

Information Collection Request (ICR) may be obtained by contacting the office listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office shown in the **ADDRESSES** section below on or before April 23, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Gerald B. Lindrew, Office of Policy and Research, U.S. Department of Labor, Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Room N-5647, Washington, DC 20210. Telephone: (202) 219-4782; Fax: (202) 219-4745. These are not toll-free numbers.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Prohibited Transaction Class Exemption 81-6 permits an employee benefit plan to lend securities to a broker-dealer registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or to a bank, where the borrowing broker-dealer or bank is a party in interest, provided certain conditions are met. In the absence of an exemption, securities lending transactions would be prohibited under circumstances where the borrowing broker-dealer or bank is a party in interest or disqualified person with respect to the plan under the Employee Retirement Income Securities Act (ERISA) or the Internal Revenue Code (Code).

I. Desired Focus of Comments

The Department is particularly interested in comments that:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have a practical utility;
- 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.

III. Current Actions

The class exemption has two basic information collection requirements. The first requires the borrower of the

plan securities to report certain information to the lending plan fiduciary, and the second calls for a written agreement between the lending plan and the borrower. This notice requests comments on the extension of the ICR included in the Prohibited Transaction Class Exemption 81-6. The Department is not proposing or implementing changes to the existing ICR at this time.

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

Agency: Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration, Department of Labor.

Titles: Prohibited Transaction Class Exemption 81-6.

OMB Number: 1210-0065.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions.

Respondents: 42,000.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Responses: 126,000.

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 10,500.

Total Burden Cost (Operating and Maintenance): \$47,880.

Comments submitted in response to this notice 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: February 12, 2001.

Gerald B. Lindrew,

Deputy Director, Office of Policy and Research, Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration

Proposed Extension of Information Collection; Comment Request Prohibited Transaction Class Exemption 82-63

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA 95) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). This 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 collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed.

Currently, the Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration is soliciting comments concerning the information collection request (ICR) incorporated in Prohibited Transaction Class Exemption 82-63 (PTE 82-63) involving compensation arrangements for securities lending services. A copy of the ICR may be obtained by contacting the office listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office shown in the **ADDRESSES** section below on or before April 23, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Gerald B. Lindrew, Office of Policy and Research, U.S. Department of Labor, Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Room N-5647, Washington, DC 20210. Telephone: (202) 219-4782; Fax: (202) 219-4745. These are not toll-free numbers.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

PTE 82-63 allows certain compensation arrangements to be made for the provision by a fiduciary of securities lending services to an employee benefit plan, if the conditions specified in the exemption are met. In the absence of this exemption, certain aspects of these transactions might be prohibited by section 406 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act. The class exemption has two basic information collection requirements. The first requirement is that the compensation be paid in accordance with a written instrument authorized by a non-lending fiduciary, and the second is that the lending fiduciary furnish the authorizing fiduciary with information needed for the authorizing fiduciary to determine whether the compensation arrangement should be made or renewed.

II. Desired Focus of Comments

The Department is particularly interested in comments that:

- Evaluate 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;
- 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.

III. Current Action

This notice requests comments on the extension of the ICR included in PTE 82-63. The Department is not proposing or implementing changes to the existing ICR at this time.

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

Agency: Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration, Department of Labor.

Titles: Prohibited Transaction Class Exemption 82-63.

OMB Number: 1210-0062.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions.

Respondents: 42,000.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Responses: 42,000.

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 3,500.

Total Burden Cost (Operating and Maintenance): \$0.

Comments submitted in response to this notice 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: February 15, 2001.

Gerald B. Lindrew,

Deputy Director, Office of Policy and Research, Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration.

[FR Doc. 01-4409 Filed 2-21-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-29-P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Veterans' Employment and Training Service

Agency Information Collection

**Activities: Proposed Collection;
Comment Request: Federal Contractor Veterans' Employment Report VETS-100**

AGENCY: Veterans' Employment and Training Service, Labor.

ACTION: Extend current collection for three years.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce

paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a pre-clearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) (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 collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed.

DATES: Comments are to be submitted by April 23, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Comments are to be submitted to the Veterans' Employment and Training Service, U.S. Department of Labor, Room S-1316, 200 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20210, telephone (202) 693-4701. Written comments limited to 10 pages or fewer may also be transmitted by facsimile to (202) 693-4755. Receipt of submissions, whether by U.S. mail, e-mail or FAX transmittal, will not be acknowledged; however, the sender may request confirmation that a submission has been received, by telephoning VETS at (202) 693-4717 (VOICE) or (877) 670-7008 (TY/TDD).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Contact Ron Bachman, Office of Operations and Programs, Veterans' Employment and Training Service, U.S. Department of Labor, Room S-1316, 200 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20210, telephone: (202) 693-4707. Copies of the referenced information collection request are available for inspection and copying through VETS and will be mailed to persons who request copies by telephoning Ron Bachman at (202) 693-4707.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The Federal Contractor Veterans Employment Report VETS-100 is administered by the U.S. Department of Labor, is used to facilitate Federal contractor and subcontractor reporting of their employment and new hiring activity. Title 38 U.S.C., section 4212 (d) was amended by the Veterans' Employment Opportunities Act on October 31, 1998, and now requires the collection of information from entities holding contracts of \$25,000 or more with Federal Departments or agencies to report annually on (a) the number of current employees in each job category and at each hiring location who are special disabled veterans, the number

who are veterans of the Vietnam era, and the number who are other eligible veterans who served on active duty during a war or a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized; (b) the total number of employees hiring during the report period and of those, the number of special disabled, the number who are veterans of the Vietnam era, and the number who are other veterans; and the maximum and minimum number of employees employed by the contractor at each hiring location.

II. Desired Focus of Comments

Currently the Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS) is soliciting comments concerning the proposed information collection request for the Federal Contractor Veterans' Employment Report VETS-100. The Department of Labor is particularly interested in comments which:

- Evaluate 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;
- 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 submissions of responses.

III. Current Actions

This notice requests the Office of Management and Budget approval for the paperwork requirements for the Federal Contractor Veterans' Employment Report VETS-100.

Type of Review: Regular Submission.

Agency: Veterans' Employment and Training Service.

Title: Federal Contractor Veterans' Report VETS-100.

OMB Number: 1293-0005.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit institutions and not-for-profit institutions.

Total Respondents: 194,580.

Average Time per Response: 30 minutes.

Total Burden Hours: 97,290.

Total Annualized Capital/startup costs: \$0.