Public Comments for ICR 202403-1506-001

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Comments Received:

Dear Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs,

My wife and I have lived in Canada since 1971, and we have no intention of returning to the U.S. FBAR information collection from U.S. citizens like us is an undue burden due to confusion of filing requirements and definitions. Even the tax professionals we consult aren't properly aware of the filing requirements.

The FBAR exists to catch overseas money laundering, not people like us who need a Canadian bank account in order to pay our bills and live a normal life. The FBAR should exclude Americans abroad like us to reduce the signal-to-noise ratio so Treasury can devote its resources to the actual overseas money launders.

The overall problem is that honest Americans living abroad like us are treated as collateral damage in the war against overseas tax evasion and money laundering. The IRS recognizes Americans abroad as an underserved community. Surely that would mean that the FBAR is long overdue for review given that it is a massively complicated filing requirement that hasn't changed for over 50 years.

Please, the Department of Treasury should work with Congress to bring the US into line with the entire rest of the world in the way it taxes its expats!