

Dated: June 27, 2001.

**Charles W. Winwood,**

*Acting Commissioner of Customs.*

[FR Doc. 01-16541 Filed 6-29-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4820-02-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Fiscal Service

#### Renegotiation Board Interest Rate; Prompt Payment Interest Rate; Contract Disputes Act

**AGENCY:** Bureau of the Public Debt, Fiscal Service, Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** For the period beginning July 1, 2001 and ending on December 31, 2001 the prompt payment interest rate is 5.875 per centum per annum.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments or inquiries may be mailed to Eleanor Farrar, Team Leader, Debt Accounting Branch, Office of Public Debt Accounting, Bureau of the Public Debt, Parkersburg, West Virginia, 26106-1328. A copy of this Notice will be available to download from <http://www.publicdebt.treas.gov>.

**DATES:** This notice announces the applicable interest rate for the July 1, 2001 to December 31, 2001 period.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Frank Dunn, Manager, Debt Accounting Branch, Office of Public Debt Accounting, Bureau of the Public Debt, Parkersburg, West Virginia, 26106-1328, (304) 480-5170; Eleanor Farrar, Team Leader, Borrowings Accounting Team, Office of Public Debt Accounting, Bureau of the Public Debt, (304) 480-5166; Edward C. Gronseth, Deputy Chief Counsel, Office of the Chief Counsel, Bureau of the Public Debt, (304) 480-3692; or Mary C. Schaffer, Attorney-Adviser, Office of the Chief Counsel, Bureau of the Public Debt, (304) 480-3682.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Although the Renegotiation Board is no longer in existence, other Federal Agencies are required to use interest rates computed under the criteria established by the Renegotiation Act of 1971 Sec. 2, Pub. L. 92-41, 85 Stat. 97. For example, the Contract Disputes Act of 1978 Sec. 12, Pub. L. 95-563, 92 Stat. 2389 and the Prompt Payment Act of 1982 Sec. 2, Pub. L. 97-177, 96 Stat. 85, provide for the calculation of interest due on claims at a rate established by the Secretary of the Treasury pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3902(a).

Therefore, notice is given that the Secretary of the Treasury has determined that the rate of interest

applicable, for the period beginning July 1, 2001 and ending on December 31, 2001, is 5.875 per centum per annum. This rate is determined pursuant to the above-mentioned sections for the purpose of said sections.

**Donald V. Hammond,**

*Fiscal Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 01-16691 Filed 6-29-01; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Internal Revenue Service

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Form 709-A

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

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

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Treasury, 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)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning Form 709-A, United States Short Form Gift Tax Return.

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before August 31, 2001 to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Garrick R. Shear, Internal Revenue Service, room 5244, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the form and instructions should be directed to Larnice Mack, (202) 622-3179, Internal Revenue Service, room 5244, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* United States Short Form Gift Tax Return.

*OMB Number:* 1545-0021.

*Form Number:* Form 709-A.

*Abstract:* Form 709-A is an annual short form gift tax return that certain married couples may use instead of Form 709, United States Gift (and Generation-Skipping Transfer) Tax Return, to report nontaxable gifts that they elect to split. The IRS uses the information on the form to assure that gift-splitting was properly elected.

*Current Actions:* There are no changes being made to the form at this time.

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

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 45,000.

*Estimated Time Per Respondent:* 59 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden*

*Hours:* 44,100.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

#### Request for Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the 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 of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (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; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: June 26, 2001.

**Garrick R. Shear,**

*IRS Reports Clearance Officer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Internal Revenue Service

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Form 706-NA

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

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