

1995; (ii) to comply with requirements not associated with the information collection; (iii) for reasons other than to provide information or keep records for the Government; or (iv) as part of customary and usual business or private practices.

We will summarize written responses to this notice and address them in our submission for OMB approval. As a result of your comments, we will make any necessary adjustments to the burden in our submission to OMB.

Public Comment Procedure: MMS's practice is to make comments, including names and addresses of respondents, available for public review. If you wish your name and/or address to be withheld, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. MMS will honor this request to the extent allowable by law; however, anonymous comments will not be considered. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

MMS Information Collection Clearance Officer: Arlene Bajusz (202) 208-7744.

Dated: May 19, 2005.

William Hauser,

Chief, Regulations and Standards Branch.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of Disability Employment Policy; 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 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 Office of Disability Employment Policy is soliciting

comments concerning the proposed new collection of the data contained in the nomination packet for the Department of Labor's Inaugural New Freedom Initiative Award. A copy of the proposed information collection request (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the office 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 July 25, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments to Lisa Lahrman, Office of Disability Employment, United States Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Room S-1303, Washington, DC 20210, (202) 693-7880 (this is not a toll free number), Internet Address: *lahrman-lisa@dol.gov*, and FAX: (202) 693-7888.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lisa Lahrman, tel. (202) 693-7880. This is not a toll free number.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

This collection of information (solicitation of nominations to receive an award) is planned to honor individuals, corporations and non-profit organizations which have been exemplary in furthering the employment-related objectives of President George W. Bush's New Freedom Initiative. The New Freedom Initiative reflects the Administration's commitment to increasing development and access to assistive and universally designed technologies, expanding educational opportunities, further integrating Americans with disabilities into the workforce, and helping to remove barriers to their full participation in community life. Legal authority for this collection can be found in both the New Freedom itself, and by Pub. L. 106-554, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2001 which established the Office of Disability Employment Policy within the Department of Labor to bring a heightened and permanent focus on increasing the employment of persons with disabilities.

II. Review Focus

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.

III. Current Actions

To support ODEP's mission and recognize the employment of people with disabilities as an Administration priority, the Department of Labor is initiating the Inaugural New Freedom Initiative Award program. This award will be presented annually by the Secretary of Labor to honor individuals, corporations, and non-profit organizations which have been exemplary in furthering the employment related objectives of President George W. Bush's New Freedom Initiative.

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

Agency: Office of Disability Employment Policy.

Title: Inaugural New Freedom Initiative.

OMB Number: 1230-0002.

Affected Public: Individuals, businesses, non-profit organizations, and the federal government.

Total Respondents: 100.

Frequency: Annually.

Total Responses: 100.

Average Time per Response: 10 hours.

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 1,000 Burden Hours.

Comments submitted in response to this comment request 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.

Dated: May 18, 2005.

Lisa Lahrman,

Supervisory Program Specialist, Office of Disability Employment Policy.

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