



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20503

ADMINISTRATOR
OFFICE OF
INFORMATION AND
REGULATORY AFFAIRS

September 20, 2016

The Honorable Steve Chabot
Chairman
Committee on Small Business
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Director Shaun Donovan about the Information Collection Budget (ICB). I am responding on his behalf. Your letter requests information regarding the publication of OMB's Information Collection Budget (ICB) and the approval of information collection requests.

The robust oversight of agency compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act remains one of OIRA's highest priorities. The ICB offers a detailed accounting of the information collection activities of the Federal government, presenting the overall paperwork burden the Federal government imposed and identifying efforts that Federal agencies are making to reduce burden and collect information more efficiently and effectively. Fiscal year 2015 concluded during the development of the 2014 ICB and OMB determined that it would be more efficient and would make for a more useful and timely report to collect the fiscal 2015 ICB information and combine the data into one ICB for fiscal years 2014 and 2015. A similar approach was performed for the previous reports that covered fiscal years 2012 and 2013.¹

OMB plans to publish reports covering both fiscal year 2014 and 2015 this fall, and those ICBs will include a summary of progress agencies are making reforming information collections to lower burdens on the public. While working to publish these reports, OMB is also taking steps to address the timing of future reports, as well as taking other measures to make these reports more useful and transparent for the public. These steps include modernizing our information systems to make these reports more timely and interactive. To do so, OMB is working on enhancing the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) website (www.reginfo.gov) to allow all stakeholders to view agency information in an easier to read, dynamic format. Our goal is to both provide the public with more up-to-date information, and to lower the administrative burden related to the production of the ICB.

Additionally, as part of the twice annual reports on the Administration's retrospective Regulatory Review Initiative,² OMB has included and reported on several significant fiscal year 2014 and 2015 information collection burden reduction initiatives, including several initiatives

¹ Reports for prior fiscal years are available at https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/inforeg_infocoll#icbusg.

² Information on this initiative is available here: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/oira/regulation-reform>

that saved the U.S. public millions of hours of time. These include a Department of Transportation reform that saved truck drivers over \$1.7 billion in time savings per year by eliminating unnecessary inspection reporting requirements. In fact, in 2012 OIRA directed the agencies, as part of the Retrospective review initiative, to focus on paperwork burden reduction.³

Thank you again for sharing your important perspective on this issue. If you or your staff have any questions, please contact OMB's Legislative Affairs office at (202) 395-4790.

Sincerely,



Howard Shelanski
Administrator
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs

Identical Letter Sent to The Honorable Jason Chaffetz

³ Those instructions to agencies are available here:
https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/inforeg/icb/2012_icb_datacall_0.pdf.