

Yancey, Christina L - ASP

From: Jane Waldfogel [<mailto:j.waldfogel@columbia.edu>]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 10:03 AM
To: OIRA_submission@omb.eop.gov
Cc: DOL_PRA_PUBLIC
Subject: FMLA Wave 4 Surveys

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing in strong support of the proposed FMLA Wave 4 Surveys. Having up to date and accurate information about employer and employee perspectives on family and medical leave is essential for understanding how the FMLA is working currently and what reforms might be needed to better meet the needs of both employers and employees. The past surveys have been an invaluable resource and future rounds will be even more so as employers and employees adapt to changing employment conditions and changing composition of the labor force and population. A particular challenge is population aging and the need for employees to take time off work to care for elderly relatives or for their own serious illness. The FMLA Wave 4 Surveys would be uniquely positioned to provide up to date information on this crucial topic. Moreover, the Wave 4 Surveys will also shed light on parental leave and other types of family leave, a topic that is on the national as well as state policy agendas currently, with state legislation recently enacted in New York and Washington and federal legislation proposed in Congress and in the President's budget.

For these reasons, timely and accurate information about family and medical leave from employers and employees is needed now more than ever. The FMLA Wave 4 Surveys will provide that information.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Waldfogel

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