

Dated: March 16, 2005.

**John P. Burke, III,**

*CMS Paperwork Reduction Act Reports Clearance Officer, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs, Regulations Development Group.*

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**BILLING CODE 4120-03-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Administration for Children and Families**

**Proposed Information Collection Activity; Comment Request**

*Proposed Projects:* Grants to States for Family Violence Prevention and

Services, Grants to Native American Tribes and Alaskan Native Villages, Grants to State Domestic Violence Coalitions.

*Title:* Grants for Battered Women's Shelters.

*OMB No.:* 0970-0274.

*Description:* This information collection is authorized under Title III of the Child Abuse Amendments of 1984, Public Law 98-457, as amended. In response to the program announcements, the respondents submit information about their service programs and their eligibility. Information that is collected is used to award grants under the Family Violence Prevention and Services/Grants for Battered Women's Shelters Program.

*Respondents:* State agencies administering the Family Violence Prevention and Services program; Native American Tribes and Tribal Organizations administering the Family Violence Prevention and Services program; and state domestic violence coalitions administering the Family Violence Prevention and Services program.

**ANNUAL BURDEN ESTIMATES**

| Instrument                         | Number of respondents | Number of responses per respondent | Average burden hours per response | Total burden hours |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| State FV Agencies .....            | 53                    | 1                                  | 6                                 | 318                |
| Tribes and Alaskan Villages .....  | 180                   | 1                                  | 6                                 | 1,080              |
| Domestic Violence Coalitions ..... | 53                    | 1                                  | 6                                 | 318                |

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 1,716.

In compliance with the requirements of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Administration for Children and Families in soliciting public comment on the specific aspects of the information collection described above. Copies of the proposed collection of information can be obtained and comments may be forwarded by writing to the Administration for Children and Families, Office of Administration, Office of Information Services, 370 L'Enfant Promenade, SW., Washington, DC 20447, Attn: ACF Reports Clearance Officer. E-mail address: [grjohnson@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:grjohnson@acf.hhs.gov). All requests should be identified by the title of the information collection.

The Department specifically requests comments on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions submitted within 60 days of this publication.

Dated: March 14, 2005.

**Robert Sargis,**

*Reports Clearance Officer.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Administration for Children and Families**

**Proposed Information Collection Activity; Comment Request**

*Proposed Projects:*

*Title:* Data Collection for the Fourth National Incidence Study of Child Abuse and Neglect.

*OMB No.:* New collection.

*Description:* The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) intends to collect data for the next National Incidence Study of Child Abuse and Neglect (NIS). This will be the fourth cycle of this periodic study. NIS-1, mandated under Public Law (Pub. L.) 93-247 (1974), was conducted in 1979 and 1980, and reported in 1981. NIS-2, mandated under (Pub. L.) 100-294 and the Child Abuse, Domestic Violence, Adoption, and Family Services Act of 1992 (Pub. L.) 102-295, was conducted between 1993 and 1995,

and reported in 1996. NIS-4, mandated by the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003 (Pub. L.) 108-36, will gather data in 2005 and 2006, and be reported in 2008.

NIS is unique in that it goes beyond the abused and neglected children who come to the attention of the Child Protective Services (CPS) system. In contrast to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data Systems (NCANDS), which rely solely on reported cases, the NIS design assumes that reported children represent only a portion of the children who actually are maltreated. NIS estimates the scope of the maltreated child population by combining information about reported cases with data on maltreated children identified by professionals (called "sentinels") who encounter them during the normal course of their work in a wide range of agencies in representative communities. Sentinels are asked to remain on the lookout for children whom they believe are maltreated during the study reference period and to provide information about these children.

Children identified by sentinels and those whose alleged maltreatment is investigated by CPS during the same period are evaluated against standardized definitions, and only children who meet the study standards are used to develop the study estimates. The study estimates are couched in