

SUPPORTING STATEMENT JUSTIFICATION FOR STATE MEAT AND POULTRY INSPECTION PROGRAMS

1. Circumstances Making Collection of Information Necessary:

This is a request to revise the information collection related to the State Meat and Poultry Inspection Programs.

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has been delegated the authority to exercise the functions of the Secretary as provided in the Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA) (21 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*), the Poultry Products Inspection Act (PPIA) (21 U.S.C. 451 *et seq.*). These statutes mandate that FSIS protect the public by ensuring that meat and poultry products are safe, wholesome, and properly labeled.

FSIS collects information from federally-assisted State Meat and Poultry Inspection programs to ensure that their programs operate in a manner that is at least equal to FSIS's Federal inspection program in the protection of public interest; comply with requirements of Federal Civil Rights laws and regulations; meet necessary laboratory quality assurance standards and testing frequencies; and have the capability to perform microbiology and food chemistry methods that are "at least equal to" methods performed in FSIS laboratories.

2. How, By Whom and Purpose For Which Information is to be Used:

The following is a discussion of the required information collection and recordkeeping activities.

Under a cooperative agreement with FSIS, states may operate their own MPI programs provided they meet and enforce requirements "at least equal to" those imposed under the FMIA and PPIA. Thirty (30) states have MPI programs that operate under a cooperative agreement with FSIS and are subject to the comprehensive state review process. There are nine review components that make up the comprehensive state review process.

For each of the first six (1-6) components, State MPI programs submit annual self-assessment documentation to FSIS to demonstrate that the State MPI program is meeting the "at least equal to" Federal inspection requirements. Each component of the annual self-assessment includes a written narrative statement and documentation demonstrating that the program continuously meets the criteria to be "at least equal to" the Federal inspection program. State MPI programs also submit sufficient documentation to demonstrate that the program either follows current FSIS statutes, regulations, applicable FSIS Directives and Notices, and has implemented any changes necessary to maintain the "at least equal to"

status or the State MPI program has an effective, analogous program that would also be “at least equal to.”

The annual self-assessment submission also includes one or more narratives describing the internal controls used by the State MPI program that: (1) provide assurances and can measure the effectiveness of the program under the “at least equal to” criteria; (2) demonstrate how non-conformances will be addressed by corrective actions; and (3) demonstrate how the State MPI program will be maintained throughout the next 12 months.

For Component 7 of the comprehensive State review process, States submit documentation of their laboratory quality assurance programs and methods. States document their laboratory quality assurance program activities on the FSIS Form 5720-14, State Meat and Poultry Inspection Program Laboratory Quality Management System Checklist. States submit copies of new or revised laboratory analytical methods accompanied by a FSIS Form 5720-15, Laboratory Method Notification Form.

For Component 8 of the comprehensive State review process, States submit documentation of their Civil Rights compliance. In order to assess the 30 states’ compliance with these provisions, FSIS annually requests information on the States’ Civil Rights programs and controls in FSIS Form 1520.1 – Civil Rights Compliance of State Inspection Programs.

3. Use of Improved Information Technology:

Under the E-Gov Act of 2002, individuals may submit the forms electronically. FSIS makes available electronic versions (PDF fillable) of the FSIS Forms 5720-14, 5720-15 and 1520.1. The forms can be filled out on the computer and then either emailed or printed and submitted to the appropriate office.

4. Efforts to Identify Duplication:

FSIS has determined that this information collection will not duplicate any other information collections. The required records are not available from other sources, either within government or from non-government sources. There is no similar information that can be used or modified.

5. Methods to Minimize Burden on Small Business Entities:

There are no small businesses affected by this information collection. None of the respondents are small businesses.

6. Consequences If Information Were Collected Less Frequently:

To conduct the information collections less frequently will reduce the effectiveness of the meat and poultry products inspection program.

7. Circumstances that Would Cause the Information Collection to be Conducted in a Manner:

- requiring respondents to report information to the agency more often than quarterly;
- requiring respondents to prepare a written response to a collection of information in fewer than 30 days after receipt of it;
- requiring respondents to submit more than an original and two copies of any document;
- requiring respondents to retain records, other than health, medical, government contract, grant-in-aid, or tax records for more than three years;
- in connection with a statistical survey, that is not designed to produce valid and reliable results that can be generalized to the universe of study;
- requiring the use of a statistical data classification that has not been reviewed and approved by OMB;
- that includes a pledge of confidentiality that is not supported by authority established in statute or regulation, that is not supported by disclosure and data security policies that are consistent with the pledge, or which unnecessarily impedes sharing of data with other agencies for compatible confidential use; or
- requiring respondents to submit proprietary trade secret, or other confidential information unless the agency can demonstrate that it has instituted procedures to protect the information's confidentiality to the extent permitted by law.

There are no circumstances that would cause the guidelines above not to be met by this information collection.

8. Consultation with Persons Outside the Agency:

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, FSIS published a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** on April 2, 2026 (91FR 16629) requesting comments regarding this information collection request. The Agency did not receive any

public comments in response to the **Federal Register** notice. FSIS also consulted with three State Meat and Poultry Inspection Program Directors regarding the burden estimates for the collection: Program Manager, Arizona Department of Agriculture (602-542-6398); Executive Manager of Meat and Poultry Inspection, New Mexico Livestock Board (505-841-6161); and Program Manager, Tennessee Department of Agriculture (615-837-5103). The Directors agreed with the estimates so FSIS did not make any changes to the estimated burden.

9. Payment or Gifts to Respondents:

Respondents will not receive any gifts or payments.

10. Confidentiality Provided to Respondents:

No additional assurance of confidentiality is provided with this information collection. Any and all information obtained in this collection shall not be disclosed except in accordance with 5 U.S.C.552a.

11. Questions of a Sensitive Nature:

The respondents are not asked to furnish any information of a sensitive nature.

12. Estimate of Burden

The total burden estimate for the information collection requirements associated with this information collection is 7,235 hours.

Components 1-6	6000 hours
Component 7	91 hours
Component 8	10 hours
On-site submissions	1,134 hours

Components 1-6:

The Agency estimates that 30 State Program Directors will once a year spend 187 hours to complete the Comprehensive Self-Assessment submission for a total of 30 responses and 5,610 hours.

**Annual Comprehensive Self-Assessment
(21 U.S.C. 661(c)(4) and 454(c)(4))**

Type of Respondent	No. of Respondents	No. of Responses per Respondent	Total Annual Responses	Time for Response in Mins.	Total Annual Time in Hours
State MPI Directors	30	1	30	11,220	5,610

The Agency estimates that 30 State Program Directors will once a year spend 8 hours to complete the Comparison Table for FSIS statutes to State statutes for a total of 30 responses and 240 hours.

**Comparison Table
(21 U.S.C. 661(c)(4) and 454(c)(4))**

Type of Respondent	No. of Respondents	No. of Responses per Respondent	Total Annual Responses	Time for Response in Mins.	Total Annual Time in Hours
State MPI Directors	30	1	30	480	240

The Agency estimates that 30 State Program Directors will once a year spend 1 hour to complete the Laboratory Activity Table submission for a total of 30 responses and 30 hours.

**Laboratory Activity Table
(21 U.S.C. 661(c)(4) and 454(c)(4))**

Type of Respondent	No. of Respondents	No. of Responses per Respondent	Total Annual Responses	Time for Response in Mins.	Total Annual Time in Hours
State MPI Directors	30	1	30	60	30

The Agency estimates that 30 State Program Directors will once a year spend 1 hour to complete the State MPI Establishment Count submission for a total of 30 responses and 30 hours.

**State MPI Program Establishment Count
(21 U.S.C. 661(c)(4) and 454(c)(4))**

Type of Respondent	No. of Respondents	No. of Responses per Respondent	Total Annual Responses	Time for Response in Mins.	Total Annual Time in Hours
State MPI Directors	30	1	30	60	30

The Agency estimates that 30 State Program Directors will once a year spend 1 hour to complete the State MPI Employee Primary Roles submission for a total of 30 responses and 30 hours.

**State MPI Employee Primary Roles
(21 U.S.C. 661(c)(4) and 454(c)(4))**

Type of Respondent	No. of Respondents	No. of Responses per Respondent	Total Annual Responses	Time for Response in Mins.	Total Annual Time in Hours
State MPI Directors	30	1	30	60	30

The Agency estimates that 30 State Program Directors will once a year spend 1 hour to complete the Compliance Activity Report submission for a total of 30 responses and 30 hours.

**Compliance Activity Report
(21 U.S.C. 661(c)(4) and 454(c)(4))**

Type of Respondent	No. of Respondents	No. of Responses per Respondent	Total Annual Responses	Time for Response in Mins.	Total Annual Time in Hours
State MPI Directors	30	1	30	60	30

The Agency estimates that 30 State Program Directors will once a year spend 1 hour to complete the Summary of Statutory Authority per Business Type submission for a total of 30 responses and 30 hours.

**Summary of Statutory Authority per Business Type
(21 U.S.C. 661(c)(4) and 454(c)(4))**

Type of Respondent	No. of Respondents	No. of Responses per Respondent	Total Annual Responses	Time for Response in Mins.	Total Annual Time in Hours
State MPI Directors	30	1	30	60	30

Component 7

The Agency estimates that 30 State Program Directors will once a year spend 113 mins to complete FSIS Form 5720-14 for a total of 30 responses and 57 hours.

Laboratory Quality Assurance (FSIS Form 5720-14) (21 U.S.C. 661(c)(4) and 454(c)(4))

Type of Respondent	No. of Respondents	No. of Responses per Respondent	Total Annual Responses	Time for Response in Mins.	Total Annual Time in Hours
State MPI Directors	30	1	30	113	57

The Agency estimates that 30 State Program Directors will once a year spend 25 mins to complete FSIS Form 5720-15 for a total of 30 responses and 13 hours.

Laboratory Quality Assurance (FSIS Form 5720-15) (21 U.S.C. 661(c)(4) and 454(c)(4))

Type of Respondent	No. of Respondents	No. of Responses per Respondent	Total Annual Responses	Time for Response in Mins.	Total Annual Time in Hours
State MPI Directors	30	1	30	25	13

The Agency estimates that 11 State Program Directors will once a year spend 113 mins to complete and submit an additional FSIS Form 5720-15 for a total of 11 responses and 21 hours.

**Laboratory Quality Assurance (FSIS Form 5720-15)
(21 U.S.C. 661(c)(4) and 454(c)(4))**

Type of Respondent	No. of Respondents	No. of Responses per Respondent	Total Annual Responses	Time for Response in Mins.	Total Annual Time in Hours
State MPI Directors	11	1	11	113	21

Component 8:

The Agency estimates that 30 State Program Directors will once a year spend 60 mins to complete FSIS Form 1520.1 for a total of 30 responses and 10 hours.

**CIVIL RIGHTS (FSIS Form 1520.1)
Title VI, Title IX, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
Age Discrimination Act of 1975**

Type of Respondent	No. of Respondents	No. of Responses per Respondent	Total Annual Responses	Time for Response in Mins.	Total Annual Time in Hours
State Directors & Human Resource Officials	30	1	30	20	10

On-site submissions:

The Agency estimates that 9 State Program Directors will once a year spend 126 hours to complete FSIS Form 5720-15 for a total of 9 responses and 1,134 hours.

ON-SITE SUBMISSIONS
(21 U.S.C. 661(c)(4) and 454(c)(4))

Type of Respondent	No. of Respondents	No. of Responses per Respondent	Total Annual Responses	Time for Response in Mins.	Total Annual Time in Hours
State MPI Directors	9	1	9	7,560	1,134

The cost to the respondents is estimated at \$747,593 annually. The Agency estimates that it will cost respondents \$103.33 an hour, including fringe benefits, in fulfilling these information collection requirements. Respondents will spend an annual total of 7,235 hours and \$747,593. The hourly rate for the respondents was attained from the Department of

Labor Bureau of Labor and Statistics wage data, May, 2025.

13. Capital and Start-up Cost and Subsequent Maintenance

There are no capital and start-up costs and subsequent maintenance burdens.

14. Annual Cost to Federal Government:

The cost to the Federal Government for these information collection requirements is \$2,122,779 annually. The costs arise primarily from the time spent by FSIS reviewing the annual submissions and conducting the comprehensive State reviews. The Agency estimates a cost of \$68.04 an hour, including fringe benefits.

15. Reasons for Changes in Burden:

FSIS has added 184 burden hours to the collection due to the addition of new states. FSIS has increased the respondents in the collection from 29 to 30, the responses from 309 to 320, and the total burden hours from 7,051 to 7,235.

16. Tabulation, Analyses and Publication Plans:

There are no plans to publish the data for statistical use.

17. OMB Approval Number Display:

FSIS will display the OMB approval number on any instructions it publishes relating to information collection activities.

18. Exceptions to the Certification:

There are no exceptions to the certification. This information collection accords with the certification in item 19 of the OMB 83-I.

