

Office of Management and Budget,  
OIRA, Attn: Desk Officer for SSA,  
New Executive Office Building, Room  
10235, 725 17th St., NW, Washington,  
D.C. 20503

Dated: August 8, 2000.

**Frederick W. Brickenkamp,**

*Reports Clearance Officer, Social Security  
Administration.*

[FR Doc. 00-20470 Filed 8-11-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4191-02-U

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 3383]

### Culturally Significant Objects Imported for Exhibition Determinations: "Byzantine Art"

**DEPARTMENT:** Department of State.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given of the following determinations: Pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Act of October 19, 1965 (79 Stat. 985, 22 U.S.C. 2459), the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998 (112 Stat. 2681, *et seq.*), Delegation of Authority No. 234 of October 1, 1999, and Delegation of Authority of October 19, 1999, as amended, I hereby determine that the objects to be included in the exhibition "Byzantine Art" imported from abroad for the temporary exhibition without profit within the United States, are of cultural significance. These objects are imported pursuant to loan agreements with foreign lenders. The loan will be for a period of one year, with the potential for renewal annually, beginning on November 14, 2000 through December 2004. I also determine that the exhibition or display of the exhibit objects at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY is in the national interest. Public Notice of these Determinations is ordered to be published in the **Federal Register**.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information, including a list of exhibit objects, contact Jacqueline Caldwell, Attorney-Adviser, Office of the Legal Adviser, U.S. Department of State (telephone: 202/619-6982). The address is U.S. Department of State, SA-44; 301-4th Street, SW., Room 700, Washington, DC 20547-0001.

Dated: August 4, 2000.

**William B. Bader,**

*Assistant Secretary for Educational and  
Cultural Affairs, U.S. Department of State.*

[FR Doc. 00-20542 Filed 8-11-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-08-P

## OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

### Request for Public Comment Regarding the United States-European Union Transatlantic Economic Partnership as It Concerns Services Trade

**AGENCY:** Office of the United States  
Trade Representative (USTR).

**ACTION:** Notice and Request for  
Comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) seeks written public comments on general U.S. negotiating objectives as they concern the services trade component of the Transatlantic Economic Partnership (TEP). Under the TEP, the United States and the European Union (EU) have undertaken to facilitate opportunities for dialogue between regulators and to explore whether it is possible to develop mutual recognition agreements (MRAs) or other regulatory cooperation for certain insurance, architectural, and engineering services, while maintaining high standards of safety and protection for consumers. Comments received will be considered by USTR in its further work to formulate objectives and priorities for these deliberations.

**DATES:** Public comments should be submitted no later than September 11, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Gloria Blue, Executive Secretary, Trade Policy Staff Committee, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, Room 122, 600 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20508.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Bernard Ascher (architectural and engineering services) or Ann Main (insurance or related services), Offices of Services, Investment, and Intellectual Property, (202) 395-4510. Procedural inquiries concerning the public comment process should be directed to Gloria Blue, Executive Secretary, Trade Policy Staff Committee, Office of the United States Trade Representative, (202) 395-3475.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On May 18, 1998, President Clinton and his EU counterparts issued a joint statement announcing the Transatlantic Economic Partnership (TEP) initiative. [**Federal Register** notice published on, June 9, 1998, describes the TEP.] On November 9, 1998, the United States and the EU agreed on a joint "Action Plan," as called for in the May 18 TEP statement. A copy of the Action Plan is available on USTR's website ([www.ustr.gov](http://www.ustr.gov)) or upon request from Ms. Gloria Blue. On

June 9 and December 9, 1998, USTR published **Federal Register** Notices requesting public comment on the TEP. This notice is an additional request for information, focusing on the TEP as it relates to trade in services.

In the TEP initiative, the United States and the EU have undertaken to facilitate opportunities for dialogue between regulators and to explore whether it is possible to develop mutual recognition agreements (MRAs) or other regulatory cooperation for certain insurance, architectural, and engineering services, while maintaining high standards of safety and protection for consumers. Regulatory authorities are full participants in the process.

Architectural and Engineering Services: U.S. trade agreements, such as the U.S.-Canada Free Trade Agreement and the North American Free Trade Agreement, provide a framework for the competent authorities and professional organizations to negotiate mutual recognition agreements with their counterparts in other countries. Mutual recognition in the architectural and engineering services sector would enable those licensed in one country to be licensed or recognized to practice in another country. U.S. officials are working with a number of national engineering and architectural organizations to develop negotiating approaches that could lead toward mutual recognition of U.S. and EU architects and engineers, while maintaining high quality standards of safety and protection of consumers. Licensed practitioners must meet the requirements of the jurisdiction in which they practice and must comply with all applicable laws and regulations of the host jurisdiction.

Insurance and Related Services: Regarding insurance services, U.S. officials are working with state insurance regulators to determine whether it is possible to develop mutual recognition or other regulatory cooperation for certain insurance sectors (*e.g.*, commercial lines, reinsurance, agency/brokers). Private pension fund management, which is regulated at the federal level in the United States, is also a subject of consideration. Mutual recognition or other regulatory cooperation for insurance and related services could take various forms, including the possibility of greater uniformity of regulatory practices, or for regulators in one country to recognize the other country's regulatory practices as being sufficient for home country requirements.

**Public Comments:** All written comments should be addressed to Gloria Blue, Executive Secretary, Trade Policy

Staff Committee, Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street NW, Room 122, Washington, DC 20508. Persons submitting written comments should provide twenty (20) typed copies, as soon as possible, and by no later than September 11, 2000. USTR invites written comments from interested persons on the feasibility and desirability of negotiating MRAs in each sector identified above. Comments are invited in particular on: (a) The benefits of pursuing an MRA in each sector; and (b) any specific concerns regarding an MRA in any of the sectors, particularly any concerns regarding consumer protection. Comments should state clearly the position taken and should describe the specific information (including data, if possible) supporting that position. All submissions must be in English and should conform to the information requirements of 15 CFR Part 2003. Where possible, please supplement written comments with a computer disk of the submission, either in spreadsheet or word processing table format. The disk should have a label identifying the software used and the submitter.

Written comments submitted in connection with this request, except for information granted "business confidential" status pursuant to 15 CFR 2003.6, will be available for public inspection in the USTR Reading Room, Room 101, Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC. An appointment to review the file may be made by calling Brenda Webb at (202) 395-6186. The reading room is open to the public by appointment only from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Business confidential information, including any information submitted on disks, will be subject to the requirements of 15 CFR 2003.6. If the submission contains business confidential information, twenty (20) copies of a public version that does not contain confidential information must also be submitted. A justification as to why the information contained in the submission should be treated confidentially must be included in the submission. In addition, any submissions containing business confidential information must be clearly marked "Confidential" at the top and bottom of the cover page (or letter) and each succeeding page of the submission. The version that does not contain confidential information should also be clearly marked, at the top and bottom of

each page, "public version" or "non-confidential."

**David Walters,**

*Acting Chair, Trade Policy Staff Committee.*  
[FR Doc. 00-20547 Filed 8-11-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3190-01-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Office of the Secretary

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

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Information Collection Request (ICR) abstracted below has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for renewal and comment. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following collection of information was published on April 17, 2000 [65 FR 20507]. No comments were received.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before September 13, 2000.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION COMMENT:** Mr. Luther Dietrich or Mr. Dennis DeVany; EAS and Domestic Analysis Division, X-53; Office of Aviation Analysis; Office of the Secretary; U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 7th Street, SW.; Washington, DC 20590-0002. Telephone (202) 366-1046 or (202) 366-1061.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Office of the Secretary (OST)

*Title:* Supporting Statements—Air Carriers' Claims for Subsidy Payments.

*OMB Control Number:* 2106-0044.

*Affected Public:* Small air carriers selected by the Department in docketed cases to provide subsidized essential air service.

*Abstract:* The requested collection of information covers OST Form 397 and OST Form 398.

*Need:* In 14 CFR part 271 of its Aviation Economic Regulations, the Department provided that subsidy to air carriers for providing essential air service will be paid to the carriers monthly, and that payments will vary according to the actual amount of service performed during the month. The reports of subsidized air carriers of

essential air service performed on the Department's OST Form 397, "Air Carrier's Report of Departures Performed in Scheduled Service" and OST Form 398, "Air Carrier's Claim for Subsidy" establish the fundamental basis for paying these air carriers on a timely basis.

*Annual Estimated Burden:* 4,176\*.

\*The annual estimated burden has been increased from 4,020 hours primarily because the essential air service program has been expanded in the amount of service supported (number of round trips per week) in response to increased funding from Congress.

Comments are invited on whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the Department's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and 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.

Issued in Washington, DC, on August 8, 2000.

**Michael Robinson,**

*Information Resource Management, United States Department of Transportation.*

[FR Doc. 00-20603 Filed 8-11-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-62-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### Proposed Advisory Circular on Outdoor Laser Operations

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed advisory circular.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) invites public comment on a draft Advisory Circular (AC) that provides guidance for proponents interested in conducting outdoor laser operations that may affect operators in the navigable airspace.

**DATES:** Comment must be received on or before September 28, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments on the proposed AC to the FAA, Manager, Airspace and Rules Division, ATA-400, 800 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 423, Washington, DC 20591. Comments may also be submitted electronically to the following email address: Bnelson@faa.gov.