Federal Advisory Committee (FAC) Membership Balance Plan

Please read the Federal Advisory Committee Membership Balance Plan Guidance prior to completing this form

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR (DOL), BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS (BLS)

(1) FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE NAME

State the legal name of the FAC

Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Data Users Advisory Committee (DUAC)

(2) AUTHORITY

Identify the authority for establishing the FAC

The Committee is established in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C., App. 2.

(3) MISSION/FUNCTION

Describe the mission/function of the FAC

The Committee provides advice to the Bureau of Labor Statistics from the points of view of data users from various sectors of the U.S. economy, including the labor, business, research, academic and government communities, on matters related to the analysis, dissemination, and use of the Bureau's statistics, on its published reports, and on gaps between or the need for new Bureau statistics.

The Committee is responsible for providing the Commissioner of Labor Statistics: (1) the priorities of data users; (2) suggestions concerning the addition of new programs, changes in the emphasis of existing programs or cessation of obsolete programs; and (3) advice on potential innovations in data analysis, dissemination, and presentation. These duties are wholly advisory in character.

(4) POINTS OF VIEW

Based on understanding the purpose of the FAC,

(a) describe the process that will be used to ensure the committee is balanced, and identify the categories (e.g. individual expertise or represented interests) from which candidates will be considered;

(b) consider indentifying an anticipated relative distribution of candidates across the categories; and

(c) explain how a determination was made to appoint any individuals as Special Government Employees or Representative members

The Committee will not exceed 20 members. Membership of the Committee will represent a balance of expertise across the broad range of BLS program areas, including employment and unemployment statistics, occupational safety and health statistics, compensation measures, price indexes, and productivity measures; or other areas related to the subject matter of BLS programs. All committee members will have extensive research or practical experience using BLS data. Membership balance is not static and may change, depending on the work of the committee. Except as otherwise required by law, Committee membership will be consistent with the applicable FACA regulations, as follows: a) Membership on the Bureau of Labor Statistics Data Users Advisory Committee will be fairly balanced; b) Members will come from a cross-section of those

directly affected, interested, and qualified as appropriate to the nature and functions of the Bureau of Labor Statistics Data Users Advisory Committee; c) the composition of the Committee will therefore depend upon several factors, including i) the Committee's mission; ii) the geographic, ethnic, social, economic, or scientific impact of the advisory committee's recommendations; iii) the types of specific perspectives required; iv) the need to obtain divergent points of view on the issues before the Committee, such as, for example, those of consumers, technical experts, the public at-large, academia, business, or other sectors, and v) the relevance of State, local or tribal governments to the development of the Committee's recommendations.

To the extent permitted by FACA and other laws, Committee membership should also be consistent with achieving the greatest impact, scope and credibility among diverse stakeholders. The diversity in such membership includes, but is not limited to, race, gender, disability, sexual orientation and gender identity.

Federal employee members will be designated as Regular Government Employees (RGEs) and members appointed from labor, business, reseach, and academia will be appointed as Representatives.

(5) OTHER BALANCE FACTORS

List any other factors your agency identifies as important in achieving a balanced FAC

(6) CANDIDATE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS

Summarize the process intended to be used to identify candidates for the FAC, key resources expected to be tapped to identify candidates and the key persons (by position, not name) who will evaluate FAC balance. The summary should:

(a) describe the process
(b) identify the agency key staff involved (by position, not name)
(c) briefly describe how FAC vacancies, if any, will be handled by the agency; and
(d) state the membership term limit of FAC members, if applicable

The Agency will employ a multi-faceted approach to inform the general public as well as the Department's workforce regarding vacancies on the Committee and the period and requirements for submitting nominations. The following steps are among those that the Agency will take to solicit a broad and diverse range of qualified candidates. The Agency will submit a public notice announcing the number of vacancies, the requirements for submitting nominations to the Agency, as well as the period for submitting nominations.

To promote widespread notification of these vacancies, the Agency will also work with other agencies in the Department of Labor, other government agencies, and with diverse stakeholders throughout the country, including professional organizations, academia, and individuals, such as past members of the Committee. The Agency's outreach will include notification to those who have historically had limited awareness of and participation in the Committee and its activities but whose interests may be implicated or affected by the work and/or recommendations of the Committee.

Senior Agency executives from the program and support offices will review all nominees and select the candidate or group of candidates who, in aggregate, best represent a balance of expertise across the broad range of BLS program areas.

The Agency will review all proposed candidates through the Department's internal vetting process to assure compliance with all legal and ethical requirements.

The Agency will report on its efforts to the Committee and the Secretary or his designee.

The term of the appointment to the Committee is for three years and members may be reappointed after Secretary approval. The Committee chairperson will be selected by the Commissioner of Labor Statistics, will serve in that capacity for three years, and may be reappointed.

(7) SUBCOMMITTEE BALANCE *Subcommittees subject to FACA* should either state that the process for determining FAC member balance on subcommittees is the same as the process for the parent FAC, or describe how it is different* **This is relevant to those agencies that require their subcommittees to follow all FACA requirements.*
The BLS will not form subcommittees.
(8) OTHER *Provide any additional information that supports the balance of the FAC*
(9) DATE PREPARED/UPDATED *Insert the actual date the Membership Balance Plan was initially prepared, along with the date(s) the Plan is updated*
August 9, 2016