submission to OMB. Applying a 20% reduction to its previous estimates, the staff now assumes that large manufacturers spend an average of 33.6 hours per year and that small manufacturers spend an average of 8 hours per year to comply with the Rule. Accordingly, the total annual burden incurred by manufacturers is approximately 130,968 hours (581 large manufacturers × 33.6 hours) + (13,935 small manufacturers × 8 hours).

Thus, the total annual burden for all covered entities is approximately 2,446,610 hours (2,315,608 hours for retailers + 131,002 hours for manufacturers).

Total annual labor cost: $53,825,000 (rounded to nearest thousand).

The work required to comply with the Pre-Sale Availability Rule entails a mix of clerical work and work performed by sales associates. Staff estimates that half of the total burden hours would likely be performed by sales associates. At the manufacturing level, this work would entail ensuring that the written warranty accompanies every consumer product or that the required warranty information otherwise gets to the retailer. At the retail level, this work would entail ensuring that the written warranty is made available to the consumer prior to sale. The remaining half of the work required to comply with the Pre-Sale Availability Rule is clerical in nature, e.g., shipping or otherwise providing copies of manufacturer warranties to retailers and retailer maintenance of them. Applying a sales associate wage rate of $25/hour to half of the burden hours and a clerical wage rate of $19/hour to half of the burden hours, the total annual labor cost burden is approximately $53,825,420 (1,223,305 hours × $25/hour) + (1,223,305 hours × $19/hour).4

Total annual capital or other non-labor costs: De minimis.

The vast majority of retailers and warrantors already have developed systems to provide the information the Rule requires. Compliance by retailers typically entails keeping warranties on file, in binders or otherwise, and posting an inexpensive sign indicating warranty availability. Manufacturer compliance entails providing retailers with a copy of the warranties included with their products.

Request for Comments

You can file a comment online or on paper. Write “Pre-Sale Availability Rule: Paperwork Comment, FTC File No. P044403” on your comment. Your comment—including your name and your state—will be placed on the public record of this proceeding, including, to the extent practicable, on the public Commission Web site, at http://www.ftc.gov/os/publiccomments.shtm. As a matter of discretion, the Commission tries to remove individuals’ home contact information from comments before placing them on the Commission Web site.

Because your comment will be made public, you are solely responsible for making sure that your comment does not include any sensitive personal information, like anyone’s Social Security number, date of birth, driver’s license number or other state identification number or foreign country equivalent, passport number, financial account number, or credit or debit card number. You are also solely responsible for making sure that your comment does not include any sensitive health information, like medical records or other individually identifiable health information. In addition, do not include any “[t]rade secret or any commercial or financial information which is . . . privileged or confidential,” as discussed in Section 6(f) of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. 46(f), and FTC Rule 4.10(a)(2), 16 CFR 4.10(a)(2). In particular, do not include competitively sensitive information such as costs, sales statistics, inventories, formulas, patterns, devices, manufacturing processes, or customer names.

If you want the Commission to give your comment confidential treatment, you must file it in paper form, with a request for confidential treatment, and you have to follow the procedure explained in FTC Rule 4.9(c), 16 CFR 4.9(c). Your comment will be kept confidential only if the FTC General Counsel, in his or her sole discretion, grants your request in accordance with the law and the public interest. Postal mail addressed to the Commission is subject to delay due to heightened security screening. As a result, the Commission encourages you to submit your comments online. To make sure that the Commission considers your online comment, you must file it at https://ftcpublic.commentworks.com/ftc/presaleavailabilitypra, by following the instructions on the web-based form. If this Notice appears at http://www.regulations.gov, you also may file a comment through that Web site. If you file your comment on paper, write “Pre-Sale Availability Rule: Paperwork Comment, FTC File No. P044403” on your comment and on the envelope, and mail or deliver it to the following address: Federal Trade Commission, Office of the Secretary, Room H–113 (Annex J), 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20580. If possible, submit your paper comment to the Commission by courier or overnight service.

Visit the Commission Web site at http://www.ftc.gov to read this Notice. The FTC Act and other laws that the Commission administers permit the collection of public comments to consider and use in this proceeding as appropriate. The Commission will consider all timely and responsive public comments that it receives on or before January 13, 2014. You can find more information, including routine uses permitted by the Privacy Act, in the Commission’s privacy policy, at http://www.ftc.gov/ftcprivacy.htm.

Christian S. White,
Deputy General Counsel for Legal Counsel.
[FR Doc. 2013–27307 Filed 11–13–13; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6750–01–P

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE

Exposure Draft—Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government


ACTION: Notice of Comment Period Extension.

SUMMARY: The US Government Accountability Office (GAO) is extending the comment period for the proposed revisions to the Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government, known as the “Green Book,” to January 15, 2014. We are requesting public comments on the proposed revisions in the exposure draft. The proposed changes contained in the 2013 Exposure Draft update to the Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government reflect major developments in the accountability and financial management profession and emphasize specific considerations applicable to the government environment.

The draft of the proposed changes to Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government, 2013 Exposure Draft, is available and can be downloaded from GAO’s Web page at www.gao.gov. All comments will be considered a matter of public record and will ultimately be posted on the GAO Web page.

DATES: The exposure period will be from September 2, 2013 to January 15, 2014.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Office of the Secretary
[Document Identifier: HHS–OS–20883–60D]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collection; Public Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Office of the Secretary (OS), Department of Health and Human Services, announces plans to submit a new Information Collection Request (ICR), described below, to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Prior to submitting that ICR to OMB, OS seeks comments from the public regarding the burden estimate, below, or any other aspect of the ICR.

DATES: Comments on the ICR must be received on or before January 13, 2014.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments to Information.CollectionClearance@hhs.gov or by calling (202) 690–6162.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Information Collection Clearance staff, Information.CollectionClearance@hhs.gov or (202) 690–6162.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: When submitting comments or requesting information, please include the document identifier HHS–OS–20883–60D for reference.

Information Collection Request Title: Support and Services at Home (SASH) Participant Survey

Abstract: The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) is requesting approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to conduct a survey of Support And Services at Home (SASH) participants to assess the impact of the SASH program on health outcomes. Information collected includes general health status, functional status, quality of life, medication problems and dietary issues. The SASH program operates in Vermont and links staff based in housing properties with a team of community-based health and supportive services providers to help older adults coordinate and manage their care needs. SASH services include: assessment by a multidisciplinary team, creation of an individualized care plan, on-site nursing and care coordination with team members and other local partners, and community activities to support health and wellness. SASH is anchored in affordable senior housing properties, serving residents in the property and seniors living in the surrounding community.

The goal of this project is to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the SASH program. The evaluation will assess whether the SASH model of coordinated health and supportive services in affordable housing improves quality of life, health and functional status of participants. The evaluation has been designed to comprehensively address the research questions while minimizing the burden placed on the SASH program staff, their partners (e.g., service providers), and Medicare and dually eligible Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries. The mail survey is designed to collect outcomes that cannot be measured from claims data or other sources. We will use brief, standardized scales with demonstrated reliability and validity in older adults.

Information collected in the survey is not of a sensitive nature. Questions in the beneficiary survey are confined to health outcomes. RTI International will conduct and analyze the survey. RTI has experience doing similar work for ASPE and other government clients.

Need and Proposed Use of the Information: To determine the impact of the SASH program on quality of life, health and functional status of participants. Care has been taken to ensure that there is no overlap between other ongoing state evaluations. Through discussions with SASH program staff and other state officials in Vermont, we determined that the information we seek to collect is not already being collected from our proposed sample, nor can it be measured from claims data. As a result of these efforts, the information collected through the survey will not duplicate any other effort and is not obtainable from any other source.

Likely Respondents: The target population for the survey is Medicare beneficiaries participating in the Support and Services at Home (SASH) demonstration. SASH provides integrated, home-based services to beneficiaries in selected housing properties throughout Vermont. At this point, 1,685 intervention beneficiaries have been identified in 37 SASH sites.

Burden Statement: Burden in this context means the time expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, disclose or provide the information requested. This includes the time needed to review instructions, to develop, acquire, install and utilize technology and systems for the purpose of collecting, validating and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information, to train personnel and to be able to respond to a collection of information, to search data sources, to complete and review the collection of information, and to transmit or otherwise disclose the information. The total annual burden hours estimated for this ICR are summarized in the table below.

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