

VIII. Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

As proposed, this voluntary program would impose information collection requirements which are subject to review by OMB under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501–3520). Persons are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The FHWA has requested that OMB authorize emergency processing of these proposed information collections through an alternative procedure provided in OMB's regulations for cases where, among other things, use of normal procedures is reasonably likely to cause a statutory deadline to be missed. 5 CFR § 1320.13. The FHWA has asked OMB to approve this request within 20 days. However, the FHWA anticipates that this approval will be for a period of not more than 90 days, pursuant to OMB regulations. Thus, the FHWA also intends to submit a request to OMB through the usual procedures for approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 for a three year period.

In general, Federal agencies must provide 60 days of notice in the Federal Register concerning each collection of information. Comments on the information collections proposed in this Notice will be considered by the FHWA in its request for long-term approval. With respect to the collections of information described below, the FHWA invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collections of information are necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collections of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (4) ways to minimize the burden of these collections of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of automated collection techniques, when appropriate, and other forms of information technology.

The title used to identify the information collections proposed in this notice and submitted for OMB's approval is—Motor Carrier Regulatory Relief and Safety Demonstration Project.

This Federal Register notice proposes a voluntary pilot project. In return for receiving exemption from certain Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, each Project motor carrier would be required to develop and/or furnish certain information about its

operations. It is anticipated that the initial application will require about one-half hour to complete on average. This document is necessary to identify those motor carriers who believe they are eligible to participate in the Project, and to indicate their desire to be included in the Project. The Safety Control Plan, outlining the safety management measures the motor carrier would have in place to ensure that it would achieve the appropriate level of operational safety during the Project, would require, on average, one and one-half hours to prepare. This document would be subject to examination by the FHWA, and would be necessary to assist the FHWA in ensuring that Project participants did not neglect those aspects of motor carrier safety which are normally addressed by the regulations from which they are temporarily exempt. In addition, participating motor carriers would be required to submit to the FHWA: (1) For each of its Project drivers, the name, driver's license identification number, and date of employment and (2) for each Project vehicle, the vehicle identification number. On a quarterly basis, the motor carrier would have to advise the FHWA of any changes in this information. In addition, during the Project, motor carriers would be required to maintain, but not submit, a record of the maintenance performed upon Project vehicles. These collections and submissions of information are necessary in order to effectively grant Project exemption to identifiable CMVs and operators of CMVs and to permit the performance of each to be monitored and evaluated. It is estimated that the reporting and recordkeeping burden for these items would be one hour and fifteen minutes on the average.

In addition, it is proposed that each accident involving Project drivers and/or Project vehicles would be reported to the FHWA on a quarterly basis. Each Project motor carrier would also calculate its accident rate per million vehicle miles traveled on a quarterly basis, and advise the FHWA if that rate exceeds 1.6. This information is necessary in order to detect those motor carriers whose safety performance is declining during the Project and would also be used to assist in comparing the performance of the exempt motor carriers with the performance of those which remain subject to the FMCSRs. The annual reporting and recordkeeping burden for this information is estimated to be one-half hour on the average.

The most likely respondents to this information collection will be motor carriers operating commercial motor vehicles (CMVs) with a gross vehicle

weight rating (GVWR) between 10,001 and 26,000 pounds in interstate commerce, with a Safety Rating of satisfactory or unrated, and with an accident rate of fewer than 1.6 per million miles traveled. The approximate number of motor carriers currently eligible to participate in the Project is 33,000. Therefore, it is estimated that the total annual reporting and recordkeeping burden will be 2,214,250 hours. Comments on these proposed information collections may be submitted either to OMB or the FHWA (Docket # MC–96–40).

IX. Conclusion

The FHWA welcomes comment on any and all aspects of this Project from trade associations, public interest groups, the States, interstate motor carriers, drivers, and all others.

Issued on: August 2, 1996.

Rodney E. Slater,

Federal Highway Administrator.

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National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket Number 96–092; Notice 1]

Reports, Forms, and Recordkeeping Requirements

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Request for public comment on proposed collections of information.

SUMMARY: Before a Federal agency can collect certain information from the public, it must receive approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Under new procedures established by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, before seeking OMB approval, Federal agencies must solicit public comment on proposed collections of information, including extensions and reinstatements of previously approved collections.

This document describes two collections of information for which NHTSA intends to seek OMB approval.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before October 28, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Comments must refer to the docket and notice number cited at the beginning of this notice and be submitted to Docket Section, Room 5109, NHTSA, 400 Seventh Street, Southwest, Washington, D.C. 20590. Please identify the proposed collection of information for which a comment is provided, by referencing its OMB Clearance Number. It is requested, but

not required, that one original plus two copies of the comments be provided. The Docket Section is open on weekdays from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Complete copies of each request for collection of information may be obtained at no charge from Mr. Edward Kosek, NHTSA Information Collection Clearance Officer, NHTSA, 400 Seventh Street, Southwest, Room 6123, Washington, D.C. 20590. Mr. Kosek's telephone number is (202) 366-2590. Please identify the relevant collection of information by referring to its OMB Clearance Number.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, before an agency submits a proposed collection of information to OMB for approval, it must publish a document in the Federal Register providing a 60-day comment period and otherwise consult with members of the public and affected agencies concerning each proposed collection of information. The OMB has promulgated regulations describing what must be included in such a document. Under OMB's regulations (at 5 CFR 1230.8(d)), an agency must ask for public comment on the following:

(i) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(ii) 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;

(iii) how to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(iv) how to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including 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.

In compliance with these requirements, NHTSA asks public comment on the following proposed collection of information:

49 CFR Part 575—Consumer Information Regulations

Type of Request—Reinstatement of OMB Clearance.

OMB Clearance Number—2127-0049.

Form Number—This collection of information uses no standard forms.

Requested Expiration Date of Approval—September 30, 1999.

Summary of the Collection of Information—NHTSA must ensure that motor vehicle manufacturers comply

with 49 CFR Part 575, Consumer Information Regulation Part 575.103—Truck-camper loading and Part 575.105—Utility Vehicles. Part 575.103 (Truck-camper loading) requires that manufacturers of light trucks that are capable of accommodating slide-in campers to provide information on the cargo weight rating and the longitudinal limits within which the center of gravity for the cargo weight rating should be located. Part 575.105 (Utility vehicles) requires that manufacturers of utility vehicles affix a sticker in a prominent location alerting drivers that the particular handling and maneuvering characteristics of utility vehicles require special driving practices when these vehicles are operated.

Description of the need for the information and proposed use of the information—In order to ensure that motor vehicle manufacturers are complying with 49 CFR Part 575, NHTSA needs consumer information from mabeing introduced.

Estimate of the total annual reporting and recordkeeping burden resulting from the collection of information—The light truck manufacturers are required to gather only pre-existing data for the purposes of this regulation. NHTSA estimates that each motor vehicle manufacturer will incur a total reporting and recordkeeping burden of 15 hours. Thus, the total estimated reporting and recordkeeping burden hours a year on motor vehicle manufacturers (15 motor vehicle manufacturers multiplied by 15 hours (gathering data, printing, and distributing copies of this consumer information) is 300, at a total cost of \$2,240,000.

Patricia Breslin,

Director, Office of Planning and Consumer Programs Safety Performance Standards.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Form 941-M

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 941-M, Employer's Monthly Federal Tax Return.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before October 28, 1996, to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Garrick R. Shear, Internal Revenue Service, room 5571, 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 Martha R. Brinson, (202) 622-3869, Internal Revenue Service, room 5571, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Employer's Monthly Federal Tax Return.

OMB Number: 1545-0718.

Form Number: Form 941-M.

Abstract: Form 941-M is used by certain employers to report payroll taxes on a monthly rather than quarterly basis. Employers who have failed to file Form 941 or who have failed to deposit taxes as required are notified by the District Director that they must file Form 941-M monthly.

Current Actions: There are no changes being made to this form.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations and individuals or households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,000.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 147 hr., 50 min.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 147,840.

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