

education, library, day care, health care, or early childhood development services are provided to children. This is consistent with the PHS mission to protect and advance the physical and mental health of the American people.

Executive Order 12372: Applications submitted in response to the FY 2001 activity listed above are subject to the intergovernmental review requirements of Executive Order 12372, as implemented through DHHS regulations at 45 CFR Part 100. E.O. 12372 sets up a system for State and local government review of applications for Federal financial assistance. Applicants (other than Federally recognized Indian tribal governments) should contact the State's Single Point of Contact (SPOC) as early as possible to alert them to the prospective application(s) and to receive any necessary instructions on the State's review process. For proposed projects serving more than one State, the applicant is advised to contact the SPOC of each affected State. A current listing of SPOCs is included in the application guidance materials. The SPOC should send any State review process recommendations directly to: Division of Extramural Activities, Policy, and Review, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Parklawn Building, Room 17-89, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20857.

The due date for State review process recommendations is no later than 60 days after the specified deadline date for the receipt of applications. SAMHSA does not guarantee to accommodate or explain SPOC comments that are received after the 60-day cut-off.

Dated: March 2, 2001.

Richard Kopanda,

Executive Officer, SAMHSA.

[FR Doc. 01-5614 Filed 3-7-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-4649-N-11]

Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Comment Request, Disaster Recovery Grant Reporting (DRGR) System

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development 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 Due Date:* May 7, 2001.

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: Reports Liaison Officer, Sheila E. Jones, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street, SW, Room 7230, Washington, DC 20410.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jan C. Oppen, Senior Program Officer, Office of Block Grant Assistance, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 Seventh St., SW, Washington, DC 20410; telephone number (202) 708-3587. Persons with hearing or speech impairments may access this number via TTY by calling the Federal Information Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. FAX inquiries may be sent to Mr. Oppen at (202) 401-2044. (Except for the "800" number, these telephone numbers are not toll-free.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department is submitting the proposed information collection to OMB for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended).

This Notice is soliciting comments from members of the public and affecting agencies concerning the proposed collection of information to: (1) 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; (2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond; including through the use of appropriate automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

This Notice also lists the following information:

Title of Proposal: Disaster Recovery Grant Reporting (DRGR) System.

OMB Control Number, if applicable: 2506-0165.

Description of the need for the information and proposed use: HUD requires that grantees submit quarterly reports to the Department on the use of HUD Community Development Block

Grant (CDBG) disaster recovery funds (a.k.a. HUD Disaster Recovery Initiative). This information must be submitted to HUD no later than 30 days following each calendar quarter. HUD uses the information to submit quarterly reports to the Congress that are required by Public Laws 105-18, 105-174, and 105-277. The reports to Congress must cover the use of grant funds, especially those for or associated with buyouts.

This reporting also meets the requirement that cities, counties, and states must submit a performance report on the use of CDBG disaster recovery funds in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 5304(e) and 24 CFR 91.520 no later than 90 days following the end of each 12 month period.

Agency form numbers, if applicable: Not applicable. This is a computerized data system operating on the worldwide web.

Members of affected public: State and local governments.

Estimation of the total numbers of hours needed to prepare the information collection including number of responses, frequency of response, and hours of response:

Number of respondents—about 160;
Frequency of response—quarterly per grantee;

Hours of response—128 hours annually per grantee (116 hours for record keeping; 12 hours for reporting).

Status of the proposed information collection: Reinstatement.

Authority: The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended.

Dated: March 1, 2001.

Donna M. Abbenante,

Acting General Deputy Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-5699 Filed 3-7-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210-29-M

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-4666-N-01]

Waiver of Regulations Issued by HUD; Clarification of Authority During Transition Period

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, HUD.

ACTION: Statement of policy.

SUMMARY: The purpose of this statement of policy is to clarify the scope of persons authorized to waive regulations under an earlier statement of policy published in the **Federal Register** on April 22, 1991.

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 8, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Aaron Santa Anna, Assistant General

Counsel for Regulations, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 Seventh Street, SW, room 10276, Washington, DC 20410; telephone (202) 708-3055 (this number is not a toll free number). Hearing- and speech-impaired individuals may access this number via TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 106 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989 (Pub. L. 101-235) added a new section 7(q) to the Department of Housing and Urban Development Act, 42 U.S.C. 3535(q). The provision provides that the Secretary may delegate authority to approve a waiver of HUD regulations "only to an individual of Assistant Secretary rank or equivalent rank" who is authorized to issue the regulation to be waived. On April 22, 1991, the Department published in the **Federal Register** (at 56 FR 16337) HUD's statement of policy on this provision. Among other things, the April 22, 1991 statement of policy provided that: "Individual of equivalent rank means an individual with rank equivalent to an Assistant Secretary." The 1991 policy statement also noted that the term includes the following HUD officers: the General Counsel, the Inspector General, and the President of the Government National Mortgage Association (GNMA).

Under this provision, the Department limited the authority to waive regulations to individuals occupying positions nominated by the President, by and with the consent of the Senate. This policy also prohibited individuals occupying positions requiring Senate confirmation from further re-delegating the authority to waive regulations, even to individuals who have been delegated authority concurrent with the individual occupying a position that required Senate confirmation.

This statement of policy, published in today's **Federal Register**, clarifies the scope of "individuals of equivalent rank" to include persons who are designated authority to perform the functions and duties of the vacant office under a published Order of Succession. The Department's Orders of Succession, consistent with 42 U.S.C. 3535(d), ensure that waivers of regulations will be exercised only by individuals who have authority to perform the functions and duties of the vacant office. The waiver authority and procedures covered in today's policy statement are interim and continue only until individuals nominated by the President to offices requiring Senate confirmation

are confirmed by the Senate and sworn into office. Nothing in today's statement of policy otherwise changes the scope of the April 22, 1991 statement of policy.

Justification

Clarifying the scope of individuals of equivalent rank under the April 22, 1991 policy statement is essential to ensure that, during this period of critical vacancies in positions requiring Presidential appointment and Senate confirmation, the business of the Department is not seriously impaired by the absence of individuals occupying positions requiring Senate confirmation. The Department continues to receive a significant number of requests for waivers. Failing to respond to these requests in a timely, considered manner may have significant adverse effects on HUD grantees and undercut the Department's credibility with the public. This clarification is also consistent with the Department's April 22, 1991 statement of policy. In that statement, the Department noted that:

The only other persons who are authorized to waive a regulation are those serving in an "acting" capacity. Thus, persons formally authorized to act for the Secretary, Deputy Secretary, or an Assistant Secretary in that officer's absence may exercise the waiver authority of that individual. Use of this power is limited to situations in which an official is designated as, and is performing the duties of, the absent official pursuant to a current, written order of succession signed by the appropriate official.

As contemplated by the April 22, 1991 statement of policy, the Department has put into place written Orders of Succession to ensure an orderly flow of the authority of those vacant positions which require Senate confirmation. The published orders are consistent with the Vacancies Reform Act of 1998 and may be found at 65 FR 51014, August 22, 2000 (for the Office of Community Planning and Development; 65 FR 6655, November 6, 2000 (for the Office of Public and Indian Housing); 65 FR 51015, August 22, 2000 (for the Office of Housing-Federal Housing Commissioner); 65 FR 66550, November 6, 2000 (for the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity); and 63 FR 66193, December 12, 1998 (for the Office of Policy, Development and Research).

Legal Concurrence in Waivers Procedure

All proposed waivers of regulations under today's statement of policy must be concurred in by the Associate General Counsel who serves as program counsel to the program office and by the General Counsel or the Deputy General

Counsel for Housing Finance and Operations or his or her designee. It should be noted that this procedure is broader than that outlined in the statement of policy dated April 22, 1991, because this procedure now requires concurrence on all waivers.

Notification to the Public

The Department will continue to notify the public of all waivers of regulations subject to Section 106 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989 and this Statement of Policy. Specifically, the provisions of the April 22, 1991 statement of policy addressing timing of notice, content of notice and public inspection continue unchanged.

Dated: March 2, 2001.

Mel Martinez,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-5698 Filed 3-7-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of the Secretary

RIN 1035

Privacy Act of 1974: As Amended; Revisions to Existing System of Records; Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Proposed revisions to an existing system of records

SUMMARY: Under the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (5 U.S.C. 552a), the Office of the Secretary is issuing public notice of our intent to change an existing Privacy Act system of records notice entitled, Interior BIA-03 "Indian Individual Monies". The revisions will change the name and number of the system to Interior OS-02, "Individual Indian Monies." Other changes to Interior BIA-03 include updating data in the following fields: System Locations, System Manager, Categories of Records Covered by the System, Authority for Maintenance of the System, Routine Uses of Records Maintained in the System, Storage, Retrievability, Safeguards, Systems Manager, and Records Source Categories.

DATES: Any persons interested in commenting on the proposed revisions to this system of records may do so by submitting comments in writing to the Office of the Secretary Privacy Act Officer, U.S. Department of the Interior, MS 1414 MIB, 1849 C Street NW.,