

By:

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## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Office of the Secretary

#### Bureau of International Labor Affairs; Office of Trade and Labor Affairs; National Advisory Committee for Labor Provisions of U.S. Free Trade Agreements; Notice of Open Meeting

**AGENCY:** Bureau of International Labor Affairs, U.S. Department of Labor.

**ACTION:** Notice of Open Meeting, October 13, 2011.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C. app. 2, the Office of Trade and Labor Affairs (OTLA) gives notice of a meeting of the National Advisory Committee for Labor Provisions of U.S. Free Trade Agreements ("Committee" or "NAC"), which was established by the Secretary of Labor.

During the inaugural meeting of the NAC on August 25, 2011, a Sub-Committee was established to provide recommendations on how the United States can facilitate full implementation of the recommendations contained in the White Paper of the Working Group of the Vice Ministers Responsible for Trade and Labor in the Countries of Central America and the Dominican Republic. The purpose of the meeting is to present the recommendations developed by the Sub-Committee to the entire Committee. The Committee will review, discuss and finalize a set of recommendations for the Secretary of Labor through the Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB) that will be included in the second Biennial CAFTA-DR Report to Congress.

**DATES:** The Committee will meet on Thursday, October 13, 2011 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The Committee will meet at the U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Deputy Undersecretary's Conference Room, Washington, DC 20210. Mail comments, views, or statements in response to this notice to Paula Church Albertson, Office of Trade and Labor Affairs, ILAB, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution

Avenue, NW., Room S-5004, Washington, DC 20210; phone (202) 693-4789; fax (202) 693-4784.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Paula Church Albertson, Designated Federal Officer, Office of Trade and Labor Affairs, Bureau of International Labor Affairs, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Room S-5004, Washington, DC 20210; phone (202) 693-4789 (this is not a toll free number). Individuals with disabilities wishing to attend the meeting should contact Ms. Albertson no later than October 6, 2011, to obtain appropriate accommodations.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** NAC meetings are open to the public on a first-come, first-served basis, as seating is limited. Attendees must present valid identification and will be subject to security screening to access the Department of Labor for the meeting.

*Agenda:* The NAC agenda will include a report from the Subcommittee that developed "Recommendations on how the United States can facilitate full implementation of the recommendations contained in the White Paper," as well as deliberations on or discussions of that report.

*Public Participation:* Written data, views, or comments for consideration by the NAC on the agenda listed above should be submitted to Paula Church Albertson at the address listed above. Submissions received by October 6, 2011, will be provided to Committee members and will be included in the record of the meeting. Requests to make oral presentations to the Committee may be granted as time permits.

Signed at Washington, DC, the 22nd day of September 2011.

**Carol Pier,**

*Associate Deputy Undersecretary for International Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 2011-24902 Filed 9-26-11; 8:45 am]

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## 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 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. The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension of the "Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) Program." 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 of this notice on or before November 28, 2011.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to Carol Rowan, BLS Clearance Officer, Division of Management Systems, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Room 4080, 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE., Washington, DC 20212. Written comments also may be transmitted by fax to 202-691-5111 (this is not a toll free number).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Carol Rowan, BLS Clearance Officer, at 202-691-7628 (this is not a toll free number). (See **ADDRESSES** section.)

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background

The BLS has been charged by Congress (29 U.S.C. Sections 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 Workforce Agencies.

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 LAUS program insofar as they insure and measure the timeliness, quality, consistency, and adherence to program directions of the LAUS estimates and related research.

**II. Current Action**

Office of Management and Budget clearance is being sought for an extension of the information collection request that makes up the LAUS program. All aspects of the information collection are conducted electronically. All data are entered directly into BLS-provided systems.

The BLS, as part of its responsibility to develop concepts and methods by which States prepare estimates under the LAUS program, developed a manual for use by the States. The manual explains the conceptual framework for

the State and area estimates of employment and unemployment, specifies the procedures to be used, provides input information, and discusses the theoretical and empirical basis for each procedure. This manual is updated on a regular schedule. The LAUS program implemented a major program redesign in January 2005. The Redesign was announced in the **Federal Register** on November 8, 2004.

**III. Desired Focus of Comments**

The Bureau of Labor Statistics is particularly interested in comments that:

- 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.
- 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.

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

*Agency:* Bureau of Labor Statistics.

*Title:* Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) Program.

*OMB Number:* 1220-0017.

*Affected Public:* State governments.

	Total respondents	Frequency	Total responses	Average time per response (hours)	Estimated total burden (hours)
LAUS 3040 .....	52 respondents with 7320 reporting units .....	13	95,160	1.5	142,740
LAUS 8 .....	52 .....	11	572	1	572
LAUS 15 .....	6 .....	1	6	2	12
LAUS 16 .....	52 .....	1	52	1	52
Totals .....	.....	.....	95,790	.....	143,376

*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, DC, this 21st day of September 2011.

**Kimberley Hill,**

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

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**BILLING CODE 4510-24-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**

**Mine Safety and Health Administration**

**Petitions for Modification of Application of Existing Mandatory Safety Standards**

**AGENCY:** Mine Safety and Health Administration, Labor.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Section 101(c) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 and 30 CFR part 44 govern the application, processing, and disposition of petitions for modification. This notice is a summary of petitions for modification submitted to the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) by the parties listed below to modify the application of existing mandatory safety standards codified in Title 30 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

**DATES:** All comments on the petitions must be received by the Office of Standards, Regulations and Variances on or before October 27, 2011.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit your comments, identified by "docket number" on the subject line, by any of the following methods:

1. *Electronic Mail:* [zzMSHA-comments@dol.gov](mailto:zzMSHA-comments@dol.gov). Include the docket number of the petition in the subject line of the message.
2. *Facsimile:* 202-693-9441.
3. *Regular Mail:* MSHA, Office of Standards, Regulations and Variances, 1100 Wilson Boulevard, Room 2350, Arlington, Virginia 22209-3939, Attention: Roslyn B. Fontaine, Acting

Director, Office of Standards, Regulations and Variances.

4. *Hand-Delivery or Courier:* MSHA, Office of Standards, Regulations and Variances, 1100 Wilson Boulevard, Room 2350, Arlington, Virginia 22209-3939, Attention: Roslyn B. Fontaine, Acting Director, Office of Standards, Regulations and Variances.

MSHA will consider only comments postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or proof of delivery from another delivery service such as UPS or Federal Express on or before the deadline for comments. Individuals who submit comments by hand-delivery are required to check in at the receptionist's desk on the 21st floor.

Individuals may inspect copies of the petitions and comments during normal business hours at the address listed above.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Barbara Barron, Office of Standards, Regulations and Variances at 202-693-9447 (Voice), [barron.barbara@dol.gov](mailto:barron.barbara@dol.gov) (E-mail), or 202-693-9441 (Facsimile). [These are not toll-free numbers].

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**