labor.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Committee Management; Notice of Establishment

The Secretary of Labor has determined that the establishment of the Federal Economic Statistics Advisory Committee is necessary and in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed upon the Commissioner of Labor Statistics by 29 U.S.C. Sections 1 through 9. This determination follows consultation with the Committee Management Secretariat, General Services Administration.

*Name of Committee:* Federal Economic Statistics Advisory Committee.

*Purpose and Objective:* The Committee will present advice and make recommendations to the Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis and Bureau of the Census (the Agencies) from the perspective of the academic community. The Committee will examine the Agencies' programs and provide advice on statistical methodology, research needed, and other technical matters related to the collection, tabulation, and analysis of Federal economic statistics.

*Balanced Membership Plans:* The Committee will consist of approximately 13 members, appointed by the Agencies, and normally will meet two times per year. The Committee will be balanced in its membership in terms of the technical expertise required, and will include persons with demonstrated professional and personal qualifications and experience relevant to the functions and tasks to be performed by the Committee. The Agencies will consider for membership a cross-section of interested economists, statisticians, and behavioral scientists who are recognized for their attainments and objectivity in their respective fields.

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Employment Standards Administration

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**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 Employment Standards Administration is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension collection of the Optional Use Payroll Form Under the Davis-Bacon Act, WH-347. A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the addresses section of this notice.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addressee section below on or before February 4, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Ms. Patricia A. Forkel, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave., NW, Room S-3201, Washington, DC 20210, telephone (202) 693-0339 (this is not a toll-free number), fax (202) 693-1451.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

## I. Background

The WH-347 is an optional form which may be used by contractors and subcontractors to certify payrolls, attesting that proper wage rates and fringe benefits have been paid to their employees performing work on contracts covered by the Davis-Bacon and related Acts. Contracting officials and Wage-Hour investigative staff use these payrolls to verify that legal rates are paid and as an aid in determining whether employees have been properly classified for the work they perform.

## II. Review Focus

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.

## III. Current Actions

The Department of Labor seeks the extension of approval to collect this information in order to carry out its responsibility to determine a contractor's compliance with provisions of the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts and the Copeland Act.

*Type of Review:* Extension.

*Agency:* Employment Standards Administration.

*Title:* Optional Use Payroll Form under the Davis-Bacon Act.

*OMB Number:* 1215-0149.

*Agency Number:* WH-347.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for profit; Individuals or households; Federal Government; State, local or Tribal Government.

*Total Respondents:* 106,960.

*Frequency:* Weekly.

*Total Responses:* 9,840,320.

*Average Time per Response:* 56 minutes.

*Estimated Total Burden Hours:* 9,200,000.