

public health emergency, the Department would apply relevant factors in the determination and seek public comments before finalizing the threshold)?

*Question (3)(d):* What factors should be considered when the Department determines whether the amount of government financial assistance provided to an airline or ticket agent is “significant”? Is it reasonable to consider the size of the entity (annual enplanements for airlines, annual revenue and the number of employees for airlines and ticket agents), year-over-year comparison of traffic and revenue before and after the declaration of the public health emergency, the amount of government financial assistance accepted in relation to the entity’s annual revenue? Is it reasonable to also consider a foreign carrier’s annual enplanement to and from the United States in addition to total enplanement globally? What other considerations are relevant in this determination? Should there be different standards for airlines and for ticket agents?

*Question (3)(e):* Is it reasonable to require consumers, who have not already requested a travel credit or voucher, to make a refund request from the airlines or ticket agents within 12 months after a determination has been made by the Department that the airline or ticket agent has received “significant” government financial assistance?

At the August meeting, individual members of the public will have an opportunity to make remarks. However, depending on the volume of requests for oral comments that we receive and the time available, we may not be able to hear from everyone who submitted a request. Any oral comments presented must be limited to the objectives of the committee and will be limited to three (3) minutes per person. Individual members of the public who wish to present oral comments must notify the Department of Transportation, no later than Monday, August 15, 2022, via email at [ACPAC\\_08.22.2022@dot.gov](mailto:ACPAC_08.22.2022@dot.gov) that they wish to present oral comments. The email should (1) identify (by the question number as listed in this Notice) the specific question(s) on which you wish to provide comments; (2) state the organization or entity you are representing or that you are speaking as a member of the public; and (3) provide a written summary of the oral comments you wish to present at the meeting on the question(s). Due to the limited time during the meeting, the Department will review all speaking request submissions and notify those who are selected to

speak in advance of the meeting. If there is an interest in addressing a question not identified in this Notice but related to airline ticket refunds, please identify that topic in your request. All prepared remarks submitted on time will be accepted and considered as part of the meeting’s record.

Members of the public who do not wish to speak at the meeting but have comments that are specifically directed to the ACPAC members for consideration may submit their written comments electronically at any time prior to August 19, 2022, to the ACPAC Docket (DOT–OST–2018–0190). In addition, any substantive comments on the NPRM to be considered by the Department in the rulemaking should be submitted into the NPRM Docket (DOT–OST–2022–0089) directly.

#### IV. Viewing Documents

Documents associated with the ACPAC may be accessed in the ACPAC Docket (DOT–OST–2018–0190). Documents associated with the NPRM on Airline Ticket Refunds and Consumer Protections may be accessed in the rulemaking Docket (DOT–OST–2022–0089). Dockets may be accessed at <https://www.regulations.gov>. After entering the relevant docket number click the link to “Open Docket Folder” and choose the document to review.

Signed in Washington, DC, on this 2nd day of August 2022.

**John E. Putnam,**  
General Counsel.

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BILLING CODE 4910–9X–P

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Internal Revenue Service

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Affordable Care Act Internal Claims and Appeals and External Review Disclosures

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Internal Revenue Service, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The IRS is soliciting comments concerning the Affordable Care Act internal claims and appeals and external review disclosures.

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before October 3, 2022 to be assured of consideration

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Andres Garcia, Internal Revenue Service, Room 6526, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20224, or by email to [pra.comments@irs.gov](mailto:pra.comments@irs.gov). Include OMB control number 1545–2182 or Affordable Care Act Internal Claims and Appeals and External review Disclosures, in the subject line of the message.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the form should be directed to Kerry Dennis at (202) 317–5751, or at Internal Revenue Service, Room 6526, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington DC 20224, or through the internet, at [Kerry.L.Dennis@irs.gov](mailto:Kerry.L.Dennis@irs.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* Affordable Care Act Internal Claims and Appeals and External review Disclosures.

*OMB Number:* 1545–2182.

*Regulation Number:* T.D. 9494 and T.D. 9955.

*Abstract:* This collection of information request includes the information collection and third-party notice and disclosure requirements that a plan must satisfy under final regulations implementing provisions of the Affordable Care Act pertaining to internal claims and appeals, and the external review process. The No Surprise Act extends the balance billing protections related to external reviews to grandfathered plans. The definitions of group health plan and health insurance issuer that are cited in section 110 of the No Surprises Act include both grandfathered and non-grandfathered plans and coverage. Accordingly, the practical effect of section 110 of the No Surprises Act is that grandfathered health plans must provide external review for adverse benefit determinations involving benefits subject to these surprise billing protections. Grandfathered and non-grandfathered plans must provide claimants, free of charge, any new or additional evidence considered, relied upon, or generated by the plan or issuer in connection with the claim, and the requirement to comply either with a State external review process or a Federal review process. The disclosure requirements of the Federal external review process require (1) a preliminary review by plans of requests for external appeals; (2) Independent Review Organizations (IROs) to notify claimants of eligibility and acceptance for external review; (3) the plan or issuer to provide IROs with documentation and other

information considered in making adverse benefit determination; (4) the IRO to forward to the plan or issuer any information submitted by the claimant; (5) plans to notify the claimant and IRO if it reverses its decision; (6) the IRO to notify the claimant and plan of the result of the final external appeal; (7) the IRO to maintain records for six years.

*Current Actions:* There is a change to the paperwork burden previously approved by OMB. Adjustments to the burden estimates result from updated estimates on the number of ERISA-covered plans and policyholders.

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

*Affected Public:* Businesses or other for-profits, Not-for-profit institutions.

### Group Health Plans Internal Claims and Appeals and External Review Processes

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 314,560.

*Estimated Time per Respondent:* .5 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 14,432 hours.

### Procedures for Federal External Review and Model Notices Relating to Internal Claims and Appeals and External Review Under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 76,014.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* .4 hours.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 4,615.

*Total Estimated Time per Respondent:* 390,574.

*Total Estimated Annual Burden Hours:* 19,047 hours.

The following paragraph applies to all the collections of information covered by this notice.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained if their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

*Request for Comments:* Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) whether the 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 collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (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; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: August 2, 2022.

**Kerry L. Dennis,**

*Tax Analyst.*

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**BILLING CODE 4830-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Financial Research Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** Office of Financial Research, Treasury.

**ACTION:** Financial Research Advisory Committee-Solicitation of applications for committee membership.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of Financial Research is soliciting applications for membership on its Financial Research Advisory Committee.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Melissa Avstreich, Designated Federal Officer, Office of Financial Research, Department of The Treasury, (202) 425-2483.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, (Pub. L. 92-463, 5 U.S.C. app. 2 1-16, as amended), the Treasury Department established a Financial Research Advisory Committee (FRAC, or Committee) to provide advice and recommendations to the Office of Financial Research (OFR) and to assist the OFR in carrying out its duties and authorities.

#### (I) Authorities of the OFR

##### *Background*

The OFR was established under Title I of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Pub. L. 111-203, July 21, 2010). The purpose of the OFR is to support the Financial Stability Oversight Council (Council) in fulfilling the purposes and duties of the Council and to support the Council's member agencies by:

- Collecting data on behalf of the Council, and providing such data to the Council and member agencies;
- Standardizing the types and formats of data reported and collected;
- Performing applied research and essential long-term research;
- Developing tools for risk measurement and monitoring;
- Performing other related services;
- Making the results of the activities of the OFR available to financial regulatory agencies; and
- Assisting such member agencies in determining the types and formats of data authorized by the Dodd-Frank Act to be collected by such member agencies.

#### (II) Scope and Membership of the FRAC

The FRAC was established to advise the OFR on issues related to the responsibilities of the office. It may provide its advice, recommendations, analysis, and information directly to the OFR and the OFR may share the Committee's advice and recommendations with the Secretary of the Treasury or other Treasury officials. The OFR will share information with the Committee as the OFR Director determines will be helpful in allowing the FRAC to carry out its role.

The FRAC is an advisory committee that was originally established on April 6, 2012. Its charter was renewed several times, most recently on January 26, 2022. The OFR is currently soliciting applications for membership in order to provide for rotation of membership, as provided in its original and current charter, as well as to provide for a diverse and balanced body with a variety of interests, backgrounds, and viewpoints represented. Providing for such diversity enhances the views and advice offered by the FRAC.

#### (II) Application for Advisory Committee Appointment

Treasury seeks applications from individuals representative of a constituency within the fields of economics, financial institutions and markets, statistical analysis, financial markets analysis, econometrics, applied sciences, risk management, data management, information standards, technology, or other areas related to OFR's duties and authorities. The terms of members chosen to serve are typically three years. No member of the Committee serving in their individual capacity (as opposed to those members specifically appointed to represent the interests of a nongovernmental entity, a recognizable group of persons, or nongovernmental entities) may be a Federally-registered lobbyist.