

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**Employment and Training
Administration****Proposed Information Collection
Request Submitted for Public
Comment and Recommendations;
Attestations by Employers Using Alien
Crewmembers for Longshore Activities
in U.S. Ports**

AGENCY: Employment and Training
Administration, Labor.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95), 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A). This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the Employment and Training Administration is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension to the collection of information on the Attestation by Employers Using Alien Crewmembers for Longshore Activities in U.S. Ports. A copy of the proposed information collection request (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the addressee section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addressee section below on or before June 8, 1998.

The Department of Labor is particularly interested in comments which:

- Evaluate whether the proposed information collection 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 collections techniques or other forms of information, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

ADDRESSES: Comments and questions regarding the collection of information on Form ETA 9033, Attestation by Employers Using Alien Crewmembers for Longshore Activities in U.S. Ports, should be directed to James Norris, Chief, Division of Foreign Labor Certifications, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Room N-4456, Washington, D.C. 20210 ((202) 219-5263 (this is not a toll-free number)).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. Background**

The information collection is required due to amendments to section 258 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.) (INA). The amendments created a prevailing practice exception to the general prohibition on the performance of longshore work by alien crewmembers in U.S. ports. Under the prevailing practice exception, before any employer may use alien crewmembers to perform longshore activities in U.S. ports, it must submit an attestation to ETA containing the elements prescribed by the INA.

The INA further requires that the Department make available for public examination in Washington, DC, a list of employers which have filed attestations, and for each such employer, a copy of the employer's attestation and accompanying documentation it has received.

II. Current Actions

In order for the Department to meet its statutory responsibilities under the INA there is a need for an extension of an existing collection of information pertaining to employers' seeking to use alien crewmembers to perform longshore activities in U.S. ports.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection without change.

Agency: Employment and Training Administration, Labor.

Title: Attestations by Employers Using Alien Crewmembers for Longshore Activities in U.S. Ports.

OMB Number: 1205-0309.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profit.

Form: Form ETA 9033.

Total Respondents: 1.

Frequency of Response: Annually.

Total Responses: 1.

Average Burden Hours per Response:

4.

Estimate Total Annual Burden Hours:

1.

Because the prevailing practice exception remains in the Statute, ETA is requesting a one-hour marker as a place holder for this collection of information. ETA has not received any attestations under the prevailing practice exception within the last two years. An information collection request will be submitted to increase the burden should activities recommence.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

Signed at Washington D.C. this 30th day of March, 1998.

John R. Beverly III,

Director, U.S. Employment Service.

[FR Doc. 98-9054 Filed 4-6-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-30-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**Employment and Training
Administration****Benefits, Timeliness and Quality Data
Collection System; Comment Request**

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) [44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)]. This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the Employment and Training Administration is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension of the Benefits, Timeliness and Quality (BTQ) data collection system (formerly known as Performance Measurement Review) for Unemployment Insurance (UI). A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the addressee section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addressee section below on or before June 8, 1998.

The Department of Labor is particularly interested in comments which:

- 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 submissions of responses.

ADDRESSES: Leslie Thompson, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room S-4522, Washington, D.C. 20210, (202) 219-5215, ext. 131. (this is not a toll free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The Secretary of Labor has a legal responsibility under the Social Security Act (SSA) Title III, Section 303(a)(1), for reimbursing to State Employment Security Agencies (SESAs) the necessary cost of proper and efficient administration of State UI laws. The BTQ program collects information and analyses data to do this. The BTQ measures have been implemented which look at timeliness and quality of States' performance, various administrative actions and administrative decisions concerning UI benefit operations.

II. Current Actions

Continued collection of data under the BTQ system will provide for a comprehensive evaluation of the overall UI program. The BTQ program has been and will continue to be one of the primary means used by UI Regional and National Office staff to assess performance levels of individual States and as a basis for oversight to discharge the Secretary of Labor's responsibility for determining proper and efficient administration. The SESAs also use the

BTQ measures for their internal program assessment.

Type of Review: Extension.

Agency: Employment and Training Administration.

Title: Benefits, Timeliness and Quality Review.

OMB Number: 1205-0359.

Affected Public: State Government.

Total Respondents: 53.

Frequency: Monthly and Quarterly.

Total Responses: 54,908.

Average Time per Response: 726 hours.

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 38,486 hours.

Total Burden Cost (capital/startup): 0.

Total Burden Cost (operating/maintaining): 0.

Dated: March 31, 1998.

Grace A. Kilbane,

Director, Unemployment Insurance Service.

[FR Doc. 98-9055 Filed 4-6-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-30-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

ETA-9000 Report on Internal Fraud Activities; Comment Request

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 [44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)]. This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the Employment and Training Administration is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension collection of the ETA-9000 Report on Internal Fraud Activities. A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the addressee section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addressee section below on or before June 8, 1998. The Department of Labor is particularly interested in comments which:

- 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 submissions of responses.

ADDRESSES: Harry B. Minor, Unemployment Insurance Service, Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Room S4522, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210, telephone number (202) 219-5211, ext. 108 (this is not a toll-free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The ETA-9000 is the only data source available on instances of internal fraud activities within the Unemployment Insurance (UI) program and on the results of safeguards that have been implemented to deter and detect instances of internal fraud. The report categorizes the major areas susceptible to internal (employee) fraud and provides actual and "estimated" (predictability or cost avoidance measures) workload. The information from this report has been used and will be used to review Internal Security (IS) operations and obtain information on composite shifting patterns of nationwide activity, and effectiveness in the area of internal fraud identification and prevention. Employment and Training Administration has used this report to assess the overall adequacy of internal security procedures in State Employment Security Agency (SESA) UI program administration.

II. Current Actions

Continued collection of the ETA-9000 data will provide for a comprehensive evaluation of the UI IS program. The data is collected annually, and an analysis of the data received is formulated into a report summarizing the internal fraud cases uncovered by the 53 SESAs.