

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Programs Nos. 96.001, Social Security—Disability Insurance; 96.002, Social Security—Retirement Insurance; 96.004, Social Security—Survivors Insurance; 96.006, Supplemental Security Income)

List of Subjects

20 CFR Part 404

Administrative practice and procedure, Blind, Disability benefits, Old-Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Social Security.

20 CFR Part 416

Administrative practice and procedure, Aged, Blind, Disability benefits, Public assistance programs, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

Dated: March 16, 2005.

Jo Anne B. Barnhart, Commissioner of Social Security.

For the reasons set out in the preamble, we are amending subpart P of part 404 and subparts I and K of part 416 of chapter III of title 20 of the Code of Federal Regulations as set forth below:

PART 404—FEDERAL OLD-AGE, SURVIVORS AND DISABILITY INSURANCE (1950—)

Subpart P—[Amended]

1. The authority citation for subpart P continues to read as follows:

Authority: Secs. 202, 205(a), (b), and (d)—(h), 216(i), 221 (a) and (i), 222(c), 223, 225, and 702(a)(5) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 402, 405 (a), (b), and (d)—(h), 416(i), 421(a) and (i), 422(c), 423, 425, and 902(a)(5)); sec. 211(b), Pub. L. 104—193, 110 Stat. 2105, 2189.

2. Section 404.1574 is amended by redesignating paragraph (d) as paragraph (d)(1), and adding new paragraph (d)(2) to read as follows:

§ 404.1574 Evaluation guides if you are an employee.

* * * * *

(d) * * *

(2) Work activity as a member or consultant of an advisory committee established under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C. App. 2. If you are serving as a member or consultant of an advisory committee, board, commission, council, or similar group established under FACA, we will not count any payments you receive from serving on such committees as earnings when we determine whether you are engaging in substantial gainful activity. These payments may include

compensation, travel expenses, and special assistance. We also will exclude the services you perform as a member or consultant of an advisory committee established under FACA in applying any of the substantial gainful activity tests discussed in paragraph (b)(6) of this section. This exclusion from the substantial gainful activity provisions will apply only if you are a member or consultant of an advisory committee specifically authorized by statute, or by the President, or determined as a matter of formal record by the head of a government agency. This exclusion from the substantial gainful activity provisions will not apply if your service as a member or consultant of an advisory committee is part of your duties or is required as an employee of any governmental or non-governmental organization, agency, or business.

PART 416—SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME FOR THE AGED, BLIND, AND DISABLED

Subpart I—[Amended]

3. The authority citation for subpart I continues to read as follows:

Authority: Secs. 702(a)(5) and 1601—1635 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 902(a)(5) and 1381—1333d); sec. 212, Pub. L. 93—66, 87 Stat. 155 (42 U.S.C. 1382 note); sec. 502(a), Pub. L. 94—241, 90 Stat. 268 (48 U.S.C. 1681 note).

4. Section 416.974 is amended by redesignating paragraph (d) as paragraph (d)(1), and adding new paragraph (d)(2) to read as follows:

§ 416.974 Evaluation guides if you are an employee.

* * * * *

(d) * * *

(2) Work activity as a member or consultant of an advisory committee established under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C. App. 2. If you are serving as a member or consultant of an advisory committee, board, commission, council, or similar group established under FACA, we will not count any payments you receive from serving on such committees as earnings when we determine whether you are engaging in substantial gainful activity. These payments may include compensation, travel expenses, and special assistance. We also will exclude the services you perform as a member or consultant of an advisory committee established under FACA in applying any of the substantial gainful activity tests discussed in paragraph (b)(6) of this section. This exclusion from the substantial gainful activity provision will apply only if you are a member or consultant of an advisory committee

specifically authorized by statute, or by the President, or determined as a matter of formal record by the head of a government agency. This exclusion from the substantial gainful activity provision will not apply if your service as a member or consultant of an advisory committee is part of your duties or is required as an employee of any governmental or non-governmental organization, agency, or business.

[FR Doc. 05—11074 Filed 6—2—05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4191—02—P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

26 CFR Part 1

[REG—152914—04]

RIN 1545—BD97

Revised Regulations Concerning Disclosure of Relative Values of Optional Forms of Benefit; Hearing

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of public hearing on proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: This document contains a notice of public hearing on proposed regulations concerning content requirements applicable to explanations of qualified joint and survivor annuities and qualified preretirement survivor annuities payable under certain retirement plans.

DATES: The public hearing is being held on August 24, 2005, at 10 a.m. The IRS must receive outlines of the topics to be discussed at the hearing by August 3, 2005.

ADDRESSES: The public hearing is being held in the IRS Auditorium, Internal Revenue Building, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC.

Send submissions to: CC:PA:LPD:PR (REG—152914—04), room 5203, Internal Revenue Service, POB 7604, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, DC 20044. Submissions may be hand delivered Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. to CC:PA:LPD:PR (REG—152914—04), Couriers Desk, Internal Revenue Service, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC or sent electronically, via the IRS Internet site at http://www.irs.gov/regs or via the Federal eRulemaking Portal at http://www.regulations.gov (IRS—REG—152914—04).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Concerning the regulations, Bruce Perlin

(202) 622-6090; concerning submissions of comments, the hearing, and/or to be placed on the building access list to attend the hearing LaNita Van Dyke (202) 622-7180 (not toll free numbers).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject of the public hearing is the notice of proposed regulations (REG-152914-04) that was published in the **Federal Register** on Friday, January 28, 2005 (70 FR 4058).

The rules of 26 CFR 601.601(a)(3) apply to the hearing. Persons who wish to present oral comments at the hearing that submitted written comments by April 28, 2005, must submit an outline of the topics to be discussed and the amount of time to be devoted to each topic (signed original and eight (8) copies).

A period of 10 minutes is allotted to each person for presenting oral comments.

After the deadline for receiving outlines has passed, the IRS will prepare an agenda containing the schedule of speakers. Copies of the agenda will be made available, free of charge, at the hearing.

Because of access restrictions, the IRS will not admit visitors beyond the immediate entrance area more than 30 minutes before the hearing starts. For information about having your name placed on the building access list to attend the hearing, see the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document.

Cynthia E. Grigsby,

Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Associate Chief Counsel, Legal Processing Division (Procedures and Administration).

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

48 CFR Parts 19, 52, and 53

[FAR Case 2004-017]

RIN: 9000-AK18

Federal Acquisition Regulation; Small Business Credit for Alaskan Native Corporations and Indian Tribes

AGENCIES: Department of Defense (DoD), General Services Administration (GSA), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Civilian Agency Acquisition Council and the Defense Acquisition Regulations Council (Councils) are proposing to amend the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) to implement section 702 of Public Law 107-117, as amended by section 3003 of Public Law 107-206 (43 U.S.C. 1626). The law permits subcontracts awarded to certain Alaskan Native Corporations (ANCs) to be counted towards a contractor's goals for subcontracting with small business (SB) and small disadvantaged business (SDB) concerns. The law also permits Indian tribes to be counted towards a contractor's goal for subcontracting with SB.

DATES: Interested parties should submit comments in writing on or before August 2, 2005 to be considered in the formulation of a final rule.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments identified by FAR case 2004-017 by any of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- Agency Web Site: <http://www.acqnet.gov/far/ProposedRules/proposed.htm>. Click on the FAR case number to submit comments.
- E-mail: farcase.2004-017@gsa.gov. Include FAR case 2004-017 in the subject line of the message.
- Fax: 202-501-4067.
- Mail: General Services Administration, Regulatory Secretariat (VIR), 1800 F Street, NW., Room 4035, ATTN: Laurieann Duarte, Washington, DC 20405.

Instructions: Please submit comments only and cite FAR case 2004-017 in all correspondence related to this case. All comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.acqnet.gov/far/ProposedRules/proposed.htm>, including any personal information provided.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The FAR Secretariat at (202) 501-4755 for information pertaining to status or publication schedules. For clarification of content, contact Ms. Rhonda Cundiff, Procurement Analyst, at (202) 501-0044. Please cite FAR case 2004-017.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

Section 702 of Public Law 107-117, as amended by section 3003 of Public Law 107-206, provides that subcontracts awarded to Alaskan Native Corporations (ANC) that are considered a minority and economically disadvantaged concern under the criteria at 43 U.S.C.

1626(e)(1), and any of its direct and indirect subsidiary corporations, joint ventures, and partnerships that meet the requirements of 43 U.S.C. 1626(e)(2), shall be counted towards the satisfaction of a contractor's goal for subcontracting with SB and SDB concerns. The law also provides that subcontracts awarded to Indian tribes may be counted towards the satisfaction of a contractor's goal for subcontracting with SB concerns. Such credit is taken even where the ANC or Indian tribe may be "other than small" under the Small Business Administration (SBA) regulations.

In addition, section 3003 provides that "where lower tier subcontracts exist, the ANC or Indian tribe shall designate the appropriate contractor or contractors to receive credit towards their small or small disadvantaged business subcontracting goals." Accordingly, the rule requires that, where one or more subcontractors are in the subcontract tier between the prime contractor and the ANC or Indian tribe, the ANC or Indian tribe shall designate the appropriate contractor to count the subcontract towards its small business and/or small disadvantaged subcontracting goals. In most cases, the appropriate contractor is the contractor that awarded the subcontract to the ANC or Indian tribe. Therefore, the revision includes a requirement that the ANC or Indian tribe give a copy of the designation to the contracting officer, the prime contractor, and the subcontractors in between. The Councils invite industry to comment on the feasibility of this approach and any alternatives for complying with the law.

The law does not provide for such an ANC and any of its direct and indirect subsidiary corporations, joint ventures, and partnerships to be eligible for SDB or 8(a) certification unless the entity otherwise meets the requirements for certification under 15 U.S.C. 637. Similarly, the law does not provide for contractors to count subcontracts awarded to such an entity toward the evaluation of the extent of the participation of SDB concerns in the performance of certain North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Industry codes unless the entity is certified as an SDB by SBA (FAR Subpart 19.12). The FAR is being amended to implement these changes to 43 U.S.C. 1626.

The specific changes are as follows:

- FAR 19.701 and the clause at 52.219-9 are amended to add definitions for ANC and Indian tribes consistent with 43 U.S.C. 1601, *et seq.*, and 25 U.S.C. 1452, respectively.