

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Labor (DOL) is submitting the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) sponsored information collection request (ICR) titled, "General Inquiries to State Agency Contacts," to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval for continued use, without change, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA). Public comments on the ICR are invited.

**DATES:** The OMB will consider all written comments that agency receives on or before April 30, 2018.

**ADDRESSES:** A copy of this ICR with applicable supporting documentation; including a description of the likely respondents, proposed frequency of response, and estimated total burden may be obtained free of charge from the *RegInfo.gov* website at [http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAViewICR?ref\\_nbr=201711-1220-003](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAViewICR?ref_nbr=201711-1220-003) (this link will only become active on the day following publication of this notice) or by contacting Michel Smyth by telephone at 202-693-4129, TTY 202-693-8064, (these are not toll-free numbers) or by email at [DOL\\_PRA\\_PUBLIC@dol.gov](mailto:DOL_PRA_PUBLIC@dol.gov).

Submit comments about this request by mail to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attn: OMB Desk Officer for DOL-BLS, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10235, 725 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20503; by Fax: 202-395-5806 (this is not a toll-free number); or by email: [OIRA\\_submission@omb.eop.gov](mailto:OIRA_submission@omb.eop.gov). Commenters are encouraged, but not required, to send a courtesy copy of any comments by mail or courier to the U.S. Department of Labor-OASAM, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Attn: Departmental Information Compliance Management Program, Room N1301, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20210; or by email: [DOL\\_PRA\\_PUBLIC@dol.gov](mailto:DOL_PRA_PUBLIC@dol.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Michel Smyth by telephone at 202-693-4129, TTY 202-693-8064, (these are not toll-free numbers) or by email at [DOL\\_PRA\\_PUBLIC@dol.gov](mailto:DOL_PRA_PUBLIC@dol.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This ICR seeks to extend PRA authority for the General Inquiries to State Agency Contacts information collection. The BLS awards funds to State Agencies in order to assist them in operating either or both the Labor Market Information and the Occupational Safety and Health Statistics Federal/State Cooperative Statistical Programs. To ensure a timely flow of data and to be able to evaluate and improve the programs, it is necessary to conduct ongoing communications between the BLS and

State partners dealing with, for example, deliverables, program enhancements, and administrative issues. The BLS Authorizing Statute authorizes this information collection. See 29 U.S.C. 1, 2.

This information collection is subject to the PRA. A Federal agency generally cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information, and the public is generally not required to respond to an information collection, unless it is approved by the OMB under the PRA and displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. In addition, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, no person shall generally be subject to penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information that does not display a valid Control Number. See 5 CFR 1320.5(a) and 1320.6. The DOL obtains OMB approval for this information collection under Control Number 1220-0168.

OMB authorization for an ICR cannot be for more than three (3) years without renewal, and the current approval for this collection is scheduled to expire on June 30, 2018. The DOL seeks to extend PRA authorization for this information collection for three (3) more years, without any change to existing requirements. The DOL notes that existing information collection requirements submitted to the OMB receive a month-to-month extension while they undergo review. For additional substantive information about this ICR, see the related notice published in the **Federal Register** on December 12, 2017 (82 FR 58447).

Interested parties are encouraged to send comments to the OMB, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs at the address shown in the **ADDRESSES** section within thirty (30) days of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. In order to help ensure appropriate consideration, comments should mention OMB Control Number 1220-0168. The OMB is particularly interested in comments that:

- 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:** DOL-BLS.  
**Title of Collection:** General Inquiries to State Agency Contacts.  
**OMB Control Number:** 1220-0168.  
**Affected Public:** State, Local, and Tribal Governments.  
**Total Estimated Number of Respondents:** 54.  
**Total Estimated Number of Responses:** 23,890.  
**Total Estimated Annual Time Burden:** 15,927 hours.  
**Total Estimated Annual Other Costs Burden:** \$0.

**Authority:** 44 U.S.C. 3507(a)(1)(D).

Dated: March 26, 2018.

**Michel Smyth,**  
*Departmental Clearance Officer.*

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**BILLING CODE 4510-24-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Office of the Secretary

#### Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Equal Access to Justice Act

**ACTION:** Notice of availability; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Labor (DOL) is submitting the information collection request (ICR) titled, "Equal Access to Justice Act," to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval for continued use, without change, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA). Public comments on the ICR are invited.

**DATES:** The OMB will consider all written comments that agency receives on or before April 30, 2018.

**ADDRESSES:** A copy of this ICR with applicable supporting documentation; including a description of the likely respondents, proposed frequency of response, and estimated total burden may be obtained free of charge from the *RegInfo.gov* website at [http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAViewICR?ref\\_nbr=201803-1225-001](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAViewICR?ref_nbr=201803-1225-001) or by contacting Michel Smyth by telephone at 202-693-4129, TTY 202-693-8064, (these are not toll-free numbers) or by email at [DOL\\_PRA\\_PUBLIC@dol.gov](mailto:DOL_PRA_PUBLIC@dol.gov).

Submit comments about this request by mail to the Office of Information and

Regulatory Affairs, Attn: OMB Desk Officer for DOL–DM, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10235, 725 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20503; by Fax: 202–395–5806 (this is not a toll-free number); or by email: [OIRA\\_submission@omb.eop.gov](mailto:OIRA_submission@omb.eop.gov). Commenters are encouraged, but not required, to send a courtesy copy of any comments by mail or courier to the U.S. Department of Labor–OASAM, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Attn: Departmental Information Compliance Management Program, Room N1301, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20210; or by email: [DOL\\_PRA\\_PUBLIC@dol.gov](mailto:DOL_PRA_PUBLIC@dol.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Michel Smyth by telephone at 202–693–4129, TTY 202–693–8064, (these are not toll-free numbers) or by email at [DOL\\_PRA\\_PUBLIC@dol.gov](mailto:DOL_PRA_PUBLIC@dol.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This ICR seeks to extend PRA authority for the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA) information collection requirements for the DOL codified in regulations 29 CFR part 16, subpart B. The EAJA provides for payment of fees and expenses to eligible parties who have prevailed against a Federal agency in certain administrative proceedings. In order to obtain an award, the statute and associated DOL regulations require the filing of an application. Other agencies may have their own EAJA regulations. EAJA section 203 authorizes this information collection. See 5 U.S.C. 504(a)(2).

This information collection is subject to the PRA. A Federal agency generally cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information, and the public is generally not required to respond to an information collection, unless it is approved by the OMB under the PRA and displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. In addition, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, no person shall generally be subject to penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information that does not display a valid Control Number. See 5 CFR 1320.5(a) and 1320.6.

The DOL obtains OMB approval for this information collection under Control Number 1225–0013, and the DOL seeks to extend PRA authorization for this information collection for three (3) more years, without any change to existing requirements. The DOL notes that existing information collection requirements submitted to the OMB receive a month-to-month extension while they undergo review.

Interested parties are encouraged to send comments to the OMB, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs at

the address shown in the **ADDRESSES** section within thirty (30) days of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. In order to help ensure appropriate consideration, comments should mention OMB Control Number 1225–0013. The OMB is particularly interested in comments that:

- 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:* DOL–DM.

*Title of Collection:* Equal Access to Justice Act.

*OMB Control Number:* 1225–0013.

*Affected Public:* Private Sector—businesses or other for-profits or not-for-profit institutions.

*Total Estimated Number of Respondents:* 10.

*Total Estimated Number of Responses:* 10.

*Total Estimated Annual Time Burden:* 50 hours.

*Total Estimated Annual Other Costs Burden:* \$23.

*Authority:* 44 U.S.C. 3507(a)(1)(D).

**Michel Smyth,**

*Departmental Clearance Officer.*

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**BILLING CODE 4510–23–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Occupational Safety and Health Administration

[Docket No. OSHA–2009–0024]

#### Variance Regulations; Extension of the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) Approval of Information Collection (Paperwork) Requirements

**AGENCY:** Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Labor.

**ACTION:** Request for public comments.

**SUMMARY:** OSHA solicits public comments concerning its proposal to obtain OMB approval for the information collection requirements contained in the Standards on Variance and Other Relief Under Sections 6(b)(6)(A) and 6(b)(6)(C); Variances and Other Relief Under Section 6(d); and Limitation, Variations, Tolerances or Exemptions Under Section 16 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (OSH Act). These statutory and regulatory provisions specify the requirements for submitting applications to OSHA for Temporary, Experimental, Permanent, and National Defense Variances.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted (postmarked, sent or received) by May 29, 2018.

**ADDRESSES:** *Electronically:* You may submit comments and attachments electronically at <http://www.regulations.gov>, which is the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Follow the instructions online for submitting comments.

*Facsimile:* If your comments, including attachments, are not longer than 10 pages you may fax them to the OSHA Docket Office at (202) 693–1648.

*Mail, hand delivery, express mail, messenger, or courier service:* When using this method, you must submit a copy of your comments and attachments to the OSHA Docket Office, Docket No. OSHA–2009–0024, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N–3653, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20210. Deliveries (hand, express mail, messenger, and courier service) are accepted during the Docket Office's normal business hours, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., ET.

*Instructions:* All submissions must include the Agency name and the OSHA docket number (OSHA–2009–0024) for the Information Collection Request (ICR). All comments, including any personal information you provide, are placed in the public docket without change, and may be made available online at <http://www.regulations.gov>. For further information on submitting comments see the “Public Participation” heading in the section of this notice titled **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

*Docket:* To read or download comments or other materials in the docket, go to <http://www.regulations.gov> or the OSHA Docket Office at the above address. All documents in the docket (including this **Federal Register** notice) are listed in the <http://www.regulations.gov> index; however, some information (e.g., copyrighted