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Chief, Administrative Information Branch.
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SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Request

The Social Security Administration (SSA) publishes a list of information collection packages that will require clearance by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in compliance with Public Law 104-13, the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, effective October 1, 1995. The information collection packages that may be included in this notice are for new information collections.

SSA is soliciting comments on the accuracy of the agency's burden estimate; the need for the information; its practical utility; ways to enhance its quality, utility, and clarity; and on ways to minimize burden on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Written comments and recommendations regarding the information collections should be submitted to the SSA Reports Clearance Officer. The information can be mailed and/or faxed to the address and fax number listed below: (SSA), Social Security Administration, DCFAM, Attn: Reports Clearance Officer, 1338 Annex Building, 6401 Security Blvd., Baltimore, MD 21235. Fax: 410-965-6400.
OPLM.RCO@ssa.gov.

The information collections listed below are pending at SSA and will be submitted to OMB within 60 days from the date of this notice. Therefore, your comments should be submitted to SSA within 60 days from the date of this publication. You can obtain copies of the collection instruments by calling the SSA Reports Clearance Officer at 410-965-0454 or by writing to the address listed above.

1. *Application for Help with Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Costs, SSA-1020SC-0960-NEW.* The Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-173; MMA) establishes a new Medicare Part D program for voluntary prescription drug coverage for premium, deductible, and cost-sharing subsidies for certain low-income individuals. The MMA stipulates that subsidies must be available for individuals who are eligible for the program and who meet eligibility criteria for help with

premium, deductible, and/or co-payment costs.

Individuals who receive these subsidies may ask SSA to redetermine the amount of help they receive if they experience a "subsidy-changing event," including marriage, separation, divorce, an annulment, or the death of a spouse. Until late 2006, when redetermination forms will become available, SSA will use form SSA-1020-SC, the Application for Help with Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Costs, to make redeterminations based on subsidy-changing events. The respondents are individuals whose application for help toward the costs for this program has been approved and are requesting a redetermination of their subsidy based on a subsidy-changing event.

Type of Request: New information collection.

Number of Respondents: 76,000.

Frequency of Response: 1.

Average Burden Per Response: 35 minutes.

Estimated Annual Burden: 44,333 hours.

2. *Application for Help with Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Costs-0960-NEW (Internet/Intranet Application Screens).* The Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-173; MMA) establishes a new Medicare Part D program for voluntary prescription drug coverage for premium, deductible, and cost-sharing subsidies for certain low-income individuals. The MMA stipulates that subsidies must be available for individuals who are eligible for the program and who meet eligibility criteria for help with premium, deductible, and/or co-payment costs. Form SSA-1020, the Application for Help with Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Costs, collects information about an applicant's resources and is used by SSA to determine eligibility for this assistance.

We are proposing electronic versions of the SSA-1020, which will collect the information via the Intranet (the information is provided by the respondent during an interview at a Social Security field office) or the Internet (i1020) (if respondents complete the Internet screens on their own and submit them electronically). The respondents are individuals who are eligible for enrollment in the Medicare Part D program and are requesting assistance with the related costs.

Type of Request: New information collection.

Number of Respondents: 2,000,000.

Frequency of Response: 1.

Average Burden Per Response: 45 minutes.

Estimated Annual Burden: 1,500,000.

Dated: January 12, 2005.

Elizabeth A. Davidson,
Reports Clearance Officer, Social Security Administration.

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SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Privacy Act of 1974 as Amended; Computer Matching Program (SSA/ Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Number 1010)

AGENCY: Social Security Administration (SSA).

ACTION: Notice of a modification to a computer matching program.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the provisions of the Privacy Act, as amended, this notice announces a modification of a computer matching program that SSA conducts with DHS.

DATES: SSA will file a report of the subject matching program with the Committee on Governmental Affairs of the Senate, the Committee on Government Reform of the House of Representatives and the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The matching program will be effective as indicated below.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties may comment on this notice either by telefax to (410) 965-5961 or writing to the Associate Commissioner for Income Security Programs, 245 Altmeyer Building, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401. All comments received will be available for public inspection at this address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The Associate Commissioner for Income Security Programs as shown above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. General

The Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act of 1988 (Public Law (P. L.) 100-503), amended the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. § 552a) by describing the manner in which computer matching involving Federal agencies could be performed and adding certain protections for individuals applying for and receiving Federal benefits. Section 7201 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990 (Pub. L. 101-508) further amended the Privacy Act regarding protections for such individuals.

The Privacy Act, as amended, regulates the use of computer matching