

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Extension of Comment Period - Proposed Revision of Annual Information
Return/Reports

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Annual Reporting and Disclosure

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General Comment

I am requesting that the Department of Labor reconsider the proposed Annual Reporting and Disclosure rules relating to Form 5500 and Schedule J.

By eliminating small group exemption on Form 5500 and requiring additional data collection on Schedule J a large burden will be placed on small business owners. Already complying with local, State and Federal regulations and filings has increased the cost (in accounting fees and work hours filing yet more forms) for many small businesses such as mine.

These new regulations would treat my company, which employs two (a Mom & Pop shop) the same as a company employing one hundred or more employees. My cost of doing business will increase due to more work time spent recording the data necessary

to file, collecting the data, passing it on to my Accountant, and paying the Accountant to file correctly. Then the papers are sent back to my office where again more time is required to sign, pay, and mail on time.

In order for my company to continue making a profit, I will have to pass on these costs on to my customers, thereby causing my customers to look elsewhere for the services I provide. For the sake of more paperwork, I'll potentially forfeit customers and profits.

Please reconsider these proposed changes as they affect small businesses. It's already hard to keep a small business floating, but adding more ballast makes it even harder.

Thank you,
Marlene Borton, VP
Around Town Maintenance, Inc