

# Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 82, No. 43

Tuesday, March 7, 2017

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Office of Advocacy and Outreach

#### Advisory Committee on Beginning Farmers and Ranchers; Request for Nominations

**AGENCY:** Office of Advocacy and Outreach, USDA.

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

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, notice is hereby given that the Secretary of Agriculture is soliciting nominations for membership to fill six positions on the Advisory Committee on Beginning Farmers and Ranchers (the "Committee").

**DATES:** Consideration will be given to nominations received on or before March 31, 2017.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mrs. Kenya Nicholas, Designated Federal Official, USDA Office of Advocacy and Outreach, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-0170; (202) 720-6350; email: [acbfr@osec.usda.gov](mailto:acbfr@osec.usda.gov).

**ADDRESSES:** Nomination packages may be sent by postal mail or commercial delivery to: Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Mail Stop 0601, Washington, DC 20250, Attn: Advisory Committee on Beginning Farmers and Ranchers. Nomination packages may also be faxed to (202) 720-7704.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Committee advises the Secretary of Agriculture on matters broadly affecting new farmers and ranchers including strategies, policies, and programs that will enhance opportunities and create new farming and ranching operations. The Committee will consider Department goals and objectives necessary to implement prior recommendations. The Committee will

develop and recommend an overall framework and strategies to encompass principles that leverage and maximize existing programs, and create and test new program opportunities.

In this notice, we are soliciting nominations from interested organizations and individuals from among ranching and farming producers (industry), related government, State, and Tribal agricultural agencies, academic institutions, commercial banking entities, trade associations, and related nonprofit enterprises. An organization may nominate individuals from within or outside its membership; alternatively, an individual may nominate herself or himself. Nomination packages should include a nomination form along with a cover letter or resume that documents the nominee's background and experience. Nomination forms are available on the Internet at <https://www.ocio.usda.gov/document/ad-755> or may be obtained from the person listed under

The Secretary will select up to six members from among those organizations and individuals solicited in order to obtain the broadest possible representation on the Committee, pursuant to Section 5 of the Agricultural Credit Improvement Act of 1992 (Pub. L. 102-554), in accordance with the FACA and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Regulation 1041-1. Equal opportunity practices, in line with the USDA policies, will be followed in all appointments to the Committee. To ensure that the recommendations of the Committee have taken into account the needs of the diverse groups served by the Department, membership should include, to the extent practicable, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women, and persons with disabilities.

Done in Washington, DC, this 1st day of March 2017.

**Christian Obineme,**

*Associate Director, Office of Advocacy and Outreach.*

[FR Doc. 2017-04392 Filed 3-6-17; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Office of Advocacy and Outreach (OAO)

#### Advisory Committee on Minority Farmers; Notice of Solicitation for Membership

**AGENCY:** Office of Advocacy and Outreach, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of Solicitation for Membership.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, notice is hereby given that the Secretary of Agriculture is soliciting nominations for membership for the Advisory Committee on Minority Farmers (the "Committee") to serve a term of up to 2 years.

**DATES:** Consideration will be given to nominations received on or before March 31, 2017.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mrs. Kenya Nicholas, Designated Federal Official, USDA Office of Advocacy and Outreach, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-0170; (202) 720-6350; email: [acmf@osec.usda.gov](mailto:acmf@osec.usda.gov).

**ADDRESSES:** Nomination packages may be sent by postal mail or commercial delivery to: Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Mail Stop 0601, Washington, DC 20250, Attn: Advisory Committee on Minority Farmers. Nomination packages may also be faxed to (202) 720-7704.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Advisory Committee for Minority Farmers (ACMF) will advise the Secretary of Agriculture on strategies to heighten participation of historically socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in the USDA's assistance programs. The ACMF will also advise the Secretary on outreach and administration of competitive grants programs and how the USDA may enhance its efforts to build an inclusive future for this targeted group of minority farmers. The ACMF may also look at the civil rights activities of USDA and how they affect USDA programs in general.

We are soliciting nominations from socially disadvantaged farming and ranching producers; civil rights professionals; private nonprofit organizations that support socially disadvantaged producers; and higher

education institutions that work with socially disadvantaged producers. The membership term shall not exceed 2 years from the date of appointment. The Secretary may also appoint others as deemed necessary and appropriate to fulfill the ACMF charter.

An organization may nominate individuals from within or outside its membership; alternatively, an individual may nominate herself or himself. Current members may likewise apply for reappointment. Nomination

packages should include a nomination form along with a cover letter or resume that documents the nominee's background and experience. Nomination forms are available on the Internet at: <http://www.ocio.usda.gov/forms/doc/AD-755.pdf>. The Secretary will select up to 20 members to obtain the broadest possible representation on the Committee, in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.2) and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Regulation 1041-1.

Equal opportunity practices, in line with the USDA policies, will be followed in all appointments to the Committee. To ensure that the recommendations of the Committee have taken into account the needs of the diverse groups served by the Department, membership should include, to the extent practicable, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women, and persons with disabilities.

Office	Initials & date	Office	Initials & date

Signed in Washington, DC, this 1 day of March 2017.

**Christian Obineme,**

*Associate Director, Office of Advocacy and Outreach.*

[FR Doc. 2017-04395 Filed 3-6-17; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Agricultural Marketing Service**

[Doc. No. AMS-TM-17-0017]

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

**AGENCY:** Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Agricultural Marketing Service's (AMS) intention to request approval, from the Office of Management and Budget, for an extension without change of a currently approved information collection titled Data Collection for Container Availability.

**DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received by May 8, 2017 to be assured of consideration.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** April Taylor, Transportation Services Division, Transportation and Marketing Program, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave SW.—Room 4523 South, Stop 0266, Washington, DC,

20250, telephone 202-295-7374, fax 202-690-2451.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Data Collection for Container Availability.

*OMB Number:* 0581-0276.

*Expiration Date of Approval:*

September 30, 2017.

*Type of Request:* Extension without change of a currently approved information collection.

*Abstract:* The Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621-1627) directs and authorizes the collection and dissemination of marketing information including adequate outlook information, on a market area basis, for the purpose of anticipating and meeting consumer requirements aiding in the maintenance of farm income and to bring about a balance between production and utilization.

As part of the Agricultural Marketing Service, the Transportation Services Division (TSD) provides insightful agricultural transportation information and analysis to help move agricultural products to market. TSD informs, represents, and assists agricultural shippers and government policymakers through: Market reports, representation, analysis, assistance, and responses to inquiries. TSD collects data for its analysis from public resources as well as unique data sources to help the agricultural exporters make the most out of the transportation options available.

The Data Collection for Container Availability provides U.S. agricultural exporters with weekly data detailing the availability of containers at 18 select locations around the country. AMS collects these data on a voluntary basis

from ocean container carriers and then provides these up-to-date data in an aggregate report on its Web site. The goal of the report is to provide more transparency in the market for the location and availability of marine shipping containers for U.S. exporters. Exporters use this tool to make more knowledgeable decisions about which locations provide the best chance for finding available containers to move their products overseas.

*Estimate of Burden:* Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1.61 hours per response.

*Respondents:* Ocean Container/Liner Carriers and the Transpacific Stabilization Agreement.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 21.

*Estimated Total Annual Responses:* 1,092.

*Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:* 52.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 1,759.26.

*Comments are invited on:* (1) 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; (2) 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; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated,