

the addresses section of this notice. The Form EFAST-1 is also available for viewing and downloading through the Department of Labor's Internet site (<http://www.efast.dol.gov>).

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the **ADDRESSES** section below on or before May 2, 2005.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested parties are invited to submit written comments regarding the collection of information. Send comments to Mr. Gerald B. Lindrew, Office of Policy and Research, U.S. Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Room N-5647, Washington, DC 20210. Telephone: (202) 693-8410 Fax: (202) 693-4745 (These are not toll-free numbers).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Background**

Under part 1 of Title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), Title IV of ERISA, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, administrators of pension and welfare benefit plans (collectively, employee benefit plans) subject to those provisions and employers sponsoring certain fringe benefit plans and other plans of deferred compensation are required to file returns/reports annually concerning the financial condition and operations of the plans. These reporting requirements are satisfied generally by filing the Form 5500 Series in accordance with its instructions and the related regulations.

Beginning with the 1999 plan year, the Agency announced the availability of computer scannable forms and the development of electronic filing technologies. The computer scannable formats were developed to facilitate the implementation of a computerized system designed to process the Form 5500 and the IRS Form 5500-EZ—the ERISA Filing and Acceptance System, or EFAST. The Form 5500 and Form 5500-EZ may also be filed electronically via modem, magnetic tape, floppy diskette, or CD-ROM.

In order to participate in the electronic filing program, applicants are required to submit an Application for EFAST Electronic Signature and Codes for EFAST Transmitters and Software Developers (Form EFAST-1), the subject of this ICR. Applicants who may file the Form EFAST-1 include: (1) Individuals applying for an electronic signature to sign a Form 5500 or 5500-EZ as, or on behalf of, plan administrators, employers/plan sponsors, or Direct Filing Entities (DFEs) using modem,

magnetic tape, floppy diskette, or CD-ROM to file electronically; (2) transmitters (a company, trade, business, or other person) applying for codes to transmit Forms 5500 and/or Forms 5500-EZ for electronic filing using modem, magnetic tape, floppy diskette, or CD-ROM; and, (3) software developers (a company, trade, business, or other person that creates, programs, or otherwise modifies computer software) applying for codes required to develop EFAST-compliant computer software for electronically preparing and filing the Form 5500 and/or Form 5500-EZ. Applicants provide some or all of the following information depending on applicant type: Name and title of applicant, mailing address, Employer Identification Number (EIN), telephone number, facsimile number and e-mail address (optional), contact person if different than applicant, and a signed agreement concerning the terms and conditions of the electronic filing program. Applicants receive, depending on applicant type, some or all of the following codes: electronic signature; filer identification number; personal identification number; encryption key; electronic filing identification number; password; and software developer ID. Applicants use these codes, as applicable, in connection with electronic filing, electronic transmission, or the development of EFAST software for the Form 5500 and 5500-EZ.

The information provided by the applicants on EFAST-1, combined with the codes supplied to the applicants by the program, allow EFAST to verify a filer, transmitter, or software developer's standing as a qualified participant in the EFAST electronic filing program for the Form 5500 and 5500-EZ. EFAST-1 information also establishes a means of contact between the EFAST program and filers, transmitters, and software developers for information exchange.

**II. Review Focus**

The Department of Labor (Department) is particularly interested in comments that:

- 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;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- 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 submissions of responses.

**III. Current Actions**

The Department is requesting an extension of the currently approved ICR pertaining to the Application for EFAST Electronic Signature and Codes for EFAST Transmitters and Software Developers (Form EFAST-1). The Department is not proposing or implementing changes to the existing ICR at this time.

*Title:* Application for EFAST Electronic Signature and Codes for EFAST Transmitters and Software Developers.

*Agency:* Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration.

*Type of Review:* Extension of currently approved collections.

*OMB Numbers:* 1210-0117.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households; Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions.

*Form Number:* EFAST-1.

*Total Respondents:* 5,200.

*Total Responses:* 5,200.

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion.

*Estimated Burden Hours:* 1,200.

*Estimated Burden Cost (Operating and Maintenance):* \$1,976.

Comments submitted in response to this request will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: February 24, 2005.

**Gerald B. Lindrew,**

*Deputy Director, Office of Policy and Research, Employee Benefits Security Administration.*

[FR Doc. 05-4082 Filed 3-2-05; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510-29-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**

**Employment Standards Administration**

**Proposed Collection; Comment Request**

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce

paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) [44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)]. This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the Employment Standards Administration is soliciting comments concerning the proposed collection: Request for Examination and/or Treatment (LS-1). A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the addresses section of this Notice.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addresses section below on or before May 2, 2005.

**ADDRESSES:** Ms. Hazel M. Bell, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave., NW., Room S-3201, Washington, DC 20210, telephone (202) 693-0418, fax (202) 693-1451, e-mail [bell.hazel@dol.gov](mailto:bell.hazel@dol.gov). Please use only one method of transmission for comments (mail, fax, or e-mail).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

I. *Background:* The Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) administers the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act (LHWCA). The Act provides benefits to workers injured in maritime employment on the navigable waters of the United States or in an adjoining area customarily used by an employee in loading, unloading, repairing or building a vessel. Under Section 7 (33 U.S.C., Chapter 18, Section 907) of the Longshore Act the employer/insurance carrier is responsible for furnishing medical care for the injured employee for such period of time as the injury or recovery period may require. Form LS-1 serves two purposes: (1) It authorizes the medical care and (2) provides a vehicle for the treating physician to report the findings, treatment given and anticipated physical condition of the employee. This information collection is currently approved for use through November 30, 2005.

II. *Review Focus:* The Department of Labor is particularly interested in comments which:

- 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;

- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- 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 submissions of responses.

III. *Current Actions:* The Department of Labor seeks the approval of the extension of this information collection in order to carry out its responsibility to verify that proper medical treatment has been authorized and to determine the severity of a claimant's injuries for purposes of compensation benefits.

*Type of Review:* Extension.

*Agency:* Employment Standards Administration.

*Titles:* Requests for Examination and/or Treatment.

*OMB Number:* 1215-0066.

*Agency Numbers:* LS-1.

*Affected Public:* Individual or households; Business or other for-profit.

*Total Respondents:* 16,200.

*Total Annual responses:* 101,250.

*Estimated Total Burden Hours:* 109,350.

*Estimated Time Per Response:* 1.08 Hours.

*Frequency:* On Occasion.

*Total Burden Cost (capital/startup):* \$0.

*Total Burden Cost (operating/maintenance):* \$43,740.00.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: February 25, 2005.

**Sue Blumenthal,**

*Acting Chief, Branch of Management Review and Internal Control, Division of Financial Management, Office of Management, Administration and Planning, Employment Standards Administration.*

[FR Doc. 05-4081 Filed 3-2-05; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510-CF-P**

**NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES**

**National Endowment for the Arts; National Council on the Arts 154th Meeting**

Pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), as amended, notice is hereby given that a meeting of the National Council on the Arts will be held on March 24, 2005 from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. (ending time is tentative) in Room M-09 at the Nancy Hanks Center, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20506.

This meeting will be open to the public on a space available basis. After opening remarks by Chairman Gioia, there will be an update on National Leadership Initiatives and on Congressional/White House activities. A presentation on the NEA Arts Journalism Institutes will be followed by swearing-in of new Council members. There will then be a presentation on the NEA Jazz Masters Initiative, including information on both NEA Jazz Masters and NEA Jazz in the Schools. This will be followed by review and voting on applications and guidelines. The meeting will conclude with general discussion.

If, in the course of the open session discussion, it becomes necessary for the Council to discuss non-public commercial or financial information of intrinsic value, the Council will go into closed session pursuant to subsection (c)(4) of the Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b. Additionally, discussion concerning purely personal information about individuals, submitted with grant applications, such as personal biographical and salary data or medical information, may be conducted by the Council in closed session in accordance with subsection (c)(6) of 5 U.S.C. 552b.

Any interested persons may attend, as observers, Council discussions and reviews that are open to the public. If you need special accommodations due to a disability, please contact the Office of AccessAbility, National Endowment for the Arts, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20506, 202/682-5532, TTY-TDD 202/682-5429, at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting.

Further information with reference to this meeting can be obtained from the Office of Communications, National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, DC 20506, at 202/682-5570.