

thereby engage in operating a savings association, pursuant to section 225.28(b)(4)(ii) of Regulation Y.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, January 22, 2002.

Robert deV. Frierson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc.02-1931 Filed 1-24-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-S

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Federal Trade Commission ("FTC").

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) information collection requirements contained in its Funeral Industry Practices Rule ("Funeral Rule" or "Rule"). The FTC is seeking public comments on its proposal to extend through February 28, 2005 the current PRA clearance for information collection requirements contained in the regulations. That clearance expires on February 28, 2002.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before February 25, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, Room 10202, Washington, DC 20503, ATTN.: Desk Officer for the Federal Trade Commission, and to Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, Room H-159, 600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20580. All comments should be captioned "Funeral Rule: Paperwork comment."

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the proposed information requirements should be addressed to Myra Howard, Attorney, Division of Marketing Practices, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission, Room H-238, 600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20580, (202) 326-2047.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), Federal agencies must obtain approval from OMB for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. On November 21, 2001, the FTC sought comment on the information collection requirements associated with the Funeral Rule, 16 CFR part 453 (OMB Control Number:

3084-0025). See 66 FR 58492. No comments were received on any aspect of the notice, including staff's PRA burden estimates. Pursuant to the OMB regulations that implement the PRA (5 CFR part 1320), the FTC is providing this second opportunity for public comment while seeking OMB approval to extend the existing paperwork clearance for the Rule.

The Funeral Rule ensures that consumers who are purchasing funeral goods and service have accurate information about the terms and conditions (especially prices) for such goods and services. The Rule requires the funeral providers disclose this information to consumers and maintain records to facilitate enforcement of the Rule.

Estimated annual hours burden: The estimated burden associated with the collection of information required by the Rule is 22,300 hours for recordkeeping and 57,900 hours for disclosures, for a total of 80,000 hours, rounded to the nearest thousand. This estimate is based on the number of funeral providers (approximately 22,300), the number of funerals annually (approximately 2.3 million), and the time needed to fulfill the information collection tasks required by the Rule.

Recordkeeping: The Rule requires that funeral providers retain copies of price lists and statements of funeral goods and services selected by consumers. Based on a maximum average burden of one hour per provider per year for this task, the total burden for the 22,300 providers is 22,300 hours. This estimate is unchanged from 1998.

Disclosure: The Rule requires that funeral providers (1) maintain current price lists for funeral goods and services, (2) provide written documentation of the funeral goods and services selected by consumers making funeral arrangements, and (3) provide information about funeral prices in response to telephone inquiries.

Maintaining current price lists requires that funeral providers revise their price lists from time to time through the year to reflect price changes. Based on a maximum average burden of two hours per provider per year for this task, the total burden for 22,300 providers is 44,600 hours. This estimate is unchanged from the FTC's prior estimate in 1998.

The original rulemaking record indicated that 87 percent of funeral providers provided written documentation of funeral arrangements,

even absent the Rule's requirements.¹ Accordingly, the Rule imposes a disclosure burden on 2,899 providers (13 percent of 22,300 providers). These providers are typically the smallest funeral homes. The disclosure requirement can be satisfied through the use of a standard form (an example of which is available to the industry in the Compliance Guide to the Funeral Rule). Based on an estimation that these smaller homes arrange, on average, approximately 20 funerals per year and that it would take each of them about 3 minutes to record prices for each consumer on the standard form, FTC staff estimates that the total burden associated with this disclosure requirement is one hour per provider not already in compliance, for a total of 2,899 hours.

The Funeral Rule also requires funeral providers to answer telephone inquiries about the provider's offerings or prices. Industry data indicate that only about nine percent of funeral purchasers make telephone inquiries, with each call lasting an estimated three minutes. Only about half of that additional time is attributable to disclosures required solely by the Rule, since many providers would provide the requested information even without it. Thus, assuming that the average purchaser makes two calls per funeral to compare prices, the estimated burden is 10,350 hours [$(\frac{1}{2} \times 3 \text{ minute call} \times 2 \text{ calls/funeral}) \times 207,000 \text{ funerals (nine percent of 2,300,000 funerals/year)}$]. This burden likely will decline over time as consumers increasingly rely on the Internet for funeral price information.

In sum, the disclosure total is 57,849 hours (44,600 + 2,899 + 10,350). The total estimated hours burden associated with the Rule for both recordkeeping and disclosure requirements is 80,000, rounded to the nearest thousand (22,300 hours for recordkeeping + 57,849 hours for disclosure).

Estimated annual cost burden: \$3,900,000, rounded (\$3,560,000 in labor costs and \$340,000 in non-labor costs).

Labor costs: Labor costs are derived by applying appropriate hourly cost figures to the burden hours described above. The hourly rates used below are averages.

¹ The original version of the Funeral Rule required that funeral providers retain a copy of and give each customer a separate "Statement of Funeral Goods and Services Selected." The 1994 amendments to the Rule eliminated that requirement, allowing instead for such disclosures to be incorporated into a written contract, bill of sale, or other record of a transaction that providers use to memorialize sales agreements with customers.

Clerical personnel, at an hourly rate of \$10, can perform the recordkeeping tasks required under the Rule. Based on the estimated hour burden of 22,300 hours, the estimated cost burden for recordkeeping is \$223,000 ($\$10 \times 22,300$ hours).

The two hours required of each provider, on average, to update price lists should consist of approximately 1.5 hours of managerial or professional time, at \$75 per hour, and .5 hours of clerical time, at \$10 per hour, for a total of \$117.50 per provider. Thus, the estimated total cost burden for maintaining price lists is \$2,620,250 ($\$117.50 \times 22,300$ providers).

The cost of providing written documentation of the goods and services selected by the consumer is 2,899 hours of managerial or professional time at approximately \$75 per hour, or \$217,425.

The cost of responding to telephone inquiries about offerings or prices is 10,350 hours of managerial or professional time at \$75, or \$776,250.

The total labor cost of the three disclosure requirements imposed by the Funeral Rule is \$3,613,925 ($\$2,620,250 + \$217,425 + \$776,250$). The total labor cost for recordkeeping and disclosures is \$3,837,000 ($\$223,000$ for recordkeeping + $\$3,613,925$ for disclosures), rounded to the nearest thousand.

Capital or other non-labor costs: The Rule imposes minimal capital costs and no current start-up costs. The Rule first took effect in 1984 and the revised Rule took effect in 1994, so funeral providers should already have in place capital equipment to carry out tasks associated with Rule compliance. Moreover, most funeral homes already have access, for other business purposes, to the ordinary office equipment needed for compliance, so the Rule likely imposes minimal additional capital expense.

Compliance with the Rule, however, does entail some expense to funeral providers for printing and duplication of price lists. Based on a rough estimate of 300 pages per year per provider for copies of the various price lists, at 5 cents per page, and 22,300 providers, the total cost burden associated with printing and copying is \$334,500. In addition, the estimated 2,899 providers not already providing written documentation of funeral arrangements apart from the Rule will incur additional printing and copying costs. Assuming that those providers use the standard two-page form shown in the Compliance Guide, at 5 cents per page, at an average of 20 funerals per year, the added cost burden would be \$5,798. Thus, estimated non-labor costs are

\$340,000, rounded to the nearest thousand.

The cost of training associated with Rule compliance is generally included in continuing education requirements for licensing and voluntary certification programs. Moreover, the FTC has provided its Compliance Guide to all funeral providers at no cost, and additional copies are available on the FTC web site or by mail. Accordingly, the Rule imposes no additional training costs.

William E. Kovacic,

General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 02-1889 Filed 1-24-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Guide to Community Preventive Services (GCPS) Task Force: Meeting

Name: Task Force on Community Preventive Services.

Times and Dates: 9 a.m.–7 p.m., February 6, 2002, 8 a.m.–3 p.m., February 7, 2002.

Place: The Sheraton Colony Square, 188 14th Street, NE., Atlanta, Georgia 30361, telephone (404) 892-6000.

Status: Open to the public, limited only by the space available.

Purpose: The mission of the Task Force is to develop and publish a Guide to Community Preventive Services, which is based on the best available scientific evidence and current expertise regarding essential public health services and what works in the delivery of those services.

Matters to be discussed: Agenda items include: Presentations on the following chapters: Cancer (Informed Decision Making, School Based Interventions to Prevent Skin Cancer, and Interventions to Increase Breast, Cervical and Colorectal Cancer Screening), Nutrition and the Yale Obesity Reviews, Sexual Behavior, Vaccine Preventive Diseases (Expanding Access In Health Care Settings) and Violence Prevention (Early Childhood Home Visitation and Shall Issue Laws); presentations on the dissemination of the Physical Activity Chapter; dissemination and evaluation plans for the Cancer Chapter; and general updates on the evaluation plans and methods.

Agenda items are subject to change as priorities dictate.

Contact Person for Additional Information: Peter Briss, M.D., M.P.H., Acting Chief, Community Guide Branch, Division of Prevention Research and Analytic Methods, Epidemiology Program Office, CDC, 4770 Buford Highway, M/S K-73, Atlanta, Georgia 30341, telephone 770/488-8189.

Persons interested in reserving a space for this meeting should call 770/488-8189 by close of business on February 1, 2002.

The Director, Management Analysis and Services Office, has been delegated the authority to sign **Federal Register** notices pertaining to announcements of meetings and other committee management activities, for both the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

Dated: January 18, 2002.

Alvin Hall,

Acting Director, Management Analysis and Services Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

CDC Advisory Committee on HIV and STD Prevention: Meeting

In accordance with section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces the following committee meeting.

Name: Conference Call: CDC Advisory Committee on HIV and STD Prevention.

Time and Date: 1 a.m.–2:30 p.m., February 15, 2002.

Bridge Number: 1-800-713-1971.

Conference Code: 896071.

Status: Open to the public, limited only by the phone space available. The bridge number will accommodate approximately 100 people.

Purpose: This Committee is charged with advising the Director, CDC, regarding objectives, strategies, and priorities for HIV and STD prevention efforts including maintaining surveillance of HIV infection, AIDS, and STDs, the epidemiologic and laboratory study of HIV/AIDS and STDs, information/education and risk reduction activities designed to prevent the spread of HIV and STDs, and other preventive measures that become available.

Matters to be discussed: Agenda items include issues pertaining to how the meeting formats might be changed to enable CDC Advisory Committee on HIV and STD Prevention (ACHSP) to more actively participate in and guide CDC activities.

Contact Person for More Information: Paulette Ford-Knights, Committee Management Analyst, National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention, 1600 Clifton Road, NE., Mailstop E-07, Atlanta, Georgia 30333. Telephone 404/639-8008, fax 404/639-3125, e-mail pbf7@cdc.gov.

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