• Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department.
• Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.
• Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.
• Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Please note that comments submitted in response to this Notice are public record. Before including any detailed personal information, you should be aware that your comments as submitted, including your personal information, will be available for public review.

Abstract of proposed collection:

The DS–2029, Application for Consular Report of Birth Abroad of a Citizen of the United States of America, is used by citizens of the United States to report the birth of their children born abroad. The information collected on this form will be used to determine whether the child born abroad to a U.S. citizen parent or parents acquired U.S. citizenship at birth. 22 CFR 50.5–50.7 are important legal authorities that permit the Department to use this form.

Methodology:

An application for a Consular Report of Birth is normally made in the consular district in which the birth occurred. The parent respondents will complete the form and present it to a consular officer who will examine the information provided into the documentation and enter the information into the ACS electronic database.

As a condition to this exemption, any employee adversely affected by the abandonment shall be protected under Oregon Short Line Railroad—Abandonment Portion Goshen Branch Between Firth & Amnon, in Bingham & Bonneville Counties, Idaho, 360 L.C.C. 91 (1979). To address whether this condition adequately protects affected employees, a petition for partial revocation under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) must be filed.

Provided no formal expression of intent to file an offer of financial assistance (OFA) has been received, this exemption will become effective on March 11, 2016, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues,¹ formal expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2),² and interim trail use/rail banking requests under 49 CFR 1152.29 must be filed by February 22, 2016. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by March 1, 2016, with the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20423–0001.

If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void ab initio.

¹The Board will grant a stay if an informed decision on environmental issues (whether raised by a party or by the Board’s Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) in its independent investigation) cannot be made before the exemption’s effective date. See Exemption of Out-of-Serv. Rail Lines, 5 I.C.C.2d 377 (1989). Any request for a stay should be filed as soon as possible so that the Board may take appropriate action before the exemption’s effective date.
²Each OFA must be accompanied by the filing fee, which is currently set at $1,600. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).