

November 12, 2009

Ms. Diana Hynek  
Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer  
Department of Commerce, Room 7845  
14<sup>th</sup> and Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

RE: *Federal Register* notice of September 30, 2009, for the U.S. Census Bureau's  
Government Employment Forms (OMB Number: 0607-0452)

Dear Ms. Hynek:

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) uses data collected by the Census Bureau on forms:

- E-1 Survey of Government Employment: State Agencies
- E-2 Survey of Government Employment: State Institutions of Higher Education
- E-3 Survey of Government Employment: Special Districts and Local Agencies
- E-4 Survey of Government Employment: Municipalities, Counties, Townships
- E-5 Survey of Government Employment: Municipalities and Township
- E-6 Survey of Government Employment: School Systems
- E-7 Survey of Government Employment: Major Special Districts and Agencies
- E-9 Survey of Government Employment: Police Protection Agencies

BEA uses the information from these surveys to prepare the National Income and Product Accounts (NIPA), Regional Accounts, and Industry Accounts. As part of our effort to maintain and improve the quality of the source data used to prepare these accounts, BEA reviewed the *Federal Register* notice of September 30, 2009, and has the following comments.

The data obtained from these forms are critical to BEA for maintaining reliable estimates. Specifically, BEA uses national, state, local, and type-of-government aggregate data by function for full-time and part-time employees, payroll, and number of part-time hours worked to prepare estimates of functional payrolls for the public sector of the Gross Domestic Product. BEA also uses these data to prepare estimates of state and local government compensation of employees in both the annual and benchmark input-output accounts.

Please keep BEA informed of modifications to these forms. We are particularly interested in

modifications that are proposed during the forms' approval process that might substantially affect our use of the data collected through these forms. For additional information, please contact Ruth Bramblett, Source Data Coordinator, on 202-606-9653, or by e-mail at [Ruth.Bramblett@bea.gov](mailto:Ruth.Bramblett@bea.gov). Should you need assistance in justifying these forms to the Office of Management and Budget, please do not hesitate to contact BEA.

Sincerely,

/s/

Dennis J. Fixler  
Chief Statistician