

- 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 submission of responses.

Agency: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Title: The Consumer Expenditure Surveys: The Quarterly Interview and the Diary.

OMB Number: 1220-0050.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Type of Response: Recordkeeping and Reporting.

Frequency: Quarterly; Weekly; and Annually.

Number of Respondents: 17,374.

| Information collection                           | Annual responses | Average response time (hours) | Annual burden hours |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| CE Quarterly Interview CAPI Instrument .....     | 38,516           | 1.5                           | 57,774              |
| Quarterly Interview Re-interview .....           | 2,118            | 0.25                          | 530                 |
| CD Diary: CE-801, Record of Daily Expenses ..... | 15,490           | 1.75                          | 27,108              |
| CE Diary: CE-802 Household Questionnaire .....   | 23,235           | 0.42                          | 9,681               |
| CE Diary Re-interview, CE-880, CE-880(N) .....   | 1,293            | 0.20                          | 259                 |
| Totals .....                                     | 80,652           | .....                         | 95,352              |

Total Annualized Capital/Startup Costs: \$0.

Total Annual Costs (operating/maintaining systems or purchasing services): \$0.

Description: The Consumer Expenditure Surveys are used to gather information on expenditures, income, and other related subjects. These data are used to periodically update the national Consumer Price Index. In addition the data are used by a variety of researchers in academia, government agencies, and the private sector. The data are collected from a national probability sample of households designed to represent the total civilian non-institutional population.

Ira L. Mills,

Departmental Clearance Officer.

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BILLING CODE 4510-24-M

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**

**Employment and Training Administration**

**Proposed Data Collection Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendation; Local Area Survey of the WIA Performance Measurement System**

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, is conducting a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed collections of information in accordance

with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (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 the collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Through this notice, the Employment and Training Administration is soliciting comments concerning a proposed new collection of data on performance accountability and measurement policies and practices employed by local workforce investment areas (LWIA) under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA).

A copy of the proposed survey 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 December 29, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** Alberta Baker, U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Office of Policy Development, Evaluation and Research, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Room N-5637, Washington DC 20210, (202) 693-3642.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Alberta Baker (202) 693-3642.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Background**

The Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration seeks to gather information about the performance accountability and measurement system and how this system impacts specific

local area policies, practices, and service delivery under WIA. This survey will enable ETA to collect uniform data across all Local Workforce Investment Areas providing DOL with a snapshot of the performance accountability and measurement system as a whole and, in addition, pointing to areas of potential concern and areas of strength within this system. The data will provide information on local policies and procedures related to performance accountability including the goals established for local areas, the management tools and practices local areas have put in place to help meet these goals, the influence of broader performance measurement system on local service delivery design, and local areas' awareness and assessment of Common Measures, which are to be implemented in all job training and employment programs in 2004.

Performance accountability and measurement have been important features of the nation's workforce investment system. The Workforce Investment Act (WIA) establishes a performance accountability system, the explicit purpose of which (Sec. 136(a)) is "to assess the effectiveness of States and local areas in achieving continuous improvement of workforce investment activities funded under this subtitle." DOL negotiates goals for performance outcomes with each state, and states, in turn, negotiate with their local areas to set local goals. Beyond negotiated performance levels, states can give local areas substantial discretion in designing a system to deliver workforce services. The combination of individually negotiated performance levels and local design discretion suggests there will be

extensive variation among local workforce investment areas regarding policies and practices related to performance measurement and management. This data collection effort will enable DOL to identify the varying approaches and create a national picture of the ways in which this performance measurement system impacts policies and services at the local level.

Further, enormous amounts of resources have been expended in developing the infrastructure required to effectively measure and manage performance. Major investments have been made in MIS systems and in training employees on effective management strategies to meet negotiated levels. However, little is known about exactly what practices local areas are employing to meet measures, how the broad measures in place are impacting local decisions on managing performance, or whether local areas have implemented additional measures that better enable them to monitor and improve their performance. The data collected will enable ETA to fill this information gap and gain a better understanding of how the performance accountability system is actually operating, as well as any areas of concern that arise from the planned implementation of Common Measures in 2004.

## II. Review Focus

The Department of Labor is particularly interested in comments that: (a) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) enhance the utility, quality and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) 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.

## III. Current Actions

The Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration will be seeking Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval to administer a questionnaire to LWIAs on policies and practices related to performance accountability, including their performance goals, and measures and tools they have established to assist in performance management. The data will be used in

two ways: to provide a national snapshot of the performance measurement system and to discern patterns of performance policies and practices among LWIAs.

*Agency:* Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration.

*Type of Review:* New.

*Title:* Local Area Survey of the WIA Performance Measurement System.

*Affected Public:* Local Workforce Investment Areas.

*Total Respondents:* 605.

*Frequency:* Once.

*Total Responses:* 605.

*Average Time Per Response:* One hour.

*Estimated Total Burden Hours:* 605 hours.

*Total Burden Cost for Capital and Startup:* \$0.

*Total Burden Cost for Operation and Maintenance:* \$0.

Comments submitted in response to this comment request will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: October 23, 2003.

**Emily Stover DeRocco,**

*Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training.*

[FR Doc. 03-27355 Filed 10-29-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510-30-P**

## NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

### National Endowment for the Arts; Combined Arts Advisory Panel

Pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), as amended, notice is hereby given that six meetings of the Combined Arts Advisory Panel to the National Council on the Arts will be held at the Nancy Hanks Center, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20506 as follows:

*Music:* November 17-18, 2003, Room 714 (Heritage and Preservation category, Panel A). This meeting will be closed.

*Music:* November 18, 2003, Room 714 (Challenge America-Access category, Panel A). A portion of this meeting, from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., will be open to the public for policy discussion. The remaining portions of this meeting, from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and from 4:30 p.m. to 5 p.m., will be closed.

*Folk & Traditional Arts:* November 18-21, 2003, Room 716 (Challenge America-Access and Heritage and Preservation categories). A portion of this meeting, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on November 21st, will be open to the public for policy discussion. The remaining portions of this meeting, from 9 a.m. to 6:30

p.m. on November 18th-20th, and from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on November 21st, will be closed.

*Music:* November 19-21, 2003, Room 714 (Challenge America-Access category, Panel B). This meeting will be closed.

*Music:* November 21, 2003, Room 714 (Heritage and Preservation category, Panel B). A portion of this meeting, from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., will be open to the public for policy discussion. The remaining portions of this meeting, from 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. and from 5 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., will be closed.

*Museums:* December 2-4, 2003, Room 716 (Challenge America-Access and Heritage and Preservation categories). This meeting will be closed.

The closed meetings and portions of meetings are for the purpose of Panel review, discussion, evaluation, and recommendation on applications for financial assistance under the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965, as amended, including information given in confidence to the agency by grant applicants. In accordance with the determination of the Chairman of April 30, 2003, these sessions will be closed to the public pursuant to subsection (c) (6) of 5 U.S.C. 552b.

Any person may observe meetings, or portions thereof, of advisory panels that are open to the public, and, if time allows, may be permitted to participate in the panel's discussions at the discretion of the panel chairman and with the approval of the full-time Federal employee in attendance.

If you need special accommodations due to a disability, please contact the Office of AccessAbility, National Endowment for the Arts, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20506, 202/682-5532, TDY-TDD 202/682-5496, at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting.

Further information with reference to this meeting can be obtained from Ms. Kathy Plowitz-Worden, Office of Guidelines & Panel Operations, National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, DC 20506, or call 202/682-5691.

Dated: October 24, 2003.

**Kathy Plowitz-Worden,**

*Panel Coordinator, Panel Operations, National Endowment for the Arts.*

[FR Doc. 03-27301 Filed 10-29-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7537-01-P**

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Sunshine Act Meeting

**AGENCY HOLDING MEETING:** National Science Foundation, National Science Board, Committee on Strategy and Budget.

**DATE AND TIME:** November 7, 2003, 2:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m., Open Session.

**PLACE:** The National Science Foundation, Stafford One Building, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Room 130, Arlington, VA 22230.

**STATUS:** This meeting will be open to the public.