

**SUPPORTING STATEMENT
(Form 8844)**

1. CIRCUMSTANCES NECESSITATING COLLECTION OF INFORMATION

The Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1993 revised Code section 38 and added sections 1396 and 1397 to allow businesses an income tax credit for qualified wages and certain training and education expenses paid or incurred on behalf of qualified zone employees.

The empowerment zone employment (EZE) credit is part of the general business credit under section 38. However, unlike the other components of the general business credit, taxpayers are allowed to offset 25 percent of their alternative minimum tax with the EZE credit.

2. USE OF DATA

The IRS uses the information shown on Form 8844 to verify that the credit has been correctly figured.

3. USE OF IMPROVED INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TO REDUCE BURDEN

We plan to offer electronic filing by 2003 for 1040 and 1120 returns.

4. EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY DUPLICATION

We have attempted to eliminate duplication within the agency wherever possible.

5. METHODS TO MINIMIZE BURDEN ON SMALL BUSINESSES OR OTHER SMALL ENTITIES

Not applicable.

6. CONSEQUENCES OF LESS FREQUENT COLLECTION ON FEDERAL PROGRAMS OR POLICY ACTIVITIES

Not applicable.

7. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRING DATA COLLECTION TO BE

INCONSISTENT WITH GUIDELINES IN 5 CFR 1320.5(d)(2)

Not applicable.

8. CONSULTATION WITH INDIVIDUALS OUTSIDE OF THE AGENCY ON AVAILABILITY OF DATA, FREQUENCY OF COLLECTION, CLARITY OF INSTRUCTIONS AND FORMS, AND DATA ELEMENTS

Periodic meetings are held between IRS personnel and representatives of the American Bar Association, the National Society of Public Accountants, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and other professional groups to discuss tax law and tax forms. During these meetings, there is an opportunity for those attending to make comments regarding Form 8844.

In response to the **Federal Register** notice dated May 19, 2006 (F. R. 29217), we received no comments during the comment period regarding Form 8844.

9. EXPLANATION OF DECISION TO PROVIDE ANY PAYMENT OR GIFT TO RESPONDENTS

Not applicable.

10. ASSURANCE OF CONFIDENTIALITY OF RESPONSES

Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential as required by 26 USC 6103.

11. JUSTIFICATION OF SENSITIVE QUESTIONS

Not applicable.

12. ESTIMATED BURDEN OF INFORMATION COLLECTION

	<u>Number of Responses</u>	<u>Time per Response</u>	<u>Total Hours</u>
Form 8844	26,400	13.86	365,904

Estimates of the annualized cost to respondents for the hour burdens shown are not available at this time.

13. ESTIMATED TOTAL ANNUAL COST BURDEN TO RESPONDENTS

As suggested by OMB, our **Federal Register** notice dated May 19, 2006, requested public comments on estimates of cost burden that are not captured in the estimates of burden hours, i.e., estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information. However, we did not receive any response from taxpayers on this subject. As a result, estimates of the cost burdens are not available at this time.

14. **ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

The primary cost to the government consists of the cost of printing this form. We estimate that the cost of printing the form is \$1,000.

15. **REASONS FOR CHANGE IN BURDEN**

New line 11 and 12 were added to the form which will result in a program change increase of 12,672 hours due to the addition of 2 lines.

We are making this submission for renewal purposes.

16. **PLANS FOR TABULATION, STATISTICAL ANALYSIS AND PUBLICATION**

Not applicable.

17. **REASONS WHY DISPLAYING THE OMB EXPIRATION DATE IS INAPPROPRIATE**

See attachment.

18. **EXCEPTIONS TO THE CERTIFICATION STATEMENT ON OMB FORM 83-I**

Not applicable.

Note: The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information in this submission:

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.