

total number of fully releasable sponsor submissions that will be provided to advisory committees) will be 25. The hours per response is the estimated number of hours that a respondent would spend under the guidance preparing a fully releasable submission in connection with an open advisory committee meeting, including submitting an electronic version of the package. Based on FDA experience and information provided to the agency by the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturing Association (PhRMA), FDA estimates that approximately 700 hours on average would be needed per response. Therefore, FDA estimates that 17,500 hours will be spent per year under the guidance by respondents submitting fully releasable information in connection with open advisory committee meetings.

b. *Submissions that contain material the sponsor asserts is exempt from disclosure.* In calendar year 1998, 30 different sponsors (respondents) submitted background information for open advisory committee meetings regarding the testing or approval of new drugs. CDER expects that annually, approximately the same total number of respondents (i.e., 30 respondents) will submit information for similar open advisory committee meetings. The

procedures for submitting this information that are set forth in the draft guidance document were not in place in calendar year 1998. However, based on CDER's experience with the advisory committee process, and given that the guidance document strongly encourages respondents to submit advisory committee packages that may be publicly disclosed in their entirety, CDER estimates that approximately one-third of the total number of respondents (i.e., 10 respondents) will submit packages that contain material that the sponsor asserts is exempt from disclosure. In calendar year 1998, CDER received a total of 38 submissions from sponsors in connection with open advisory committee meetings. The agency expects that this number will remain the same. However, based on CDER's experience with the advisory committee process, and given that the guidance document strongly encourages respondents to submit advisory committee packages that may be publicly disclosed in their entirety, CDER estimates that approximately one-third of the submissions it receives (i.e., 13 responses) will contain information that the sponsor asserts is exempt from disclosure, averaging 1.3 responses per respondent. Therefore, the total annual

response (i.e., the total number of sponsor submissions that will be provided to advisory committees and that the sponsors assert is exempt from disclosure) is estimated to be 1.3. The hours per response is the estimated number of hours under the guidance that a respondent would spend preparing a submission that contains information that the respondent asserts is exempt from disclosure, including the time FDA expects it will take a sponsor to submit an electronic version of the package and to work with the agency to redact any information that is appropriately exempt from disclosure under the FOIA. Based on FDA experience and information provided to the agency by PhRMA, FDA estimates that approximately 1,400 hours on average would be needed per response. Therefore, FDA estimates that under the guidance, 18,200 hours will be spent per year in connection with open advisory committee meetings by respondents submitting packages that contain information that the respondents assert is exempt from disclosure. The total estimated burden hours under the draft guidance are 35,700.

FDA invites comments on this analysis of information collection burdens.

TABLE 1.—ESTIMATED ANNUAL REPORTING BURDEN¹

| Submissions | No. of Respondents | Number of Responses per Respondent | Total Annual Responses | Hours per Response | Total Hours |
|--|--------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Fully releasable submissions | 20 | 1.25 | 25 | 700 | 17,500 |
| Submissions that contain material that is claimed to be exempt from disclosure | 10 | 1.3 | 13 | 1,400 | 18,200 |
| Total | 30 | | 38 | | 35,700 |

¹There are no capital costs or operating and maintenance costs associated with this collection of information.

In compliance with section 3507(d) of the PRA (44 U.S.C. 3507(d)), the agency has submitted the information collection provisions of this draft guidance to OMB for review. Interested persons are requested to send comments on this information collection by February 22, 2000, to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, OMB, New Executive Office Bldg., 725 17th St. NW., rm. 10235, Washington, DC 20503, Attn: Desk Officer for FDA.

Dated: December 15, 1999.

Margaret M. Dotzel,
Acting Associate Commissioner for Policy.
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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Care Financing Administration

[Document Identifier: HCFA-0588]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Health Care Financing Administration, HHS.

In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), Department of Health and Human Services, is publishing the following summary of proposed collections for public comment. Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding this burden

estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including any of the following subjects: (1) The necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

Type of Information Collection Request: Revision of a currently Approved collection; *Title of Information Collection:* Authorization agreement for electronic forms transfer; *Form No.:* HCFA-0588 (OMB# 0938-0626); *Use:* The information is needed

to allow providers to receive funds electronically in their bank accounts; *Frequency*: On occasion; *Affected Public*: Business or other for-profit, not-for-profit institutions; *Number of Respondents*: 10,000; *Total Annual Responses*: 10,000; *Total Annual Hours*: 1,250.

To obtain copies of the supporting statement and any related forms for the proposed paperwork collections referenced above, access HCFA's Web Site address at <http://www.hcfa.gov/regs/prdact95.htm>, or E-mail your request, including your address, phone number, OMB number, and HCFA document identifier, to Paperwork@hcfa.gov, or call the Reports Clearance Office on (410) 786-1326. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collections must be mailed within 60 days of this notice directly to the HCFA Paperwork Clearance Officer designated at the following address: HCFA, Office of Information Services, Security and Standards Group, Division of HCFA Enterprise Standards, Attention: Julie Brown, Room N2-14-26, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850.

Dated: December 13, 1999.

John Parmigiani,

Manager, HCFA Office of Information Services, Security and Standards Group, Division of HCFA Enterprise Standards.

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DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-4442-N-15]

Notice of Proposed Information Collection for Public Comment: Assessment of the American Housing Survey Metropolitan Sample

AGENCY: Office of Policy Development and Research, HUD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The proposed information collection requirement described below will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act. The Department is soliciting public comments on the subject proposal.

DATES: *Comments Due Date*: February 22, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this proposal. Comments should refer to the proposal by name and/or OMB Control Number and should be sent to:

Reports Liaison Officer, Office of Policy Development and Research, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street, SW, Rm. 8226, Washington, DC 20410.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

David A. Vandenbroucke, Office of Policy Development and Research, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street SW, Room 8218, Washington, DC 20410, telephone (202) 708-1060 (Ext. 5890 (this is not a toll-free number)). A copy of the proposed forms and other available documents to be submitted to OMB may be obtained from Mr. Vandenbroucke.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department will submit the proposed information collection to OMB for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended).

This Notice is soliciting comments from members of the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information to: (1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) Enhance the quality, utility; and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond; including the use of appropriate automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

This Notice also lists the following information:

Title of Proposal: Assessment of the American Housing Survey Metropolitan Sample.

Description of the need for the information and proposed use: HUD is seeking to better understand how the American Housing Survey Metropolitan Sample (AHS-MS) data is used, and by whom. The information collected will enable the Office of Policy Development and Research to balance geographic coverage, timeliness, and cost considerations in designing the surveys, in order to develop an optimal data set for use by HUD, public agencies, education institutions, nonprofits, planners, and other interested organizations. The information collection intends to address these questions: (1) What is the current usefulness of the AHS-MS? (2) What potential additional uses does the AHS-MS have? (3) What steps can we take to achieve the survey's potential? (4) What

changes in the AHS-MS would make it more useful?

Agency Form Numbers, if Applicable: None.

Members of the affected public: Users and potential users of the AHS-MS, including academic researchers, local government workers, and private sector research workers.

Estimation of the total number of hours needed to prepare the information collection including number of respondents, frequency of response, and hours of response: The estimated number of respondents is 200. The frequency of response is 1 per respondent. The time per respondent is 10 minutes. The total hours to respond is 33.

Status of proposed information collection: Pending OMB approval.

Authority: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended.

Dated: December 3, 1999.

Lawrence L. Thompson,
Deputy Assistant, Secretary for Policy Development.

[FR Doc. 99-33109 Filed 12-21-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-4434-N-06]

Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998; PIH Policy for Dealing With FY 1997 and Prior FY Unobligated Modernization Funds

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing (PIH), HUD.

ACTION: Notice of PIH Policy for dealing with FY 1997 and prior unobligated funds.

SUMMARY: This notice provides the public with information on how HUD will deal with public housing agencies (PHAs) with FY 1997 and prior unobligated modernization funds in violation of the Public Housing Reform Act.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

William Flood, Director, Office of Capital Improvements, Public and Indian Housing, Room 4134, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20410-0500; telephone (202) 708-1640 ext. 4185 (this telephone number is not toll-free). Hearing or speech-impaired individuals may access this number via TTY by calling the toll-free federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339. Program specialists