

Dated: August 10, 1998.

Robert L. Schrenk,

Forest Supervisor, Kootenai National Forest.

[FR Doc. 98-22108 Filed 8-17-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the New Jersey Advisory Committee

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, that a meeting of the New Jersey Advisory Committee to the Commission will convene at 1:00 p.m. and adjourn at 7:00 p.m. on September 11, 1998, at the Bally's Park Place, Park Place and the Boardwalk, Atlantic City, New Jersey 08401. The purpose of the meeting is to review the Committee's report on employment opportunity for Asian Americans in New Jersey State government employment, and plan future projects. The Committee will reconvene on September 12, 1998, at 9:30 a.m. and adjourn at 12:30 p.m. at yesterday's location, Bally's Park Place. The purpose of the meeting is to hold a briefing session with civil rights and advocacy groups, local government officials, and unscheduled audience comments.

Persons desiring additional information, or planning a presentation to the Committee, should contact Ki-Taek Chun, Director of the Eastern Regional Office, 202-376-7533 (TDD 202-376-8116). Hearing-impaired persons who will attend the meeting and require the services of a sign language interpreter should contact the Regional Office at least ten (10) working days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

The meeting will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Commission.

Dated at Washington, DC, August 11, 1998.

Carol-Lee Hurley,

Chief, Regional Programs Coordination Unit.

[FR Doc. 98-22166 Filed 8-17-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6335-01-P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the Virginia Advisory Committee

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, that a meeting of the Virginia Advisory Committee to the Commission will convene at 10:00 a.m. and adjourn at 3:00 p.m. on September 28, 1998, at the Temple Rodef Shalom,

2100 Westmoreland Street, Falls Church, Virginia 22043. The purpose of the meeting is to review the Committee's report on the justice system disparities for African American males, and plan future projects.

Persons desiring additional information, or planning a presentation to the Committee, should contact Ki-Taek Chun, Director of the Eastern Regional Office, 202-376-7533 (TDD 202-376-8116). Hearing-impaired persons who will attend the meeting and require the services of a sign language interpreter should contact the Regional Office at least ten (10) working days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

The meeting will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Commission.

Dated at Washington, DC, August 11, 1998.

Carol-Lee Hurley,

Chief, Regional Programs Coordination Unit.

[FR Doc. 98-22165 Filed 8-17-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6335-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of the Census

Census 2000/Puerto Rico

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before October 19, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information should be directed to Decennial Communications, Decennial Management Division, Bureau of the Census, Room 2002, Suitland Federal Center #2, Washington, DC 20233-0001. Their telephone number is (301) 457-3947.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The United States Constitution mandates that a census of the Nation's population and housing be taken every 10 years. Title 13 of the U.S. Code specifies that in addition to the 50 states and the District of Columbia, the census also should include Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Census Bureau's goal in Census 2000 is to take the most accurate and cost-effective census possible. The importance of an accurate decennial census cannot be overstated. Puerto Rico census data are used to redraw legislative district boundaries to ensure that political representation is distributed accurately and to determine funding allocations for the distribution of Federal and Puerto Rico funds each year. Census data tell us what we know about Puerto Rico; they are the definitive benchmark for virtually all demographic information used by the Federal, Puerto Rico and local governments, policy makers, educators, journalists, and community and nonprofit organizations.

From Census 2000, the Census Bureau will produce population totals by race, Hispanic origin, and age for census blocks and higher geographic levels for legislative redistricting in Puerto Rico. The Census Bureau also will be collecting a wealth of demographic, social, economic, and housing characteristics from the population. This information is required to implement programs and enforce Federal laws and, as noted above, plays an important role in the distribution of Federal and Puerto Rico funds each year and serves as a benchmark for many different purposes.

In the process of developing our data collection forms, the Census Bureau has tried to reduce respondent burden in three ways: (1) Including only those questions that are explicitly required in Federal law or whose use is strongly implied by the data requirements in the law—both the short form and the long form have fewer questions than their 1990 counterparts, (2) Working through the decade to develop forms that are easy to understand and fill out, and (3) asking most questions of only a sample of approximately 1 in 6 households in Puerto Rico.

II. Method of Collection

In Census 2000, the Census Bureau will make every effort to account for all people living in the United States, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana

Islands as well as Americans overseas (and their dependents) who are working for the U.S. Government. In Puerto Rico, enumerators will deliver a questionnaire to each housing unit, to be returned in a postage-paid envelope. Housing units will receive an advance letter before questionnaire delivery and a reminder card following questionnaire delivery. Enumerators also will visit and collect information from households that did not return a questionnaire by mail or report their census information by other means, such as by telephone—this operation is called nonresponse follow-up. The Census Bureau also will conduct a reinterview of a small portion of respondents during nonresponse follow-up to ensure the quality of work in this operation.

The Census Bureau plans to take the following additional steps to improve response to the census:

- Build partnerships with Puerto Rico and local governments and with community groups to alert the Census Bureau to problems and advise the Bureau of opportunities to publicize Census 2000 and the best ways to communicate the message.

- Motivate individuals to respond (by explaining the benefits and mandatory nature of the census) and make Census 2000 forms attractive, easy to understand, and simple to fill out. Private sector designers have worked with the Census Bureau to simplify the forms and implement the user-friendly features shown to increase response during testing and research conducted by the Census Bureau.

- Placing unaddressed "Be Counted" forms in locations such as community centers and Walk-In Questionnaire Assistance Centers for use by people who believe they have not been counted in the census. The Census Bureau intends to make these forms available in Spanish and English in Puerto Rico.

- Employing new methods to find and enumerate people, such as enumerating persons who use services at shelters, soup kitchens, and other facilities and placing unaddressed "Be Counted" forms in publicly accessible locations for pick up and completion by people who believe that they have not been counted in the census.

- Providing telephone questionnaire assistance.

The Census Bureau intends to employ statistical sampling to check the quality of the work. An independent quality check—called the Integrated Coverage Measurement survey—will use the information gathered from a second, independent operation to improve the accuracy of the census. The Integrated

Coverage Measurement survey will be submitted separately for OMB review.

III. Data

OMB Number: Not available.

Form Numbers:

Update/Leave Short Forms: D-1(UL) PR, D-1(UL) PR(S), D-1A(UL) PR, D-1A(UL) PR(S)

Update/Leave Long Forms: D-2(UL) PR, D-2(UL) PR(S), D-2A(UL) PR, D-2A(UL) PR(S)

Enumerator Short Forms: D-1(E) PR, D-1(E) PR(S), D-1(E)SUPP-PR, D-1(E)SUPP-PR(S)

Enumerator Long Forms: D-2(E) PR, D-2(E) PR(S), D-2(E)SUPP-PR, D-2(E)SUPP-PR(S)

Household Followup: D-1(HF) PR, D-1(HF) PR(S), D-2(HF) PR, D-2(HF) PR(S)

Be Counted Forms: D-10 PR, D-10 PR(S)

Individual Census Questionnaires: D-15A PR, D-15A PR(S), D-15B PR, D-15B PR(S)

Individual Census Reports: D-20A PR, D-20A PR(S), D-20B PR, D-20B PR(S)

Military Census Report: D-21 PR

Shipboard Census Report: D-23 PR

Letters/Cards/Notices:

Advance Letter: D-5(UL) PR (Spanish/English),

Reminder Postcard: D-9(UL) PR (Spanish/English),

Initial Cover Letter—short: D-16A(L) PR, D-16A(L) PR(S)

Initial Cover Letter—long: D-16B(L) PR, D-16B(L) PR(S)

Flyer—Whole Household Usual Home Elsewhere: D-11 PR, D-11 PR(S)

Household Followup Letter—short: D-19A(L) PR, D-19A(L) PR(S)

Household Followup Letter—long: D-19B(L) PR, D-19B(L) PR(S)

Notice of Visit: D-26 PR, D-26 PR(S)

Privacy Act Notice: D-31 PR (Spanish/English)

Reinterview: D-806 PR, D-806 PR(S)

Type of Review: Regular Submission.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,400,000 households (approx.) (Short Form: 83%; Long form: 17%);

Reinterview: 15,820 households.

Estimated Time Per Response:

Short Form: 13 minutes

Long Form: 48 minutes

Reinterview: 6 minutes

Estimated Total Annual Burden:

Short Form: 251,767 hours

Long Form: 190,400 hours

Reinterview: 1,582 hours

Total: 443,749 hours

Estimated Total Annual Cost: The only cost to the respondent is their time.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

Legal Authority: Title 13 U.S.C.

Sections 141 and 193. Title 13 U.S.C.

Section 191 directs the inclusion of Puerto Rico within the geographic scope of the census.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; the comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: August 12, 1998.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-22145 Filed 8-17-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Coastal Services Center Product Evaluation Forms and Coastal Training Institute Evaluation Forms

ACTION: Proposed Collection; comment request.

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