**SUPPORTING STATEMENT**

**Internal Revenue Service (IRS)**

**Simplified Employee Pension—Individual**

**Retirement Accounts Contribution Agreement**

**Form 5305-SEP**

**OMB Control Number 1545-0499**

1. **CIRCUMSTANCES NECESSITATING COLLECTION OF INFORMATION**

Internal Revenue Code (IRC) section 408(k) allows employers to establish a Simplified Employee Pension (SEP) and IRC section 404(h) allows an income tax deduction for contributions to this plan. Form 5305-SEP is used by an employer to establish a SEP under IRC 408(k).

1. **USE OF DATA**

Form 5305-SEP is used as an agreement between the employer and its employees to provide benefits to all the employees. The form is not to be filed with IRS but a copy is to be kept in the employer’s records.

1. **USE OF IMPROVED INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TO REDUCE BURDEN**

IRS Publications, Regulations, Notices and Letters are to be electronically enabled on an as practicable basis in accordance with the IRS Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998. Form 5305-SEP is available electronically.

1. **EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY DUPLICATION**

The information obtained through this collection is unique and is not already available or use or adaption from another source.

1. **METHODS TO MINIMIZE BURDEN ON SMALL BUSINESSES OR OTHER SMALL ENTITIES**

There is no burden on small businesses or other small entities due to the inapplicability of the authorizing statute to this type of entity.

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

The information required is needed to verify compliance with Sections 408(k) of the Internal Revenue Code of the Treasury Regulations. A less frequent collection of taxes and tax information could adversely affect the government’s effectiveness and would reduce the oversight of the public in ensuring compliance with Internal Revenue Code and hinder the IRS from meeting its mission.

1. **SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRING DATA COLLECTION TO BE INCONSISTENT WITH GUIDELINES IN 5 CFR 1320.5(d)(2)**

There are no special circumstances requiring data collection to be inconsistent with Guidelines in 5 CFR 1320.5(d)(2).

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

In response to the Federal Register notice dated January 18, 2018 (83 FR 2726), we received no comments during the comment period regarding these regulations.

1. **EXPLANATION OF DECISION TO PROVIDE ANY PAYMENT OR GIFT TO RESPONDENTS**

No payment or gift has been provided to any respondents.

1. **ASSURANCE OF CONFIDENTIALITY OF RESPONSES**

Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

1. **JUSTIFICATION OF SENSITIVE QUESTIONS**

Form 5305 SEP is not sent to the IRS, it is retained by the employer. No personally identifiable information (PII) is collected by the IRS.

1. **ESTIMATED BURDEN OF INFORMATION COLLECTION**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Form | Description | # Respondents | # Responses Per Respondent-  Approximate | Total Annual Responses | Hours Per Response | Total Burden |
| 5305 SEP | Simplified Employee Pension—Individual  Retirement Accounts Contribution Agreement | 100,000 | 1 | 100,000 | 4.95 | 495,000 |

1. **ESTIMATED TOTAL ANNUAL COST BURDEN TO RESPONDENTS**

To ensure more accuracy and consistency across its information collections, IRS is currently in the process of revising the methodology it uses to estimate burden and costs. Once this methodology is complete, IRS will update this information collection to reflect a more precise estimate of burden and costs.

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

To ensure more accuracy and consistency across its information collections, IRS is currently in the process of revising the methodology it uses to estimate burden and costs. Once this methodology is complete, IRS will update this information collection to reflect a more precise estimate of burden and costs.

1. **REASONS FOR CHANGE IN BURDEN**

There is no change in the paperwork burden previously approved by OMB.

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

There are no plans for tabulation, statistical analysis, and publication.

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

IRS believes that displaying the OMB expiration date is inappropriate because it could cause confusion by leading taxpayers to believe that the regulations sunsets as of the expiration date. Taxpayers are not likely to be aware that the Service intends to request renewal of the OMB approval and obtain a new expiration date before the old one expires.

1. **EXCEPTIONS TO THE CERTIFICATION STATEMENT**

There are no exceptions to the certification statement.

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.