

practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Commission's burden estimates; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Pursuant to the Small Business Paperwork Relief Act of 2002, Public Law 107-198, see 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(4), the FCC seeks specific comment on how it might further reduce the information collection burden for small business concerns with fewer than 25 employees.

OMB Control Number: 3060-1081.

Title: Sections 1.2002, 54.201, 54.202, 54.205, Telecommunications Carriers Eligible for Universal Service Support.

Form Number: N/A.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents and Responses: 24 respondents; 28 responses.

Estimated Time per Response: 1-40 hours.

Obligation to Respond: Required to obtain or retain benefits. Statutory authority is contained in sections 201(b), 214(e)(6), and 303(r) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 201(b), 214(e)(6), 303(r).

Frequency of Response: One-time reporting requirement.

Total Annual Burden: 808 hours.

Total Annual Cost: No cost.

Needs and Uses: Section 254(e) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (Act) provides that "only an ETC designated under section 214(e) shall be eligible to receive specific Federal universal service support."

Section 214(e)(2) of the Act gives state commissions the primary responsibility for performing ETC designations.

Section 214(e)(6) vests the Commission with authority to designate as an ETC "a common carrier providing telephone exchange service and exchange access that is not subject to the jurisdiction of a State commission."

Section 214(e)(4) provides that state commissions, in a case of a common carrier designated under paragraph (2) of this section, or the Commission, in a case of a common carrier designated under paragraph (6) of this section, "shall permit" an ETC to relinquish its designation "in any area served by more than one" ETC so long as "the remaining [ETCs] ensure that all customers served by the relinquishing carrier will continue to be served," and the relinquishing carrier provides

"sufficient notice to permit the purchase or construction of adequate facilities by any remaining eligible telecommunications carrier." The ETC must provide advance notice to the state commission or the Commission.

The Commission's rules for ETC designation require the collection of information specified below, except where the Commission has waived information collection requirements when enforcing them would not serve the public interest.

On October 20, 2023, the Commission adopted the *Connect America Fund et al.*, WC Docket No. 10-90 et al. WT Docket No. 10-208, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Report and Order, FCC 23-87 (Oct. 20, 2023) (*Administrative Order*). In the *Administrative Order*, the Commission modified, in relevant part, section 205 of the Commission's rules, to require an ETC that intends to relinquish its ETC designation to provide: (1) advance notice to the state commission and to the Commission of such intention to relinquish, and (2) notice to the Commission of the state authority's decision to permit or deny such relinquishment, within 10 days of its decision. These filings must be submitted regardless of whether the ETC is currently receiving federal support. The Commission identified its statutory authority to impose these requirements through section 254 of the Act and as reasonably ancillary thereto.

The Commission notes that information collections associated with the Lifeline-only ETC designations and relinquishments are reflected in OMB Control No. 3060-0819.

This information collection addresses the burdens associated with these requirements.

Federal Communications Commission.

Marlene Dortch,

Secretary, Office of the Secretary.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[OMB 3060-1270; FR ID 328112]

Information Collection Being Reviewed by the Federal Communications Commission

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burdens, and as required by the Paperwork Reduction

Act (PRA) of 1995, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or the Commission) invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collection.

Comments are requested concerning: whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; the accuracy of the Commission's burden estimate; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and ways to further reduce the information collection burden on small business concerns with fewer than 25 employees.

The FCC may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number. No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the PRA that does not display a valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number.

DATES: Written PRA comments should be submitted on or before April 6, 2026. If you anticipate that you will be submitting comments, but find it difficult to do so within the period of time allowed by this notice, you should advise the contact listed below as soon as possible.

ADDRESSES: Direct all PRA comments to Nicole Ongele, FCC, via email PRA@fcc.gov and to nicole.ongele@fcc.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information about the information collection, contact Nicole Ongele, (202) 418-2991.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

OMB Control Number: 3060-1270.

Title: Protecting National Security Through FCC Programs.

Form Number: FCC Form 5640.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently-approved collection.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit entities.

Number of Respondents and Responses: 3,500 respondents; 6,584 responses.

Estimated Time per Response: 0.5-12 hours.

Frequency of Response: Annual, semiannual, and recordkeeping requirements.

Obligation to Respond: Mandatory and required to obtain or retain benefits. Statutory authority for this information

collection is contained in 47 U.S.C. 1603–1604.

Total Annual Burden: 20,236 hours.
Total Annual Cost: \$472,500.

Needs and Uses: The

Communications Act of 1934, as amended, requires the “preservation and advancement of universal service.” 47 U.S.C. 254(b). The information collection requirements reported under this collection are the result of the Commission’s actions to promote the Act’s universal service goals.

On November 22, 2019, the Commission adopted the *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs*, WC Docket No. 18–89, Report and Order, Order, and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 34 FCC Rcd 11423 (2019) (*Report and Order*). The *Report and Order* prohibits future use of Universal Service Fund (USF) monies to purchase, maintain, improve, modify, obtain, or otherwise support any equipment or services produced or provided by a company that poses a national security threat to the integrity of communications networks or the communications supply chain.

On March 12, 2020, the President signed into law the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019 (Secure Networks Act), *Public Law 116–124*, 133 Stat. 158 (2020) (codified as amended at 47 U.S.C. 1601–1609), which, among other measures, directs the FCC to establish the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Reimbursement Program (Reimbursement Program). This program is intended to provide funding to providers of advanced communications service for the removal, replacement and disposal of certain communications equipment and services that poses an unacceptable national security risk (*i.e.*, covered equipment and services) from their networks. The Commission has designated two entities—Huawei Technologies Company (Huawei) and ZTE Corporation (ZTE), along with their affiliates, subsidiaries, and parents—as covered companies posing such a national security threat. See *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs—Huawei Designation*, PS Docket No. 19–351, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 35 FCC Rcd 14435 (2020); *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs—ZTE Designation*, PS Docket No. 19–352, Memorandum Opinion and Order, DA 20–1399 (PSHSB rel. Nov. 24, 2020).

On December 10, 2020, the Commission adopted the Second Report

and Order implementing the Secure Networks Act, which contained new information collection requirements. See *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs*, WC Docket No. 18–89, Second Report and Order, 35 FCC Rcd 14284 (2020) (*Second Report and Order*). These requirements allow the Commission to receive, review and make eligibility determinations and funding decisions on applications to participate in the Reimbursement Program that are filed by certain providers of advanced communications service. These information collection requirements also assist the Commission in processing funding disbursement requests and in monitoring and furthering compliance with applicable program requirements to protect against waste, fraud, and abuse. Participation in the Reimbursement Program is voluntary, but compliance with the information collection requirements is required to obtain Reimbursement Program support.

On August 3, 2021, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) released a Public Notice adopting procedures for filing and processing applications submitted for the Reimbursement Program. These procedures largely tracked the procedural rules previously adopted by the Commission in the *Second Report and Order*, but also adopted a new requirement that Reimbursement Program participants notify the Commission of changes in ownership, to ensure accurate information is on file for participants and to help protect the Reimbursement Program against waste, fraud, and abuse.

In 2023, the Bureau updated the submission requirements for FCC Form 5640 by deleting an existing question and adding a new one asking program participants to describe in detail how they have spent Reimbursement Program funds, which allowed the Bureau to satisfy its statutory obligations to collect information about how Reimbursement Program funds have been spent, including detailed accounting of the covered communications equipment and services permanently removed and disposed of, and the replacement equipment or services purchased, rented, leased, or otherwise obtained using Reimbursement Program funds. The Bureau determined that FCC Form 5640 required this revision in order to elicit the information necessary for the Bureau to better satisfy its statutory obligations.

Federal Communications Commission.

Marlene Dortch,

Secretary, Office of the Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

Patient Safety Organizations: Voluntary Relinquishment for the Vizient™ PSO

AGENCY: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice of delisting.

SUMMARY: The Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Final Rule (Patient Safety Rule) authorizes AHRQ, on behalf of the Secretary of HHS, to list as a patient safety organization (PSO) an entity that attests that it meets the statutory and regulatory requirements for listing. A PSO can be “delisted” by the Secretary if it is found to no longer meet the requirements of the Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act of 2005 (Patient Safety Act) and Patient Safety Rule, such as when a PSO chooses to voluntarily relinquish its status as a PSO for any reason or when a PSO’s listing expires. AHRQ accepted a notification of proposed voluntary relinquishment from the Vizient™ PSO, PSO number P0007, of its status as a PSO and has delisted the PSO accordingly.

DATES: The delisting was effective at 12:00 Midnight ET (2400) on January 7, 2026.

ADDRESSES: The directories for both listed and delisted PSOs are ongoing and reviewed weekly by AHRQ. Both directories can be accessed electronically at the following HHS website: <https://www.pso.ahrq.gov/listed>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Cathryn Bach, Center for Quality Improvement and Patient Safety, AHRQ, 5600 Fishers Lane, MS 07N66B, Rockville, MD 20857; Telephone (toll free): (866) 403–3697; Telephone (local): (301) 427–1111; TTY (toll free): (866) 438–7231; TTY (local): (301) 427–1130; Email: psa@ahrq.hhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Patient Safety Act, 42 U.S.C. 299b–21 to 299b–26, and the related Patient Safety Rule, 42 CFR part 3,