

OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling the Treasury Bureau Clearance Officer listed. Comments regarding this information collection should be addressed to the OMB reviewer listed and to the Treasury Department Clearance Officer, Department of the Treasury, Room 11000, 1750 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20220.

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before February 19, 2004 to be assured of consideration.

#### Bureau of the Public Debt (PD)

*OMB Number:* 1535-0111.

*Form Number:* SB 2362, 2378 and 2383.

*Type of Review:* Revision.

*Title:* Authorization for Purchase and Request for Change U.S. Savings Bonds.

*Description:* These forms are used to authorize employers to allot funds from employee's pay for the purchase of Savings Bonds.

*Respondents:* Individuals or households.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 1,300,000.

*Estimated Burden Hours Per*

*Respondent:* 1 minute.

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion.

*Estimated Total Reporting Burden Hours:* 21,667 hours.

*Clearance Officer:* Vicki S. Thorpe (304) 480-6553, Bureau of the Public Debt, 200 Third Street, Parkersburg, West VA 26106-1328.

*OMB Reviewer:* Joseph F. Lackey, Jr. (202) 395-7316, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

**Lois K. Holland,**

*Treasury PRA Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 04-1135 Filed 1-16-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4810-39-P**

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Internal Revenue Service

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Publication 1075

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

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

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Treasury, 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 proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C.

3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning Publication 1075, Tax Information Security Guidelines for Federal, State, and Local Agencies.

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before March 22, 2004 to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Robert M. Coar, Internal Revenue Service, room 6411, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the publication should be directed to Carol Savage at Internal Revenue Service, room 6407, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224, or at (202) 622-3945, or through the internet at [CAROL.A.SAVAGE@irs.gov](mailto:CAROL.A.SAVAGE@irs.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Tax Information Security Guidelines for Federal, State, and Local Agencies.

*OMB Number:* 1545-0962.

*Form Number:* Publication 1075.

*Abstract:* Section 6103(p) of the Internal Revenue Code requires the Internal Revenue Service to provide periodic reports to Congress describing safeguard procedures utilized by agencies which receive information from the IRS to protect the confidentiality of the information. This Code section also requires that these agencies furnish reports to the IRS describing their safeguards.

*Current Actions:* There are no changes being made to Publication 1075 at this time.

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

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit organizations, not-for-profit institutions, and Federal, state, local, or tribal governments.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 5,100.

*Estimated Time Per Respondent:* 40 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 204,000.

The following paragraph applies to all of 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 as long as 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: January 13, 2004.

**Robert M. Coar,**

*IRS Reports Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 04-1143 Filed 1-16-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4830-01-P**

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Internal Revenue Service

[REG-105170-97 and REG-112991-01]

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Regulation Project

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

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

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Treasury, 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 proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning an existing final regulations, REG-105170-97 (TD 8930) and REG-112991-01 (TD 9104), Credit for Increasing Research Activities (§ 1.41-8(b)).

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before March 22, 2004, to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Robert M. Coar, Internal Revenue Service, room 6411, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20224.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of regulations should be directed to Carol Savage at Internal Revenue Service, room 6407, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20224, or at (202) 622-3945, or through the Internet at [CAROL.A.SAVAGE@irs.gov](mailto:CAROL.A.SAVAGE@irs.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Credit for Increasing Research Activities.

*OMB Number:* 1545-1625.

*Regulation Project Number:* REG-105170-97 and REG-112991-01.

*Abstract:* These final regulations relate to the computation of the credit under section 41(c) and the definition of *qualified research* under section 41(d). These regulations are intended to provide (1) guidance concerning the requirements necessary to qualify for the credit for increasing research activities, (2) guidance in computing the credit for increasing research activities, and (3) rules for electing and revoking the election of the alternative incremental credit.

*Current Actions:* There is no change to this existing regulation.

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

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit organizations.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 5.

*Estimated Time Per Respondent:* 50 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 250.

The following paragraph applies to all of 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 as long as 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: January 13, 2004.

**Robert M. Coar,**

*IRS Reports Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 04-1144 Filed 1-16-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4830-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Internal Revenue Service

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Form 8716

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

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

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Treasury, 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 proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning Form 8716, Election To Have a Tax Year Other Than a Required Tax Year.

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before March 22, 2004, to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Robert Coar, Internal Revenue Service, room 6411, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20224.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the form and instructions should be directed to Larnice Mack at Internal Revenue Service, room 6407, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20224, or at (202) 622-3179, or through the Internet at [Larnice.Mack@irs.gov](mailto:Larnice.Mack@irs.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Election To Have a Tax Year Other Than a Required Tax Year.

*OMB Number:* 1545-1036.

*Form Number:* Form 8716.

*Abstract:* Form 8716 is filed by partnerships, S corporations, and personal service corporations under Internal Revenue Code section 444(a) to elect to retain or to adopt a tax year that is not a required tax year. The form provides IRS with information to determine that the section 444(a) election is properly made and identifies the tax year to be retained, changed, or adopted.

*Current Actions:* There are no changes being made to the form at this time.

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

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit organizations and farms.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 40,000.

*Estimated Time Per Respondent:* 5 hours, 7 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 204,400.

The following paragraph applies to all of 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 as long as 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.