

services in States with critical shortages of primary care physicians. The FEHB law also requires that a State be designated as a Medically Underserved Area if 25 percent or more of the population lives in an area designated by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as a primary medical care manpower shortage area. Such States are designated as Medically Underserved Areas for purposes of the FEHB Program, and the law requires non-HMO FEHB plans to reimburse beneficiaries, subject to their contract terms, for covered services obtained from any licensed provider in these States.

FEHB regulations (5 CFR 890.701) require OPM to make an annual determination of the States that qualify as Medically Underserved Areas for the next calendar year by comparing the latest HHS State-by-State population counts on primary medical care manpower shortage areas with U.S. Census figures on State resident populations.

**Kay Coles James,**

*Director, Office of Personnel Management.*

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## OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

### Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee; Open Committee Meetings

According to the provisions of section 10 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, October 21, 2004.

The meeting will start at 10 a.m. and will be held in Room 5A06A, Office of Personnel Management Building, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC.

The Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee is composed of a Chair, five representatives from labor unions holding exclusive bargaining rights for Federal blue-collar employees, and five representatives from Federal agencies. Entitlement to membership on the Committee is provided for in 5 U.S.C. 5347.

The Committee's primary responsibility is to review the Prevailing Rate System and other matters pertinent to establishing prevailing rates under subchapter IV, chapter 53, 5 U.S.C., as amended, and from time to time advise the Office of Personnel Management.

This scheduled meeting will start in open session with both labor and management representatives attending.

During the meeting either the labor members or the management members may caucus separately with the Chair to devise strategy and formulate positions. Premature disclosure of the matters discussed in these caucuses would unacceptably impair the ability of the Committee to reach a consensus on the matters being considered and would disrupt substantially the disposition of its business. Therefore, these caucuses will be closed to the public because of a determination made by the Director of the Office of Personnel Management under the provisions of section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463) and 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(9)(B). These caucuses may, depending on the issues involved, constitute a substantial portion of a meeting.

Annually, the Chair compiles a report of pay issues discussed and concluded recommendations. These reports are available to the public, upon written request to the Committee's Secretary.

The public is invited to submit material in writing to the Chair on Federal Wage System pay matters felt to be deserving of the Committee's attention. Additional information on this meeting may be obtained by contacting the Committee's Secretary, Office of Personnel Management, Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee, Room 5538, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415 (202) 606-1500.

Dated: September 13, 2004.

**Mary M. Rose,**

*Chairperson, Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee.*

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

Upon written request, copies available from: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Filings and Information Services, Washington, DC 20549.

Extension: Rule 17a-7, SEC File No. 270-147, OMB Control No. 3235-0131.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") a request for extension of the previously approved collection of information discussed below.

Rule 17a-7 [17 CFR. 240.17a-7] under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 requires non-resident brokers or dealers registered or applying for registration pursuant to Section 15 of the Exchange Act to maintain—in the United States—complete and current copies of books and records required to be maintained under any rule adopted under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Alternatively, Rule 17a-7 provides that the non-resident broker or dealer may sign a written undertaking to furnish the requisite books and records to the Commission upon demand.

There are approximately 65 non-resident brokers and dealers. Based on the Commission's experience in this area, it is estimated that the average amount of time necessary to preserve the books and records required by Rule 17a-7 is one hour per year. Accordingly, the total burden is 65 hours per year. With an average cost per hour of approximately \$55.00, the total cost of compliance for the respondents is \$3,575 per year.

There are no individual record retention periods in Rule 17a-7. Compliance with the rule is mandatory. However, non-resident brokers and dealers may opt to provide the records upon request of the Commission rather than store it in the United States. An agency may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number.

Written comments regarding the above information should be directed to the following persons: (a) Desk Officer for the Securities and Exchange Commission by sending an e-mail to: [David\\_Rostker@omb.eop.gov](mailto:David_Rostker@omb.eop.gov), and (b) R. Corey Booth, Director/Chief Information Officer, Office of Information Technology, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549. Comments must be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget within 30 days of this notice.

Dated: September 13, 2004.

**Margaret H. McFarland,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

Upon written request, copies available from: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Filings and