

(5) *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond/reply:* 53 respondents to complete a 3 minute subgrant award report, however a State can be responsible for entering subgrant data for as many as 186 programs to as few as 10 programs. Additionally, 4 respondents will be submitting 14 subgrant award reports manually, estimated 2 hours per report.

(6) *An estimated of the total burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* The combined estimated total hours (manual and electronic submissions) for the 57 respondents to submit information is 189 hours (159 electronic submissions + 28 hours manual submissions).

If additional information is required contact: Mr. Robert B. Briggs, Clearance Officer, United States Department of Justice, Information Management and Security Staff, Justice Management Division, Suite 850, Washington Center, 1001 G Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20530.

Dated: August 25, 1998.

**Robert B. Briggs,**

*Department Clearance Officer, United States Department of Justice.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Office of the Secretary

#### Bureau of International Labor Affairs; Notice for Public Submissions of Information

This document is a notice for public submissions for the purpose of gathering information regarding a study being conducted by the Department of Labor on the development of a methodology for the regular reporting of working conditions in the production of apparel imported into the United States. The Department of Labor is now accepting written information on this subject matter from all interested parties. The Department is not able to provide financial assistance to those preparing written submissions.

The Department of Labor is currently undertaking a Congressional-mandated study on developing a methodology for the regular reporting of working conditions in the production of apparel imported into the United States (pursuant to the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education and Related Agencies Appropriation Bill, 1998, Public Law 105-78). The Senate Committee report

for the Appropriations Bill reads, in part: "In addition, the Committee is concerned by the large and growing problem of abusive treatment of workers around the world who produce apparel for export to the United States and the impact of that treatment on companies and workers in the United States. In an effort to obtain more detailed and accurate information, the Committee urges the Department to establish a methodology and format for reporting regularly on the use of sweatshops in the production of apparel for import into the United States. Because the Department's reporting capabilities are currently limited to violations by domestic producers only, the misleading impression that violations of law and substandard conditions in the industry are far more extensive within the United States than elsewhere is given. Development of new reporting methods should help to correct the existing imbalance in the Department's current reporting on this subject."

Information provided through public submissions will be considered by the Department of Labor in preparing its report to Congress. Materials submitted should be confined to the specific topic of the study. In particular, the Department's Bureau of International Labor Affairs is seeking written submissions on the topics noted below:

1. Laws, policies, initiatives, and enforcement strategies to regulate working conditions in a country's apparel export sector; efforts being made to strengthen enforcement of a country's labor laws, focus enforcement resources on the apparel sector, or change labor laws; and the existence of effective partnerships with local non-governmental organizations or international initiatives to improve working conditions in the apparel sector or to eliminate sweatshop conditions.

2. Available factual information that quantifies the results of the laws, policies, and initiatives referred to in item 1 above, and the extent to which such information corresponds to the information currently reported by the U.S. Department of Labor on sweatshop conditions in the United States (e.g., number of investigations conducted, number of investigations with violations found, name of companies found in violation, amount of back wages recovered, number of employees receiving back wages, and civil fines imposed).

3. Significant actions that are being taken by non-governmental organizations in major apparel exporting countries (such as the development of codes of conduct) that could lead to improved conditions for apparel

workers, and measurable results available of such actions.

4. The extent to which working conditions in the apparel exporting sector of a country conform to or differ from those in other sectors of the economy.

This notice is a general solicitation of comments from the public. The Department is seeking facts or opinions in response to this solicitation, and is not requiring commenters to supply specific information about themselves.

**DATES:** Submitters of information will be required to provide two (2) copies of their written submission to the Office of International Economic Affairs by 5:00 p.m., Friday, September 18, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Written submissions should be addressed to the Office of International Economic Affairs, Bureau of International Labor Affairs, Room S-5325, U.S. Department of Labor, Washington, DC 20210, fax: (202) 219-5071.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jorge F. Perez-Lopez, Office of International Economic Affairs, Bureau of International Labor Affairs, Room S-5325, U.S. Department of Labor, Washington, D.C. 20210, telephone: (202) 219-7597 ext. 145; fax (202) 219-5071.

All written materials submitted pursuant to this request will be made part of the record of review referred to above and will be available for public inspection.

Signed at Washington, D.C. this 25th day of August, 1998.

**Jorge F. Perez-Lopez,**

*Acting Deputy Under Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Employment and Training Administration

#### Notice of Determinations Regarding Eligibility to Apply for Worker Adjustment Assistance and NAFTA Transitional Adjustment Assistance

In accordance with Section 223 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended, the Department of Labor herein presents summaries of determinations regarding eligibility to apply for trade adjustment assistance for workers (TA-W) issued during the period of August, 1998.

In order for an affirmative determination to be made and a certification of eligibility to apply for worker adjustment assistance to be issued, each of the group eligibility