

(iii) Entering both the age and the number of flights on the component log card or equivalent record.

(2) Remove any TT strap from service if:

(i) The total hours TIS or number of flights and age cannot be determined, or

(ii) The TT strap has either accumulated 25,000 or more flights or has an age equal to or greater than 120 months.

(3) Inspect any TT strap with an age less than 120 months that has accumulated less than 25,000 flights in accordance with paragraph 2.B.2 of the "Accomplishment Instructions," of Eurocopter Deutschland GMBH Alert Service Bulletin BO 105 No. ASB-BO 105-10-113, Revision 1, dated August 31, 1999 (ASB).

(i) If a defect is found, remove the TT strap from service.

(ii) If no defect is found, reidentify TT strap P/N 2604067 or J17322-1 before installing in accordance with the "Accomplishment Instructions," paragraph 2.B.1.2., of the ASB.

(c) When any TT strap is replaced because of age, usage, or defect, before further flight, reidentify the main rotor head and TT straps in accordance with the "Accomplishment Instructions," paragraph 2.B.1.2., of the ASB.

(d) This AD revises the Airworthiness Limitations Section of the maintenance manual by establishing a life limit for the TT strap of 120 months or 25,000 flights, whichever occurs first.

(e) An alternative method of compliance or adjustment of the compliance time that provides an acceptable level of safety may be used if approved by the Manager, Regulations Group, Rotorcraft Directorate, FAA. Operators shall submit their requests through an FAA Principal Maintenance Inspector, who may concur or comment and then send it to the Manager, Regulations Group.

**Note 2:** Information concerning the existence of approved alternative methods of compliance with this AD, if any, may be obtained from the Regulations Group.

(f) Special flight permits may be issued in accordance with sections 21.197 and 21.199 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 21.197 and 21.199) to operate the helicopter to a location where the requirements of this AD can be accomplished.

**Note 3:** The subject of this AD is addressed in the Luftfahrt Bundesamt (Federal Republic of Germany) AD 1999-289/2, dated September 1, 1999.

Issued in Fort Worth, Texas, on March 6, 2000.

**Henry A. Armstrong,**

*Manager, Rotorcraft Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.*

[FR Doc. 00-6037 Filed 3-10-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-13-U**

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

### 22 CFR Part 22

#### [Public Notice 3248]

### Schedule of Fees for Consular Services, Department of State and Overseas Embassies and Consulates

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Consular Affairs, State Department.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** This rule proposes to amend the Schedule of Fees for Consular Services. Specifically, it establishes a fee for the review of the Affidavit of Support, form I-864, when submitted in support of an application for immigration to the United States.

**DATES:** Written comments must be received on or before April 12, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments in duplicate to: Office of the Executive Director, Bureau of Consular Affairs, Department of State, Washington, D.C. 20520-4818; telefax (202) 647-3677.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Alcy Frelick, Office of the Executive Director, Bureau of Consular Affairs, Department of State; telefax (202) 647-3677; email address frelickar@state.gov.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### **Background Authority To Assess Fees**

Public Law 106-113, enacted November 29, 1999, authorizes the Secretary of State to charge and retain a fee for the processing of a sponsor's Affidavit of Support (I-864). The Secretary of State is also authorized under E.O. 10718 of June 27, 1957, to exercise the President's authority under 22 U.S.C. 4219 to prescribe the fees to be charged for official services performed by the Department of State. This authority has been delegated to the Undersecretary for Management. The Schedule of Fees for Consular Services is set forth in 22 CFR 22.1, as amended on December 1, 1999 (64 FR 66769). After an initial review of the costs, the fee for processing has been set initially at \$50 per sponsor filing an Affidavit of Support, form I-864.

#### **The Affidavit of Support Processing Fee**

This rule amends the Schedule of Fees for Consular Services by adding a new item 61. "Affidavit of Support Processing Fee." It establishes a fee for document review and for providing processing assistance for the Affidavit of Support form, I-864, to any sponsor or joint sponsor who provides an Affidavit of Support under section 213A of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8

U.S.C. 1183a) for an immigrant visa applicant to cover the estimated cost of its services. This fee will be used by the Department of State in assisting sponsors to properly complete such affidavit before it is forwarded to a consular post for adjudication by a consular officer in connection with an application for an immigrant visa. This fee will be in addition to, and separate from, any fee imposed for immigrant visa application processing and issuance. The new fee, which will be reviewed in light of experience, will recover only the costs of services related to assisting the sponsor or joint sponsor in completing the Affidavit of Support and in reviewing the documents for technical completeness; those costs are not recovered by the immigrant visa application processing and issuance fees.

This new fee will be charged only once to a sponsor or joint sponsor who files essentially duplicative Affidavits of Support in connection with immigrant visa applications for the spouse, parents and children of a petitioner who is required by the Immigration and Nationality Act to petition separately for them. No new fee will be assessed for essentially duplicative Affidavits of Support filed in support of additional members of one family, made up of parents and minor unmarried children, even if each member of the family is being processed individually for immigration to the United States or if the family member may have had a separate immigrant visa petition filed on his/her behalf.

The Department will assess one fee for each distinct Affidavit of Support (I-864) filed, whether it is filed by the primary sponsor or by a joint sponsor. If more than one Affidavit of Support is needed to fulfil the requirements of the law, the Department will assess one fee for each separate Affidavit of Support. A new fee will be assessed if a new Affidavit of Support is required in support of any application for immigration. (For example, if an additional Affidavit of Support would be needed from a joint sponsor for an application which has been rejected due to Section 212(a)(4), inability to qualify under the public charge provision of the Immigration Act). The fee is non-refundable as it is a processing fee.

The Department does not consider this rule to be a major rule for purposes of E.O. 12291. These changes to the regulations are hereby certified as not expected to have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 605(b). In addition, pursuant to the Small

Business Regulatory Fairness Act (U.S.C. Chapter 8), the Department has screened the Rule and determines that it is not a "major rule," as defined in 5 U.S.C. 804(2). This rule does not impose information collection requirements under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C., Chapter 35. In accordance with Executive Order 12612, it is determined that this rule does not have sufficient federalism implications to warrant the preparation of a Federalism Assessment. Nor does the rule have federalism implications warranting the application of Executive Order No. 12372 and No.13132. This rule is exempt from E.O. 12866, but the Department has reviewed the rule to ensure consistency with the objectives of the Executive Order, as well as with E.O. 12988, and the Office of Management and Budget has determined this rule would not constitute a significant regulatory action under E.O. 12866. This rule will not result in the expenditure by State, local and tribal governments, in the aggregate, or by the private sector, of \$100,000 or more in any one year, and it will not significantly or uniquely affect small governments. Therefore, no actions were deemed necessary under the provisions of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) and Executive Order 12875.

This amendment is proposed to take effect June 1, 2000.

**Proposed Rule**

**List of Subjects in 22 CFR Part 22**

Passports and visas, Schedule of Consular Fees.

Accordingly, this rule proposes to amend 22 CFR part 22 as follows:

**PART 22—[AMENDED]**

1. The authority citation for part 22 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 8 U.S.C. 1153 note, 1351, 1351 note; 10 U.S.C. 214, 2504(a), 4201, 4206, 4215, 4219; 31 U.S.C. 9701; E.O. 10718, 22 FR 4632, 3 CFR, 1954–1958 Comp., p.382; E.O. 11295, 31 FR 10603, 3 CFR, 1966–1970 Comp., p. 570.

2. In Section 22.1, by adding item 61. to read as follows:

**§ 22.1 Schedule of fees.**

Item No.	Fee
61. Affidavit of Support Processing Fee: .....	\$50.000

Dated: March 6, 2000.  
**Bonnie R. Cohen,**  
*Under Secretary for Management.*  
[FR Doc. 00–6100 Filed 3–10–00; 8:45 am]  
**BILLING CODE 4710–06–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**

**Occupational Safety and Health Administration**

**29 CFR Part 1910**

[Docket No. S–777]

**RIN 1218–AB36**

**Ergonomics Program**

**AGENCY:** Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), U.S. Department of Labor.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule; additional information on informal public hearing.

**SUMMARY:** OSHA is announcing the final locations of the informal public hearing for its proposed Ergonomics Program standard which was published on November 23, 1999 (64 FR 65768).

**DATES:** The hearing will begin on Monday, March 13, 2000, in Washington, D.C. The hearing in Washington will run for 4 weeks through April 7. The hearing will resume on April 11, in Chicago, Illinois, and will continue there until April 21. The hearing will then resume in Portland, Oregon, on April 24 and run until May 3. The final week of the hearing will be May 8 through 12 in Washington, D.C. The hearing will begin at 9:30 a.m. on March 13; on subsequent days, the starting time will be 8:30 a.m. The hearing will ordinarily conclude by 6:00 p.m. each day; however, in order to assure orderly development of the record on any particular day, the Administrative Law Judge may extend the hearing that day. All questioning of public participants will be completed on the day the participants testify.

**ADDRESSES:** The March 13 through April 7 hearing in Washington will be in the Frances Perkins Building Auditorium in the U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20210. The hearing in Chicago will be held at the State of Illinois Building, James R. Thompson Center (Assembly Hall), 100 W. Randolph Street, in Chicago, Illinois. The hearing in Portland will be held at the Mark Hatfield Federal Court House, Courtroom #16, 1000 Southwest 3rd Avenue, in Portland, Oregon. The conclusion of the hearing from May 8 through 12 in Washington will be in the

Frances Perkins Building, Room N–3437 A–D, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20210.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** OSHA’s Ergonomics Team at (202) 693–2116, or visit the OSHA Homepage at www.osha.gov.

**Authority:** This document was prepared under the direction of Charles N. Jeffress, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20210. It is issued under sections 4, 6, and 8 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (29 U.S.C. 653, 655, 657), Secretary of Labor’s Order No. 6–96 (62 FR 111), and 29 CFR part 1911.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 8th day of March, 2000.

**Charles N. Jeffress,**  
*Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health.*

[FR Doc. 00–6103 Filed 3–10–00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510–26–M**

**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**38 CFR Part 3**

**RIN 2900–AJ51**

**Revised Criteria for Monetary Allowance for an Individual Born With Spina Bifida Whose Biological Father or Mother is a Vietnam Veteran**

**AGENCY:** Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** This document proposes to amend the evaluation criteria that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) uses to determine the amount of the monthly monetary allowance that it pays to an individual born with spina bifida whose biological father or mother is a Vietnam veteran. The intended effect of this proposed amendment is to clarify the criteria to ensure that they are applied consistently and to add a provision allowing the Director of the Compensation and Pension Service to adjust the payment level for individuals with disabling impairments due to spina bifida that are not addressed in the evaluation criteria.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before May 12, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Mail or hand-deliver written comments to: Director, Office of Regulations Management (O2D), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Ave., NW, Room 1154, Washington, DC 20420; or fax comments to: (202) 273–9289; or e-mail comments to “OGCRegulations@mail.va.gov”. Comments should indicate that they are