

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Larry Solomon, Deputy Director, 202–307–3106, ext. 44254.

Morris L. Thigpen,
Director.
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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of the Secretary

Submission for OMB Review: Comment Request

April 14, 2006.

The Department of Labor (DOL) has submitted the following public information collection request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–13, 44 U.S.C. chapter 35). A copy of this ICR, with applicable supporting documentation, may be obtained by contacting Darrin King on 202–693–4129 (this is not a toll-free number) or email: *king.darrin@dol.gov*.

Comments should be sent to Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attn: OMB Desk Officer for the Employment Standards Administration (ESA), Office of Management and Budget, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503, 202–395–7316 (this is not a toll-free number), within 30 days from the date of this publication in the **Federal Register**.

The OMB 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 submission of responses.

Agency: Employment Standards Administration.

Type of Review: Extension of currently approved collection.

Title: Request for Earnings Information.
OMB Number: 1215–0112.
Form Number: LS–426.
Frequency: On occasion.
Type of Response: Reporting.
Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Number of Respondents: 1,600.
Annual Responses: 1,600.
Average Response Time: 15 minutes.
Total Annual Burden Hours: 400.
Total Annualized capital/startup costs: \$0.
Total Annual Costs (operating/maintaining systems or purchasing services): \$672.

Description: The Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) administers the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act (LHWCA) (33 U.S.C. 901 et seq.), and its extensions the Nonappropriated Fund Instrumentalities Act, the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act and the Defense Base Act. These Acts provide compensation benefits to injured workers. The Secretary of Labor is authorized, under the Act, to make rules and regulations to administer the Act and its extensions. Pursuant to the LHWCA, injured employees shall receive compensation in an amount equal to 66⅔ per centum of their average weekly wage. Form LS–426, Request for Earnings Information is used by district offices to collect wage information from injured workers to assure payment of compensation benefits to injured workers at the proper rate. This information is needed for determination of compensation benefits in accordance with section 10 of the LHWCA.

Darrin A. King,
Acting Departmental Clearance Officer.
[FR Doc. E6–5858 Filed 4–18–06; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4510–23–P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management; Proposed Collection; Comment Request

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor (DOL or the Department), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a pre-clearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies 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 can be properly assessed. Currently, DOL is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension of the Customer Satisfaction Surveys and Conference Evaluations Generic Clearance.

A copy of the proposed information collection request (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the individual 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 June 19, 2006.

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.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to Darrin A. King, Agency Clearance Officer, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210. Mr. King can be reached on 202–693–4129 (this is not a toll free number) or by e-mail at *king.darrin@dol.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The Department of Labor (DOL) conducts a variety of voluntary Customer Satisfaction Surveys of regulated/non-regulated entities, which are specifically designed to gather information from a customer's perspective as prescribed by E.O. 12862, Setting Customer Service Standards,

September 11, 1993. These Customer Satisfaction Surveys provide information on customer attitudes about the delivery and quality of agency products/services and are used as part of an ongoing process to improve DOL programs. This generic clearance allows agencies to gather information from both Federal and non-Federal users.

In addition to conducting Customer Satisfaction Surveys, the Department also includes the use of evaluation forms for those DOL agencies conducting conferences. These evaluations are helpful in determining the success of the current conference, in developing future conferences, and in meeting the needs of the Department's product/service users.

II. Current Actions

Over the past three years the DOL has conducted more than two dozen customer satisfaction surveys and conference evaluations, which have helped assess the Department's products and services and has led to improvements in areas deemed necessary. Office of Management and Budget approval for this collection of information expires July 31, 2006. DOL proposes to seek continued approval for this collection of information for an additional three years.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Agency: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management.

Title: Customer Satisfaction Surveys and Conference Evaluations Generic Clearance.

OMB Number: 1225–0059.

Affected Public: Individuals and households; business or other for-profit; not-for-profit institutions; Farms; Federal Government; and State, Local, or Tribal Government.

Estimated Total Respondents/Responses: 200,000.

Frequency: On occasion and usually only one-time per respondent.

Average Time per Response: Varies by survey/evaluation generally ranging from 3 to 15 minutes with an average of approximately 6 minutes.

Total Burden Hours: 20,000.

Total Burden Cost (Capital/Startup): \$0.

Total Burden Cost (Operating/Maintenance): \$0.

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 also will become a matter of public record.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 13th day of April, 2006.

Darrin A. King,

Agency Clearance Officer, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management.

[FR Doc. E6–5860 Filed 4–18–06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510–23–P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employee Benefits Security Administration

[Application No. D-11261]

RIN 1210-A05

Amendment to Prohibited Transaction Exemption 2002–51 (PTE 2002–51) to Permit Certain Transactions Identified in the Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program

AGENCY: Employee Benefits Security Administration, Department of Labor.

ACTION: Adoption of Amendment to PTE 2002–51.

SUMMARY: This document amends PTE 2002–51 (67 FR 70623 November 25, 2002), a class exemption that provides relief from certain prohibited transaction restrictions imposed by section 4975 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the Code) for certain eligible transactions identified in the Department of Labor's (the Department) Voluntary Fiduciary Correction (VFC) Program, which was adopted on March 28, 2002. This amendment is being adopted in conjunction with the Department's adoption of the updated VFC Program (final VFC Program), which is being published simultaneously in this issue of the **Federal Register**. The VFC Program allows certain persons to avoid potential civil actions under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) initiated by the Department and the assessment of civil penalties under section 502(l) or 502(i) of ERISA in connection with an investigation or civil action by the Department. The amendment affects plans, participants and beneficiaries of such plans and certain other persons engaging in such transactions.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The class exemption is effective May 19, 2006.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Brian J. Buyniski, Office of Exemption Determinations, Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N–5649, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210, (202) 693–8545 (this is not a toll free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On April 6, 2005, a notice was published in the **Federal Register** (70 FR 17476) of the pendency before the Department of a proposed amendment to PTE 2002–51. PTE 2002–51 provides relief from the sanctions resulting from the application of section 4975 (a) and (b) of the Code, by reason of section 4975(c)(1) (A) through (E) of the Code. The amendment expands the relief under the exemption to additional transactions included in the final VFC Program. The amendment to PTE 2002–51 adopted by this notice was proposed by the Department on its own motion pursuant to section 4975(c)(2) of the Code, and in accordance with the procedures set forth in 29 CFR 2570, subpart B (55 FR 32836, 32847, August 10, 1990).¹

The notice of pendency gave interested persons an opportunity to comment on the proposed amendment. The Department received two comment letters. Upon consideration of all the comments received, the Department has determined to grant the proposed amendment, subject to certain modifications. These modifications and the comments are discussed below.

Executive Order 12866 Statement

Under Executive Order 12866, the Department must determine whether a regulatory action is "significant" and therefore subject to the requirements of the Executive Order and subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Under section 3(f) of the Executive Order, a "significant regulatory action" is an action that is likely to result in a rule: (1) Having an annual effect on the economy of \$100 million or more, or adversely and materially affecting a sector of the economy, productivity, competition, jobs, the environment, public health or safety, or State, local or tribal governments or communities (also referred to as "economically significant"); (2) creating serious inconsistency or otherwise interfering with an action taken or planned by another agency; (3) materially altering the budgetary impacts of entitlement grants, user fees, or loan programs or the rights and obligations of recipients thereof; or (4) raising novel legal or policy issues arising out of legal mandates, the President's priorities, or the principles set forth in the Executive Order. OMB has determined that the final VFC Program is significant under

¹ Section 102 of Reorganization Plan No. 4 of 1978 (43 FR 47713, October 17, 1978, 5 U.S.C. App. 1 [1996]) generally transferred the authority of the Secretary of the Treasury to issue administrative exemptions under section 4975(c)(2) of the Code to the Secretary of Labor.