

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Bureau of Labor Statistics

Information Collection Activities; Comment Request

AGENCY: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor.

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a pre-clearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired

format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension without change of "General Inquiries to State Agency Contacts." A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contacting the individual listed below in the ADDRESSES section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the ADDRESSES section of this notice on or before February 2, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to Erin Good, BLS Clearance Officer, Division of Management Systems, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Room G225, 2 Massachusetts Avenue NE, Washington,

DC 20212. Written comments also may be transmitted by email to BLS\_PRA\_Public@bls.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Erin Good, BLS Clearance Officer, at 202-691-7628 (this is not a toll free number). (See ADDRESSES section.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) awards funds to State agencies in the 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands (hereinafter referred to as the "States") in order to jointly conduct BLS/State Labor Market Information (LMI) and Occupational Safety and Health Statistics (OSHS) cooperative statistical programs, which themselves have been approved by OMB separately, as follows:

Current Employment Statistics .....	1220-0011
Local Area Unemployment Statistics .....	1220-0017
Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics .....	1220-0042
Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages .....	1220-0012
Annual Refiling Survey .....	1220-0032
Labor Market Information Cooperative Agreement .....	1220-0079
Multiple Worksite Report .....	1220-0134
Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses .....	1220-0045
Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries .....	1220-0133
BLS OSHS Cooperative Agreement .....	1220-0149

To ensure the timely flow of information and to be able to evaluate and improve the BLS/State cooperative programs' management and operations, it is necessary to conduct ongoing communications between the BLS and its State partners. Whether information requests deal with program deliverables, program enhancements, operations, or administrative issues, questions and dialogue are crucial to the successful implementation of these programs.

II. Current Action

Office of Management and Budget clearance is being sought for an extension of General Inquiries to State Agency Contacts. Information collected under this clearance is used to support the administrative and programmatic needs of jointly conducted BLS/State LMI and OSHS cooperative statistical programs.

III. Desired Focus of Comments

The Bureau of Labor Statistics is particularly interested in comments that:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including

whether the information will have practical utility.

- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

Title of Collection: General Inquiries to State Agency Contacts.

OMB Number: 1220-0168.

Type of Review: Extension without change.

Affected Public: State, Local, or Tribal Government.

Total Respondents: 54.

Frequency: As needed.

Total Responses: 23,890.

Average Time per Response: 40 minutes.

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 15,927 hours.

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

Signed at Washington, DC, on November 27, 2023.

Eric Molina,

Acting Chief, Division of Management Systems.

[FR Doc. 2023-26509 Filed 12-1-23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-24-P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

[Docket No. OSHA-2012-0026]

Regulations Containing Procedures for the Handling of Retaliation Complaints; Revision of the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) Approval of Information Collection (Paperwork) Requirements

AGENCY: Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Labor.

ACTION: Request for public comments.

**SUMMARY:** OSHA solicits public comments concerning the proposal to revise the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) approval of the information collection requirements specified in the Regulations Containing Procedures for the Handling of Retaliation Complaints.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted (postmarked, sent, or received) by February 2, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:**

*Electronically:* You may submit comments and attachments electronically at <http://www.regulations.gov>, which is the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Follow the instructions online for submitting comments.

*Docket:* To read or download comments or other material in the docket, go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Documents in the docket are listed in the <http://www.regulations.gov> index; however, some information (*e.g.*, copyrighted material) is not publicly available to read or download through the website. All submissions, including copyrighted material, are available for inspection through the OSHA Docket Office. Contact the OSHA Docket Office at (202) 693-2350 (TTY (877) 889-5627) for assistance in locating docket submissions.

*Instructions:* All submissions must include the agency name and OSHA docket number (OSHA-2012-0026) for the Information Collection Request (ICR). OSHA will place all comments, including any personal information, in the public docket, which may be made available online. Therefore, OSHA cautions interested parties about submitting personal information such as Social Security numbers and birthdates.

For further information on submitting comments, see the "Public Participation" heading in the section of this notice titled **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Seleda Perryman or Theda Kenney, Directorate of Standards and Guidance, OSHA, U.S. Department of Labor; telephone (202) 693-2222.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Background**

The Department of Labor, as part of the continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent (*i.e.*, employer) burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the public with an opportunity to comment on proposed and continuing information collection requirements in accordance with the

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). This program ensures that information is in the desired format, reporting burden (time and costs) is minimal, the collection instruments are clearly understood, and OSHA's estimate of the information collection burden is accurate. The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (OSH Act) (29 U.S.C. 651 *et seq.*) authorizes information collection by employers as necessary or appropriate for enforcement of the OSH Act or for developing information regarding the causes and prevention of occupational injuries, illnesses, and accidents (29 U.S.C. 657). The OSH Act also requires that OSHA obtain such information with minimum burden upon employers, especially those operating small businesses, and to reduce to the maximum extent feasible unnecessary duplication of effort in obtaining information (29 U.S.C. 657).

The following sections describe who uses the information collected under each requirement, as well as how they use it. The Department of Labor (DOL), through the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), is responsible for investigating alleged violations of whistleblower protection provisions contained in certain Federal statutes (provisions) that prohibit retaliatory action by employers against employees who report unsafe or unlawful practices. These provisions prohibit an employer from discharging or otherwise retaliating against an employee because the employee engages in any of the protected activities specified in the relevant statute. This information collection covers the whistleblower provisions under the following statutes: (1) the Occupational Safety and Health Act, 29 U.S.C. 660(c); (2) the Surface Transportation Assistance Act, 49 U.S.C. 31105; (3) the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act, 15 U.S.C. 2651; (4) the International Safe Container Act, 46 U.S.C. 80507; (5) the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. 300j-9(i); (6) the Energy Reorganization Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 5851; (7) the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, 42 U.S.C. 9610; (8) the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, 33 U.S.C. 1367; (9) the Toxic Substances Control Act, 15 U.S.C. 2622; (10) the Solid Waste Disposal Act, 42 U.S.C. 6971; (11) the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. 7622; (12) the Wendell H. Ford Aviation Investment and Reform Act for the 21st Century, 49 U.S.C. 42121; (13) the Corporate and Criminal Fraud Accountability Act, Title VIII of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act (SOX), 18 U.S.C.

1514A; (14) the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act, 49 U.S.C. 60129; (15) the National Transit Systems Security Act, 6 U.S.C. 1142; (16) the Federal Railroad Safety Act, 49 U.S.C. 20109; (17) the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act, 15 U.S.C. 2087; (18) the Affordable Care Act, 29 U.S.C. 218C; (19) the Consumer Financial Protection Act, 12 U.S.C. 5567; (20) the Seaman's Protection Act, 46 U.S.C. 2114; (21) FDA Food Safety and Modernization Act, 21 U.S.C. 399d; (22) the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), 49 U.S.C. 30171; (23) the Taxpayer First Act, 26 U.S.C. 7623(d); (24) the Criminal Antitrust Anti-Retaliation Act, 15 U.S.C. 7a-3; and (25) the Anti-Money Laundering Act, 31 U.S.C. 5323(a)(5), (g), & (j). Information collected under these whistleblower provisions and the related regulations is necessary for OSHA officials to investigate complaints to determine if a potential violation has occurred.

**II. Special Issues for Comment**

OSHA has a particular interest in comments on the following issues:

- Whether the proposed information collection requirements are necessary for the proper performance of the agency's functions to protect workers, including whether the information is useful;
- The accuracy of OSHA's estimate of the burden (time and costs) of the information collection requirements, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- The quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and
- Ways to minimize the burden on employers who must comply; for example, by using automated or other technological information collection, and transmission techniques.

**III. Proposed Actions**

OSHA is requesting that OMB Revise the approval of the information collection requirements contained in Regulations Containing Procedures for the Handling of Retaliation Complaints. The agency is requesting an adjustment increase in Burden Hours from 10,126 hours to 17,387 hours, a difference of 7,261 hours. This increase is due to the an increase in the agency's estimate of complaints received.

OSHA will summarize the comments submitted in response to this notice and will include this summary in the request to OMB to extend the approval of the information collection requirements.

*Type of Review:* Revision of a currently approved collection.

*Title:* Regulations Containing Procedures for the Handling of Retaliation Complaints (29 CFR parts 24, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1991, and 1992).

*OMB Control Number:* 1218–0236.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profits.

*Number of Respondents:* 17,387.

*Number of Responses:* 17,387.

*Frequency of Responses:* On occasion.

*Average Time per Response:* Varies.

*Estimated Total Burden Hours:* 17,387.

*Estimated Cost (Operation and Maintenance):* \$0.

#### IV. Public Participation—Submission of Comments on This Notice and Internet Access to Comments and Submissions

You may submit comments in response to this document as follows:

(1) electronically at <http://www.regulations.gov>, which is the Federal eRulemaking Portal; (2) by facsimile (fax), if your comments, including attachments, are not longer than 10 pages you may fax them to the OSHA Docket Office at 202–693–1648; or (3) by hard copy. All comments, attachments, and other material must identify the agency name and the OSHA docket number for the ICR (OSHA–2012–0026). You may supplement electronic submissions by uploading document files electronically.

Comments and submissions are posted without change at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Therefore, OSHA cautions commenters about submitting personal information such as Social Security numbers and dates of birth. Although all submissions are listed in the <http://www.regulations.gov> index, some information (e.g., copyrighted material) is not publicly available to read or download from this website. All submissions, including copyrighted material, are available for inspection and copying at the OSHA Docket Office. Information on using the <http://www.regulations.gov> website to submit comments and access the docket is available at the website's "User Tips" link. Contact the OSHA Docket Office at (202) 693–2350, (TTY) (877) 889–5627 for information about materials not available from the website, and for assistance in using the internet to locate docket submissions.

#### V. Authority and Signature

James S. Frederick, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health, directed the preparation of this notice. The authority for this notice is the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3506

*et seq.*) and Secretary of Labor's Order No. 8–2020 (85 FR 58393).

Signed at Washington, DC.

**James S. Frederick,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health.*

[FR Doc. 2023–26527 Filed 12–1–23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510–26–P**

#### DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

#### Occupational Safety and Health Administration

[Docket No. OSHA–2010–0023]

#### Overhead and Gantry Cranes Standard; Extension of the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) Approval of Information Collection (Paperwork) Requirements

**AGENCY:** Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Labor.

**ACTION:** Request for public comments.

**SUMMARY:** OSHA solicits public comments concerning the proposal to extend the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) approval of the information collection requirements specified in Overhead and Gantry Cranes Standard.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted (postmarked, sent, or received) by February 2, 2024.

#### ADDRESSES:

*Electronically:* You may submit comments and attachments electronically at <http://www.regulations.gov>, which is the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Follow the instructions online for submitting comments.

*Docket:* To read or download comments or other material in the docket, go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Documents in the docket are listed in the <http://www.regulations.gov> index; however, some information (e.g., copyrighted material) is not publicly available to read or download through the website. All submissions, including copyrighted material, are available for inspection through the OSHA Docket Office. Contact the OSHA Docket Office at (202) 693–2350 (TTY) (877) 889–5627 for assistance in locating docket submissions.

*Instructions:* All submissions must include the agency name and OSHA docket number (OSHA–2010–0023) for the Information Collection Request (ICR). OSHA will place all comments, including any personal information, in the public docket, which may be made available online. Therefore, OSHA

cautions interested parties about submitting personal information such as social security numbers and birthdates.

For further information on submitting comments, see the "Public Participation" heading in the section of this notice titled **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Seleda Perryman or Theda Kenney, Directorate of Standards and Guidance, OSHA, U.S. Department of Labor; telephone (202) 693–2222.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background

The Department of Labor, as part of the continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent (*i.e.*, employer) burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the public with an opportunity to comment on proposed and continuing information collection requirements in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). This program ensures that information is in the desired format, reporting burden (time and costs) is minimal, the collection instruments are clearly understood, and OSHA's estimate of the information collection burden is accurate. The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (OSH Act) (29 U.S.C. 651 *et seq.*) authorizes information collection by employers as necessary or appropriate for enforcement of the OSH Act or for developing information regarding the causes and prevention of occupational injuries, illnesses, and accidents (29 U.S.C. 657). The OSH Act also requires that OSHA obtain such information with minimum burden upon employers, especially those operating small businesses, and to reduce to the maximum extent feasible unnecessary duplication of effort in obtaining information (29 U.S.C. 657).

The following sections describe who uses the information collected under each requirement, as well as how they use it. The paperwork provisions of the Standard specify requirements for: marking the rated load of cranes; preparing certification records to verify the inspection of the crane hooks, hoist chains, and rope; and preparing reports of rated load tests for repaired hooks or modified cranes. Records and reports must be maintained and disclosed upon request.

##### II. Special Issues for Comment

OSHA has a particular interest in comments on the following issues:

- Whether the proposed information collection requirements are necessary