Name of Committee: Minority Programs Review Committee, Mbrs Subcommittee B, Minority Biomedical Research Support Review Subcommittee.

Date: July 9–10, 1998.

Time: 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Natcher Building, Conference Room C, 45 Center Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Contact Person: Michael A. Sesma, Scientific Review Administrator, Office of Scientific Review, NIGMS, Natcher Bldg., Room 1AS19H, 45 Center Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.375, Minority Biomedical Research Support; 93.821, Cell Biology and Biophysics Research; 93.859, Pharmacology, Physiology, and Biological Chemistry Research; 93.862, Genetics and Developmental Biology Research; 93.88, Minority Access to Research Careers; 93.96, Special Minority Initiatives, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: June 23, 1998.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Committee Management Officer, NIH.

[FR Doc. 98–17171 Filed 6–26–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Center For Scientific Review; Notice of Closed Meetings

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following meetings.

The meetings will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: Chemistry and Related Sciences Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: July 7, 1998.

Time: 10:00 am to 11:30 am.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: NIH, Rockledge 2, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Ronald Dubois, PHD, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, room 4156, MSC 7806, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435–1722.

Name of Committee: Biological and Physiological Sciences Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: July 15, 1998.

Time: 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: NIH, Rockledge 2, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Carol A. Campbell, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 5195C, MSC 7848, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435–1257.

Name of Committee: Chemistry and Related Sciences Special Emphasis Panel ZRG3MCHA/1M.

Date: July 20, 1998.

Time: 11:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: NIH, Rockledge 2, Bethesda MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Ronald Dubois, PHD, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, room 4156, MSC 7806, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435–1711.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.306, Comparative Medicine, 93.306; 93.333, Clinical Research, 93.333, 93.337, 93.393–93.396, 93.837–93.844, 93.846–93.878, 93.892, 93.893, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: June 23, 1998.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Committee Management Officer, NIH.

[FR Doc. 98–17174 Filed 6–26–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Office of Refugee Resettlement

Refugee Resettlement Program: Final Notice of Allocations to States of FY 1998 Funds for Refugee Social Services

AGENCY: Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), ACF, HHS.

ACTION: Final notice of allocations to States of FY 1998 funds for refugee [1] social services.

SUMMARY: This notice establishes the allocations to States of FY 1998 funds for social services under the Refugee Resettlement Program (RRP). We have added approximately $22.1 million in unexpended FY 19965 CMA funds to the social services formula program bringing the total to $90.9 million in funds available for formula social services in FY 1998.

This notice reflects the decision by Congress to provide $14,000,000 under social services to address the needs of refugees and communities impacted by recent changes in Federal assistance programs relating to welfare reform. This notice also announces ORR's intention to postpone a final decision on the elimination of the floor formula for States with small refugee populations until a later date. A notice of proposed social service allocations to States was published in the **Federal Register** on February 13, 1998, (63 FR 7422) for public comment. The population estimates that were used in the proposed notice have been adjusted in the final notice as a result of additional arrival information.

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 29, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Toyo Biddle, Director, Division of Refugee Self-sufficiency, (202) 401–9250.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Amounts for Allocation

The Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) has available $129,990,000 in FY 1998 refugee social service funds as part of the FY 1998 appropriation for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) (Pub. L. 105–78).

The FY 1998 House Appropriations Committee Report (H.R. Rept. No. 105–205) reads as follows with respect to social services funds:

The bill provides $129,990,000 for social services, an increase of $19,108,000 over the comparable fiscal year 1997 appropriation and the budget request. Funds are distributed by formula as well as through the discretionary grant making process for special projects. The Committee agrees that $19,000,000 is available for assistance to serve communities affected by the Cuban and Haitian entrants and refugees whose arrivals in recent years have increased. The Committee has set-aside $16,000,000 for

[1] In addition to persons who meet all requirements of 45 CFR 400.43, ''Requirements for documentation of refugee status,'' eligibility for refugee social services also includes: (1) Cuban and Haitian entrants, under section 501 of the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980 (Pub. L. 96–422); (2) certain Amerasians from Vietnam who are admitted to the U.S. as immigrants under section 584 of the Foreign Operations Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1988, as included in the FY 1988 Continuing Resolution (Pub. L. 100–202); and (3) certain Amerasians from Vietnam, including U.S. citizens, under title II of the Foreign Operations, Expoert Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Acts, 1989 (Pub. L. 100–461), 1990 (Pub. L. 101–167), and 1991 (Pub. L. 101–513). For convenience, the term ''refugee'' is used in this notice to encompass all such eligible persons unless the specific context indicates otherwise.

Refugees admitted to the U.S. under admissions numbers set aside for private-sector-initiative admissions are not eligible to be served under the social service program (or under other programs supported by Federal refugee funds) during their period of coverage under their sponsoring agency's agreement with the Department of State—usually two years from their date of arrival or until they obtain permanent resident alien status, whichever comes first.

increased support to communities with large concentrations of refugees whose cultural differences make assimilation especially difficult justifying a more intense level and longer duration of Federal assistance. Finally, the Committee has set aside $14,000,000 to address the needs of refugees and communities impacted by recent changes in Federal assistance programs relating to welfare reform. The Committee urges ORR to assist refugees at risk of losing, or who have lost, benefits including SSI, TANF and Medicaid, in obtaining citizenship. In addition, ORR may initiate planning grants to create alternative cash and medical assistance programs for refugees.

The Committee recommends that ORR give special consideration in allocating grant funding to applicants providing rehabilitation services for victims of physical and mental torture. The Committee requests that ORR be prepared to testify regarding its activities in support of victims of torture during the fiscal year 1999 budget hearings.

The FY 1998 Senate Appropriations Committee Report (S. Rept. No. 105–58) adds the following:

The Committee is concerned that the current policy of the Office of Refugee Resettlement prohibiting the use of a portion of refugee social services and targeted assistance formula grant funds for refugees who have been in the United States for more than 5 years deprives some counties and States of the ability to give employment-related assistance to may of their refugee welfare recipients. The Committee urges the ORR to be flexible in considering waiver requests of the 5-year policy.

The Conference Report on Appropriations (H. Rept. No. 105–390) agrees with the House and Senate Reports regarding the allocation of social services.

The Director of the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) will use the $129,990,000 appropriated for FY 1998 social services as follows:

- $68,841,500 will be allocated under the 3-year population formula, as set forth in this notice for the purpose of providing employment services and other needed services to refugees.
- $12,148,500 will be awarded as social service discretionary grants through competitive grant announcements that will be issued separately from this notice.
- $19,000,00 will be awarded to serve communities most heavily affected by recent Cuban and Haitian entrant and refugee arrivals. These funds would be awarded through a discretionary grant announcement that will be issued separately from this notice.
- $16,000,000 will be awarded through discretionary grants for communities with large concentrations of refugees whose cultural differences make assimilation especially difficult justifying a more intense level and longer duration of Federal assistance. A grant announcement will be issued separately from this notice.
- $14,000,000 will be awarded to address the needs of refugees and communities impacted by recent changes in Federal assistance programs relating to welfare reform. Awards will be made through announcements issued separately from this notice.

In addition, we are adding $22,066,190 in unexpended CMA funds that were obligated to States in FY 1996 to FY 1998 formula social service allocations to States, increasing the total amount available for the formula social services program in FY 1998 to $90,907,690. Congress provided ORR with broad carry-over authority in the FY 1998 HHS appropriations law to use FY 1996 CMA carry-over funds for assistance and other activities in the refugee program in fiscal years 1997 and 1998. The appropriations law state: ''* * * That funds appropriated pursuant to section 414(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act under Pub.L. 104–134 for fiscal year 1996 shall be available for the costs of assistance provided and other activities conducted in such year and in fiscal years 1997 and 1998.'' We have decided that the best use of FY 1996 unexpended CMA funds would be to increase State allocations in the social services formula program to enable States to more fully serve both RCA refugees and refugee recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) within the refugee social services system. Fourth quarter formula social service grant awards to States will reflect the increased funding.

Refugee Social Service Funds

The population figures for the social services allocation include refugees, Cuban/Haitian entrants, Amerasians from Vietnam, and Kurdish asylees since these populations may be served through funds addressed in this notice. (A State must, however, have an approved State plan for the Cuban/Haitian Entrant Program or indicate in its refugee program State plan that Cuban/Haitian entrants will be served in order to use funds on behalf of entrants as well as refugees.)

The Director is allocating $90,907,690 to States on the basis of each State's proportion of the national population of refugees who has been in the U.S. 3 years or less as of October 1, 1997 (including a floor amount for States which have small refugee populations).

The use of the 3-year population base in the allocation formula is required by section 412(c)(1)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) which states that the ''funds available for a fiscal year for grants and contracts [for social services] * * * shall be allocated among the States based on the total number of refugees (including children and adults) who arrived in the United States not more than 36 months before the beginning of such fiscal year and who are actually residing in each State (taking into account secondary migration) as of the beginning of the fiscal year.''

As established in the FR 1991 social services notice published in the **Federal Register** of August 29, 1991, section I, ''Allocation Amounts'' (56 FR 42745), a viable floor amount for States which have small refugee populations is calculated as follows: If the application of the regular allocation formula yields less than $100,000, then—

(1) A base amount of $75,000 is provided for a State with a population of 50 or fewer refugees who have been in the U.S. 3 years or less; and

(2) For a State with more than 50 refugees who have been in the U.S. 3 years or less: (a) A floor has been calculated consisting of $50,000 plus the regular per capita allocation for refugees above 50 up to a total of $100,000 (in other words, the maximum under the floor formula is $100,000); (b) if this calculation has yielded less than $75,000, a base amount of $75,000 is provided for the State.

We indicated in the proposed notice that ORR intends to eliminate the floor formula beginning in FY 1999 and to use the 3-year refugee population allocations formula for all participating States. The Director has decided to postpone a final decision on this issue at this time to allow consideration of this issue within the context of other program changes that may result through ORR regulations changes. See the ''Discussion of Comments Received'' section of this notice for further discussion of this issue.

Population To Be Served

Although the allocation formula is based on the 3-year refugee population, in accordance with the current requirements of 45 CFR part 400 subpart I—Refugee Social Services, States are not required to limit social service programs to refugees who have been in the U.S. only 3 years. However, under 45 CFR 400.152, States may not provide services funded by this notice, except for referral and interpreter services, to refugees who have been in the United States for more than 60 months (5 years).

In accordance with 45 CFR 400.147, States are required to provide services to refugees in the following order of

priority, except in certain individual extreme circumstances: (a) All newly arriving refugees during their first year in the U.S., who apply for services; (b) refugees who are receiving cash assistance; (c) unemployed refugees who are not receiving cash assistance; and (d) employed refugees in need of services to retain employment or to attain economic independence.

ORR funds may not be used to provide services to United States citizens, since they are not covered under the authorizing legislation, with the following exceptions: (1) Under current regulations at 45 CFR 400.208, services may be provided to a U.S.-born minor child in a family in which both parents are refugees or, if only one parent is present, in which that parent is a refugee; and (2) under the FY 1989 Foreign Operations Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act (Pub. L. 100–461), services may be provided to an Amerasian from Vietnam who is a U.S. citizen and who enters the U.S. after October 1, 1988.

Service Priorities

In the past, a number of States have focused primarily on servicing refugee cash assistance (RCA) recipients because of the need to help these refugees become employed and self-sufficient within the 8-month RCA eligibility period. Now, with the passage of welfare reform, refugee recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) also face a time limit for cash assistance and need appropriate services as quickly as possible to become employed and self-sufficient. In order for refugees to move quickly off TANF, we believe it is crucial for these refugees to receive refugee-specific services that are designed to address the employment barriers that refugees typically face. We, therefore, strongly encourage State Refugee Coordinators to make every effort to develop agreements with their State TANF program to utilize, to the maximum extent possible, the existing refugee service system in a State for refugee TANF participants.

Refugee social service funding should be used to assist refugee families to achieve economic independence. To this end, States are required to ensure that a coherent family self-sufficiency plan is developed for each eligible family that addresses the family's needs from time of arrival until attainment of economic independence. (See 45 CFR 400.79 and 400.156(g).) Each family self-sufficiency plan should address a Family's needs for both employment related services and other needed social services. The family self-sufficiency plan must include: (1) A determination of the income level a family would have to earn to exceed its cash grant and move into self-support without suffering a monetary penalty; (2) a strategy and timetable for obtaining that level of family income through the placement in employment of sufficient numbers of employable family members at sufficient wage levels; and (3) employability plans for every employable member of the family.

Reflecting section 412(a)(1)(A)(iv) of the INA, and in keeping with 45 CFR 400.145(c), States must ensure that women have the same opportunities as men to participate in all services funded under this notice, including job placement services. In addition, services must be provided to the maximum extent feasible in a manner that includes the use of bilingual/bicultural women on service agency staffs to ensure adequate service access by refugee women. The Director also strongly encourages the inclusion of refugee women in management and board positions in agencies that serve refugees. In order to facilitate refugee self-support, the Director also expects States to implement strategies which address simultaneously the employment potential of both male and female wage earners in a family unit, particularly in the case of large families. States are expected to make very effort to assure the availability of day care services for children in order to allow women with children the opportunity to participate in employment services or to accept or retain employment. To accomplish this, day care may be treated as a priority employment-related service under the refugee social services program. Refugees who are participating in employment services or have accepted employment are eligible for day care services for children. For an employed refugee, day care funded by refugee social service dollars should be limited to one year after the refugee becomes employed. States are expected to use day care funding from other publicly funded mainstream programs as a prior resource and are expected to work with service providers to assure maximum access to other publicly funded resources for day care.

In accordance with 45 CFR 400.146, social service funds must be used primarily for employability services designed to enable refugees to obtain jobs within one year of becoming enrolled in services in order to achieve economic self-sufficiency as soon as possible. Social services may continue to be provided after a refugee has entered a job to help the refugee retain employment or move to a better job. Social service funds may not be used for long-term training programs such as vocational training that last for more than a year or educational programs that are not intended to lead to employment within a year.

In accordance with 45 CFR 400.156(e), refugee social services must be provided, to the maximum extent feasible, in a manner that is culturally and linguistically compatible with refugee's language and cultural background. In light of the increasingly diverse population of refugees who are resettling in this country, refugee service agencies will need to develop practical ways of providing culturally and linguistically appropriate services to a changing ethnic population.

Services funded under this notice must be refugee-specific services which are designed specifically to meet refugee needs and are in keeping with the rules and objectives of the refugee program. Vocational or job skills training, on-the-job training, or English language training, however, need not be refugee-specific (45 CFR 400.156(d)).

English language training must be provided in a concurrent, rather than sequential, time period with employment or with other employment-related activities (45 CFR 400.156(c)).

When planning State refugee services, States must take into account the reception and placement (R & P) services provided by local resettlement agencies in order to utilize these resources in the overall program design and to ensure the provision of seamless, coordinated services to refugees that are not duplicative (45 CFR 400.156(b)).

In order to provide culturally and linguistically compatible services in as cost-efficient a manner as possible in a time of limited resources, ORR encourages States and counties to promote and give special consideration to the provision of refugee social services through coalitions of refugee service organizations, such as coalitions of mutual assistance associations (MAAs) voluntary resettlement agencies, or a variety of service providers. ORR believes it is essential for refugee-serving organizations to form close partnerships in the provision of services to refugees in order to be able to respond adequately to a changing refugee picture. Coalition-building and consolidation of providers is particularly important in communities with multiple service providers in order to ensure better coordination of services and maximum use of funding for services by minimizing the funds used for multiple administrative overhead costs.

States should also expect to use funds available under this notice to pay for

social services which are provided to refugees who participate in alternative projects. Section 412(e)(7)(A) of the INA provides that:

> The Secretary [of HHS] shall develop and implement alternative projects for refugees who have been in the United States less than thirty-six months, under which refugees are provided interim support, medical services, support (social) services, and case management, as needed, in a manner that encourages self-sufficiency, reduces welfare dependency, and fosters greater coordination among the resettlement agencies and service providers.

This provision is generally known as the Wilson/Fish Amendment. The Department has already issued a separate notice in the **Federal Register** with respect to applications for such projects (60 FR 15766, March 27, 1995). The notice on alternative projects does not contain provisions for the allocation of additional social service funds beyond the amounts established in this notice. Therefore a State which may wish to consider carrying out such a project should take note of this in planning its use of social service funds being allocated under the present notice.

The Use of MAAs

ORR believes that the use of qualified refugee mutual assistance associations in the delivery of social services helps to ensure the provision of culturally and linguistically appropriate services as well as increasing the effectiveness of the overall service system. Therefore, we expect States to use MAAs as service providers to the maximum extent possible. We strongly encourage States when contracting for services, including employment services, to give consideration to the special strengths of MAAs, whenever contract bidders are otherwise equally qualified, provided that the MAA has the capability to deliver services in a manner that is culturally and linguistically compatible with the background of the target population to be served. ORR also strongly encourages MAAs to ensure that their management and board composition reflect the major target populations to be served. ORR expects States to continue to assist MAAs in seeking other public and/or private funds for the provision of services to refugee clients.

States may use a portion of their social service grant, either through contracts or through the use of State/county staff, to provide technical assistance and organizational training to strengthen the capability of MAAs to provide employment services, particularly in States where MAA capability is weak or undeveloped.

ORR defines MAAs as organizations with the following qualifications:

a. The organization is legally incorporated as a nonprofit organization; and

b. Not less than 51% of the composition of the Board of Directors or governing board of the mutual assistance association is comprised of refugees or former refugees, including both refugee men and women.

II. Discussion of Comments Received

We received 16 letters of comment in response to the notice of proposed FY 1998 allocations to States for refugee social services. The comments are summarized below and are followed in each case by the Department's response.

Comment: Thirteen commenters expressed concern over the proposed elimination of a floor amount for States with small refugee populations. Four States that receive a floor amount indicated that they would be forced to withdraw from the refugee program if the floor allocation is eliminated because the social services grant level would be insufficient to enable the program to continue to operate. Several comments indicated that refugees would go unserved in small States without a floor allocation. Other commenters made the point that once a State program is eliminated, it would be very difficult, and perhaps impossible, to reinstate the program in order to meet refugee emergencies that may arise in the future. Two commenters felt that the basis for elimination of the floor was unclear and needed to be clarified.

Representing an alternate view, two commenters expressed support for elimination of the floor for small States. One of the commenters, however, recommended reserving a small portion of discretionary funds to assist small States to continue in the refugee program.

Response: We recognize the expressed concerns of the States and refugee service providers that would be affected by the elimination of the small State floor and wish to be careful in considering all factors in making a final decision on this issue. We are also mindful of the fact that significant changes in refugee policy may result from the regulations process we are currently engaged in, and that it would make sense to consider other policy changes, such as elimination of the floor, within that context. We have decided, therefore, to postpone a final decision on elimination of the floor for small States to allow consideration of the floor issue within the context of other program changes that may result through ORR regulations changes. This means that we do not plan to eliminate floor allocations to small States in FY 1999. We also want to assure the floor States that the Director will not make a final decision on this issue without first meeting with each of the affected States to discuss implications and alternatives.

Comment: Three commenters objected to the fact that each year an ever increasing portion of refugee social services funding is awarded through discretionary programs instead of through the social service formula program. While recognizing that Congress increased the social services appropriation to serve specific types of needs, the commenters recommended that a responsible approach to the allocation of these funds would be to allocate these funds through the social services formula program, thereby allowing States to determine how best to address these special needs at the local level. The commenters felt that the quality of services would improve by allowing States and local areas greater discretion in determining how needs should be met. One commenter indicated that the different funding sources for self-sufficiency services within the refugee program make it difficult and unnecessarily complicated for States. Another commenter recommended that ORR consider an allotment of 75% of the total social services appropriation to States and 25% to discretionary programs.

Response: The use of discretionary programs allows ORR to better ensure that the service funds that Congress intends for certain populations or certain needs are targeted to the communities where these special populations reside or where special needs are the greatest. Allocation of these funds through the social services formula program would distribute funds to all States, regardless of whether the target populations reside or the target needs exist to any significant degree in each State. We believe the former method is the better method to ensure that Congressional intent is met.

Comment: One commenter stated that the 3-year population formula for social services is inequitable to States with high concentrations of refugees who have been in the U.S. more than 3 years. The commenter recommended that ORR work to have the Refugee Act amended to allow social services funds to be allocated on the basis of a State's total refugee population needing employment services.

Response: States with large concentrations of refugees also receive targeted assistance funding which is

expressly intended for services to long-term refugee welfare recipients, such as the post-36-month population, who are still in need of employment services. Therefore, we do not see a particular need to amend the statutory formula for social services.

Comment: One commenter recommended that ORR should be responsive to the Senate Appropriations Committee's request that ORR be flexible in considering waiver requests regarding the limitation of eligibility for services to refugees who have been in the U.S. less than 5 years. The commenter recommended that ORR grant States maximum flexibility to use service funds for refugees who have been in the U.S. more than 5 years.

Response: We are very willing to consider any requests for a waiver of the 5-year service limitation that are submitted to ORR, as long as documentation is provided to ensure that all refugees residing in a State or California county, who have been in the U.S. less than 5 years, are being fully served. What we cannot do, however, is to delegate the authority to waive Federal regulations pertaining to the refugee program to a State official, as was requested by one State. The authority for waiving Federal refugee program regulations rests solely with the Director of ORR as the Federal official responsible for the administration of the program and, therefore, may not be delegated.

III. Allocation Formula

Of the funds available for FY 1998 for social services, $90,907,690 is allocated to States in accordance with the formula specified below. A State's allowable allocation is calculated as follows:

1. The total amount of funds determined by the Director to be available for this purpose; divided by—

2. The total number of refugees, Cuban/Haitian entrants, Amerasians from Vietnam, and Kurdish asylees who arrived in the United States not more than 3 years prior to the beginning of the fiscal year for which the funds are appropriated, as shown by the ORR Refugee Data System. The resulting per capita amount is multiplied by—

3. The number of persons in item 2, above, in the Sate as of October 1, 1997, adjusted for estimated secondary migration.

The calculation above yields the formula allocation for each State. Minimum allocations for small States are taken into account.

IV. Basis of Population Estimates

The population estimates for the allocation of funds in FY 1998 are based on data on refugee arrivals from the ORR Refugee Data System, adjusted as of October 1, 1997, for estimated secondary migration. The data base includes refugees of all nationalities, Amerasians from Vietnam, Cuban and Haitian entrants, and Kurdish asylees.

For fiscal year 1998, ORR's formula allocations for the States for social services are based on the numbers of refugees, Amerasians, Kurdish asylees, and entrants who arrived during the preceding three fiscal years: 1995, 1996, and 1997, based on arrival data by State. Therefore, estimates have been developed of the numbers of refugees and entrants with arrival or resettlement dates between October 1, 1994, and September 30, 1997, and who are thought to be living in each State as of October 1, 1997.

The estimates of secondary migration were based on data submitted by all participating States on Form ORR–11 (OMB # 0970–0043) on secondary migrants who have resided in the U.S. for 36 months or less, as of September 30, 1997. The total migration reported by each State was summed, yielding in- and out-migration figures and a net migration figure for each State. The net migration figure was applied to the State's total arrival figure, resulting in a revised population estimate.

Estimates were developed separately for refugees and entrants and then combined into a total estimated 3-year refugee/entrant population for each State. Eligible Amerasians and Kurdish asylees are included in the refugee figures.

With regard to Havana parolees, we have adjusted the 3-year population of one State, the State of Florida, based on documentation the State provided regarding the number of Havana parolee arrivals to that State. For all other States, in the absence of reliable data on the State-by-State resettlement of this population, we are crediting each State that received entrant arrivals during the 3-year period from FY 1995–FY 1997 with a prorated share of the 5,992 parolees reported by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) to have come to the U.S. directly from Havana in FY 1997. In addition, we have credited each State with the same share of FY 1995 and FY 1996 Havana parolees that they were credited with in the final FY 1996 and FY 1997 social service notices. The allocations in this notice reflect these additional parolee numbers.

Table 1, below, shows the estimated 3-year populations, as of October 1, 1997, of refugees (col. 1), entrants (col. 2), Havana parolees (col. 3); total refugee/entrant population, (col. 4); the formula amounts which the population estimates yield (col. 5); and the allocation amounts after allowing for the minimum amounts (col. 6).

V. Allocation Amounts

Funding subsequent to the publication of this notice will be contingent upon the submitted and approval of a State annual services plan that is developed on the basis of a local consultative process, as required by 45 CFR 400.11(b)(2) in the ORR regulations. The following amounts are allocated for refugee social services in FY 1998:

TABLE 1.—ESTIMATED 3-YEAR REFUGEE/ENTRANT POPULATIONS OF STATES PARTICIPATING IN THE REFUGEE PROGRAM AND FINAL SOCIAL SERVICE FORMULA AMOUNTS AND ALLOCATIONS FOR FY 1998

State	Refugees [1] (1)	Entrants (2)	Havana [2] parolees (3)	Total population (4)	Formula amount (5)	Allocation (6)
Alabama	523	113	61	697	$201,618	$201,618
Alaska [3]	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arizona	4,979	542	324	5,845	1,690,760	1,690,760
Arkansas	183	13	6	202	58,432	93,968
California [4]	45,673	948	667	47,288	13,678,816	13,678,816
Colorado	3,502	9	7	3,518	1,017,638	1,017,638
Connecticut	2,124	297	182	2,603	752,960	752,960
Delaware	34	4	3	41	11,860	75,000
Dist. of Columbia	1,831	14	8	1,853	536,010	536,010
Florida	14,625	24,247	19,517	58,389	16,889,960	16,889,960
Georgia	8,420	247	153	8,820	2,551,327	2,551,327

TABLE 1.—ESTIMATED 3-YEAR REFUGEE/ENTRANT POPULATIONS OF STATES PARTICIPATING IN THE REFUGEE PROGRAM AND FINAL SOCIAL SERVICE FORMULA AMOUNTS AND ALLOCATIONS FOR FY 1998—Continued

State	Refugees [1] (1)	Entrants (2)	Havana [2] parolees (3)	Total population (4)	Formula amount (5)	Allocation (6)
Hawaii	236	1	0	237	68,556	100,000
Idaho	1,443	1	1	1,445	417,990	417,990
Illinois	11,462	446	251	12,159	3,517,187	3,517,187
Indiana	1,195	11	9	1,215	351,458	351,458
Iowa	4,851	6	3	4,860	1,405,833	1,405,833
Kansas	1,601	17	10	1,628	470,925	470,925
Kentucky [5]	3,065	579	248	3,892	1,125,824	1,125,824
Louisiana	1,345	239	163	1,747	505,348	505,348
Maine	674	1	0	675	195,255	195,255
Maryland	3,700	170	104	3,974	1,149,544	1,149,544
Massachusetts	7,176	151	113	7,440	2,152,140	2,152,140
Michigan	7,327	396	192	7,915	2,289,541	2,289,541
Minnesota	8,726	25	15	8,766	2,535,707	2,535,707
Mississippi	37	32	22	91	26,323	75,000
Missouri	5,765	22	17	5,804	1,678,901	1,678,901
Montana	226	0	0	226	65,374	100,000
Nebraska	1,825	40	17	1,882	544,399	544,399
Nevada [5]	692	803	551	2,046	591,838	591,838
New Hampshire	903	1	0	904	261,497	261,497
New Jersey	3,866	1,110	799	5,775	1,670,512	1,670,512
New Mexico	466	787	613	1,866	539,771	539,771
New York	38,386	1,184	793	40,363	11,675,649	11,675,649
North Carolina	3,179	45	23	3,247	939,247	939,247
North Dakota	1,163	4	3	1,170	338,441	338,441
Ohio	3,985	54	28	4,067	1,176,445	1,176,445
Oklahoma	772	17	10	799	231,124	231,124
Oregon	4,383	514	273	5,170	1,495,506	1,495,506
Pennsylvania	7,217	327	166	7,710	2,230,242	2,230,242
Rhode Island	346	7	3	356	102,979	102,979
South Carolina	346	8	4	358	103,557	103,557
South Dakota	658	0	0	658	190,337	190,337
Tennessee	3,570	225	105	3,900	1,128,138	1,128,138
Texas	11,470	1,064	703	13,237	3,829,016	3,829,016
Utah	2,567	1	0	2,568	742,835	742,835
Vermont	714	0	0	714	206,536	206,536
Virginia	4,834	252	143	5,229	1,512,573	1,512,573
Washington	17,412	66	30	17,508	5,064,471	5,064,471
West Virginia	14	1	0	15	4,339	75,000
Wisconsin	2,387	18	11	2,416	698,867	698,867
Wyoming [3]	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	251,878	35,059	26,351	313,288	90,623,606	90,907,690

[1] Includes: refugees, Kurdish asylees, and Amerasian immigrants from Vietnam.
[2] For FY 1997, Florida's HP's (3957) were based on actual data while HP's in other States (2035) were prorated based on the States' proportion of the three year (FY 1995–1997) entrant population. For FY 1996, Florida's HP's (7303) were based on actual data while HP's in other States (2611) were prorated based on the States' proportion of the three year (FY 1994–1996) entrant population. For FY 1995, Florida's HP's (8245) were based on actual data while HP's in other States (2188) were prorated based on the States' proportion of the three year (FY 1993–1995) entrant population.
[3] Alaska and Wyoming no longer participate in the Refugee Program.
[4] A portion of the California allocation is expected to be awarded to continue a Wilson/Fish project in San Diego.
[5] The allocation for Kentucky and Nevada is expected to be awarded to continue a Wilson/Fish project.

VI. Paperwork Reduction Act

This notice does not create any reporting or recordkeeping requirements requiring OMB clearance.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance No. 93.566 Refugee Assistance—State Administered Programs)

Dated: June 19, 1998.

Lavinia Limon,

Director, Office of Refugee Resettlement.

[FR Doc. 98–17266 Filed 6–26–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4184–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR–4352–N–04]

Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing, HUD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The proposed information collection requirement described below will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act. The Department is soliciting public comments on the subject proposal.

DATES: Comments are due: August 28, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this proposal. Comments should refer to the proposal by name and/or OMB Control Number and should be sent to: Mildred M. Hamman, Reports Liaison