

From: [PPTFormsOfficer](#)
To: [jean_public](#)
Subject: RE: public comment on federal register Fwd: should not be issued - both parents should be there - they need to make time for their kids
Date: Thursday, December 20, 2012 10:30:15 AM

Dear Ms. Public,

Thank you for your comment in response to the 60-day Federal Register Notice for the proposed DS-5525: Statement of Exigent/Special Family Circumstances for Issuance of a U.S. Passport to a Minor Under Age 16.

In response to your 12/17/2012 comment (provided below), the Department of State complies with Section 51.28(a)(5) of Title 22 of the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, which specifically provides that a passport application for a minor under the age of sixteen may be executed by only one parent or legal guardian when exigent circumstances or special family circumstances exist. Exigent and special family circumstances are defined as follows:

(5) Exigent or special family circumstances. A passport may be issued when only one parent, legal guardian or person acting in loco parentis executes the application, in cases of exigent or special family circumstances:

- (i) “Exigent circumstances” are defined as time-sensitive circumstances in which the inability of the minor to obtain a passport would jeopardize the health and safety or welfare of the minor or would result in the minor being separated from the rest of his or her traveling party. “Time sensitive” generally means that there is not enough time before the minor's emergency travel to obtain either the required consent of both parents/legal guardians or documentation reflecting a sole parent's/legal guardian's custody rights.
- (ii) “Special family circumstances” are defined as circumstances in which the minor's family situation makes it exceptionally difficult for one or both of the parents to execute the passport application; and/or compelling humanitarian circumstances where the minor's lack of a passport would jeopardize the health, safety, or welfare of the minor; or, pursuant to guidance issued by the Department, circumstances in which return of a minor to the jurisdiction of his or her home state or habitual residence is necessary to permit a court of competent jurisdiction to adjudicate or enforce a custody determination. A passport issued due to such special family circumstances may be limited for direct return to the United States in accordance with § 51.60(e).Code of Federal Regulations / Title 22 - Foreign Relations / Vol. 1 / 2012-04-01235
- (iii) A parent, legal guardian, or person acting in loco parentis who is applying for a passport for a minor under age 16 under this paragraph must submit a written statement with the application describing the exigent or special family circumstances he or she believes should be taken into consideration in applying an exception.(iv) Determinations under § 51.28(a)(5) must be made by a senior passport authorizing officer pursuant to guidance issued by the Department.

I hope this information was helpful in addressing your concerns.

Thank you for your interest in the U.S. Department of State passport forms program.

Regards,

PPTFormsOfficer

From: jean public [mailto:jeanpublic1@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, December 17, 2012 6:10 PM

To: PPTFormsOfficer

Subject: public comment on federal register Fwd: should not be issued - both parents should be there - they need to make time for their kids

i believe both parents should be there in person when this form is applied for. we have instances where one parent kidnaps the other kid and goes to another country and then the taxpayers get the bill to get the kid back. that is unacceptable. i want both parents there to say yes i want a passport for my child. its time to protect the children from their parents. the taxpayers need protection from venomous parents too. this comment is for the public record
jean public

[Federal Register Volume 77, Number 242 (Monday, December 17, 2012)]
[Notices]
[Pages [74725-74726](#)]
From the Federal Register Online via the Government Printing Office
[www.gpo.gov]
[FR Doc No: 2012-30346]

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 8121]

60-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Statement of Exigent/Special Family Circumstances for Issuance of a U.S. Passport to a Minor Under Age 16

ACTION: Notice of request for public comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of State is seeking Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for the information collection described below. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we are requesting comments on this collection from all interested individuals and organizations. The purpose of this notice is to allow 60 days for public comment preceding submission of the collection to OMB.

DATES: The Department will accept comments from the public up to February 15, 2013.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods:
Web: Persons with access to the Internet may use the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) to comment on this notice by going to www.Regulations.gov. You can search for the document by

entering ``Public Notice '' in the Search bar. If necessary, use the Narrow by Agency filter option on the Results page.

Email: PPTFormsOfficer@state.gov.

Mail: PPT Forms Officer, U.S. Department of State, 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Room 3030, Washington, DC 20037.

Fax: (202) 663-2410.

Hand Delivery or Courier: PPT Forms Officer, U.S. Department of State,

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2100 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Room 3030, Washington, DC 20037.

You must include the DS form number (if applicable), information collection title, and the OMB control number in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Direct requests for additional information regarding the collection listed in this notice, including requests for copies of the proposed collection instrument and supporting documents, to PPT Forms Officer, U.S. Department of State, 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Room 3030, Washington, DC 20037, who may be reached on (202) 663-2457 or at PPTFormsOfficer@state.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title of Information Collection: Statement of Exigent/
Special Family Circumstances for Issuance of a U.S. Passport to a Minor under Age 16.

OMB Control Number: None.

Type of Request: New Collection.

Originating Office: Bureau of Consular Affairs, Passport Services, Office of Program Management and Operational Support, Program Coordination Division (CA/PPT/PMO/PC).

Form Number: DS-5525.

Respondents: Individuals or Households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 327,600 respondents per year.

Estimated Number of Responses: 327,600 responses per year.

Average Time per Response: 30 minutes .

Total Estimated Burden Time: 163,800 hours per year.

Frequency: On occasion.

Obligation to Respond: Required to Obtain or Retain a Benefit.

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department to:

Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department.

Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.

Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.

Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Please note that comments submitted in response to this Notice are public record. Before including any detailed personal information, you should be aware that your comments as submitted, including your personal information, will be available for public review.

Abstract of Proposed Collection

The information collected on the DS-5525, ``Statement of Exigent/
Special Family Circumstances for Issuance of a U.S. Passport to a Minor under Age 16'', is used in conjunction with the DS-11, ``Application for a U.S. Passport''. The DS-5525 can serve as the statement describing exigent or special family circumstances, which is required if written consent of the non-applying parent or guardian cannot be obtained when the passport application is executed for a minor under age 16. The statement must explain the reason for the request.

The legal authority permitting this information assists the Department of State to administer the regulations in 22 CFR 51.27 requiring that both parents and/or any guardian consent to the issuance of a passport to a minor under age 16, except where one parent has sole custody. This regulation was mandated by Section 236 of the Admiral James W. Nance and Meg Donovan Foreign Relations authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2000 and 2001 (enacted by Public Law 106-113, Div. B, Section 1000(a)(7)), and helps to prevent international child

abduction.

Methodology

Passport Services collects information from U.S. citizens and non-citizen nationals when they complete and submit the DS-5525, ``Statement of Exigent/Special Family Circumstances for Issuance of a U.S. Passport to a Minor under Age 16''. Passport applicants can either download the DS-5525 from the Internet or obtain the form from an Acceptance Facility/Passport Agency. The form must be completed, signed, and submitted along with the applicant's DS-11, ``Application for a U.S. Passport''.

Dated: November 28, 2012.
Brenda S. Sprague,
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Passport Services, Bureau of Consular
Affairs, Department of State.
[FR Doc. 2012-30346 Filed 12-14-12; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4710-06-P