

- Whether the remedy works without ongoing Commission supervision or, if monitoring is required, whether the Commission is well positioned to fulfill that oversight function.

- Whether the proposed settlement fully resolves the competitive concerns at the time it is proposed.

- Whether the remedy eliminates the merged firm's ability and incentive to engage in future exclusionary conduct, including monopolization strategies that rely on technical foreclosure.

After careful review of information contained in the investigatory record, particularly the parties' ordinary course documents and third-party statements, it is my view that the remedy here satisfies these criteria and mitigates the concerns I've outlined above given the market conditions and bargaining dynamics relevant to this industry.

Regarding the structural relief contained in the proposed order, the settlement requires clean divestitures of autonomous business lines, including Cantaloupe's micromarket kiosk business and related software services. The proposed divestiture buyer, Seaga, has the resources, relevant experience, and operational capability to compete vigorously on day one. Seaga's existing business incentives, including its incentives to develop its own software and hardware offerings and to support cross-platform integrations, significantly mitigate typical vertical or ecosystem lock-in concerns that often accompany transactions of this nature.

The prior notice requirement for future acquisitions involving micromarket-related businesses is an additional important safeguard, particularly in light of 365 Retail's history of serial acquisitions preceding the current transaction. That requirement ensures that the Commission will be alerted to future deals that may further reduce competition.

The transition services provisions are appropriately limited, incidental to the transfer of assets, and necessary to ensure continuity of operations while the divestiture buyer is in the process of establishing independent back-end systems. Moreover, they are short-term and technical in nature and require only temporary oversight for the duration of the approximately one-year transition period. Importantly, the commitments to divest are binding and structured to require minimal Commission oversight, consistent with the Commission's longstanding expectation that structural relief be self-sustaining and capable of operating autonomously.

Although the proposed remedial package is structural in nature, there are

additional targeted behavioral provisions that are both necessary and appropriately tailored to address concerns related to the acquisition of Cantaloupe's software assets.

In particular, the interoperability and fee-monitoring requirements are designed to operate alongside the structural relief and maintain the parties' existing incentives to support access to critical inputs needed to compete in the provision of micromarket kiosks. The proposed behavioral commitments therefore play a meaningful role in preventing the merged firm from leveraging its expanded control over hardware and software to deprive rivals of access to critical functionalities and data connections.

Given 365 Retail's existing market position and its significant hardware portfolio, the acquisition of Cantaloupe's software services would create a material risk that the merged firm could, in the future, engage in exclusionary practices that violate section 2 of the Sherman Act. Such practices could include, but are not limited to, conditioning customer access to its systems on restrictive terms that limit data portability, degrading interoperability with other service providers, and limiting cross-compatibility for operators seeking to migrate their data systems. By directly eliminating the mechanisms through which future foreclosure could occur, the remedy ensures that the merged firm cannot use its enhanced technical capabilities to engage in exclusionary conduct in the micromarket kiosk market or pursue monopolization strategies in adjacent markets.

Because the proposed transaction will be subject to enforceable safeguards that preserve interoperability and institute fee-monitoring, the post-transaction integration of hardware and software assets, to the extent permitted by the order, can proceed in ways that accelerate complementary innovation, maintain competition, and facilitate new entry. When interoperability is preserved and foreclosure incentives are neutralized, integration is more likely to generate efficiencies which will ultimately be passed on to consumers without the accompanying risk of the merged firm engaging in exclusionary conduct.

The ten-year duration of the interoperability provisions, the presence of a qualified monitor, and the divestiture buyer's capacity to develop and operate its own hardware and software all work together to ensure that the remedy is durable, enforceable, and

fully addresses the competitive risks identified during the investigation.

For these reasons, it is my view that the proposed remedies contained in the consent order fully resolve the competitive concerns raised by this transaction. It is important to bear in mind, however, that the proposed remedy package was crafted with close attention to the bargaining dynamics unique to this industry and was shaped directly by real-world concerns raised by customers and rival operators who depend on continued access to critical technology inputs. The case-specific features of this market warranted the tailored approach reflected in this order, and different circumstances in a different market could easily justify a different outcome.

Conclusion

The proposed remedy reflects the precision the Commission continues to apply to secure relief that advances our competition mandate and protects American consumers. It also underscores the importance of evaluating a company's overall course of conduct, including its past acquisition history and any risks related to foreclosed access, when assessing the competitive implications of a transaction. Given 365 Retail's history of serial acquisitions and the heightened risks that additional consolidation could pose, it is imperative that Commission staff continue to closely scrutinize any future transactions involving 365 Retail consistent with the prior-notice provisions in the order. Continued, proactive oversight will be necessary to prevent further entrenchment of market power and to safeguard the competitive conditions upon which businesses in these and adjacent markets rely.

[FR Doc. 2026-09021 Filed 5-6-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6750-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[Document Identifier: CMS-10393]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is announcing an opportunity for the public to

comment on CMS' intention to collect information from the public. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information (including each proposed extension or reinstatement of an existing collection of information) and to allow 60 days for public comment on the proposed action. Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding our burden estimates or any other aspect of this collection of information, including the necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions, the accuracy of the estimated burden, ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected, and the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

DATES: Comments must be received by July 6, 2026.

ADDRESSES: When commenting, please reference the document identifier or OMB control number. To be assured consideration, comments and recommendations must be submitted in any one of the following ways:

1. *Electronically.* You may send your comments electronically to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for "Comment or Submission" or "More Search Options" to find the information collection document(s) that are accepting comments.

2. *By regular mail.* You may mail written comments to the following address: CMS, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs, Division of Regulations Development, Attention: Document Identifier: _____, OMB Control Number: _____, Room C4-26-05, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850.

To obtain copies of a supporting statement and any related forms for the proposed collection(s) summarized in this notice, please access the CMS PRA website by copying and pasting the following web address into your web browser: <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/PaperworkReductionActof1995/PRA-Listing>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William N. Parham at (410) 786-4669.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Contents

This notice sets out a summary of the use and burden associated with the following information collections. More detailed information can be found in

each collection's supporting statement and associated materials (see **ADDRESSES**).

Under the PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. The term "collection of information" is defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(3) and 5 CFR 1320.3(c) and includes agency requests or requirements that members of the public submit reports, keep records, or provide information to a third party. Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA requires federal agencies to publish a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension or reinstatement of an existing collection of information, before submitting the collection to OMB for approval. To comply with this requirement, CMS is publishing this notice.

Information Collection

1. Type of Information Collection

Request: Revision of a currently approved collection; *Title of Information Collection:* Beneficiary and Family Centered Data Collection; *Use:* To ensure the QIOs are effectively meeting their goals, CMS collects information about beneficiary experience receiving support from the QIOs. This is a revision package. We are revising the postal survey mail letter with a new help desk mailbox, and a toll-free number.

The information collection uses both qualitative and quantitative strategies to ensure CMS and the QIOs understand beneficiary experiences through all interactions with the QIO including initial contact, interim interactions, and case closure. Information collection instruments are tailored to reflect the steps in each type of process, as well as the average time it takes to complete each process. The previously approved information collection instruments are included with this submission.

The information collection will:

- Allow beneficiaries to directly provide feedback about the services they receive under the QIO program;
- Provide quality improvement data for QIOs to improve the quality of service delivered to Medicare beneficiaries; and
- Provide evaluation metrics for CMS to use in assessing performance of QIO contractors.

To achieve the above goals, information collection will include the Experience Survey which will be administered via telephone and mail to beneficiaries/representatives after the

Quality of Care (Medical Record Review) complaint/Immediate Advocacy/appeal case has been closed. The goal of the Experience Survey is to assess beneficiary overall and specific experiences with the BFCC QIOs. There are no changes to the survey. *Form Number:* CMS-10393 (OMB control number: 0938-1177); *Frequency:* Once; *Affected Public:* Individuals or households; *Number of Respondents:* 9,000; *Number of Responses:* 9,000; *Total Annual Hours:* 2,250. (For policy questions regarding this collection, contact Kaysha Meredith at 410-786-2449.)

William N. Parham, III,

Director, Division of Information Collections and Regulatory Impacts, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2026-09096 Filed 5-6-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4120-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

Proposed Information Collection Activity; Evaluation of the Next Generation Child Support Employment Services Demonstration—New Information Collection Request

AGENCY: Office of Child Support Enforcement, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services.

ACTION: Request for public comments.

SUMMARY: The Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) is proposing to collect data for a new implementation and outcomes study, Evaluation of the Next Generation Child Support Employment Services Demonstration (NextGen).

DATES: Comments due July 6, 2026.

ADDRESSES: In compliance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) is soliciting public comment on the specific aspects of the information collection described above. You can obtain copies of the proposed collection of information and submit comments by emailing infocollection@acf.hhs.gov. Identify all requests by the title of the information collection.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Description: OCSE proposes data collection activity as part of NextGen. In August 2024, OCSE issued eight grants and two section 1115 waivers to 10 child support agencies to provide