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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35).

Agency: U.S. Census Bureau.

Title: Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplement.

OMB Control Number: 0607-0354.

Form Number(s): There are no forms. We conduct all interviews on computers.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Number of Respondents: 78,000.

Average Hours Per Response: 0.41667.

Burden Hours: 32,500.

Needs and Uses: The income data from the ASEC are used by social planners, economists, government officials, and market researchers to gauge the economic well-being of the country as a whole, and selected population groups of interest. Government planners and researchers use these data to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of various assistance programs. Market researchers use these data to identify and isolate potential customers. Social planners use these data to forecast economic conditions and to identify special groups that seem to be especially sensitive to economic fluctuations. Economists use ASEC data to determine the effects of various economic forces, such as inflation, recession, recovery, and so on, and their differential effects on various population groups.

The Census Bureau is considering an option to include an experiment whereby a portion of the March ASEC sample would receive different income and health insurance coverage questions than the remaining sample in March. The questions will differ in that they

will consist of the 2013 version of income and health insurance coverage questions, rather than the redesigned questions that began in 2014. To minimize the risk with implementation, we are choosing only one of the five data collection instruments that make up the ASEC collection (March) to include these questions. A final decision to exercise this option may come as late as January 2016, whereupon the Census Bureau may elect not to do so.

Affected Public: Individuals or Households.

Frequency: Annually.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

Legal Authority: Title 13, United States Code, Sections 8(b), 141, 182; and Title 29, United States Code, Sections 1-9.

This information collection request may be viewed at www.reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov or fax to (202)395-5806.

Dated: September 30, 2015.

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