

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****National Highway Traffic Safety Administration****Reports, Forms and Record Keeping Requirements; Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review**

**AGENCY:** National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 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 review and comment. The ICR describes the nature of the information collections and their expected burden. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period was published on February 28, 2001 [66 FR 12829–12831].

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before January 28, 2002.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Barbara Williams at the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Office of Safety Performance Standards (NPS-01), 202-366-4327. 400 Seventh Street, SW, Room 5319, Washington, DC 20590.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**

*Title:* 49 CFR 556, Petitions for Inconsequentiality.

*OMB Number:* 2127-0045.

*Type of Request:* Reinstatement, without change, of a previously approved collection for which has expired.

*Abstract:* The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's statute at 49 U.S.C. 30113 General exemptions at subsection (b) Authority to exempt and procedures, authorizes the Secretary of Transportation upon application of a manufacturer, to exempt the applicant from the notice and remedy requirements of 49 U.S.C. Charter 301, if the Secretary determines that the defect or noncompliance is inconsequential as it relates to motor vehicle safety. The notice and remedy requirements of Chapter 301 are set forth in 49 U.S.C. 30120 Remedies for defects and noncompliance. Those sections require a manufacturer of motor vehicles or motor vehicle equipment to notify distributors, dealers, and purchasers if any of the manufacturer's products are determined either to contain a safety-related defect or to fail to comply with an applicable Federal

motor vehicle safety standard. The manufacturer is under a concomitant obligation to remedy such defects or noncompliance. NHTSA exercised this statutory authority to excuse inconsequential defects or noncompliance when it promulgated 49 CFR part 556, Petitions for Inconsequentiality-this regulation establishes the procedures for manufacturers to submit such petitions to the agency will use in evaluating those petitions. Part 556 allows the agency to ensure that petitions filed under 15 U.S.C. 30113 (b) are both properly substantiated and efficiently processed.

*Affected Public:* Business or other-for-profit.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden:* 30.

**ADDRESS:** Send comments, within 30 days, to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725-17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503, Attention NHTSA Desk Officer.

*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 Departments 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. A Comment to OMB is most effective if OMB receives it within 30 days of publication.

Issued in Washington, DC on December 21, 2001.

**Delmas Johnson,**

*Acting Associate Administrator for Administration.*

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**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Jonathan White at the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Office of Defects & Recall Information Analysis (NSA-11), 202-366-5227. 400 Seventh Street, SW, Room 5319, Washington, DC 20590.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**

*Title:* Names and Addresses First Purchasers of Motor Vehicles.

*OMB Number:* 2127-0044.

*Type of Request:* Reinstatement, with change, of a previously approved collection for which has expired.

*Abstract:* 49 U.S.C. 30117 Providing information to, and maintaining records on, purchasers at subparagraph (b) Maintaining purchaser records and procedures states in part: A manufacturer of motor vehicle or tire (except a retreaded tire) shall maintain a record of the name and address of the first purchasers of each vehicle or tire it produces and, to the extent prescribed by regulations of the Secretary, shall maintain a record of the name and address of the first purchaser of replacement equipment (except a tire) that the manufacturer produces. This agency has no regulation specifying how the information is to be collected or maintained. When NHTSA's authorizing statute was enacted in 1966, Congress determined that an efficient recall of defective or noncomplying motor vehicles required the vehicle manufacturers retain an accurate record of vehicle purchasers. By virtue of quick and easy access to this information, the manufacturer is able to quickly notify vehicle owners in the event of the of a recall. Experience with this statutory provision has shown that manufacturers have retained this information in a manner sufficient to enable them to expeditiously notify vehicle purchasers in case of a recall. Based on this experience, NHTSA has determined that no obligation is needed. Without this type of information readily available, manufacturers would either need to spend more time or money to notify purchasers of a recall.