

public comment from the broadest range of stakeholders, the comment period on the proposed rule is being extended for an additional 60 days from the original July 16, 2001 deadline to September 14, 2001.

DATES: The comment period has been extended and now expires on September 14, 2001. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the Commission is able to ensure consideration only for comments received before this date.

ADDRESSES: Mail written comments to: Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001. ATTN: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff.

Hand delivered comments should also be addressed to the Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and delivered to: 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD, between 7:30 am and 4:15 pm Federal workdays.

You may also provide comments via the NRC's interactive rulemaking website (<http://ruleforum.llnl.gov>). This site also provides the availability to upload comments as files (any format), if your web browser supports that function. For information about the interactive rulemaking site, contact Ms. Carol Gallagher, (301) 415-5905; e-mail CAG@nrc.gov.

Certain documents relating to this rulemaking, including comments received, may be examined at the NRC Public Document Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Room O1-F21, Rockville, MD. The same documents may also be viewed and downloaded electronically via the rulemaking website, <http://ruleforum.llnl.gov>. Documents created or received at the NRC after November 1, 1999 are also available electronically at the NRC's Public Electronic Reading Room on the Internet at <http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/ADAMS/index.html>. From this site, the public can gain entry into the NRC's Agencywide Document Access and Management System (ADAMS), which provides text and image files of NRC's public documents. For more information, contact the NRC Public Document Room (PDR) Reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737 or by email to pdr@nrc.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Geary S. Mizuno, Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, telephone (301) 415-1639, e-mail GSM@nrc.gov.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 10th day of May, 2001.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
Annette L. Vietti-Cook,
Secretary of the Commission.
[FR Doc. 01-12338 Filed 5-15-01; 8:45 am]
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

22 CFR Part 62

[Public Notice 3639]

Exchange Visitor Program

AGENCY: Department of State.

ACTION: Proposed rule with request for comment.

SUMMARY: This proposed rule would amend existing regulations governing the au pair exchange program. These amendments would create a subcategory of au pair exchange participation under which the au pair participant would provide fewer hours of child care for the host family while the required educational component that the au pair must complete would increase from not less than six semester hours of academic credit or its equivalent per year to not less than twelve semester hours of academic credit or its equivalent per year.

DATES: Comments regarding this proposed rule will be accepted until June 15, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Comments regarding this proposed rule should be submitted in duplicate and addressed as follows: U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, 301 Fourth Street, SW., Room 852, Washington, DC 20547.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stanley S. Colvin, U.S. Department of State, 301 Fourth Street, SW., Room 852, Washington, DC 20547; telephone (202) 619-6828.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: These regulations govern Department-designated au pair programs under which foreign nationals are afforded the opportunity to live with an American host family and participate directly in the home life of the host family while providing child care services and attending a U.S. post-secondary educational institution. The Department's goal in proposing amendment of these existing regulations is to provide an opportunity for participation by foreign nationals who wish to pursue their academic studies more vigorously. To this end, the Department proposes to reduce the amount of child care services the potential au pair participant will provide to not more than 30 hours per

week while increasing the amount of academic credit the au pair will pursue to not less than twelve semester hours or its equivalent. At the suggestion of Department-designated au pair sponsors, the Department proposes to identify this form of au pair participation as EduCare. Existing provisions for au pair participation based upon up to 45 hours of child care services and the pursuit of not less than six semester hours of academic credit or its equivalent remain unchanged.

To accomplish this dual objective, the Department is advised by its designated au pair program sponsors that potential EduCare au pair participants should be placed with host families that need before and after school child care services for their school age children. Accordingly, the Department proposes that potential EduCare au pair participants not be placed with families having pre-school children unless alternative, full-time arrangements are in place for the supervision of such pre-school children. As the potential EduCare au pair participant will be more actively pursuing his or her academic studies, the Department is also proposing a reduction in the number of hours that the au pair will provide child care services from not more than 45 hours per week to not more than 30 hours per week. This reduction in the number of hours of child care services provided dictates a corresponding reduction in the weekly wage paid to an EduCare au pair participant. An au pair participating in the EduCare program would still be paid in accordance with the provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act. However, as a matter of administrative convenience for both Department-designated sponsors and participating host families, the Department proposes that the weekly wage for EduCare au pair participants be calculated as a percentage of the weekly wage paid to all other au pair participants.

The Department invites comment regarding this proposed rule notwithstanding the fact that it is under no legal obligation to do so. The oversight and administration of the Exchange Visitor Program are deemed to be a foreign affairs function of the United States Government. The Administrative Procedures Act, 5 U.S.C. 553(a)(1) (1994), specifically exempts foreign affairs functions from the rulemaking requirements of the Act.

List of Subjects in 22 CFR Part 62

Cultural exchange programs.

Accordingly, 22 CFR Part 62 is proposed to be amended as follows:

PART 62—EXCHANGE VISITOR PROGRAM

1. The Authority citation for Part 62 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(f), 1182, 1184, 1258; 22 U.S.C. 1431–1442, 2451–2460; Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998, Pub. L. 105–277, 112 Stat. 2681 *et seq.*; Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1977, 3 CFR, 1977 Comp. p. 200; E.O. 12048 of March 27, 1978; 3 CFR, 1978 Comp. p. 168.

2. Section 62.31 is amended by revising paragraphs (a), (c)(1) through (c)(3), (e) introductory text, (e)(3) and (e)(5), (j), and (k) to read as follows:

§ 62.31 Au pairs.

(a) *Introduction.* This section governs Department of State-designated exchange visitor programs under which foreign nationals are afforded the opportunity to live with an American host family and participate directly in the home life of the host family. All au pair participants provide child care services to the host family and attend a U.S. post-secondary educational institution. Au pair participants provide up to forty-five hours of child care services per week and pursue not less than six semester hours of academic credit or its equivalent during their year of program participation. Au pairs participating in the EduCare program provide up to thirty hours of child care services per week and pursue not less than twelve semester hours of academic credit or its equivalent during their year of program participation.

* * * * *

(c) * * *

(1) Limit the participation of foreign nationals in such programs to not more than one year;

(2) Limit the number of hours an EduCare au pair participant is obligated to provide child care services to not more than 10 hours per day or more than 30 hours per week and limit the number of hours all other au pair participants are obligated to provide child care services to not more than 10 hours per day or more than 45 hours per week;

(3) Require that EduCare au pair participants register and attend classes offered by an accredited U.S. post-secondary institution for not less than twelve semester hours of academic credit or its equivalent and that all other au pair participants register and attend classes offered by an accredited U.S. post-secondary institution for not less than six semester hours of academic credit or its equivalent;

* * * * *

(e) *Au pair placement.* Sponsors shall secure, prior to the au pair's departure

from the home country, a host family placement for each participant.

Sponsors shall not:

* * * * *

(3) Place an au pair with a host family having children under the age of two, unless the au pair has at least 200 hours of documented infant child care experience. An au pair participating in the EduCare program shall not be placed with a family having pre-school children in the home unless alternative full-time arrangements for the supervision of such pre-school children are in place;

* * * * *

(5) Place an au pair with a host family unless a written agreement between the au pair and the host family detailing the au pair's obligation to provide child care has been signed by both the au pair and the host family prior to the au pair's departure from his or her home country. Such agreement shall clearly state whether the au pair is an EduCare program participant or not. Such agreement shall not limit the obligation to provide child care services to not more than 10 hours per day or more than 45 hours per week unless the au pair is an EduCare participant. Such agreement shall limit the obligation of an EduCare participant to provide child care service to not more than 10 hours per day or more than 30 hours per week.

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(j) *Wages and hours.* Sponsors shall require that au pair participants:

(1) Are compensated at a weekly rate based upon 45 hours of child care services per week and paid in conformance with the requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act as interpreted and implemented by the United States Department of Labor. EduCare participants shall be compensated at a weekly rate that is 75% of the weekly rate paid to non-EduCare participants;

(2) Do not provide more than 10 hours of child care per day, or more than 45 hours of child care in any one-week. EduCare participants may not provide more than 10 hours of child care per day or more than 30 hours of child care in any one week;

(3) Receive a minimum of one and one half days off per week in addition to one complete weekend off each month; and

(4) Receive two weeks of paid vacation.

(k) *Educational component.* Sponsors shall require that during their period of program participation, all EduCare au pair participants are enrolled in an accredited U.S. post-secondary institution for not less than twelve

semester hours of academic credit or its equivalent and that all other au pair participants are enrolled in an accredited U.S. post-secondary institution for not less than six semester hours of academic credit or its equivalent. As a condition of program participation, host family participants must agree to facilitate the enrollment and attendance of the au pair in an accredited U.S. post-secondary institution and to pay the cost of such academic course work in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 for EduCare au pair participants and in an amount not to exceed \$500 for all other au pair participants.

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Dated: March 23, 2001.

Helena Kane Finn,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State.

[FR Doc. 01–12375 Filed 5–15–01; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**40 CFR Part 52**

[AL–057–200105; FRL–6980–5]

Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans: Alabama: Nitrogen Oxides Budget and Allowance Trading Program

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: EPA is proposing to approve a State Implementation Plan (SIP) revision submitted by the State of Alabama on March 12, 2001. This revision responds to the EPA's regulation entitled, "Finding of Significant Contribution and Rulemaking for Certain States in the Ozone Transport Assessment Group Region for Purposes of Reducing Regional Transport of Ozone," otherwise known as the "NO_x SIP Call." This revision establishes and requires a nitrogen oxides (NO_x) allowance trading program for large electric generating and industrial units, and reductions for cement kilns, beginning in 2004. The intended effect of this SIP revision is to reduce emissions of NO_x in order to help attain the national ambient air quality standard for ozone. EPA is proposing to approve Alabama's NO_x Reduction and Trading Program because it meets the requirements of the Phase I NO_x SIP Call that will significantly reduce ozone transport in the eastern United States. EPA has deemed the