




DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

TO: Alex Goodenough, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs

FROM: Ryan Law, Deputy Assistant Secretary
Office of Privacy, Transparency, and Records 

SUBJECT: Justification for Emergency Processing: Emergency Rental Assistance Program 1505-0266

Pursuant to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) procedures established at 5 C.F.R. § 1320.13, the Department of the Treasury (Treasury) requests emergency processing for a revision to the Emergency Rental Assistance Program information collection request (1505-0266). The revision requests approval for a new Redirected Funds form.

On December 27, 2020, the President signed the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (the “Act”). Division N, Title V, Section 501(a)(1) of the Act provides \$25 billion for the U.S. Department of the Treasury (Treasury) to make payments to States (defined to include the District of Columbia), U.S. Territories (Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa), Indian tribes or tribally designated housing entities, as applicable, the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, and certain local governments with more than 200,000 residents (collectively the “eligible grantees”) to provide financial assistance and housing stability services to eligible households.

Under the Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) program, eligible local governments with more than 200,000 residents may elect to receive an ERA award directly from Treasury. If an eligible local government elected to receive an ERA award its allocation of award funds is deducted from the award amount that their State would have otherwise received under the ERA program. Some local governments that received an ERA award from Treasury have now decided to cancel their ERA awards and want to directly transfer their award funds to their respective states for the States to administer the ERA program. To facilitate this process and ensure that Treasury’s records accurately reflects the cancellation of the local government’s ERA award, and the modification of the State’s ERA award, local governments and its respective State must complete the Redirected Funds Form and provide it with the relevant supporting documentation to Treasury.

Due to the need to expeditiously document the cancellation of the local government’s ERA award and modification of the State’s ERA award in Treasury’s records as well as other government-wide databases, such as USASpending.gov, Treasury requests emergency processing and approval on March 25, 2021 for the Redirected Funds form and related reporting under the Act. Given the inability to seek public comment during such a short timeframe, Treasury requests a waiver from the requirement to publish notice in the Federal Register seeking public comment.