

documentation of disciplinary history and certain regulatory, civil, and criminal actions, arbitrations, and customer complaints for the applicant and its associated persons, unless such history has been reported to the Central Registration Depository (CRD®). At this time, FINRA intends to retain the language as a standalone provision under proposed Rule 1013(c) to maintain clear parity with the language appearing under proposed Rule 1017(h). However, FINRA will consider NASAA's recommendation in connection with its separate proposal to substantially restructure the MAP rules.<sup>78</sup>

#### 6. Other Comments

UNLV recommended that FINRA consider proposing a rule to protect investors when FINRA members try to convert themselves into another area of the securities industry while facing covered pending arbitration claims or outstanding unpaid arbitration awards. IBN expressed the view that “[a]rbitration has nothing to do with the law it is about feelings[,]” suggesting that there needs to be two sets of rulebooks, one for small firms and the other for large firms. While FINRA acknowledges the commenters' concerns, their recommendations are beyond the scope of this proposed rulemaking and, therefore, FINRA has not addressed them here.

#### III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Within 45 days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** or within such longer period (i) as the Commission may designate up to 90 days of such date if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or (ii) as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission will:

- (A) By order approve or disapprove such proposed rule change, or
- (B) institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

#### IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

#### Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission's internet comment form (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an email to [rule-comments@sec.gov](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include File Number SR-FINRA-2019-030 on the subject line.

#### Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-FINRA-2019-030. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's internet website (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of FINRA. All comments received will be posted without change. Persons submitting comments are cautioned that we do not redact or edit personal identifying information from comment submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-FINRA-2019-030 and should be submitted on or before January 21, 2020.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>79</sup>

**J. Matthew DeLesDernier,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2019-28021 Filed 12-27-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8011-01-P**

#### SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

##### Interest Rates

The Small Business Administration publishes an interest rate called the optional “peg” rate (13 CFR 120.214) on a quarterly basis. This rate is a weighted average cost of money to the government for maturities similar to the average SBA direct loan. This rate may be used as a base rate for guaranteed fluctuating interest rate SBA loans. This rate will be 1.88 percent for the January–March quarter of FY 2020.

Pursuant to 13 CFR 120.921(b), the maximum legal interest rate for any third party lender's commercial loan which funds any portion of the cost of a 504 project (see 13 CFR 120.801) shall be 6% over the New York Prime rate or, if that exceeds the maximum interest rate permitted by the constitution or laws of a given State, the maximum interest rate will be the rate permitted by the constitution or laws of the given State.

**Dianna L. Seaborn,**

*Director, Office of Financial Assistance.*

[FR Doc. 2019-28188 Filed 12-27-19; 8:45 am]

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#### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice: 10986]

#### 30 Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Adoptive Family Relief Act Refund Application

**ACTION:** Notice of request for public comment and submission to OMB of proposed collection of information.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of State is seeking Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for the information collection described below. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we are requesting comments on this collection from all interested individuals and organizations. The purpose of this Notice is to allow 30 days for public comment.

**DATES:** Submit comments directly to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) up to January 29, 2020.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct comments to the Department of State Desk Officer in the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs at the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). You may submit comments by the following methods:

- *Email:* [oir\\_submission@omb.eop.gov](mailto:oir_submission@omb.eop.gov). You must include the DS form number, information collection

<sup>78</sup> See Notice 18–23.

<sup>79</sup> 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(12).

title, and the OMB control number in the subject line of your message.

• *Fax:* 202–395–5806. Attention: Desk Officer for Department of State.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Direct requests for additional information regarding the collection listed in this notice, including requests for copies of the proposed collection instrument and supporting documents, to Jorge Abudei, who may be reached at 202–485–8915 or at [fees@state.gov](mailto:fees@state.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

• *Title of Information Collection:* Adoptive Family Relief Act Refund Application.

• *OMB Control Number:* 1405–0223.

• *Type of Request:* Extension of a Currently Approved Collection.

• *Originating Office:* CA/C.

• *Form Number:* DS–7781.

• *Respondents:* Immigrant Visa Petitioners.

• *Estimated Number of Respondents:* 20.

• *Estimated Number of Responses:* 20.

• *Average Time Per Response:* 5 Minutes.

• *Total Estimated Burden Time:* 1.6 Hours.

• *Frequency:* On Occasion.

• *Obligation to respond:* Required to Obtain or Retain a Benefit.

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department to:

• Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department.

• Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.

• Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.

• Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Please note that comments submitted in response to this Notice are public record. Before including any detailed personal information, you should be aware that your comments as submitted, including your personal information, will be available for public review.

**Abstract of Proposed Collection**

The Adoptive Family Relief Act (Pub. L. 114–70) amended Section 221(c) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), 8 U.S.C. 1201(c), to allow for the waiver or refund certain immigrant visa fees for a lawfully adopted child, or a child coming to the United States to be

adopted by a United States citizen, subject to criteria prescribed by the Secretary of State. Over 350 American families have successfully adopted children from the Democratic Republic of the Congo. However, since September 25, 2013, they have not been able to bring their adoptive children home to the United States because the Democratic Republic of the Congo suspended the issuance of “exit permits” for these children. As the permit suspension drags on, however, American families are repeatedly paying visa renewal and related fees, while also continuing to be separated from their adopted children.

The waiver or refund provides support and relief to American families seeking to bring their adoptive children home to the United States from the Democratic Republic of the Congo and families in situations similar to the one stipulated above. This form collects information to determine the extra fees these families have paid and refund them in accordance with the Adoptive Family Relief Act.

**Methodology**

The collection will be hosted on the Department of State website to be printed, filled out, and eventually sent to the consular section where the adoption case was originally processed.

**Douglass R. Benning,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2019–28017 Filed 12–27–19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4710–05–P**

**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES  
TRADE REPRESENTATIVE**

[Docket Number USTR–2019–0024]

**Request for Comments Concerning the  
Extension of Particular Exclusions  
Granted Under the March 2019 Product  
Exclusion Notice From the \$34 Billion  
Action Pursuant to Section 301:  
China’s Acts, Policies, and Practices  
Related to Technology Transfer,  
Intellectual Property, and Innovation**

**AGENCY:** Office of the United States Trade Representative.

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

**SUMMARY:** Effective July 6, 2018, the U.S. Trade Representative imposed additional duties on goods of China with an annual trade value of approximately \$34 billion as part of the action in the Section 301 investigation of China’s acts, policies, and practices related to technology transfer, intellectual property, and innovation.

The U.S. Trade Representative initiated the exclusion process in July 2018 and granted multiple sets of exclusions. The second set of exclusions was granted in March 2019, and are scheduled to expire on March 25, 2020. The U.S. Trade Representative has decided to consider a possible extension for up to 12 months of particular exclusions granted in March 2019. The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) invites public comment on whether to extend particular exclusions.

**DATES:** January 15, 2020 at 12:01 a.m. ET: The docket (USTR–2019–0024) will open for submitting comments on the possible extension of particular exclusions.

February 15, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. ET: To be assured of consideration, submit written comments by February 15, 2020.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit public comments through the Federal eRulemaking Portal: <https://www.regulations.gov>. The docket number is USTR–2019–0024. USTR strongly encourages all commenters to use Form A in submitting comments. If applicable, Form B (which requests Business Confidential Information (BCI)), along with a copy of the corresponding Form A, must be submitted via email at [301bcisubmissions@ustr.eop.gov](mailto:301bcisubmissions@ustr.eop.gov). See the submission instructions below.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For questions about this notice, contact USTR Assistant General Counsels Philip Butler or Benjamin Allen at (202) 395–5725.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**A. Background**

For background on the proceedings in this investigation, please see the prior notices issued in the investigation, including 82 FR 40213 (August 23, 2017), 83 FR 14906 (April 6, 2018), 83 FR 28710 (June 20, 2018), 83 FR 40823 (August 16, 2018), 83 FR 47974 (September 21, 2018), 83 FR 65198 (December 19, 2018), 84 FR 7966 (March 5, 2019), 84 FR 20459 (May 9, 2019), 84 FR 43304 (August 20, 2019), and 84 FR 45821 (August 30, 2019).

Effective July 6, 2018, the U.S. Trade Representative imposed additional 25 percent duties on goods of China classified in 818 8-digit subheadings of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS), with an approximate annual trade value of \$34 billion. See 83 FR 28710. The U.S. Trade Representative’s determination included a decision to establish a process by which U.S. stakeholders can request exclusion of particular products classified within an 8-digit HTSUS subheading covered by the \$34 billion