

**Public Comment:**

RE: Docket CDC-2022-0043 FRN 2022-06916

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) serves as the national focus for developing and applying disease prevention and control, environmental health, and health promotion and health education activities designed to improve the health of the people of the United States. This proposed information collection may not be in the best interests of agency goals and could be an obsolete task.

The fact that a non-standard form and various reporting channels are used for report of illness or death while persons are traveling in interstate commerce will probably lead to the information being considered an ambiguous event with confusion manifested and assumptions made by the reviewer where a choice is made to flawed data. The risk and consequences of not reporting or failing to report is great.

Any casual observer of statistical analysis would conclude that this information gathering is unnecessary because in events of severe illness or death the authority having jurisdiction which could be labor, health, transportation or other regulatory body is notified. The data obtained in this information collection does not include important transportation modes such as motor vehicle, bus, rail or motor freight. Communicable disease and natural death does not recognize state borders or mode of transportation.

There may be interagency rivalries but the singleness of control is the essence of efficiency. The CDC should take into account who is best to control and account for this certain type of data that is collected. There are many statutory prescriptions for certain administrative services. It does not come across as an efficient use of time and on the other hand the time delay in obtaining this information may be problematic.

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This information collection should be considered for denial.

**Response:**

Thank you for your comment. While there is no standard illness reporting form, since these reports are generally received by CDC verbally, CDC regulations define what an "ill person" is for the purpose of travel, and maintains this guidance on its website: <https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/air/reporting-deaths-illness/guidance-reporting-onboard-deaths-illnesses.html>. CDC works closely with airlines to communicate and educate the specific requirements illness reporting, both in the domestic and international airspace. The purpose of allowing airline pilots, and other conveyance operators engaged in travel, to report illness or deaths occurring in real-time is to make sure the event is reported as soon as possible. CDC then works to inform state and local health authorities at the destination of arrival and then assists with coordination of any necessary public health follow up, as needed.

The data obtained in this collection does include other modes of transportation, such as interstate travel of buses, or trains, yet estimates that CDC will receive approximately 200 of those reports annually because reporting for domestic ground conveyances typically occur directly to the state or local hospital or health department where the individual is located and can be assessed and/or treated quickly.