

of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

*Request for Comments:* Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: January 7, 2004.

**Robert M. Coar,**

*IRS Reports Clearance Officer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Internal Revenue Service

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Form 990 and Schedules A and B

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax Under Section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except black lung benefit trust or private foundation), Schedule A, Organization Exempt Under Section 501(c)(3) (Except Private Foundation), and Section 501(e), 501(f), 501(k), 501(n), or Section 4947(a)(1) Nonexempt

Charitable Trust, and Schedule B, Schedule of Contributors.

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before March 15, 2004, to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Robert M. Coar, Internal Revenue Service, room 5244, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the forms and instructions should be directed to Carol Savage at Internal Revenue Service, room 6407, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224, or at (202) 622-3945, or through the Internet at [CAROL.A.SAVAGE@irs.gov](mailto:CAROL.A.SAVAGE@irs.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax Under Section 501(c), 527, 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except black lung benefit trust or private foundation) (Form 990), Organization Exempt Under Section 501(c)(3) (Except Private Foundation), and Section 501(e), 501(f), 501(k), 501(n), or Section 4947(a)(1) Nonexempt Charitable Trust (Schedule A), and Schedule of Contributors (Schedule B).  
*OMB Number:* 1545-0047.

*Form Number:* 990, and Schedules A and B (Form 990).

*Abstract:* Form 990 is needed to determine that Code section 501(a) tax-exempt organizations fulfill the operating conditions of their tax exemption. Schedule A (Form 990) is used to elicit special information from section 501(c)(3) organizations. Schedule B is used by tax-exempt organizations to list contributors and allows the IRS to distinguish and make public disclosure of the contributors list within the requirements of Code section 527. IRS uses the information from these forms to determine if the filers are operating within the rules of their exemption.

*Current Actions:* There are no changes being made to the forms at this time.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Affected Public:* Not-for-profit institutions.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 287,769.

*Estimated Time Per Respondent:* 167 hrs., 23 min.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 48,166,918.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information

displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

*Request for Comments:* Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: January 7, 2004.

**Robert M. Coar,**

*IRS Reports Clearance Officer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Internal Revenue Service

#### Open Meeting of the Area 7 Taxpayer Advocacy Panel Including the State of California

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** An open meeting of the Area 7 committee of the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel will be conducted (via teleconference). The Taxpayer Advocacy Panel (TAP) is soliciting public comments, ideas, and suggestions on improving customer service at the Internal Revenue Service. The TAP will use citizen input to make recommendations to the Internal Revenue Service.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held Tuesday, February 3, 2004.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mary Peterson O'Brien at 1-888-912-1227, or (206) 220-6096.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section