

an underlying equivalent value of \$1 million. For example, a purchase of FLEX equity options overlying a \$10 stock is permitted although the underlying value for the options would be \$250,000, *i.e.*, 250 contracts times the multiplier (100) times the stock price (\$10). Conversely, under the proposed amendment, a participant could open a new FLEX equity option series overlying a \$110 stock with a trade of 91 contracts or more since the underlying equivalent value would be \$1,001,000.

## 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the objectives of Section 6(b) of the Act,<sup>6</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5),<sup>7</sup> in particular, in that it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, as well as to protect investors and the public interest.

### B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Phlx does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any inappropriate burden on competition.

### C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others

No written comments were either solicited or received.

## III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Within 35 days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** or within such longer period (i) as the Commission may designate up to 90 days of such date if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding, or (ii) as to which the Phlx consents, the Commission will:

(A) by order approve such proposed rule change, or

(B) institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

## IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549. Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Phlx.

All submissions should refer to File No. SR-Phlx-99-02 and should be submitted by April 1, 1999.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>8</sup>

**Margaret H. McFarland,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 99-6045 Filed 3-10-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

## SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

### Reporting and Recordkeeping Requirements Under OMB Review

**AGENCY:** Small Business Administration.

**ACTION:** Notice of Reporting Requirements Submitted for OMB Review.

**SUMMARY:** Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), agencies are required to submit proposed reporting and recordkeeping requirements to OMB for review and approval, and to publish a notice in the **Federal Register** notifying the public that the agency has made such a submission.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before April 12, 1999. If you intend to comment but cannot prepare comments promptly, please advise the OMB Reviewer and the Agency Clearance Officer before the deadline.

**COPIES:** Request for clearance (OMB 83-1), supporting statement, and other documents submitted to OMB for review may be obtained from the Agency Clearance Officer.

**ADDRESSES:** Address all comments concerning this notice to: Agency Clearance Officer, Jacqueline White, Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street, S.W., 5th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20416; and OMB Reviewer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20503.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jacqueline White, Agency Clearance Officer, (202) 205-6629.

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* "HUBZone Empowerment Contracting Program Application."  
*Form No:* 2103.

*Frequency:* On Occasion.

*Description of Respondents:* SBA Businesses Seeking Certification as Qualified HUBZone Small Business Concern.

*Annual Responses:* 20,000.

*Annual Burden:* 20,000.

Dated: March 4, 1999.

**Jacqueline White,**

*Chief, Administrative Information Branch.*  
[FR Doc. 99-6010 Filed 3-10-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-U

## SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Declaration of Economic Injury Disaster #9B15]

### State of Alabama (And Contiguous Counties in Tennessee and Georgia)

Jackson County and the contiguous counties of De Kalb, Madison, and Marshall in the State of Alabama; Franklin, Lincoln, and Marion Counties in Tennessee; and Dade County, Georgia constitute an economic injury disaster loan area as a result of a natural gas explosion that occurred on January 22, 1999 in the City of Bridgeport. Eligible small businesses and small agricultural cooperatives without credit available elsewhere may file applications for economic injury assistance as a result of this disaster until the close of business on December 1, 1999 at the address listed below or other locally announced locations: U.S. Small Business Administration, Disaster Area 2 Office, One Baltimore Place, Suite 300, Atlanta, GA 30308.

The interest rate for eligible small businesses and small agricultural cooperatives is 4 percent.

<sup>6</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78(b)(5).

<sup>8</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

The economic injury number for Tennessee is 9B1600 and for Georgia the number is 9B1700.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 59002.)

Dated: March 1, 1999.

**Aida Alvarez,**  
*Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 99-6009 Filed 3-10-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-U

**SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

[Declaration of Economic Injury Disaster #9B23]

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts (And a Contiguous County in the State of New Hampshire)**

Middlesex County and the contiguous counties of Essex, Norfolk, Suffolk, and Worcester in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and Hillsborough County in the State of New Hampshire constitute an economic injury disaster loan area as a result of a fire that occurred on February 20, 1999 in the City of Waltham. Eligible small businesses and small agricultural cooperatives without credit available elsewhere may file applications for economic injury assistance as a result of this disaster until the close of business on December 1, 1999 at the address listed below or other locally announced locations: U.S. Small Business Administration, Disaster Area 1 Office, 360 Rainbow Blvd, South 3rd Floor, Niagara Falls, NY 14303.

The interest rate for eligible small businesses and small agricultural cooperatives is 4 percent.

The numbers assigned for economic injury for this disaster are 9B2300 for Massachusetts and 9B2400 for New Hampshire.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 59002.)

Dated: March 1, 1999.

**Aida Alvarez,**  
*Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 99-6008 Filed 3-10-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-U

**SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

[Declaration of Disaster #3161]

**Texas (And Contiguous Parishes in Louisiana)**

Newton County and the contiguous Counties of Jasper, Orange, and Sabine in the State of Texas, and Beauregard, Calcasieu, and Vernon Parishes in the State of Louisiana constitute a disaster area as a result of damages caused by

severe storms and flooding that occurred January 30 through February 10, 1999. Applications for loans for physical damages as a result of this disaster may be filed until the close of business on May 3, 1999 and for economic injury until the close of business on Dec. 2, 1999 at the address listed below or other locally announced locations: U.S. Small Business Administration, Disaster Area 3 Office, 4400 Amon Carter Blvd., Suite 102, Ft. Worth, TX 76155.

The interest rates are:

	Percent
For Physical Damage:	
Homeowners with credit available elsewhere .....	6.375
Homeowners without credit available elsewhere .....	3.188
Businesses with credit available elsewhere .....	8.000
Businesses and non-profit organizations without credit available elsewhere .....	4.000
Others (including non-profit organizations) with credit available elsewhere .....	7.000
For Economic Injury:	
Businesses and Small Agricultural Cooperatives without credit available elsewhere .....	4.000

The numbers assigned to this disaster for physical damages are 316106 for Texas and 316206 for Louisiana. For economic injury the numbers are 9B2600 for Texas and 9B2700 for Louisiana.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 59002 and 59008.)

Dated: March 2, 1999.

**Aida Alvarez,**  
*Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 99-6007 Filed 3-10-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-U

**SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION**

[Social Security Acquiescence Ruling 99-2 (8)]

**Kerns v. Apfel; Definition of Highly Marketable Skills for Individuals Close to Retirement Age—Titles II and XVI of the Social Security Act**

**AGENCY:** Social Security Administration.

**ACTION:** Notice of Social Security Acquiescence Ruling.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with 20 CFR 402.35(b)(2), the Commissioner of Social Security gives notice of Social Security Acquiescence Ruling 99-2 (8).

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** March 11, 1999.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Wanda D. Mason, Litigation Staff, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235, (410) 966-5044.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Although not required to do so pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552(a)(1) and (a)(2), we are publishing this Social Security Acquiescence Ruling in accordance with 20 CFR 402.35(b)(2).

A Social Security Acquiescence Ruling explains how we will apply a holding in a decision of a United States Court of Appeals that we determine conflicts with our interpretation of a provision of the Social Security Act (the Act) or regulations when the Government has decided not to seek further review of that decision or is unsuccessful on further review.

We will apply the holding of the Court of Appeals' decision as explained in this Social Security Acquiescence Ruling to claims at all levels of administrative adjudication within the Eighth Circuit. This Social Security Acquiescence Ruling will apply to all determinations or decisions made on or after March 11, 1999. If we made a determination or decision on your application for benefits between November 16, 1998, the date of the Court of Appeals' decision, and March 11, 1999, the effective date of this Social Security Acquiescence Ruling, you may request application of the Social Security Acquiescence Ruling to the prior determination or decision. You must demonstrate, pursuant to 20 CFR 404.985(b)(2) or 416.1485(b)(2), that application of the Ruling could change our prior determination or decision in your case.

Additionally, when we received this precedential Court of Appeals' decision and determined that a Social Security Acquiescence Ruling might be required, we began to identify those claims that were pending before us within the circuit and that might be subject to readjudication if an Acquiescence Ruling were subsequently issued. Because we determined that an Acquiescence Ruling is required and are publishing this Social Security Acquiescence Ruling, we will send a notice to those individuals whose claims we have identified which may be affected by this Social Security Acquiescence Ruling. The notice will provide information about the Acquiescence Ruling and the right to request readjudication under the Ruling. It is not necessary for an individual to receive a notice in order to request application of this Social Security Acquiescence Ruling to the prior determination or decision on his or her