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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE
WASHINGTON, DC

NOV 08 2021

Ms. Sharon Block
Acting Administrator
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs
Office of Management and Budget
725 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Ms. Block:

Pursuant to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) procedures established at 5 C.F.R. Part 1320, Controlling Paperwork Burdens on the Public, I request that the proposed Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) information collection covered by the ODNI form titled, "Request for a Medical Exception to the COVID-19 Vaccination Requirement," (enclosed) be processed as an emergency clearance request in accordance with 5 C.F.R. § 1320.13, Emergency Processing.

I have determined that this information must be collected prior to the time periods established under Part 1320 of the regulations and that this information collection is essential to implement health and safety measures requiring all civilian Federal employees be vaccinated as mandated by Executive Order 14043 of 09 September 2021, Requiring Coronavirus Disease 2019 Vaccination for Federal Employees, and included within Safer Federal Workforce Task Force Guidance which mandated all Federal employees be vaccinated by 22 November 2021.¹ The only exception is for individuals who receive a legally required exception approved under established agency processes. The ODNI is requesting an expedited approval of the medical exception form to ensure consistent and timely review of the processes as provided in the Safer Federal Workforce Task Force Guidance. Applying regular Paperwork Reduction Act clearance procedures is likely to cause harm because of the threat of COVID-19 exposure and transmission.

Because of the nature of the public health emergency and the urgent need for the ODNI to meet the 22 November 2021 deadline that all Federal employees be vaccinated except those approved under a medical or religious exception, it is impracticable for ODNI to consult in

¹ See generally Executive Order 13991: Protecting the Federal Workforce and Requiring Mask-Wearing (January 20, 2021); Executive Order 13994: Ensuring a Data-Driven Response to COVID-19 and Future High-Consequence Public Health Threats (January 21, 2021). See also Executive Order 12196: Occupational Safety and Health Programs for Federal Employees, as amended (February 26, 1980) ("The head of each agency shall ... [f]urnish to employees places and conditions of employment that are free from recognized hazards that are causing or are likely to cause death or serious physical harm").

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advance with interested agencies and members of the public in order to minimize the burden of the collection of information pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 1320.13(c). Therefore, the ODNI requests a 180-day emergency clearance to obtain the information required on the ODNI form titled, "Request for a Medical Exception to the COVID-19 Vaccination Requirement." During the 180-day emergency clearance period, ODNI will work to establish a regular clearance submission. As this request for approval concerns an urgent safety need, the ODNI is also seeking OMB's approval to waive the need for the Federal Register Notices otherwise required by 5 C.F.R. § 1320.5(a)(1)(iv) and 1320.5(d)(1) prior to publication and implementation of this disclosure.

We would appreciate if you could please provide an approval/disapproval determination of this request to collect information under an emergency clearance by close of business on Monday, 08 November 2021.

Sincerely,



Lora A. Shiao
Chief Operating Officer

Enclosures:

1. ODNI Form, Request for a Medical Exception to the COVID-19 Vaccination Requirement (U)
2. Support Statement – Part A, Request for a Medical Exception to the COVID-19 Vaccination Requirement (U)