

significantly to the Department's ability to identify, and select among, options for enhancing national security. Risk-based modeling, and economic analysis, will help the Department understand the impact and consequences of potential acts of terrorism, thus providing decision makers with validated tools to evaluate vulnerabilities and identify countermeasures and response actions.

Solicitation of Interest and Designation

In August 2003, the Department sought white papers from universities that wished to be designated as HS-Centers. The HS-Centers are envisioned to be an integral and critical component of the new "homeland security complex" that will provide the nation with a robust, dedicated and enduring capability that will enhance our ability to anticipate, prevent, respond to, and recover from terrorist attacks. The notice, made available on the DHS Internet site (<http://www.dhs.gov>) and (<http://www.orau.gov/dhsuce>), identified risk-based economic modeling as one of the areas of expertise (criteria) that might merit designation.

The Department received a number of proposals and evaluated them through a process that included the participation of federal government and outside experts. After the panels of experts selected final potential designees, the Department conducted site visits to interview the individuals who would be performing the research. Based on this evaluation, the Department has selected the University of Southern California (USC) as the first HS-Center for this program.

USC will conduct research on risk-based modeling, with a particular emphasis on the economic aspects. U.S.C. will develop an integrated set of models and modeling capabilities that cut across several threats and targets—impacts on buildings and structures, airborne biological and chemical agents, and cyber-terrorism. Other research areas besides modeling and analysis of risks, will be in emergency response, consequences, economics, advanced computation and infrastructure. U.S.C. is committed to ensuring that students will have opportunities to develop and contribute to these important areas through hands-on training and internships, as examples. Workshops for the scientific community, collaboration with federal laboratories, and support for sabbatical visitors are additional activities planned for this HS-Center.

Dated: November 21, 2003.

Melvin Bernstein,

Director, University Programs, Science and Technology Division, Department of Homeland Security.

[FR Doc. 03-29646 Filed 11-24-03; 11:36 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-10-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Citizenship and Immigration Services

Agency Information Collection Activities: Comment Request

ACTION: 60-day notice of information collection under review; application for replacement/initial nonimmigrant arrival-departure document; form I-102.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS), U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service (CIS) has submitted the following information collection request for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The proposed information collection is published to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies. Comments are encouraged and will be accepted for sixty days until January 27, 2004.

Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information should address one or more of the following four points:

(1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agencies estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Overview of this information collection:

(1) *Type of Information Collection:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

(2) *Title of the Form/Collection:* Application for Replacement/Initial

Nonimmigrant Arrival-Departure Document.

(3) *Agency form, number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department of Homeland Security sponsoring the collection:* Form I-102. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

(4) *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:* Primary: Individuals or Households. The information collection will be used by an alien temporarily residing in the United States to request a replacement of his or her arrival evidence. The information provided can be used to verify status and for determination as to the eligibility of the applicant for replacement.

(5) *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond:* 20,000 responses at 25 minutes (.416 hours) per response.

(6) *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* 8,320 annual burden hours.

If you have additional comments, suggestions, or need a copy of the proposed information collection instrument with instructions, or additional information, please contact Richard A. Sloan 202-514-3291, Director, Regulations and Forms Services Division, Department of Homeland Security, 425 I Street, NW., Room 4034, Washington, DC 20536. Additionally, comments and/or suggestions regarding the item(s) contained in this notice, especially regarding the estimated public burden and associated response time may also be directed to Mr. Richard A. Sloan.

If additional information is required contact: Mr. Steve Cooper, PRA Clearance Officer, Department of Homeland Security, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Regional Office Building 3, 7th and D Streets, SW., Suite 4636-26, Washington, DC 20202.

Dated: November 21, 2003.

Richard A. Sloan,

Department Clearance Officer, Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

[FR Doc. 03-29704 Filed 11-26-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-10-M

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Citizenship and Immigration Services

Agency Information Collection Activities: Comment Request

ACTION: 60-day notice of information collection under review; application to

file declaration of intention; form N-300.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) has submitted the following information collection request for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The proposed information collection is published to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies. Comments are encouraged and will be accepted for sixty days until January 27, 2003.

Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information should address one or more of the following four points:

(1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agencies estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Overview of this information collection:

(1) *Type of Information Collection:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

(2) *Title of the Form/Collection:* Application to File Declaration of Intention.

(3) *Agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department of Homeland Security sponsoring the collection:* Form N-300. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

(4) *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:* Primary: Individuals or Households. This form will be used by permanent residents to file a declaration of intention to become a citizen of the United States. This collection is also used to satisfy documentary requirements for those seeking to work in certain occupations or professions, or to obtain various licenses.

(5) *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time*

estimated for an average respondent to respond: 433 responses at 45 minutes per response.

(6) *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* 325 annual burden hours.

If you have additional comments, suggestions, or need a copy of the proposed information collection instrument with instructions, or additional information, please contact Richard A. Sloan 202-514-3291, Director, Regulations and Forms Services Division, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, Room 4304, 425 I Street, NW., Washington, DC 20536. Additionally, comments and/or suggestions regarding the item(s) contained in this notice, especially regarding the estimated public burden and associated response time may also be directed to Mr. Richard A. Sloan.

If additional information is required contact: Mr. Steve Cooper, PRA Clearance Officer, Department of Homeland Security, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Regional Office Building 3, 7th and D Streets, SW., Suite 4636-26, Washington, DC 20202.

Dated: November 21, 2003.

Richard A. Sloan,

Department Clearance Officer, Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

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BILLING CODE 4410-10-M

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Citizenship and Immigration Services

Agency Information Collection Activities: Comment Request

ACTION: 60-day notice of information collection under review; request for certification of military or naval service; form N-426.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS), has submitted the following information collection request for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The proposed information collection is published to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies. Comments are encouraged and will be accepted for sixty days until January 27, 2004.

Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information should address one or more of the following four points:

(1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agencies estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g. permitting electronic submission of responses.

Overview of this information collection:

(1) *Type of Information Collection:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

(2) *Title of the Form/Collection:* Request for Certification of Military or Naval Service.

(3) *Agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department of Homeland Security sponsoring the collection:* Form N-426. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

(4) *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:* Primary: Individuals or Households. This form will be used by the CIS to request a verification of the military or naval service claim by an applicant filing for naturalization on the basis of honorable service in the U.S. armed forces.

(5) *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond:* 45,000 responses at 45 minutes per response.

(6) *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* 33,750 annual burden hours.

If you have additional comments, suggestions, or need a copy of the proposed information collection instrument with instructions, or additional information, please contact Richard A. Sloan 202-514-3291, Director, Regulations and Forms Services Division, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, Room 4034, 425 I Street, NW., Washington, DC 20536. Additionally, comments and/or suggestions regarding the item(s) contained in this notice, especially regarding the estimated public burden