Justification

**Statement Regarding Contributions and Support of Children**

RRB Form G-139

1. Circumstances of information collection - Section 2(d)(4) of the Railroad Retirement Act (45 U.S.C. 231a), provides, in part, that a child is deemed dependent if the conditions set forth in Section 202(d)(3)(4) and (9) of the Social Security Act are met.

Section 202(d)(4) of the Social Security Act, as amended by Public Law 104-121, requires as a condition of dependency that one-half of the support a child receives is from the stepparent. This dependency impacts upon the entitlement of a spouse or survivor of an employee whose entitlement is based upon having a stepchild of the employee in care, or on an individual seeking a child's annuity as a stepchild of an employee.

Therefore, depending on the employee for at least one-half support is a condition affecting eligibility for increasing an employee or spouse annuity under the social security overall minimum provisions on the basis of the presence of a dependent child (20 CFR 222.50), the employee's natural child in limited situations (20 CFR 222.51), an adopted child (20 CFR 222.53), stepchild (20 CFR 222.55), grandchild and step-grandchild (20 CFR 222.56), and an equitably adopted child (20 CFR 222.57).

2. Purposes of collecting/consequences of not collecting the information - **Form G-139, Statement Regarding Contributions and Support of Children**, is used to correctly determine if an applicant is entitled to a child’s annuity based on actual dependency. The RRB solicits financial information regarding the child's means of support and a comparison is made between the amount of support received from the railroad employee and the amount received from other sources.

**The RRB proposes a minor editorial change to Form G-139 to change the date under Section 1 “General Instructions”.**

3. Planned use of improved information technology or technical/legal impediments to further burden reduction - None planned at this time due to low volume of forms used. We will reevaluate after the completion of the RRB IT Modernization Project.

4. Efforts to identify duplication - Form G-139 is similar to Form SSA-783 (OMB 0960-0020). This information collection does not duplicate any other RRB information collection.

5. Small business respondents - N.A.

6. Consequences of less frequent collection - Not applicable as the information is requested only once.

7. Special circumstances - None

8. Public comments/consultations outside the agency - In accordance with 5 CFR 1320.8(d), comments were invited from the public regarding the information collection. The notice to the public was published on page 57259 of the September 15, 2020, Federal Register. No comments or requests for additional information were received.

9. Payments or gifts to respondents - None

10. Confidentiality - Privacy Act System of Records, RRB-22, Railroad Retirement, Survivor and Pensioner Benefit System. In accordance with OMB Circular M-03-22, a Privacy Impact Assessment for this information collection was completed and can be found at <https://www.rrb.gov/sites/default/files/2017-06/PIA-BPO.pdf>.

11. Sensitive questions - N.A.

12. Estimate of respondent burden - The estimated annual burden for the collection is unchanged.

**Current Burden**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Form Number | Annual Responses | Time (Minutes)1/ | Burden (Hours) |
| G-139 | 500 | 60 | 500 |
| Total | 500 |  | 500 |

**1/The RRB has been collecting the information on these forms since OMB approved the information collection. Based on a sampling done when the form was originally created, the office calculated the estimated time, which includes time for getting the needed data and reviewing the completed form.**

13. Estimated annual cost to respondents or record keepers - N.A.

14. Estimate of cost to Federal Government - N.A.

15. Explanation for change in burden - N.A.

16. Time schedule for publication - The results of this collection will not be published.

17. Request not to display OMB expiration date - The RRB started an extensive multi-year IT Modernization Initiative at the beginning of Fiscal Year 2019 to transform our operations into the 21st Century using multiple contractor services to improve mission performance, expand service capabilities, and strengthen cybersecurity. In addition, we received a new Chief Information Officer (CIO) on September 2, 2019 who is reviewing our estimated project timeline milestone dates. We provided OMB with a consolidated project timeline.

Given that the forms in this collection are seldom revised; the costs associated with redrafting, reprinting, and distributing forms in order to keep the appropriate OMB expiration date in place; and our desire to reevaluate after the completion of the modernization project, **the RRB requests the authority to not display the expiration date on the forms**.

18. Exceptions to Certification Statement - None