

available from the Office of the Secretary and at the Commission's web site.

Authority: These reviews are being conducted under authority of title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930; this notice is published pursuant to § 207.62 of the Commission's rules.

Issued: April 14, 1999.

By order of the Commission.

Donna R. Koehnke,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-9696 Filed 4-16-99; 8:45 am]

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation 332-405]

Probable Economic Effects of the Reduction or Elimination of U.S. Tariffs

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Institution of investigation and scheduling of public hearing.

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 13, 1999.

SUMMARY: Following receipt of a request on March 15, 1999, from the United States Trade Representative (USTR), the Commission instituted investigation No. 332-405, Probable Economic Effects of the Reduction or Elimination of U.S. Tariffs, under section 332(g) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1332(g)).

As requested by USTR, the Commission will provide advice as to the probable economic effects on U.S. industries producing like or directly competitive articles, and on consumers, of modifying tariffs under three scenarios, as follows:

1. The effects resulting from changes in the levels of dutiable imports from all U.S. trading partners if all tariffs were reduced by at least 50 percent, with tariffs of 5 percent ad valorem or less reduced to free;

2. The effects resulting from changes in the levels of dutiable imports from all U.S. trading partners if tariffs were eliminated; and

3. The effects resulting from tariff elimination on dutiable imports from Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) trading partners alone.

The request covers each article for which tariffs will remain after full implementation of the staged duty reductions resulting from the Uruguay Round or subsequent World Trade Organization (WTO) agreements (e.g., the Information Technology Agreement). The USTR requested the Commission to provide the advice in a confidential report by November 17, 1999.

In her letter, the USTR noted that "[T]his request by no means implies that we intend to take action on these tariff measures. It merely indicates our interest in obtaining factual advice from the Commission on the probable economic effects of their reduction or elimination."

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Industry-specific information may be obtained from Robert Wallace, Project Leader (202-205-3458) or James Lukes, Deputy Project Leader (202-205-3426), Office of Industries, U.S. International Trade Commission, Washington, DC 20436. For information on the legal aspects of this investigation, contact William Gearhart of the Office of the General Counsel (202-205-3091). Hearing impaired individuals are advised that information on this matter can be obtained by contacting the TDD terminal on (202) 205-1810.

Background

In her letter to the Commission, the USTR stated that a new round of multilateral negotiations will be launched at the WTO's Third Ministerial Conference. The letter noted that the WTO Agreements mandate further negotiations on agriculture and that many WTO members are advocating new negotiations on industrial tariffs. The letter also noted that, within our hemisphere, President Clinton and other leaders at the Miami and Santiago Summits of the Americas have called for the completion of an FTAA no later than the year 2005, and that agricultural and industrial tariffs will be one area addressed in the FTAA negotiations.

The Commission will provide the probable economic effects advice at an 8-digit subheading level of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS). There are a total of 6,424 current HTS subheadings for which tariffs will remain after full implementation of the staged duty reductions resulting from the Uruguay Round or subsequent WTO agreements. A list of these HTS subheadings is available on the Commission's Internet site at <http://www.usitc.gov/invfrn.htm#332>. A printed copy of the list is also available for inspection in the docket section of the Secretary's office.

Public Hearing

A public hearing in connection with the investigation will be held at the U.S. International Trade Commission Building, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC, beginning at 9:30 a.m. on June 15, 1999, and continuing on June 16 if necessary. All persons shall have the right to appear, by counsel or in person,

to present information and to be heard. Requests to appear at the public hearing should be filed with the Secretary, United States International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436, no later than 5:15 p.m., June 1, 1999. Any prehearing briefs (original and 14 copies) should be filed not later than 5:15 p.m., June 3, 1999; the deadline for filing post-hearing briefs or statements is 5:15 p.m., August 10, 1999. To allow sufficient time for full consideration, the Commission encourages all persons who appear at the public hearing to submit any prepared statements and accompanying material to the Secretary by 5:15 p.m., June 10, 1999. In the event that, as of the close of business on June 1, 1999, no witnesses are scheduled to appear at the hearing, the hearing will be canceled. Any person interested in attending the hearing as an observer or non-participant may call the Secretary of the Commission (202-205-1806) after June 1, 1999, to determine whether the hearing will be held.

Written Submissions

In lieu of or in addition to participating in the hearing, interested parties are invited to submit written statements concerning the matters to be addressed by the Commission in its report on this investigation. Commercial or financial information that a submitter desires the Commission to treat as confidential must be submitted on separate sheets of paper, each clearly marked "Confidential Business Information" at the top. All submissions requesting confidential treatment must conform with the requirements of § 201.6 of the Commission's rules of practice and procedure (19 CFR 201.6). All written submissions, except for confidential business information, will be made available in the Office of the Secretary of the Commission for inspection by interested parties. To be assured of consideration by the Commission, written statements relating to the Commission's report should be submitted to the Commission at the earliest practical date and should be received no later than the close of business on August 10, 1999. All submissions should be addressed to the Secretary, United States International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436. The Commission's rules do not authorize filing submissions with the Secretary by facsimile or electronic means.

Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202-205-2000. General

information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its Internet server (<http://www.usitc.gov>).

List of Subjects

WTO, FTAA, Tariffs, and Imports.

Issued: April 14, 1999.

By order of the Commission.

Donna R. Koehnke,

Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Office of Justice Programs

Bureau of Justice Assistance; Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

ACTION: Notice of Information Collection Under Review; New Collection; Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act of 1998 (Act)—Pub. L. 105-181 June 16, 1998 Funding Program.

The Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance, has submitted the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with emergency review procedures of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. OMB approval has been requested by April 15, 1999. The proposed information collection is published to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies. If granted, the emergency approval is only valid for 180 days. Comments should be directed to OMB, Office of Information Regulation Affairs, Attention: Mr. Alex Hunt, (202) 395-7860, Department of Justice Desk Officer, Washington, DC 20530.

During the first 60 days of this same review period, a regular review of this information collection is also being undertaken. All comments and suggestions, or questions regarding additional information, to include obtaining a copy of the proposed information collection instrument with instructions, should be directed to the Department of Justice (DOJ), Justice Management Division, Information Management and Security Staff, Attention: Department Clearance Officer, Suite 850, 1001 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20530. Additionally, comments may be submitted to DOJ via facsimile to (202) 514-1590.

Request written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed

collection of information. Your comments should address one or more of the following four points:

(1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Overview of This Information

(1) *Type of information collection:* New Collection.

(2) *The title of the three form/collections:* Registration, Application for Funding, and Request for Payment.

(3) *The agency for number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department sponsoring the collection:* None. Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, United States Department of Justice.

(4) *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:* Primary: Federal Government, State, Local or Tribal, and any law enforcement agencies who may elect to assist their units of general government with completion of the Application for Funding or Request for Payment forms.

Other: Armor vest manufacturers or distributors, individual law enforcement officers, or other interested parties.

(5) *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond/reply:* It is estimated that between 25,000 and 30,000 eligible units of general government may complete the Registration and Application for Funding forms that may take one hour during one Fiscal Year, and may complete any number of Requests for Payment forms that may take as much as one hour total per Fiscal Year to complete as armor vests are received/accepted and Requests for Payment are made to the BVP.

(6) *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* Estimated to be between

50,000 and 90,000 total hours for the 25,000 to 30,000 estimated applicants.

If additional information is required contact: Ms. Brenda E. Dyer, Deputy, Clearance Office, United States Department of Justice, Information Management and Security Staff Justice Management Division, Suite 850, Washington Center, 1001 G Street NW, Washington, DC 20530.

Dated: April 13, 1999.

Brenda E. Dyer,

Department Deputy Clearance Officer,
Department of Justice.

[FR Doc 99-9698 Filed 4-16-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

National Institute of Justice

[OJP (NIJ)-1221]

RIN 1121-ZB54

Announcement of the Availability of the National Institute of Justice Solicitation for Evaluation of Policies, Procedures, and Programs Addressing Violence Against Women

AGENCY: Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice, Justice.

ACTION: Notice of solicitation.

SUMMARY: Announcement of the availability of the National Institute of Justice "Evaluation of Policies, Procedures, and Programs Addressing Violence Against Women."

DATES: Due date for receipt of proposals is close of business June 2, 1999.

ADDRESSES: National Institute of Justice, 810 Seventh Street, NW, Washington, DC 20531.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For a copy of the solicitation, please call NCJRS 1-800-851-3420. For general information about application procedures for solicitations, please call the U.S. Department of Justice Response Center 1-800-421-6770.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority

This action is authorized under the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, secs. 201-03, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 3721-23 (1994).

Background

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) is soliciting proposals for the evaluation of policies, procedures, and programs that address violence against women. Violence against women includes family and intimate partner violence, sexual assault, stalking, and violence