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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Docket ID: DoD-2024-OS-0045]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel & Readiness (OUSD(P&R)), Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: 60-day information collection notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995*, the OUSD(P&R) announces a proposed public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. Comments are invited on: whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE **FEDERAL REGISTER**].

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by docket number and title, by any of the following methods:

Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

Mail: Department of Defense, Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Privacy, Civil Liberties, and Transparency, 4800 Mark Center Drive, Mailbox #24, Suite 08D09, Alexandria, VA 22350-1700.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name, docket number and title for this Federal Register document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request more information on this proposed information collection or to obtain a copy of the proposal and associated collection instruments, please write to Federal Voting Assistance Program, Department of Defense, 4800 Mark Center Drive, Suite 05E22, Alexandria, VA 22350-5000, Brianna Paul, (571)-545-3996.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title; Associated Form; and OMB Number: Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot; Standard Form 186; OMB Control Number 0704-0502.

Needs and Uses: The Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA), 52 U.S.C. 203, requires the Presidential designee (Secretary of Defense) to prescribe an official backup ballot for use by the States to permit absent uniformed services voters and overseas voters to participate in general, special, primary and runoff elections for Federal office. The authority for the States to collect personal information comes from UOCAVA. The burden for collecting this information resides in the States. The Federal government neither collects nor retains any personal information associated with these forms.

The collected information will be used by State and local election officials to process uniformed service members, spouses and overseas citizens who submit their information to register to vote or receive an absentee ballot. The collected information will be retained by election officials to provide election materials, including absentee ballots, to the uniformed services, their eligible family members and overseas voters during the form's eligibility period provided by State law. No information from the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) is collected or retained by the Federal government. The FWAB is completed in hardcopy or via the Federal Voting Assistance

Program's (FVAP) online assistant (fvap.gov), and then submitted by the voter to an Election Official through mail, email, or fax (depending on State instructions). Per the law, FVAP regularly reaches out to UOCAVA citizens to raise awareness of its voting assistance services, primarily via its website, FVAP.gov.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; Businesses or other for-profit; Not-for-profit Institutions; Farms, Federal Governments; State, Local or Tribal Government.

Annual Burden Hours: 300,000.

Number of Respondents: 1,200,000.

Responses per Respondent: 1.

Annual Responses: 1,200,000.

Average Burden Per Response: 15 minutes.

Frequency: On Occasion.

Dated: April 29, 2024.

Aaron T. Siegel,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer,

Department of Defense.

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