

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Reinstatement

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and reinstatement under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13. Comments are requested regarding: whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to 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. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received by January 25, 2024. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it

displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Agricultural Marketing Service

Title: Fruit Crops.

OMB Control Number: 0581–0189.

Summary of Collection: Marketing orders and marketing agreements are authorized by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 (7 U.S.C. 601–674; Act). This legislation permits the regulation of certain agricultural commodities for the purpose of providing orderly marketing conditions in interstate and intrastate commerce and improving returns to producers. The Act provides in section 608(d)(1) that information necessary to determine the extent to which an order has effectuated the declared policy of the Act shall be furnished at the request of the Secretary of Agriculture (Secretary). Marketing orders and marketing agreements become effective only after public hearings are held in accordance with formal rulemaking procedures specified by the Act. The Federal programs can authorize the issuance of grade, size, quality, maturity and inspection requirements; pack and container requirements; and pooling and volume regulations. Some provide authority for research and development, including paid advertising. Pursuant to section 608(e)(1) of the Act, certain grade and condition requirements are imposed on 14 commodities imported into the United States for which Orders regulate domestic production.

Need and Use of the Information: The information collection requirements in this request are essential to carry out the intent of the Act, to provide the respondents the type of service they request, and to administer the marketing orders. The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) requires several forms to be filed to enable the administration of each marketing order. These include forms covering the selection process for industry members to serve on a marketing order's committee or board and ballots used in referenda to amend or continue marketing orders. If this information collection was not conducted, not only would the Secretary lose his ability to administer the marketing orders, but the respective committees also would have no way of monitoring industry compliance with their respective marketing order and agreement. They would also not be able to determine the assessments due from

industry handlers and growers, which would negatively impact any market research and promotion activities.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit; Farms.

Number of Respondents: 21,858.

Frequency of Responses:

Recordkeeping; Reporting; on occasion, Quarterly; Biennially; Weekly; Semi-annually; Monthly; Annually.

Total Burden Hours: 6,595.

Levi S. Harrell,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2023–28379 Filed 12–22–23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13. Comments are requested regarding: whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to 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.

Comments regarding this information collection received by January 25, 2024 will be considered. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information

displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Food and Nutrition Service

Title: Assessment of Mobile Technologies for Using Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Benefits.

OMB Control Number: 0584–NEW.

Summary of Collection: The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) provides monthly benefits to low-income households to reduce food insecurity and improve health and well-being. Benefits are delivered via electronic benefit transfer (EBT), which is accepted at more than 250,000 authorized retailers nationwide. For nearly two decades, SNAP participants have used EBT in person at retailers, where they swipe their card at checkout using a point of sale (POS) terminal and enter their personal identification number (PIN) to pay for their purchases.

The Agricultural Act of 2018 (2018 Farm Bill) authorized the use of mobile payments from devices like cell phones, tablets, and smart watches, as an alternate option to a physical electronic benefit transfer (EBT) card to conduct a SNAP transaction. This authorization was subject to the result of five mobile payment pilot projects. Mobile payments may improve the customer experience; save participant and retailer time; reduce potential stigma of using EBT; reduce costs; and prevent benefit fraud, loss, or theft.

Need and Use of the Information: The Mobile Payment Pilot Evaluation will assess the effects of the pilots, using information obtained from FNS, selected State SNAP agencies, retailers, and SNAP participants. The evaluation has four objectives: (1) assessing the implementation of the pilots, (2) examining the adoption and use of mobile technologies, (3) understanding implications for program integrity, and (4) assessing replicability and costs. In each of the five sites, the evaluation will conduct three rounds of semi-structured interviews with State SNAP agencies, EBT processors, retailers, and other partners. Interviews will occur during the pilot planning period and once the pilots are implemented, and will collect information about the pilot design and implementation.

Description of Respondents: State and Local Government, Individuals and

Households, Businesses or other For-Profit and Not-for-Profit.

Number of Respondents: 33,746.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Once.

Total Burden Hours: 8,726.87.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2023–28334 Filed 12–22–23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–30–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Foreign Agricultural Service

Notice of Solicitation for the Agricultural Policy Advisory Committee (APAC) and the Related Agricultural Technical Advisory Committees (ATACs) for Trade and Continuation of Requests for Nominations for the Agricultural Trade Advisory Committees

AGENCY: Foreign Agricultural Service, Department of Agriculture.

ACTION: Solicit for nominations.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 135 of the Trade Act of 1974 and the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, notice is hereby given that the Secretary of Agriculture (Secretary), in coordination with the United States Trade Representative (Trade Representative or USTR), is soliciting nominations for the Agricultural Policy Advisory Committee (APAC) and the related Agricultural Technical Advisory Committees (ATACs) for Trade to provide detailed policy and technical advice, information, and recommendations regarding trade barriers, negotiation of trade agreements, and implementation of existing trade agreements affecting food and agricultural products, including the performance of other advisory functions relevant to U.S. agricultural trade policy matters. The Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) continues to welcome nominations for persons to serve on APAC and ATACs. The APAC and ATACs charters were renewed on June 13, 2023, and the committees are in the public interest in connection with the duties of USDA imposed by the Trade Act of 1974, as amended.

DATES: We will accept nominations for membership on the APAC and six ATACs until January 31, 2024, for the July 2024–2028 term. New applicants are considered approximately every 12–18 months.

ADDRESSES: Electronic copies of the nomination materials should be sent to ATACs@usda.gov.

All nomination materials may also be mailed in a single, complete package to: Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Room 200A Jamie L. Whitten Building, Washington, DC 20250–1001, Attn: APAC/ATACs.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Darlene Maginnis, Group Federal Officer, Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture at 202–868–7059; or by email at ATACs@usda.gov. You can find additional information about the APAC and ATACs on the Foreign Agricultural Service website at www.fas.usda.gov/atacs.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Pursuant to Section 135 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2155 (c)) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, (5 U.S.C. 10), notice is hereby given that the Secretary of Agriculture (Secretary), in coordination with the United States Trade Representative (Trade Representative or USTR), is soliciting nominations for the Agricultural Policy Advisory Committee (APAC) and the related Agricultural Technical Advisory Committees (ATACs) for Trade. In 1974, Congress established a private-sector advisory committee system to ensure that U.S. trade policy and negotiation objectives adequately reflect U.S. commercial and economic interests.

As provided for in the law and their charters, the APAC has the following responsibilities:

(A) The Committee will advise, consult with, and make recommendations to the Secretary and Trade Representative concerning the trade policy of the United States and the matters arising in the administration of such policy; (B) The Committee will provide information and advice regarding the following: negotiating objectives and bargaining positions of the United States before the United States enters into trade agreements, the operation of any trade agreement once entered into, and matters arising in connection with the administration of the trade policy of the United States; and (C) The Committee will furnish such other advisory opinions and reports as the Secretary and Trade Representative deem necessary; and the ATACs have similar responsibilities:

General Committee Information

Each committee has a chairperson, who is elected from the membership of that committee. Committees meet as needed, and all committee meetings are