

### Retaliation for Engaging in Protected Activity

A Federal agency cannot retaliate against an employee or applicant because that individual exercises his or her rights under any of the Federal antidiscrimination or whistleblower protection laws listed above. If you believe that you are the victim of retaliation for engaging in protected activity, you must follow, as appropriate, the procedures described in the Antidiscrimination Laws and Whistleblower Protection Laws sections or, if applicable, the administrative or negotiated grievance procedures in order to pursue any legal remedy.

### Disciplinary Actions

Under the existing laws, each agency retains the right, where appropriate, to discipline a Federal employee for conduct that is inconsistent with Federal Antidiscrimination and Whistleblower Protection Laws up to and including removal. If OSC has initiated an investigation under 5 U.S.C. 1214, however, according to 5 U.S.C. 1214(f), agencies must seek approval from the Special Counsel to discipline employees for, among other activities, engaging in prohibited retaliation. Nothing in the No FEAR Act alters existing laws or permits an agency to take unfounded disciplinary action against a Federal employee or to violate the procedural rights of a Federal employee who has been accused of discrimination.

### Additional Information

For further information regarding the No FEAR Act regulations, refer to 5 CFR part 724, as well as the appropriate offices within your agency (e.g., EEO/ civil rights office, human resources office or legal office). Additional information regarding Federal antidiscrimination whistleblower protection and retaliation laws can be found at the EEOC Web site—<http://www.eeoc.gov> and the OSC Web site—<http://www.osc.gov>.

### Existing Rights Unchanged

Pursuant to section 205 of the No FEAR Act, neither the Act nor this notice creates, expands or reduces any rights otherwise available to any employee, former employee or applicant under the laws of the United States, including the provisions of law specified in 5 U.S.C. 2302(d).

Dated: November 11, 2006.

**Harry K. Thomas, Jr.,**

*Executive Secretary, Department of State.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 5614]

### Eligibility for Participation in Summer Work Travel Programs

**AGENCY:** Department of State.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to statutory authority granted the Department of State by Public Law 105-277, foreign post-secondary students participating in a cultural exchange program may be eligible to enter the United States to work and travel during their summer vacations from studies. To be eligible for participation in these programs, foreign students must be selected, screened, placed, and monitored by Department-designated organizations that are authorized to conduct educational and cultural exchange programs. These programs further the public diplomacy efforts of the United States by providing participants with the opportunity to experience the United States and its people.

Participation in these programs is dependent upon student status. For the purpose of determining program eligibility, designated program sponsors may select for program participation only those potential participants who are currently enrolled and participating full-time in post-secondary studies at the time of application. This certification will be published in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: November 9, 2006.

**Stanley S. Colvin,**

*Director, Office of Exchange Coordination and Designation, Department of State.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA-2006-26304]

### Agency Information Collection Activities; Revision of Approved Information Collections: OMB Control Numbers 2126-0010 (Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program); 2126-0011 (Commercial Driver Licensing and Test Standards); and 2126-0025 (Transportation of Household Goods; Consumer Protection)

**AGENCY:** Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** FMCSA invites public comment on its intent to request

approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to revise three (3) information collections (ICs), entitled "Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program" (2126-0010), "Commercial Driver Licensing and Test Standards" (2126-0011), and "Transportation of Household Goods; Consumer Protection" (2126-0025). These ICs are necessary to ensure that motor carriers comply with changes made by various provisions of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). We are required to publish this notice in the **Federal Register** by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and implementing regulations at 5 CFR 1320.10.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before January 19, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** You may mail or hand deliver comments to the U.S. Department of Transportation, Dockets Management Facility, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590; telefax comments to 202/493-2251; or submit them electronically at <http://dms.dot.gov>. All comments should include the docket number in this notice's heading. All comments may be examined and copied at the above address from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. If you desire a receipt you must include a self-addressed stamped envelope or postcard or, if you submit your comments electronically, you may print the acknowledgment.

**Privacy Act:** Anyone is able to search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** on April 11, 2000 (65 FR 19477), or you may visit <http://dms.dot.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Frederic L. Wood, Office of Chief Counsel, Regulatory Affairs Division (MC-CCR), Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Room 8201, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590; telephone (202) 366-0834. Office hours are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The information stated below reflects the proposed changes and the new total annual burden hours for each.

(1) *Title:* Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program.

*FMCSA IC:* OMB Control No. 2126-0010.