

(3) Publish notice of the computer matching program in the **Federal Register**;

(4) Furnish detailed reports about matching programs to Congress and OMB;

(5) Notify applicants and beneficiaries that their records are subject to matching; and

(6) Verify match findings before reducing, suspending, terminating, or denying a person's benefits or payments.

#### **B. SSA Computer Matches Subject to the Privacy Act**

We have taken action to ensure that all our computer matching programs comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act, as amended.

Dated: May 22, 2009.

**Mary Glenn-Croft,**

*Deputy Commissioner for Budget, Finance and Management.*

#### **Notice of Computer Matching Program, SSA With IRS**

##### *A. Participating Agencies*

SSA and IRS

##### *B. Purpose of the Matching Program*

This agreement sets forth the terms under which IRS agrees to disclose to us certain tax return information for the purpose of establishing the correct amount of Medicare Part B premium subsidy adjustment under Section 1839(i) of the Social Security Act (Act), which was enacted by Section 811 of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003.

##### *C. Authority for Conducting the Matching Program*

Section 6103(1)(20) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC 6103(1)(20)) authorizes IRS to disclose specified tax return information to us with respect to taxpayers whose Part B insurance premium may (according to IRS records) be subject to adjustment pursuant to Section 1839(i) of the Act, for the purpose of establishing the amount of any such adjustment.

Section 1839(i) of the Act requires us to determine the amount of a beneficiary's Part B premium subsidy adjustment if the Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) is above the applicable threshold as established in Section 1839(i) of the Act. Pursuant to Section 1839(i) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 1395r), we determine whether a Medicare Part B beneficiary pays a larger percentage of the Part B premium than a beneficiary with income below the applicable threshold.

#### *D. Categories of Records and Persons Covered by the Matching Program*

We will disclose to IRS the names and Social Security numbers (SSNs) of all appropriate beneficiaries who either are enrolled or have become entitled to Medicare Part B. On a weekly basis, we will provide IRS with this information with respect to SSA Part B beneficiaries who:

a. Are enrolled in Medicare under the rules in Section 1837 of the Act (42 U.S.C. 1395p) and have not dis-enrolled from Medicare Part B; or

b. Have filed applications specifically for Medicare Part B; or

c. Have been determined to have retroactive Medicare Part B entitlement.

As part of the weekly transmission, we will include the name, SSN, premium year, and income threshold amounts for new Part B enrollees. Once each year, we will provide the name, SSN, premium year, and income threshold amounts for all appropriate enrollees in Part B. We will use information obtained in this annual request to determine Part B premium subsidy adjustments for the coming premium year. At the time of the annual exchange, we include the name, SSN, premium year, income threshold amounts, and requested tax year with respect to all enrollees who asked us to use a more recent tax year or for beneficiaries where IRS provided 3-year-old tax data on the initial request. We will use the information obtained to correct Part B premium subsidy adjustments for the requested premium year.

On a weekly basis, IRS will extract MAGI data pertaining to the Part B enrollees from the Return Transaction File. IRS will extract MAGI data pertaining to the tax year beginning in the second calendar year preceding the year for which the premium subsidy adjustment is being calculated (the premium year). When MAGI data for the second tax year preceding the premium year is not available as of October 16 of the year immediately preceding the premium year, MAGI data pertaining to the third tax year preceding the premium year will be provided to us.

For the annual request, IRS will extract MAGI data as described above and provide the responsive records to us. For requests seeking more recent tax year data, IRS will extract MAGI data of the requested year, and provide the information to us.

#### *E. Inclusive Dates of the Matching Program*

The matching program will become effective no sooner than 40 days after

notice of the matching program is sent to Congress and OMB, or 30 days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, whichever date is later. The matching program will continue for 18 months from the effective date and may be extended for an additional 12 months thereafter, if certain conditions are met.

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#### **SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION**

#### **Privacy Act of 1974, as Amended; New System of Records**

**AGENCY:** Social Security Administration (SSA).

**ACTION:** Proposed system of records and routine uses.

**SUMMARY:** We are issuing public notice of our intent to establish a new system of records and routine uses applicable to this system of records in accordance with the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a(e)(4) and (e)(11)). The proposed system of records is entitled the *Race and Ethnicity Collection System* (60-0104), hereinafter referred to as the *RECS* system of records. We discuss the system of records in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section below. We invite public comments on this proposal.

**DATES:** We filed a report of the proposed *RECS* system of records and routine use disclosures with the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, the Chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and the Director, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB) on August 13, 2009. The proposed *RECS* system of records and routine uses will become effective on October 9, 2009, unless we receive comments before that date that would result in a contrary determination.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested persons may comment on this publication by writing to the Executive Director, Office of Privacy and Disclosure, Office of the General Counsel, Social Security Administration, Room 3-A-6 Operations Building, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21235-6401. All comments we receive will be available for public inspection at the above address.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Alicia Matthews, Social Insurance Specialist (Senior Analyst), Disclosure Policy Development and Services Division 1, Office of Privacy and Disclosure, Office of the General

Counsel, Social Security Administration, 3-A-6 Operations Building, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21235-6401, telephone: (410) 965-1723, e-mail: [alicia.matthews@ssa.gov](mailto:alicia.matthews@ssa.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

### I. Background and Purpose of the Proposed RECS System of Records

#### A. General Background

In October 1997, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) announced revised government-wide standards for Federal agencies collecting race and ethnicity (RE) data (62 FR 58782, Oct. 30, 1997, "*Revisions to the Standards for the Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity*").

We need RE data for program evaluation, research, and statistical reporting purposes. We do not use RE data to make decisions about a person's application for benefits or any other programmatic determination. Prior to 1987, we collected RE data from persons on a voluntary basis when they applied for either original or replacement Social Security number (SSN) cards. Since 1987, however, we have issued most original SSN cards through an enumeration-at-birth program (EAB), which is administered by the States. As the States do not collect RE information, we do not maintain RE information for EAB applicants. Since 2002, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has taken applications for SSN cards from aliens entering the United States through the enumeration-at-entry (EAE) program. DHS does not provide us with RE information on EAE applicants.

We currently maintain the RE data that we collect in an existing Privacy Act system of records, the *Master Files of SSN Number Holders and SSN Applications*. The RE data we currently collect is limited to these categories: Asian, Asian-American or Pacific Islander; Hispanic; Black (Not Hispanic); North American Indian or Alaskan Native; and White (Not Hispanic). Under the current standards, persons who provide us race information can designate only one of the categories, and they do not have the option of designating both their race and ethnicity.

We will no longer collect RE information using our limited categories. Pursuant to the OMB mandated standards, we will use the following categories to collect RE information:

#### Race

- Alaska Native,

- American Indian,
- Asian,
- Black/African American,
- Native Hawaiian,
- Other Pacific Islander, and
- White.

#### Ethnicity

- Hispanic/Latino.

Under the OMB standards, persons may voluntarily designate one or more categories under "Race" and designate "yes" or "no" under the "Ethnicity" category.

We will collect RE information that conforms to the OMB standards for the continuing purposes of program evaluation, research, and statistical reporting. Using the OMB standards, we will maintain all future collections of RE data in a separate electronic system covered by the proposed RECS system of records. The proposed RECS system of records will cover RE data about persons issued original or replacement SSN cards who do not apply through the EAB or EAE programs.

#### B. Collection and Maintenance of the Data for the Proposed RECS System of Records

We will collect, maintain, and retrieve personally identifiable information (*i.e.*, SSNs) of persons who voluntarily provide their RE data when they request an original or replacement SSN card from us in an electronic system covered by the proposed RECS system of records. Therefore, the RECS information collection is a system of records as defined by the Privacy Act.

### II. Proposed Routine Use Disclosures of Data Covered by the Proposed RECS System of Records

#### A. Proposed Routine Use Disclosures

We are proposing to establish the following routine uses of the information covered by the proposed RECS system of records.

1. To the Office of the President in response to an inquiry from that office made at the request of the subject of the record or a third party on that person's behalf.

We will disclose RE information under this routine use only when the Office of the President makes an inquiry relating to information contained in this system of records and indicates that it is acting on behalf of the person whose record is requested.

2. To a congressional office in response to an inquiry from that office made at the request of the subject of a record or a third party on that person's behalf.

We will disclose RE information under this routine use only when a

member of Congress, or member of his or her staff, makes an inquiry relating to information contained in this system of records and indicates that he or she is acting on behalf of the person whose record is requested.

3. To the Department of Justice (DOJ), a court, other tribunal, or another party before such court or tribunal when:

(a) SSA or any of our components;

(b) Any SSA employee in his or her official capacity;

(c) Any SSA employee in his or her individual capacity when DOJ (or SSA when we are authorized to do so) has agreed to represent the employee; or

(d) The United States or any agency thereof when we determine that the litigation is likely to affect the operations of SSA or any of our components, is party to litigation or has an interest in such litigation, and we determine that the use of such records by DOJ, a court, other tribunal, or another party before such court or tribunal is relevant and necessary to the litigation. In each case, however, we must determine that such disclosure is compatible with the purpose for which we collected the records.

We will disclose RE information under this routine use as necessary to enable DOJ to effectively defend us, our components, or our employees in litigation when the use of information from the proposed system of records is relevant and necessary to the litigation and compatible with the purpose of the information collection. We will also disclose information to ensure that courts, other tribunals, and parties before such courts or tribunals, have appropriate information when relevant and necessary.

4. To a Federal, State, or congressional support agency (*e.g.*, Congressional Budget Office and the Congressional Research Staff in the Library of Congress) for research, evaluation, or statistical studies. Such disclosures include, but are not limited to:

(a) Releasing information to assess the extent to which one can predict eligibility for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments or Social Security disability insurance benefits or other programs under the Social Security Act;

(b) Examining the distribution of benefits under programs of the Social Security Act by economic and demographic groups and how these differences might be affected by possible changes in policy;

(c) Analyzing the interaction of economic and non-economic variables affecting entry and exit events and duration in the Title II Old Age,

Survivors, and Disability Insurance and the Title XVI SSI disability programs; and,

(d) Analyzing retirement decisions focusing on the role of Social Security benefit amounts, automatic benefit recomputation, the delayed retirement credit, and the retirement test.

We may make these disclosures if we:

(1) Determine that the routine use does not violate legal limitations under which the record was provided, collected, or obtained;

(2) Determine that the purpose for which the proposed use is to be made:

(i) Cannot reasonably be accomplished unless the record is provided in a form that identifies a person;

(ii) Is of sufficient importance to warrant the effect on, or risk to, the privacy of the person which such limited additional exposure of the record might bring;

(iii) Has a reasonable probability of being accomplished;

(iv) Is of importance to the programs under the Social Security Act and beneficiaries of such programs or is for an epidemiological research project that relates to programs under the Social Security Act or beneficiaries of such programs;

(3) Require the recipient of information to:

(i) Establish appropriate administrative, technical, and physical safeguards to prevent unauthorized use or disclosure of the record and agree to on-site inspection by our employees, our agents, or by independent agents of the recipient agency of those safeguards;

(ii) Remove or destroy the information that enables the person to be identified at the earliest time that the recipient can do so consistent with the purpose of the project, unless the recipient receives written authorization from us that it is justified, based on research objectives, in retaining such information;

(iii) Make no further use of the records except:

(a) Under emergency circumstances affecting the health and safety of a person following written authorization from us;

(b) For disclosure to an identified person approved by us for the purpose of auditing the research project;

(iv) Keep the data as a system of statistical records. A statistical record is one which is maintained only for statistical and research purposes and which is not used to make any determination about a person;

(4) Secure a written statement by the recipient of the information attesting to the recipient's understanding of, and willingness to abide by, these provisions.

The use of the revised OMB standards, which include more categories, will permit us to develop richer and more comprehensive information that can be used in actuarial, epidemiological, economic, and other social science projects that will ultimately benefit us, the public, and other Federal, State, or congressional support agencies' programs. The use of the information will allow new studies to occur regarding the administration of the Social Security program and other related purposes that we and other agencies might not otherwise undertake due to the lack of data. Other related purposes include studies conducted by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to address health care disparities on the basis of race, ethnicity, and gender for Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries under Titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act.

5. To our contractors and grantees performing program evaluation, research, and statistical activities directly relating to this system of records, and to contractors or grantees for another Federal or State agency performing such activities.

We occasionally contract out certain agency functions when doing so contributes to effective and efficient operations. Other Federal and State agencies also occasionally use contractors or grantees to perform program evaluation and analysis. We must be able to give the contractor or grantee the information needed to fulfill the contract requirements. In these situations, we require safeguards in the contract that prohibit the contractor from using or disclosing the information for any purpose other than that described in the contract. We also assure that contractors for other Federal and State agencies adhere to these safeguards.

6. To student volunteers, persons working under a personal services contract, and others who are not technically Federal employees, when they are performing work for us as authorized by law, and they need access to information in our records in order to perform their assigned agency duties.

We will disclose RE information under this routine use only when we use the services of student volunteers and participants in certain educational, training, employment, and community service programs when they need access to RE information in this system to perform their assigned agency duties.

7. To the General Services Administration (GSA) and the National Archives Records Administration

(NARA) under 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906, as amended by the NARA Act, information that is not restricted from disclosure by Federal law for their use in conducting records management studies.

We will disclose RE information under this routine use only when it is necessary for GSA and NARA to have access to the information covered by this proposed system of records. The Administrator of GSA and the Archivist of NARA are authorized by Title 44 U.S.C. 2904, as amended, to promulgate standards, procedures, and guidelines regarding records management and conducting records management studies. Title 44 U.S.C. 2906, as amended, provides that GSA and NARA are authorized to inspect Federal agencies' records for records management purposes and that agencies are to cooperate with GSA and NARA.

8. To the appropriate Federal, State, and local agencies, entities, and persons when (1) we suspect or confirm that the security or confidentiality of information in this system of records has been compromised; (2) we determine that as a result of the suspected or confirmed compromise there is a risk of harm to economic or property interests, identity theft or fraud, or harm to the security or integrity of this system or our other systems or programs that rely upon the compromised information; and (3) we determine that disclosing the information to such agencies, entities, and persons is necessary to assist in our efforts to respond to the suspected or confirmed compromise and prevent, minimize, or remedy such harm. We will use this routine use to respond only to those incidents involving an unintentional release of our records.

We will disclose RE information under this routine use specifically in connection with response and remediation efforts in the event of an unintentional release of agency information, otherwise known as a "data security breach." This routine use will protect the interests of the people whose information is at risk by allowing us to take appropriate steps to facilitate a timely and effective response to a data breach. The routine use will also help us improve our ability to prevent, minimize, or remedy any harm that may result from a compromise of data covered by this system of records.

9. To Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies and private security contractors, as appropriate, information necessary:

(a) To enable them to assure the safety of our employees and the public, the

security of our workplace, and the operation of our facilities; or

(b) To assist investigations or prosecutions with respect to activities that affect such safety and security or activities that disrupt the operation of our facilities.

We will disclose RE information under this routine use to law enforcement agencies and private security contractors when information is needed to respond to, investigate, or prevent activities that jeopardize the security and safety of the public, employees, or workplaces, or that otherwise disrupt the operation of our facilities. We will disclose information to assist in prosecuting persons charged with violating a Federal, State, or local law in connection with such activities.

#### **B. Compatibility of Proposed Routine Uses**

The Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a(b)(3)) and our disclosure regulations (20 CFR Part 401) permit us to disclose information under a published routine use for a purpose that is compatible with the purpose for which we collected the information. The proposed routine uses will ensure that we efficiently perform our functions relating to the purpose and administration of the proposed *RECS* system of records. Our regulations provide that we will disclose information when a law specifically requires disclosure (Section 401.120). Federal law requires the disclosures that we make under routine use number seven. We will disclose information under routine use number seven to the extent another Federal law does not prohibit the disclosure; *e.g.*, the Internal Revenue Code generally prohibits the disclosure of tax return information which we receive to maintain individual earnings records. Therefore, all routine uses are appropriate and meet the relevant statutory and regulatory criteria.

#### **III. Record Storage Medium and Safeguards for the Information Covered by the Proposed *RECS* System of Records**

We will maintain RE information covered by the proposed *RECS* system of records in electronic and paper form. We will keep paper records in locked cabinets or in otherwise secure areas. We will safeguard the security of the electronic information covered by the proposed *RECS* system of records by requiring the use of access codes to enter the computer system that will house the data. We will permit only our authorized employees and contractors who require the information to perform their official duties to access the

information covered by the proposed *RECS* system of records.

We provide appropriate security awareness and training annually to all our employees and contractors that include reminders about the need to protect personally identifiable information and the criminal penalties that apply to unauthorized access to, or disclosure of, personally identifiable information. *See* 5 U.S.C. 552a(i)(1). Furthermore, employees and contractors with access to databases maintaining personally identifiable information must sign a sanction document annually, acknowledging their accountability for making unauthorized access to, or disclosure of, such information.

#### **IV. Effects of the Proposed *RECS* System of Records on the Rights of Individuals**

We will maintain RE information that is relevant to our agency's program evaluation, research, and statistical reporting functions in the electronic system covered by the proposed *RECS* system of records. We will not use RE information to make a determination about entitlement to insurance coverage or benefits under the Social Security Act. We employ safeguards to protect the confidentiality of all personally identifiable information in our possession. We will adhere to the provisions of the Privacy Act and other applicable Federal statutes that govern our use and disclosure of the RE information that is covered by the proposed *RECS* system of records. We will disclose information under the routine uses discussed in this publication only as necessary to accomplish the stated purposes. Therefore, we do not anticipate that the proposed *RECS* system of records or routine use disclosures will have any unwarranted adverse effect on the privacy or other rights of persons who request an original or replacement SSN card from us.

Dated: August 12, 2009.

**Michael J. Astrue,**  
*Commissioner.*

#### **System Number:**

60-0104.

#### **SYSTEM NAME:**

Race and Ethnicity Collection System (RECS), Social Security Administration (SSA)

#### **SECURITY CLASSIFICATION:**

None.

#### **SYSTEM LOCATION:**

SSA, Office of Telecommunications and Systems Operations, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21235.

#### **CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:**

Successfully enumerated applicants for Social Security number (SSN) cards, other than those who receive cards through the enumeration-at-birth (EAB) or enumeration-at-entry programs (EAE), when such persons voluntarily provide race and ethnicity (RE) data.

#### **CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:**

SSN and RE data collected during contacts with the successfully enumerated applicants for SSN cards described above.

#### **AUTHORITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE SYSTEM:**

Sections 702, 704 and 1106 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 902, 904, and 1306), and SSA regulations at 20 CFR 401.165.

#### **PURPOSE(S):**

This system of records will cover RE data collected during contacts with persons who conduct enumeration business with us, other than those who receive cards through the EAB or EAE programs.

#### **ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:**

Routine use disclosures are as indicated below:

1. To the Office of the President in response to an inquiry from that office made at the request of the subject of the record or a third party on that person's behalf.

2. To a congressional office in response to an inquiry from that office made at the request of the subject of a record or a third party on that person's behalf.

3. To the Department of Justice (DOJ), a court, other tribunal, or another party before such court or tribunal when:

(a) SSA or any of our components;

(b) Any SSA employee in his or her official capacity;

(c) Any SSA employee in his or her individual capacity when DOJ (or SSA when we are authorized to do so) has agreed to represent the employee; or

(d) The United States or any agency thereof when we determine that the litigation is likely to affect the operations of SSA or any of our components,

is party to litigation or has an interest in such litigation, and we determine that the use of such records by DOJ, a court, other tribunal, or another party before such court or tribunal is relevant

and necessary to the litigation. In each case, however, we must determine that such disclosure is compatible with the purpose for which we collected the records.

4. To a Federal, State, or congressional support agency (*e.g.*, Congressional Budget Office and the Congressional Research Staff in the Library of Congress) for research, evaluation, or statistical studies. Such disclosures include, but are not limited to:

(a) Releasing information to assess the extent to which one can predict eligibility for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments or Social Security disability insurance benefits or other programs under the Social Security Act;

(b) Examining the distribution of benefits under programs of the Social Security Act by economic and demographic groups and how these differences might be affected by possible changes in policy;

(c) Analyzing the interaction of economic and non-economic variables affecting entry and exit events and duration in the Title II Old Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance and the Title XVI SSI disability programs; and,

(d) Analyzing retirement decisions focusing on the role of Social Security benefit amounts, automatic benefit recomputation, the delayed retirement credit, and the retirement test.

We may make these disclosures if we:

(1) Determine that the routine use does not violate legal limitations under which the record was provided, collected, or obtained;

(2) Determine that the purpose for which the proposed use is to be made:

(i) Cannot reasonably be accomplished unless the record is provided in a form that identifies a person;

(ii) Is of sufficient importance to warrant the effect on, or risk to, the privacy of the person which such limited additional exposure of the record might bring;

(iii) Has a reasonable probability of being accomplished;

(iv) Is of importance to the programs under the Social Security Act and beneficiaries of such programs or is for an epidemiological research project that relates to programs under the Social Security Act or beneficiaries of such programs;

(3) Require the recipient of information to:

(i) Establish appropriate administrative, technical, and physical safeguards to prevent unauthorized use or disclosure of the record and agree to

on-site inspection by our employees, our agents, or by independent agents of the recipient agency of those safeguards;

(ii) Remove or destroy the information that enables the person to be identified at the earliest time that the recipient can do so consistent with the purpose of the project, unless the recipient receives written authorization from us that it is justified, based on research objectives, in retaining such information;

(iii) Make no further use of the records except:

(a) Under emergency circumstances affecting the health and safety of a person following written authorization from us;

(b) For disclosure to an identified person approved by us for the purpose of auditing the research project;

(iv) Keep the data as a system of statistical records. A statistical record is one which is maintained only for statistical and research purposes and which is not used to make any determination about a person;

(4) Secure a written statement by the recipient of the information attesting to the recipient's understanding of, and willingness to abide by, these provisions.

5. To our contractors and grantees performing program evaluation, research, and statistical activities directly relating to this system of records, and to contractors or grantees for another Federal or State agency performing such activities.

6. To student volunteers, persons working under a personal services contract, and others who are not technically Federal employees, when they are performing work for us as authorized by law, and they need access to information in our records in order to perform their assigned agency duties.

7. To the General Services Administration and the National Archives Records Administration (NARA) under 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906, as amended by the NARA Act, information that is not restricted from disclosure by Federal law for their use in conducting records management studies.

8. To the appropriate Federal, State, and local agencies, entities, and persons when (1) we suspect or confirm that the security or confidentiality of information in this system of records has been compromised; (2) we determine that as a result of the suspected or confirmed compromise there is a risk of harm to economic or property interests, identity theft or fraud, or harm to the security or integrity of this system or our other systems or programs that rely upon the compromised information; and (3) we

determine that disclosing the information to such agencies, entities, and persons is necessary to assist in our efforts to respond to the suspected or confirmed compromise and prevent, minimize, or remedy such harm. We will use this routine use to respond only to those incidents involving an unintentional release of our records.

9. To Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies and private security contractors, as appropriate, information necessary:

(a) To enable them to assure the safety of our employees and the public, the security of our workplace, and the operation of our facilities; or

(b) To assist investigations or prosecutions with respect to activities that affect such safety and security or activities that disrupt the operation of our facilities.

#### **POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORING, RETRIEVING, ACCESSING, RETAINING, AND DISPOSING OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:**

##### **STORAGE:**

We will store records in this system in electronic and paper form.

##### **RETRIEVABILITY:**

We will retrieve records by SSN.

##### **ACCESSIBILITY:**

Our researchers and statisticians prepare micro-data files about persons who are current, recently terminated, or potential recipients of benefits from Social Security and related programs for program evaluation, research, and statistical studies. When the product is in the form of micro-data, we make it available without personal identifiers to our other components and certain other agencies for data processing and data manipulation.

##### **SAFEGUARDS:**

We retain electronic and paper files with personal identifiers in secure storage areas accessible only to our authorized employees and contractors. We limit access to data with personal identifiers from this system to persons or organizations authorized by our Office of Research, Evaluation, and Statistics. We furnish specially edited micro-files on request to public and private organizations for purposes of research and analysis. We include further confidentiality protections in our data agreements.

We provide appropriate security awareness and training annually to all our employees and contractors that include reminders about the need to protect personally identifiable information and the criminal penalties that apply to unauthorized access to, or

disclosure of, personally identifiable information. See 5 U.S.C. 552a(i)(1). Furthermore, employees and contractors with access to databases maintaining personally identifiable information must sign a sanction document annually, acknowledging their accountability for making unauthorized access to, or disclosure of, such information.

#### RETENTION AND DISPOSAL:

For purposes of records management disposition authority, we will follow the NARA and Department of Defense (DOD) 5015.2 regulations (DOD Design Criteria Standard for Electronic Records Management Software Applications). We will permanently maintain RE data covered by the RECS system of records. We will retain the research and statistical micro-data extract (stored on the mainframe) for a maximum of 100 years.

#### SYSTEM MANAGER(S) AND ADDRESS:

Director, Division of Enumeration and Death Alerts, Office of Earnings, Enumeration, and Administrative Systems, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235.

#### NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES:

Persons can determine if this system contains a record about them by writing to the system manager at the above address and providing their name, SSN, or other information that may be in this system of records that will identify them. Persons requesting notification of records in person should provide the same information, as well as provide an identity document, preferably with a photograph, such as a driver's license or some other means of identification, such as voter registration card, etc. Persons lacking identification documents sufficient to establish their identity must certify in writing that they are the person they claim to be and that they understand that the knowing and willful request for, or acquisition of, a record pertaining to another person under false pretenses is a criminal offense.

Persons requesting notification by telephone must verify their identity by providing identifying information that parallels the information in the record to which notification is being requested. If we determine that the identifying information the person provides by telephone is insufficient, the person will be required to submit a request in writing or in person. If a person requests information by telephone on behalf of another individual, the subject person must be on the telephone with the requesting person and with us in the same phone call. We will establish the

subject person's identity (his or her name, SSN, address, date of birth, and place of birth, along with one other piece of information such as mother's maiden name), and ask for his or her consent to provide information to the requesting person. Persons requesting notification submitted by mail must include a notarized statement to us to verify their identity or must certify in the request that they are the person they claim to be and that they understand that the knowing and willful request for, or acquisition of, a record pertaining to another person under false pretenses is a criminal offense. These procedures are in accordance with SSA Regulations (20 CFR 401.40).

#### RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURES:

Same as notification procedures. Requesters should also reasonably specify the record contents being sought. These procedures are in accordance with SSA Regulations (20 CFR 401.40(c)).

#### CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:

Same as notification procedures. Requesters should also reasonably identify the record, specify the information they are contesting, and state the corrective action sought and the reasons for the correction with supporting justification showing how the record is incomplete, untimely, inaccurate, or irrelevant. These procedures are in accordance with SSA Regulations (20 CFR 401.65(a)).

#### RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:

We obtain information covered by this system of records from successfully enumerated applicants for original or replacement SSN cards (or from third parties acting on their behalf) who are not enumerated through the EAB or EAE programs.

#### EXEMPTIONS CLAIMED FOR THE SYSTEM:

None.

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## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 6731]

### Waiver of Restriction on Assistance to the Central Government of Turkmenistan

Pursuant to section 7088(c)(2) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2009 (Division H, Pub. L. 111-8) ("the Act"), and Department of State Delegation of Authority Number 245-1, I hereby

determine that it is important to the national interest of the United States to waive the requirements of section 7088(c)(1) of the Act with respect to the Government of Turkmenistan, and I hereby waive such restriction.

This determination shall be reported to the Congress, and published in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: Jul 14 2009.

**Jacob L. Lew,**

*Deputy Secretary of State for Management and Resources, Department of State.*

[FR Doc. E9-19912 Filed 8-18-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-46-P

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 6732]

### Waiver of Restriction on Assistance to the Central Government of Maldives

Pursuant to section 7088(c)(2) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2009 (Division H, Pub. L. 111-8) ("the Act"), and Department of State Delegation of Authority Number 245-1, I hereby determine that it is important to the national interest of the United States to waive the requirements of section 7088(c)(1) of the Act with respect to the Government of the Republic of Maldives, and I hereby waive such restriction.

This determination shall be reported to the Congress, and published in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: July 29, 2009.

**Jacob J. Lew,**

*Deputy Secretary of State for Management and Resources, Department of State.*

[FR Doc. E9-19915 Filed 8-18-09; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Office of the Secretary

[Docket Number: DOT-OST-2009-0185]

### Request for OMB Clearance of a New Emergency Information Collection; New Information Collection: ARRA Bonding Assistance Program Reimbursable Fee Program

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary (OST), Department of Transportation (DOT).

**ACTION:** Notice; Letter of public notification of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, (Pub. L. 111-5) DBE Bonding Assistance Program. This request is being