

for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: February 1, 2006.

**Antoinette A. Betschart,**

*Associate Administrator, ARS.*

[FR Doc. E6-1792 Filed 2-8-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-03-P

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Rural Housing Service

#### Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

**AGENCY:** Rural Housing Service (RHS).

**ACTION:** Proposed collection; comments requested.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Rural Housing Service's intention to request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of Form RD 410-8 "Applicant Reference Letter."

**DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received by April 10, 2006 to be assured of consideration.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Gale Richardson, Loan Specialist, Single Family Housing, Rural Housing Service, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Mail Stop 0783, Washington, DC 20250-0783, Telephone 202-720-1459.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** *Title:* Form RD 410-8, "Applicant Reference Letter."

*OMB Number:* 0575-0091.

*Expiration Date of Approval:* June 30, 2006.

*Type of Request:* Extension of a currently approved information collection.

*Abstract:* The Rural Housing Service (RHS), under Section 502 of Title V of the Housing Act of 1949, as amended, provides financial assistance to construct, improve, alter, repair, replace, or rehabilitate dwellings, which will provide modest, decent, safe, and sanitary housing to eligible individuals in rural areas. To assist a customer, they must provide the Agency with a standard housing application (used by government and private lenders), and provide documentation, including their credit history, to support the same. Form RD 410-8 is used to obtain information about an applicant's credit history that might not appear on a credit report. It is used to document an ability to handle credit effectively for applicants who have not used sources of

credit that appear on a credit report. This form provides a mechanism for following up on repayment history for debts reported by the applicant on the application that do not appear on the credit report. This information is used by the Loan Originator serving the area in which the applicant or borrower will live to determine whether the applicant's credit history meets the Agency criteria. In addition to supplementing or verifying other debts when a credit report is limited and unavailable to determine the applicant's eligibility and credit worthiness, the Form RD 410-8 is widely used by the Agency because credit reports are not always used to obtain credit information when an applicant/borrower lives in a remote area.

RHS must, by law, make available to the applicant, upon request, the source of information used to make an adverse decision. Individual references may be solicited with the clear understanding that if the information is used to deny credit the information will be made available to the applicant upon request. Without this information, the Agency is unable to determine if a customer would qualify for services.

*Estimate of Burden:* Public burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 6 minutes per response.

*Respondents:* Applicants seeking direct single family housing loans and grants from the Agency.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 13,466.

*Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Estimated Number of Responses:* 13,466.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 1,346 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Brigitte Sumter, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, at (202) 692-0042.

#### Comments

*Comments are invited on:* (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Rural Housing Service, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Rural Housing Service's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to 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.

Comments may be sent to Brigitte Sumter, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, STOP 0742, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, and DC 20250-0742. All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: February 2, 2006.

**Russell T. Davis,**

*Administrator, Rural Housing Service.*

[FR Doc. E6-1749 Filed 2-8-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-XV-P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Bureau of the Census

#### Request for Nominations of Members To Serve on the Census Advisory Committee on the African American Population

**AGENCY:** Bureau of the Census, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of request for nominations.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of the Census (Census Bureau) is requesting nominations of individuals to the Census Advisory Committee on the African American Population. The Census Bureau will consider nominations received in response to this notice, as well as from other sources. The **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice provides Committee and membership criteria.

**DATES:** Please submit nominations by March 2, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** Please submit nominations to Edwina Jaramillo, Race and Ethnic Advisory Committee Program Coordinator, Census Advisory Committee Office, U.S. Census Bureau, Room 3627, Federal Building 3, 4700 Silver Hill Road, Washington, DC 20233. Nominations also may be submitted via fax at 301-457-8608 or e-mail to [edwina.martha.jaramillo@census.gov](mailto:edwina.martha.jaramillo@census.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Edwina Jaramillo, Race and Ethnic Advisory Committee Program Coordinator, Census Advisory Committee Office, U.S. Census Bureau, Room 3627, Federal Building 3, 4700 Silver Hill Road, Washington, DC 20233, telephone (301) 763-4047.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Committee was established in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Title 5, United States Code, Appendix 2) in 1995. The following provides information about the Committee, membership, and the nomination process.

#### Objectives and Duties

1. The Committee provides an organized and continuing channel of communication between African American communities and the Census Bureau. Committee members identify useful strategies to reduce the differential undercount for the African American population and on ways data can be disseminated for maximum usefulness to the African American population.

2. The Committee draws upon prior decennial planning efforts, research studies, test censuses, and other experiences to provide advice and recommendations for the 2010 Census, the American Community Survey, and related decennial programs.

3. The Committee functions solely as an advisory body under the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

4. The Committee reports to the Director of the Census Bureau.

#### Membership

1. Members are appointed by and serve at the discretion of the Secretary of Commerce.

2. Members are appointed to the nine-member Committee for a period of three years. Members will be reevaluated at the conclusion of the three-year term with the prospect of renewal, pending advisory committee needs and the Secretary's concurrence. Committee members are selected in accordance with applicable Department of Commerce guidelines. The Committee aims to have a balanced representation, considering such factors as geography, gender, technical expertise, community involvement, and knowledge of census procedures and activities. The Committee aims to include members from diverse backgrounds, including state and local governments, academia, media, research, community-based organizations, and the private sector. No employee of the federal government can serve as a member of the Committee. Meeting attendance and active participation in the activities of the Advisory Committee are essential for sustained Committee membership.

#### Miscellaneous

1. Members of the Committee serve without compensation, but receive

reimbursement for committee-related travel and lodging expenses.

2. The Committee meets at least once a year, budget permitting, but additional meetings may be held as deemed necessary by the Census Director or Designated Federal Official. All Committee meetings are open to the public in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

#### Nomination Information

1. Nominations are requested as described above.

2. Nominees should have expertise and knowledge of the cultural patterns and issues and/or data needs of the African American community. Such knowledge and expertise are needed to provide advice and recommendations to the Census Bureau on how best to enumerate the African American population and obtain complete and accurate data on this population. Individuals, groups, or organizations may submit nominations on behalf of a potential candidate. A summary of the candidate's qualifications (résumé or curriculum vitae) must be included along with the nomination letter. Nominees must have the ability to participate in Advisory Committee meetings and tasks. Besides Committee meetings, active participation may include Committee assignments and participation in conference calls and working groups.

3. The Department of Commerce is committed to equal opportunity in the workplace and seeks diverse Committee membership.

Dated: February 2, 2006.

**Charles Louis Kincannon,**

*Director, Bureau of the Census.*

[FR Doc. E6-1746 Filed 2-8-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-07-P**

#### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

##### Bureau of Census

##### Request for Nominations of Members To Serve on the Census Advisory Committee on the American Indian and Alaska Native Populations

**AGENCY:** Bureau of the Census, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of request for nominations.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of the Census (Census Bureau) is requesting nominations of individuals to the Census Advisory Committee on the American Indian and Alaska Native Populations. The Census Bureau will consider nominations received in

response to this notice, as well as from other sources. The **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice provides Committee and membership criteria.

**DATES:** Please submit nominations by March 2, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** Please submit nominations to Edwina Jaramillo, Race and Ethnic Advisory Committee Program Coordinator, Census Advisory Committee Office, U.S. Census Bureau, Room 3627, Federal Building 3, 4700 Silver Hill Road, Washington, DC 20233. Nominations also may be submitted via fax at 301-457-8608 or e-mail to [dwina.martha.jaramillo@census.gov](mailto:dwina.martha.jaramillo@census.gov).

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2. The Committee draws upon prior decennial planning efforts, research studies, test censuses, and other experiences to provide advice and recommendations for the 2010 Census, the American Community Survey, and related decennial programs.

3. The Committee functions solely as an advisory body under the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

4. The Committee reports to the Director of the Bureau of the Census.

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