FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and Approval; Comment Request

AGENCY: Federal Trade Commission.

ACTION: Notice and request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Federal Trade Commission (“FTC” or “Commission”) requests that the Office of Management and Budget (“OMB”) extend for an additional three years the current Paperwork Reduction Act (“PRA”) clearance for its shared enforcement authority with the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (“CFPB”) for information collection requirements contained in the CFPB’s Regulation O. That clearance expires on February 29, 2020.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: Comments in response to this notice should be submitted to the OMB Desk Officer for the Federal Trade Commission within 30 days of this notice. You may submit comments using any of the following methods:

Electronic: Write “MARS (Regulation O) PRA Comment, FTC File No. P134812” on your comment and file your comment online at https://www.regulations.gov, by following the instructions on the web-based form.

Email: MBX.OMB.OIRA.Submission@OMB.eop.gov.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.), the FTC has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (“OMB”) this request for extension of the previously approved collection of information discussed below.

Title: Regulation O

OMB Control Number: 3084-0157

Type of Review: Extension of currently approved collection

Estimated Number of Respondents: 120

Estimated Annual Burden Hours: 360

Abstract:

The FTC and CFPB share enforcement authority for the Mortgage Assistance Relief Services (Regulation O), 12 CFR 1015. The rule includes disclosure requirements to assist purchasers of mortgage assistance relief services in making well-informed decisions and avoiding unfair or deceptive acts and practices. The information that must be retained under Regulation O’s recordkeeping requirements is used by the CFPB and the FTC for enforcement purposes and to ensure compliance by MARS providers with Regulation O. The information is requested only on a case-by-case basis.

Request for Comment:

On October 31, 2019, the Commission sought comment on the information collection requirements associated with the Commission’s shared enforcement with the CFPB of
Regulation O (12 CFR 1015). 84 FR 58388. One comment was received from an interested person that indicated “wholehearted support” for the proposed three-year extension. Pursuant to the OMB regulations, 5 CFR Part 1320, that implement the PRA, 44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq., the FTC is providing this second opportunity for public comment while seeking OMB approval to renew the pre-existing clearance for those information collection requirements. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Your comment – including your name and your state – will be placed on the public record of this proceeding. Because your comment will be made public, you are solely responsible for making sure that your comment does not include any sensitive personal information, like anyone’s Social Security number, date of birth, driver’s license number or other state identification number or foreign country equivalent, passport number, financial account number, or credit or debit card number. You are also solely responsible for making sure that your comment does not include any sensitive health information, like medical records or other individually identifiable health information. In addition, do not include any “[t]rade secret or any commercial or financial information which is . . . privileged or confidential” as provided in Section 6(f) of the FTC Act 15 U.S.C. 46(f), and FTC Rule 4.10(a)(2), 16CFR 4.10(a)(2). In particular, do not include competitively sensitive information such as costs, sales statistics, inventories, formulas, patterns devices, manufacturing processes, or customer names.

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