

submission should be addressed to Donald S. Clark, Office of the Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20580. Submissions should be captioned "Comments regarding consumer information flows." Electronic submissions may be sent by electronic mail to infoflows@ftc.gov. Alternatively, electronic submissions may be filed on a 3½ inch computer disk with a label on the disk stating the name of the submitter and the name and version of the word processing program used to create the document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Maureen Ohlhausen, (202) 326-2632, mko/infoflows@ftc.gov, Office of Policy Planning, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20580. A detailed agenda for the workshop will be available on the FTC Home Page (<http://www.ftc.gov>) and through Mildred Taylor, Staff Secretary, at (202) 326-2553.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Overview

Since 1995, the FTC has examined the consumer issues raised by the collection and use of consumer information. To gain a better understanding of these issues, the FTC has held workshops, conducted surveys, prepared reports, and met with numerous industry and consumer groups. Where the Commission determined that certain information practices were unlawful, it has also brought enforcement actions and issued educational materials to assist businesses and consumers in avoiding these practices. In approaching this issue, the FTC recognizes that the sharing and use of information can benefit consumers, but seeks to put a stop to unfair or deceptive information practices that harm consumers.

As part of this ongoing effort to examine how information practices affect consumers, the FTC is announcing a workshop to examine the various costs and benefits of collecting and using certain consumer information to facilitate commercial transactions. To permit a closer examination of the issues, the workshop will focus on the collection and use of consumer information for particular commercial purposes in the context of two or three case studies. Candidates for such case studies include consumer credit, fraud prevention, financial services, customer relations management, and direct and targeted marketing. The workshop will not focus on transactions or entities outside the FTC's jurisdiction. The FTC is particularly interested in learning

about specific data or studies showing how the use of consumer information for these commercial purposes affects consumers. Although observers frequently cite the costs and benefits of these uses of consumer information, a more thorough examination of the empirical evidence should promote greater understanding of the issues.

Issues

Below is non-exhaustive list of issues to be addressed by the workshop. Written comments need not address all of these issues.

How do businesses measure the value of consumer trust?

What part do information practices play in this valuation?

How do businesses collect and aggregate information about consumers?

How do businesses use information about consumers in their operations?

How do businesses incorporate information practices to benefit consumers?

What types of information about consumers do businesses use?

What factors should be considered in evaluating the costs and benefits to consumers and businesses of the collection and usage of this information?

What are the benefits to consumers of the use of this information by businesses?

What are the costs to consumers of the use of this information by businesses?

The Commission welcomes suggestions for other questions that also should be addressed. Proposed questions, identified as such, may be sent by electronic mail to infoflows@ftc.gov.

By direction of the Commission, with Commissioner Anthony voting in the negative.

Donald S. Clark,
Secretary.

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GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE

[Document No. JFMIP-SR-03-02]

Joint Financial Management Improvement Program (JFMIP)—Federal Financial Management System Requirements (FFMSR)

AGENCY: Joint Financial Management Improvement Program (JFMIP).

ACTION: Notice of document availability.

SUMMARY: The JFMIP is seeking public comment on an exposure draft entitled

"Inventory, Supplies, and Materials System Requirements," dated April 2003. The draft is a re-write of the Federal Financial Management System Requirements (FFMSR) document that addresses standard financial requirements for Federal inventory systems. The document is intended to assist agencies when developing, improving or evaluating systems for inventory held for sale, operating supplies and materials, and stockpile materials. It provides the baseline functionality that agency systems must have to support agency missions and comply with laws and regulations. When issued in final, the document will augment the existing body of FFMSR that define financial system functional requirements which are used in evaluating compliance with the Federal Management Improvement Act (FFMIA) of 1996.

DATES: Comments are due by June 23, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the exposure draft have been transmitted to senior financial officials chief information officers, together with a transmittal memo listing items of interest for which JFMIP is soliciting feedback. The Exposure Draft and transmittal memo are available on the JFMIP Web site: <http://WWW.JFMIP.GOV>. Responses should be addressed to JFMIP, 1990 K Street, NW., Suite 430, Washington, DC 20006.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elvon C. Lloyd, (202) 219-0532 or elvon.lloyd@gsa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FFMIA of 1996 mandated that agencies implement and maintain systems that comply substantially with FFMSR, applicable Federal accounting standards, and the U.S. Government Standard General Ledger at the transaction level. The FFMIA statute codified the JFMIP financial system requirements documents as a key benchmark that agency systems must meet to substantially comply with systems requirements provisions under FFMIA. To support the provisions outlined in the FFMIA, the JFMIP is updating obsolete requirements documents and publishing additional requirements documents. Comments received will be reviewed and the exposure draft will be revised as necessary. Publication of the final document will be mailed to agency financial officials, chief information

officers, and others, and will be available on the JFMIP Web site.

Karen Cleary Alderman.

Executive Director, Joint Financial Management Improvement Program.

[FR Doc. 03-10246 Filed 4-24-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

[Document Identifier: CMS-1514, CMS-643, CMS-462A-B, CMS-588]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, HHS.

In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) (formerly known as the Health Care Financing Administration (CMS)), Department of Health and Human Services, is publishing the following summary of proposed collections for public comment. Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including any of the following subjects: (1) The necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

1. Type of Information Collection
Request: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Title of Information Collection: Hospital Request for Certification in the Medicare/Medicaid Program.

Form No.: CMS-1514 (OMB# 0938-0380).

Use: Section 1861 of the Social Security Act requires hospitals and critical access hospitals to be certified to participate in the Medicare/Medicaid program. These providers must complete the "Hospital Request for Certification in the Medicare/Medicaid Program" form in order to be certified or recertified.

Frequency: Annually.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit, Not-for-profit institutions.

Number of Respondents: 6,300.

Total Annual Responses: 2,000.

Total Annual Hours: 500.

2. Type of Information Collection

Request: Extension of a currently approved request.

Title of Information Collection: Hospice Survey and Deficiencies Report Form and Supporting Regulations at 42 CFR 418.1-418.405.

Form No.: CMS-643 (OMB# 0938-0379).

Use: In order to participate in the Medicare program, a hospice must meet certain Federal health and safety conditions of participation. This form will be used by State surveyors to record data about a hospice's compliance with these conditions of participation in order to initiate the certification or recertification process.

Frequency: Annually.

Affected Public: State, local or tribal government.

Number of Respondents: 2,339.

Total Annual Responses: 475.

Total Annual Hours: 1,188.

3. Type of Information Collection

Request: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Title of Information Collection: Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) Adverse Action Extract and Supporting Regulations at 42 CFR 483.1840.

Form No.: CMS-462A/B (OMB 0938-0655).

Use: The CLIA Adverse Action Extract will be used by CMS surveyors (State health department, and other CMS agents) to report to regional staff and record the adverse actions imposed against a laboratory. The form will also serve to track dates of the imposition of adverse actions, date on which a laboratory corrects deficiencies, and all appeals activity.

Frequency: On occasion, Biennially.

Affected Public: State, local, or tribal government.

Number of Respondents: 52.

Total Annual Responses: 1573.

Total Annual Hours: 786.

4. Type of Information Collection

Request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Title of Information Collection: Authorization agreement for electronic forms transfer.

Form No.: CMS-0588 (OMB# 0938-0626).

Use: The information is needed to allow providers to receive funds electronically in their bank accounts.

Frequency: On occasion.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit, Not-for-profit institutions.

Number of Respondents: 10,000.

Total Annual Responses: 10,000.

Total Annual Hours: 1,250.

To obtain copies of the supporting statement and any related forms for the proposed paperwork collections referenced above, access CMS's Web site address at <http://cms.hhs.gov/regulations/pr/default.asp>, or e-mail your request, including your address, phone number, OMB number, and CMS document identifier, to Paperwork@hcfa.gov, or call the Reports Clearance Office on (410) 786-1326. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collections must be mailed within 60 days of this notice directly to the CMS Paperwork Clearance Officer designated at the following address: CMS, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs, Division of Regulations Development and Issuances, Attention: Dawn Willingham, Room: C5-14-03, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850.

Dated: April 17, 2003.

Dawn Willingham,

Acting, Paperwork Reduction Act Team Leader, CMS Reports Clearance Officer, Office of Strategic Operations and Strategic Affairs, Division of Regulations Development and Issuances.

[FR Doc. 03-10245 Filed 4-24-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[CMS-2182-PN]

Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Application by the Community Health Accreditation Program (CHAP) for Continued Approval of Deeming Authority for Hospices

AGENCY: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, HHS.

ACTION: Proposed notice.

SUMMARY: This proposed notice acknowledges the receipt of an application from the Community Health Accreditation Program (CHAP) for continued recognition as a national accreditation program for hospice facilities that wish to participate in the Medicare or Medicaid programs. Section 1865(b)(3)(A) of the Social Security Act (the Act) requires that within 60 days of receipt of an organization's complete application, we publish a notice that identifies the national accrediting body making the request, describes the nature of the request, and provides at least a 30-day public comment period.