

*Description of Relief Sought/Disposition:* To allow Hawaiian to combine recurrent flight and ground training and proficiency checks for Hawaiian's flight crewmembers into a single annual training and proficiency evaluation program. Grant, 1/31/00, Exemption No. 7108.

*Docket No.:* 29841.

*Petitioner:* BD Aviation, Inc.

*Section of the FAR Affected:* 14 CFR 135.299(a).

*Description of Relief Sought/Disposition:* To permit DB Aviation pilots to accomplish a line operational evaluation (LOE) in a Level C or Level D flight simulator in lieu of a line check in an aircraft. *Denial, 2/3/00, Exemption No. 7109.*

[FR Doc. 00-4902 Filed 2-29-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-M

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Maritime Administration

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

**AGENCY:** Maritime Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Information Collection abstracted below has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The nature of the information collection is described as well as its expected burden. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following collection of information was published on December 13, 1999, [64 FR 69582]. No comments were received.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before March 31, 2000.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Frederick A. Slauch, Office of Financial and Rate Approvals, Maritime Administration, MAR 561, 400 7th St., SW, Washington, DC 20590. Telephone 202-366-2324, or FAX 202-366-7901. Copies of this collection can also be obtained from that office.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Maritime Administration (MARAD).

*Title:* Records Retention Schedule  
*OMB Control Number:* 2133-0501.

*Type of Request:* Extension of currently approved collection.

*Affected Public:* U.S. shipping companies.

*Form(s):* None.

*Abstract:* Section 801, Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended, requires retention of Construction Differential Subsidy (CDS) or Operating Differential Subsidy (ODS) records. The records are required to be retained to permit proper audit of pertinent records at the conclusion of a CDS or ODS contract.

*Annual Estimated Burden Hours:* 150 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 MARAD Desk Officer.

*Comments Are Invited On:* (a) 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; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) 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 best assured of having its full effect if OMB receives it within 30 days of publication.

Issued in Washington, DC on February 23, 2000.

**Joel C. Richard,**

*Secretary, Maritime Administration.*

[FR Doc. 00-4925 Filed 2-29-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-81-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Internal Revenue Service

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Return-Free Tax Filing System Focus Group Interviews

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning Return-

Free Tax Filing System Focus Group Interviews.

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before May 1, 2000 to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Garrick R. Shear, Internal Revenue Service, room 5244, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection should be directed to Carol Savage, (202) 622-3945, Internal Revenue Service, room 5242, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* Return-Free Tax Filing System Focus Group Interviews.

*OMB Number:* 1545-1682.

*Abstract:* As required by the IRS Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998, the IRS will be reporting to Congress annually on its progress in developing a Return-Free Tax Filing System. The purpose of these focus groups is to collect information to accurately and objectively establish a benchmark of current levels of taxpayer acceptance and potential use of a Return-Free Tax System. The focus groups would also provide the IRS with information to be used in marketing and communications efforts related to such a system.

*Current Actions:* There are no changes being made to the information collection at this time.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Estimated Number of Focus Group Participants:* 48.

*Estimated Time Per Focus Group Participant:* 2 hrs., 30 min.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours for Focus Group Participants:* 120.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

#### Request for Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB