**SUPPORTING STATEMENT**

Internal Revenue Service

Simplified Employee Pension—Individual

Retirement Accounts Contribution Agreement

OMB Control Number **1545-0499**

1. **CIRCUMSTANCES NECESSITATING COLLECTION OF INFORMATION**

Internal Revenue Code (IRC) section 408(k) allows employers to establish a Simplified Employee Pension (SEP) and IRC section 404(h) allows an income tax deduction for contributions to this plan. Form 5305-SEP is used by an employer to establish a SEP under IRC 408(k).

1. **USE OF DATA**

Form 5305-SEP is used by employers to make an agreement to provide benefits to all eligible employees under a simplified employee pension (SEP). It provides an easy way to make contributions toward employees' retirement income. The form is not to be filed with the IRS, but a copy is to be kept in the employer’s records.

1. **USE OF IMPROVED INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TO REDUCE BURDEN**

Form 5305-SEP is available electronically.

1. **EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY DUPLICATION**

The information obtained through this collection is unique and is not already available or use or adaption from another source.

1. **METHODS TO MINIMIZE BURDEN ON SMALL BUSINESSES OR OTHER SMALL ENTITIES**

The IRS proactively works with both internal and external stakeholders to minimize the burden on small businesses, while maintaining tax compliance. The Agency also seeks input regarding the burden estimates from the public via notices and tax product instructions.  This form can be accessed electronically, which further reduces any burden to small businesses.

1. **CONSEQUENCES OF LESS FREQUENT COLLECTION ON FEDERAL PROGRAMS OR POLICY ACTIVITIES**

The information required is needed to verify compliance with Sections 408(k) of the Internal Revenue Code of the Treasury Regulations. A less frequent collection of taxes and tax information could adversely affect the government’s effectiveness and would reduce the oversight of the public in ensuring compliance with Internal Revenue Code and hinder the IRS from meeting its mission.

1. **SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRING DATA COLLECTION TO BE INCONSISTENT WITH GUIDELINES IN 5 CFR 1320.5(d)(2)**

There are no special circumstances requiring data collection to be inconsistent with Guidelines in 5 CFR 1320.5(d)(2).

1. **CONSULTATION WITH INDIVIDUALS OUTSIDE OF THE AGENCY ON AVAILABILITY OF DATA, FREQUENCY OF COLLECTION, CLARITY OF INSTRUCTIONS AND FORMS, AND DATA ELEMENTS**

In response to the Federal Register notice dated June 6, 2024 (89 FR 48485), IRS received no comments during the comment period regarding Form 5305-SEP.

1. **EXPLANATION OF DECISION TO PROVIDE ANY PAYMENT OR GIFT TO RESPONDENTS**

No payment or gift has been provided to any respondents.

1. **ASSURANCE OF CONFIDENTIALITY OF RESPONSES**

Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

1. **JUSTIFICATION OF SENSITIVE QUESTIONS**

Form 5305-SEP is not sent to the IRS, it is retained by the employer. No personally identifiable information (PII) is collected by the IRS.

1. **ESTIMATED BURDEN OF INFORMATION COLLECTION**

The estimated burden:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Form** | **Description** | **Number of Respondents** | **Number of Responses Per Respondent** | **Total Annual Responses** | **Hours Per Response** | **Total Burden** |
| 5305 SEP | Simplified Employee Pension—Individual  Retirement Accounts Contribution Agreement | 100,000 | 1 | 100,000 | 4.95 | 495,000 |

1. **ESTIMATED TOTAL ANNUAL COST BURDEN TO RESPONDENTS**

From our Federal Register notice dated June 6, 2024, no public comments were received on the estimates of cost burden that are not captured in the estimates of burden hours, i.e., estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information. As a result, estimates of these cost burdens are considered nominal.

1. **ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

Cost estimate for product development is based on a model that considers the following three cost factors for each information product: aggregate labor costs for development, including annualized startup expenses, operating and maintenance expenses, and distribution of the product that collects the information. The costs to the federal government will vary depending on whether the IRS will incur printing or copying costs for all the materials. These costs do not include any activities such as taxpayer assistance and enforcement. The IRS estimates have determined that the cost of developing, printing, distribution and overhead for the form is $16,119.

1. **REASONS FOR CHANGE IN BURDEN**

There is no change in the paperwork burden previously approved by OMB. IRS is making this submission to renew the OMB approval.

1. **PLANS FOR TABULATION, STATISTICAL ANALYSIS AND PUBLICATION**

There are no plans for tabulation, statistical analysis, and publication.

1. **REASONS WHY DISPLAYING THE OMB EXPIRATION DATE IS INAPPROPRIATE**

IRS believes that displaying the OMB expiration date is inappropriate because it could cause confusion by leading taxpayers to believe that the form sunsets as of the expiration date. Taxpayers are not likely to be aware that the Service intends to request renewal of the OMB approval and obtain a new expiration date before the old one expires.

1. **EXCEPTIONS TO THE CERTIFICATION STATEMENT**

There are no exceptions to the certification statement for this collection.

**Note**: The following paragraph applies to all the collections of information in this submission:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained if their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.