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Signed at Washington, DC this 28th day of May, 1999.

Carl J. Poleskey,

Chief, Branch of Construction Wage Determinations.

[FR Doc. 99-14072 Filed 6-3-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-27-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Bureau of Labor Statistics

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a pre-clearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies 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 Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) is soliciting comments concerning the proposed revision and combination of the "Manual for Developing Local Area Unemployment Statistics" (OMB Number 1220-0017) and the "Local Area Unemployment Statistics Reports" (OMB Number 1220-0043). The two collections are being revised and combined into a single information

collection titled the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) Program, retaining OMB Number 1220-0017.

A copy of the proposed information collection request (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the individual listed below in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addresses section below on or before August 3, 1999. The Bureau of Labor Statistics 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: Send comments to Karin G. Kurz, BLS Clearance Officer, Division of Management Systems, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Room 3255, 2 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., Washington, DC 20212. Ms. Kurz can be reached on 202-606-7628 (this is not a toll free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Bureau of Labor Statistics has been charged by Congress (29 USC Chapters 1 and 2) with the responsibility of collecting and publishing monthly information on employment, the average wage received, and the hours worked by area and industry. The process for developing residency-based employment and unemployment estimates is a cooperative Federal-State program which uses employment and unemployment inputs available in State Employment Security Agencies (SESAs).

The labor force estimates developed and issued in this program are used for economic analysis and as a tool in the implementation of Federal economic policy in such areas as employment and

economic development under the Workforce Investment Act and the Public Works and Economic Development Act, among others.

The estimates also are used in economic analysis by public agencies and private industry, and for State and area funding allocations and eligibility determinations according to legal and administrative requirements. Implementation of current policy and legislative authorities could not be accomplished without collection of the data.

The reports and manual covered by this request are integral parts of the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program insofar as they insure and/or measure the timeliness, quality, consistency, and adherence to program directions of the LAUS estimates and related research.

II. Current Actions

The BLS is revising and combining two previously-separate information collection requests which make up the LAUS program: the Manual for Developing Local Area Unemployment Statistics (OMB Number 1220-0017) and the Local Area Unemployment Statistics Reports (OMB Number 1220-0043).

All aspects of the program now are automated. Exportable software eliminated the need for the Monthly Report on Continued Claimants by Place of Residence (LAUS 6). Electronic transmittals of any corrections to regularly submitted data have eliminated the need to use Monthly and Area Correction Forms (LAUS 13 and 14). The paper forms previously approved, BLS 3040, LAUS 2 and LAUS 3, also have been eliminated. All data are entered directly into BLS-provided systems.

BLS, as part of its responsibility to develop concepts and methods by which SESAs prepare estimates under the LAUS program, developed a manual for use by the SESAs. The manual explains the conceptual framework for the State and area estimates of employment and unemployment, specifies the procedures to be used, and discusses the theoretical and empirical basis for each procedure.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Agency: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Title: Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) Program.

OMB Number: 1220-0017.

Affected Public: State government.

Total Respondents: 52.

Frequency: Monthly and Annually.

Total Responses: 82,718.

Average Time Per Response: 1.60 hours.

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 131,600 hours.

Total Burden Cost (capital/startup): \$0.

Total Burden Cost (operating/maintenance): \$0.

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 also will become a matter of public record.

Signed at Washington, D.C. this 1st day of June 1999.

W. Stuart Rust, Jr.,

*Chief, Division of Management Systems,
Bureau of Labor Statistics.*

[FR Doc. 99-14178 Filed 6-3-99; 8:45 am]

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MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD

Privacy Act of 1974; Proposed New System of Records

AGENCY: Merit Systems Protection Board.

ACTION: Privacy Act of 1974; Notice of new system of records.

SUMMARY: As required by The Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. 552a, the Merit Systems Protection Board (Board) is publishing a notice proposing establishment of a new system of records. This new records system is the Administrative Data System. These records will be used as an internal catalog of organizations, positions, and employees, and to track the status of personnel-related actions.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before July 6, 1999. This system of records becomes effective as proposed, without further notice, on August 3, 1999, unless comments are received which would result in a contrary determination. Comments may be mailed to the Merit Systems Protection Board, Office of the Clerk of the Board, 1120 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20419, or faxed to the same address on 202-653-7130. Electronic mail comments may be sent via the Internet to mspb@mspb.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael H. Hoxie, Office of the Clerk of the Board, 202-653-7200.

Dated: May 28, 1999.

Robert E. Taylor,
Clerk of the Board.

MSPB/INTERNAL-7

SYSTEM NAME:

Administrative Data System.

SYSTEM LOCATION:

Information Resources Management Division, Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB), 1120 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20419.

CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:

Employees of the MSPB.

CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:

The system consists of information about employees of the Board, including: Name, social security number, date of birth, position title, grade, and series, organizational unit, photograph, work telephone number, flexiplace telephone number and work schedule for flexiplace employees. The system will also contain information about certain personnel requests such as: training requests and authorization, awards, and leave requests and authorization.

AUTHORITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE SYSTEM:
5 U.S.C. 1204.

PURPOSE(S):

These records are used by Board officials to prepare requests for personnel actions and related requests such as training or awards. The information in this system will also be used by Board officials to track the status of personnel actions, prepare listings of Board personnel by organization, position and location, and to contact flexiplace employees working away from Board offices regarding Board mission related matters.

ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSE OF SUCH USES:

These records and information in these records may be used:

- a. To provide information to a congressional office from the record of an individual in response to an inquiry from the congressional office made at the request of that individual.
- b. To disclose information to another Federal agency, to a court, or a party in litigation before a court, or in an administrative proceeding being conducted by a Federal agency, either when the Government is a party to a judicial proceeding or in order to comply with the issuance of a subpoena.
- c. To disclose, in response to a request for discovery or for appearance of a

witness, information that is relevant to the subject matter involved in a pending judicial or administrative proceeding.

d. To disclose pertinent information to the appropriate Federal, State, or local agency responsible for investigation, prosecution, enforcement, or implementation of a statute, rule, regulation, or order, where the Board becomes aware of an indication of a violation or potential violation of civil or criminal law or regulation.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORING, RETRIEVING, ACCESSING, RETAINING, AND DISPOSING OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:

STORAGE:

Records are stored in a database on a local area network server with standard password access security.

RETRIEVABILITY:

These records are retrieved by the names of the individuals or whom they are maintained.

SAFEGUARDS:

Access to these records is limited to persons whose official duties require such access. Records are protected from unauthorized access through password identification procedures and other system-based protection methods.

RETENTION AND DISPOSAL:

Records in this system are maintained as long as the individual is an employee of the Board. Expired records will be destroyed by deleting.

SYSTEM MANAGER(S) AND ADDRESS:

Director, Financial and Administrative Management Division, Merit Systems Protection Board, 1120 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20419.

NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE:

Individuals wishing to inquire whether this system of records contains information about them should contact the Clerk of the Board and must follow the MSPB Privacy Act regulations at 5 CFR 1205.11 regarding such inquiries.

RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURES:

Individuals requesting access to their records should contact the Clerk of the Board. Such requests should be addressed to the Clerk of the Board, Merit Systems Protection Board, 1120 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20419. Requests for access to records must follow the MSPB Privacy Act regulations at 5 CFR 1205.11.

CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:

Individuals requesting amendment of records should write the Clerk of the Board. Requests must follow the MSPB