

computerized and contain information on initial Unemployment Insurance claims and continued weeks claimed. These figures are important economic indicators. Form ETA-538 provides information allowing release of advance unemployment claims information to the public five days after the close of the reference period. Form ETA-539 contains more detailed weekly claims information and the State's 13-week IUR that is used to determine eligibility for the Extended Benefits program. The reporting requirements in paragraphs (c) and (d) of the old regulation are included in the ET Handbook and elimination of the requirements in regulation allow for ease in making future modifications by simply updating the ET Handbook.

Furthermore, paragraph (d) existed during the implementation phase of the insured unemployment rate (IUR) indicator and required States to submit the method used to identify and select the weeks used for EB trigger purposes to ensure that States were consistent and comparable in their methods. With 30 years of experience, as well as numerous data validation and data quality programs in effect, it is unnecessary to compel State administrators to provide this information. Current reporting guidelines contained in the ET Handbook are clear enough that States continue to have clear standards about which claims are used for constructing totals used to compute trigger values, thus permitting the deletion of this paragraph. The NPRM does not change the existing reporting requirements for Forms ETA-538 or ETA-539.

The preamble to the NPRM stated that the Department had determined the proposed rule did not contain new information collections. However, to ensure transparency and full opportunities for public participation under all appropriate authorities, the Department has decided to submit an Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to revise the PRA approval for the information collections to reflect this rulemaking. *See* 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(B); 5 CFR 1320.11. As part of that process, we seek public comments on the removal of specific information collection requirements in the NPRM and on the general Extended Benefit reporting requirements in Handbook 401 and Forms ETA 538 and 539 in light of specific areas of interest to minimize so-called "paperwork" burdens on the public.

A Federal agency generally cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information, and the public is generally

not required to respond to an information collection, unless it is approved by the OMB under the PRA and displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. In addition, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, no person shall generally be subject to penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information that does not display a valid Control Number. *See* 5 CFR 1320.5(a) and 1320.6. We obtain OMB approval for this information collection under Control Number 1205-0028. This notice is to provide the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to the information collections in the rule, in preparation for an ICR to revise the current PRA approval to reflect the changes in the rule.

Interested parties are encouraged to send comments to the address shown in the **ADDRESSES** section within sixty (60) days of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. In order to help ensure appropriate consideration, comments should mention OMB Control Number 1205-0028. We are 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.

This information collection is summarized as follows:

*Agency:* DOL-ETA.

*Action:* ICR Revision.

*Title of Collection:* Weekly Claims and Extended Benefits Data and Weekly Initial and Continued Weeks Claimed.

*OMB Control Number:* 1205-0028.

*Affected Public:* State, Local, and Tribal Governments.

*Total Estimated Number of Respondents:* 53.

*Total Estimated Number of Responses:* 5,512.

*Total Estimated Annual Time Burden:* 3,675 hours.

*Total Estimated Annual Other Costs Burden:* \$0.

**Portia Wu,**

*Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training.*

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**BILLING CODE 4510-FW-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Employment and Training Administration

#### **Comment Request for Information Collection for ETA 9128, Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessments Workload Report, ETA 9129, Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessments Outcomes Report, Extension With Revision, ETA 9128 X, Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessments Workload Report for Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicemembers (UCX), and ETA 9129 X, Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessments Outcomes Report for Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicemembers**

**AGENCY:** Employment and Training Administration (ETA), Labor.

**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 an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collection of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 [44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)] (PRA). The PRA helps to ensure that respondents can provide requested data in the desired format with minimal reporting burden (time and financial resources), collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed.

Currently, ETA is soliciting comments concerning the collection of data about the ETA 9128, and the ETA 9129 and the new ETA 9128 X and ETA 9129 X. The current expiration date for the ETA 9128 and ETA 9129 reports is January 31, 2016. Beginning in 2016, states will be required to target for the Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) program one-third of those regular claimants most likely to exhaust their benefits and all claimants receiving UCX. For this reason the Department is proposing that states send an ETA 9128 report for one-third of those regular claimants most likely to exhaust their benefits and a separate

ETA 9128 X report for UCX recipients. These two reports will reflect different populations and all data elements will be the same as are currently collected on the ETA 9128 report. To review the outcomes of the RESEA program, the Department is proposing to use the ETA 9129 report and the ETA 9129 X report for UCX participants. The data elements in these reports will parallel those of the treatment group on the current reports. Data collection for the comparison group in the ETA 9129 is being discontinued under this revision and will not be included in the ETA 9129 X. All these reports will reflect the new name for the Reemployment and Eligibility Assessment (REA) program, which changed in 2015 to the RESEA program.

**DATES:** Submit written comments to the office listed in the addressee section below on or before September 8, 2015.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to Diane Wood, Office of Unemployment Insurance, Room S-4524, Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue NW., Frances Perkins Bldg., Washington, DC 20210. Telephone number: (202) 693-3212 (this is not a toll-free number). Individuals with hearing or speech impairments may access the telephone number above via TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Information Relay Service at 1-877-889-5627 (TTY/TDD). Email at [wood.diane@dol.gov](mailto:wood.diane@dol.gov). To obtain a copy of the proposed information collection request (ICR), please contact the person listed above.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Background**

Funds will be awarded to participating states in the RESEA program year 2015 to continue the REA program. The RESEA guidelines require that these funds be used to conduct in-person assessments in the American Job Centers. The RESEA must include an orientation session, an unemployment insurance (UI) eligibility review, the provision of labor market information, development of a re-employment plan and referral to reemployment services and/or training, as appropriate. The guidelines require that participation exclude those claimants who have a specific return-to-work date.

**II. Review Focus**

The Department is particularly interested in comments which:

- \* Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the function of the agency, including

whether the information has 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 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**

The continued collection of the information contained on the ETA 9128 and the ETA 9129 reports is necessary to enable the Office of Unemployment Insurance (OUI) to continue evaluating the effectiveness of the REA program through workload and outcomes reports.

*Type of Review:* Extension with revision.

*Title:* Reemployment and Eligibility Assessments Workload Report and Reemployment and Eligibility Assessments Outcomes Report (ETA 9128 and ETA 9129) and Reemployment and Eligibility Assessments Workload Report for Ex-Servicemembers, and Reemployment and Eligibility Assessments Outcomes Report for Ex-Servicemembers (ETA 9128 X and ETA 9129 X).

*OMB Number:* 1205-0456.

*Affected Public:* State and Local Governments.

*Estimated Total Annual Respondents:* 48.

*Average Frequency:* Quarterly (four reports every quarter per state).

*Estimated Annual Responses:* 768.

*Average Time per Response:* 0.5 hours.

*Estimated Total Burden Hours:* 384 hours.

*Total Estimated Annual Other Cost Burden:* \$0.

We will summarize and/or include in the request for OMB approval of the ICR, the comments received in response to this comment request; they will also become a matter of public record.

**Portia Wu,**

*Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training, Labor.*

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**BILLING CODE 4510-FN-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**

**Office of Workers' Compensation Programs**

**Proposed Extension of Existing Collection; Comment Request**

**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/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. Currently, the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs is soliciting comments concerning the proposed collection: Provider Enrollment Form (OWCP-1168). A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the addresses section of this Notice.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addresses section below on or before September 8, 2015.

**ADDRESSES:** Ms. Yoon Ferguson, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave. NW., Room S-3201, Washington, DC 20210, telephone/fax (202) 354-9647, Email [ferguson.yoon@dol.gov](mailto:ferguson.yoon@dol.gov). Please use only one method of transmission for comments (mail, fax, or Email).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*I. Background:* The Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) is the agency responsible for administration of the Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA), 5 U.S.C. 8101 *et seq.*, the Black Lung Benefits Act (BLBA), 30 U.S.C. 901 *et seq.*, and the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 (EEOICPA), 42 U.S.C. 7384 *et seq.* These statutes require OWCP to pay for appropriate medical and vocational rehabilitation services provided to beneficiaries. In order for OWCP's billing contractor to pay providers of these services with its automated bill processing system, providers must "enroll" with one or more of the OWCP programs that administer the statutes by