ACTION: Opportunity to provide comments; Notice of Public Meeting.

SUMMARY: The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) (a) solicits written comments on the key elements of a national action plan on overweight and obesity, and (b) provides notice of a public meeting.

DATES: (1) Written comments may be submitted on or before 5 p.m. E.S.T. on December 29, 2000. (2) A public meeting will be held on December 7, 2000 from 1 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. and on December 8, 2000 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: (1) Written comments should be sent to Paul Ambrose, M.D., M.P.H., HHS Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office of Public Health and Science, Room 738–G, 200 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20201, (202) 205–4872 (telephone), 202–205–9478 (facsimile). Comments also may be submitted electronically at *www.sgobesity.niddk.nih.gov.* (2) A public meeting will be held at the Lister Hill Auditorium, Building 38A, NIH Campus, Bethesda, Maryland. The meeting is open to the public; seating is limited.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul Ambrose, M.D., M.P.H., or Kathryn McMurry, M.S., HHS Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office of Public Health and Science, Room 738–G, 200 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20201, (202) 205–4872. To register for the meeting, contact Ms. Susie Warner at (301) 897–2789 (telephone), (301) 897–9587 (facsimile), or on-line at *www.sbogesity.niddk.nih.gov.* Additional information can be obtained at this website or at *www.surgeongeneral.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Overweight and obesity is a significant public health problem because it increases risk for many chronic diseases and premature death. More than half of adults and 11 percent of children and adolescents in the United States are estimated to be overweight or obese. The prevalence has almost doubled among children and adolescents since 1980 and is increasing in both genders and among all population groups of adults. Total costs (medical costs and lost productivity) attributed to obesity amounted to an estimated $99 billion in 1995. Health People 2010, the nation's public health agenda, has identified overweight and obesity as one of ten Leading Health Indicators.

While the magnitude of the problem is great, the range of potential solutions is even greater. The design of successful prevention strategies will require the careful attention of many individuals and organizations working together. Prevention of overweight and obesity requires a broad array of strategies to promote healthy eating and increased physical activity. A number of activities are underway in public and private sectors related to the public health issue of obesity.

Written Comments

In preparation for the development of a national action plan to address overweight and obesity in the United States, comments are welcome from all interested stakeholders. Further opportunity for public input in development of the plan is envisioned during 2001.

Comments will be most useful if they include the following information:

(1) What you consider to be the three to five most important priorities for addressing overweight and obesity in the United States.

(2) How, as a nation, we should pursue these strategies.

(3) Your views on the most effective ways to address disparities among different segments of the population.

(4) (If applicable) A short summary of activities that your organization is engaged in or plans to engage in to address overweight and obesity. This information may become part of a publicly accessible website information center.

Comments received by November 26 will be summarized and made available at the listening session described below. Comments will be accepted through 5 p.m., E.S.T. on December 29, 2000.

Announcement of Meeting

To launch a process of developing a national action plan on overweight and obesity, Assistant Secretary for Health and Surgeon General David Satcher plans a listening session entitled Toward a National Action Plan on Overweight and Obesity: The Surgeon General's Initiative on December 7–8, 2000. The event will include invited panels of non-federal and nongovernmental organizations to discuss views on what the key elements of a national action plan on overweight and obesity should be, as well as time for discussion.

Meeting Location and Registration

The meeting will be held on December 7, 2000 from 1 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. and on December 8, 2000 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Lister Hill Auditorium in Bethesda, Maryland. The Lister Hill auditorium is located at Lister Hill Auditorium, Building 38A, NIH Campus, Bethesda, MD. The building is located near the Medical Center metro stop (red line train). Because seating is limited, registration is required and may be limited to one representative per organization. To register, please contact Ms. Susie Warner at (301) 897–2789 (telephone), (301) 897–9587 (facsimile), or on-line at *www.sgobesity.niddk.nih.gov.* If you require a sign language interpreter, please contact Ms. Warner by 5 p.m. E.S.T. on November 30, 2000. The meeting will be webcast live at *videocast.nih.gov.*

Dated: November 1, 2000.

David Satcher,

Assistant Secretary for Health and Surgeon General.

[FR Doc. 00–28642 Filed 11–7–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160–17–M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

Report on FDA Plan for Statutory Compliance; Availability

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing the availability of a report entitled ''Report on FDA Plan for Statutory Compliance.'' This report satisfies provisions of the FDA Modernization Act of 1997 (FDAMA), which charged FDA to develop a plan for meeting its statutory requirements, and to report on planned versus actual performance.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the report may be obtained from the contact person at the address listed below. Persons with access to the Internet may obtain the report at http://www.fda.gov/oc/fdama/fdamaplnresponse/rptFY99.html.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bill J. Hagan, Office of Planning (HFP–20), Food and Drug Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857, 301–827–5212, FAX 301–827–5225, or e-mail: WHagan@oc.fda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: FDA is announcing the availability of a report entitled ''Report on FDA Plan for Statutory Compliance.'' This report satisfies provisions outlined in section 406(b) of FDAMA, which charged FDA to develop a plan for meeting its

statutory requirements, and to report on planned versus actual performance. The plan was published in November 1998. This report identifies accomplishments against that plan. As this report shows, in fiscal year 1999, FDA achieved significant gains in the six FDAMA objectives by combining the agency's traditional principles and practices with new approaches. In keeping with its traditional values, FDA continued providing a broad spectrum of consumer protections based on rigorous science-based standards. To strengthen its performance, FDA developed partnerships with stakeholders and stimulated cooperation and participation by making its activities more understandable and accessible to stakeholders. FDA's accomplishments include the following:

- New drugs and biological products are being reviewed and released to the public in record time,
- A nationwide food safety surveillance network has now been established which is helping to significantly reduce food-related illnesses and deaths, and
- Millions of consumers have wider and more timely access to information about their new medications.

FDA will continue working with Congress and our stakeholders to improve performance and to work towards meeting our statutory obligations under FDAMA.

Dated: October 30, 2000.

Margaret M. Dotzel,

Associate Commissioner for Policy.

[FR Doc. 00–28616 Filed 11–7–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160–01–F

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Resources and Services Administration

Universal Newborn Hearing Screening and Intervention

AGENCY: Health Resources and Services Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice of availability of funds.

SUMMARY: The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) announces that approximately $5 million in fiscal year (FY) 2001 funds is anticipated for 25 to 31 grants to States for the implementation of universal physiologic newborn hearing screening prior to hospital discharge with linkages to medical home, ongoing family-to-family support, diagnostic evaluation by three months of age, and enrollment in a program of early intervention by six months of age for those infants identified with hearing loss. All awards will be made under the program authority of Title VI of the Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Act for FY 2000 (Pub. L. 106–113). This Universal Newborn Hearing Screening and Intervention Program (CFDA #93.251) will be administered by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB), HRSA. Projects will be approved for a 4-year period, with awards at average yearly amounts ranging from $100,000 to $200,000. Funding for Universal Newborn Hearing Screening and Intervention grants is contingent upon the availability of FY 2001 funds.

DATES: Entities which intend to submit an application for this grant program are expected to notify MCHB's Division of Services for Children with Special Health Care Needs by November 10, 2000. The deadline for receipt of applications is December 8, 2000. Applications will be considered ''on time'' if they are either received on or before the deadline date or postmarked on or before the deadline date. The project award date is March 31, 2001.

ADDRESSES: To receive a complete application kit, applicants may telephone the HRSA Grants Application Center at 1–877–477–2123 (1–877–HRSA–123) beginning November 3, 2000, or register on-line at: *http://www.hrsa.dhhs.gov/*, or by accessing *http://www.hrsa.gov/g__order3.htm* directly. This program uses the standard Form PHS 5161–1 (rev. 7/00) for applications (approved under OMB No. 0920–0428). Applicants must use Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number 93.251 when requesting application materials. The CFDA is a Government wide compendium of enumerated Federal programs, projects, services, and activities which provide assistance. All applications should be mailed or delivered to: Grants Management Officer, MCHB; HRSA Grants Application Center, 1815 N. Fort Meyer Drive, Suite 300, Arlington, Virginia 22209; telephone: 1–877–477–2123; E-mail: *hrsagac@hrsa.gov*.

This application guidance and the required forms for the Universal Newborn Screening and Intervention program may be downloaded in either WordPerfect 6.1 or Adobe Acrobat format (.pdf) from the MCHB Home Page at *http://www.mchb.hrsa.gov/*. Please contact Joni Johns, at 301/443–2088, or *jjohns@hrsa.gov/*, if you need technical assistance in accessing the MCHB Home Page via the Internet.

This announcement will appear in the **Federal Register** and on the HRSA Home Page at: *http://www.hrsa.dhhs.gov/*. **Federal Register** notices are found by following instructions at: *http://www.access.gpo.gov/su__docs/aces/aces140.html.*

Letter of Intent: Notification of intent to apply can be made in one of three ways: telephone, 301–443–2370; email, *iforsman@hrsa.gov;* mail, MCHB, HRSA; Division of Children with Special Health Care Needs; Parklawn Building, Room 18A–18; 5600 Fishers Lane; Rockville, MD 20857.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Irene Forsman, M.S., R.N., 301/443–2370, email: *iforsman@hrsa.gov/* (for questions specific to project activities of the program, program objectives, or the required Letter of Intent which is further described in the application kit); Paulette Faga, 301/443–6934, email *pfagan@hrsa.gov/* (for grants policy, budgetary, and business questions).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Universal Newborn Hearing Screening and Intervention Program Background and Objectives

HRSA's Maternal and Child Health Bureau has been involved in newborn screening and genetic testing for more than a decade. In 1989, Dr. C. Everett Koop, then Surgeon General, urged that all infants with significant hearing loss be identified by 12 months of age, and encouraged inclusion of this goal in the Public Health Service's *''National Healthy People Goals 2000.''* Since then, MCHB, acting in concert with the Centers for Disease Control and prevention (CDC) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH), has made substantial progress in the adoption of universal newborn hearing screening and early intervention as the standard of care in the United States. The new *''Healthy People 2010''* includes a revised newborn hearing screening goal of identifying all newborns with significant hearing loss and enrolling them in a program of early intervention by age 6 months. All relevant professional organizations, including the American Academy of Pediatrics, have endorsed the concept.

Also in 1989, MCHB's Division of Services for Children with Special Health Needs began efforts under the Special Projects of Regional and National Significance (SPRANS) authority of the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Block Grant (Title V of the Social Security Act) to support implementation of universal newborn hearing screening prior to discharge through a series of demonstration projects to assess the effectiveness of new technologies and to provide