

U.S. Department of Labor

Commissioner
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington, D.C. 20212



Dominic Mancini
Deputy Director
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs
Office of Management and Budget
Washington, DC

Subject: Request for Emergency Review and Clearance

Dear Mr. Mancini:

Pursuant to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) procedures established at 5 CFR Part 1320, *Controlling Paperwork Burdens on the Public*, I request that the proposed information collection project, "Addition of Stimulus Questions to the Consumer Expenditure Quarterly (CEQ) Survey and Modification of Placement and Pick-up Procedures for Consumer Expenditure Diary (CED) Survey for the COVID-19 Pandemic" be processed as an Emergency Clearance Request in accordance with section 1320.13, Emergency Processing.

I have determined that this information must be collected and procedures modified prior to the time periods established under Part 1320 of the PRA. This information is essential to the mission of the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) in order to determine the economic impact of the shelter in place order and resulting stimulus payments.

BLS cannot reasonably comply with the normal clearance as an unanticipated event has occurred and the urgent necessity to protect the American public and Field Representatives (FRs) from potential spread of this novel health threat while continuing to collect, analyze, and disseminate essential economic information to support public and private decision making. BLS collections are critical in aiding policy makers in decision making regarding the mitigation of economic impacts from this pandemic.

Therefore, BLS requests a 180-day emergency clearance to add additional questions to the CEQ and to modify collection procedures for the CED.

Please provide an approval/disapproval determination of this request to collect information under an emergency clearance by close of business on May 29, 2020.

Respectfully,

William W. Beach
Commissioner, Bureau of Labor Statistics