

businesses. Title 38 U.S.C. vests the Secretary with broad authority and responsibility to assist veterans. Therefore, we requested that approval be granted to include veteran-owned business in addition to Vietnam Era and disabled veteran-owned businesses information on SF 18 and SF 129. The information requested will be a self certification that a firm is veteran-owned. It allows VA to ensure that eligible veteran-owned firms are given an opportunity to participate in VA acquisitions and to monitor our success in implementing these regulatory provisions. The information requested on the SF 18 and SF 129 will be solicited from the respondents on a voluntary basis.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit.

Estimated Annual Burden: 14,181 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: Additional burden imposed on SF 18 and SF 129 is 15 seconds.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 3,403,500.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information or copies of the reports should be directed to Department of Veterans Affairs, Attn: Ron Taylor, VA Clearance Officer (045A4), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420, Telephone (202) 565-4412 or FAX (202) 565-8267.

Dated: March 14, 1996.

By direction of the Secretary.

William T. Morgan,
Management Analyst.

[FR Doc. 96-7324 Filed 3-26-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on this information collection. This request for comment is being made pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Comments should address the accuracy of the burden estimates and ways to minimize the

burden including the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology, as well as other relevant aspects of the information collection.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposal for the collection of information should be received on or before May 28, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Nancy J. Kessinger, Veterans Benefits Administration (20M30), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420. All comments will become a matter of public record and will be summarized in the VBA request for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval. In this document VBA is soliciting comments concerning the following information collection:

OMB Control Number: 2900-0101.

Title and Form Number: Eligibility Verification Reports.

a. Old Law Eligibility Verification Report (Surviving Spouse), VA Form 21-0511S.

b. Old Law Eligibility Verification Report (Veteran), VA Form 21-0511V.

c. Section 306 Eligibility Verification Report (Surviving Spouse), VA Form 21-0512S.

d. Section 306 Eligibility Verification Report (Veteran), VA Form 21-0512V.

e. Old Law and Section 306 Eligibility Verification Report (Children Only), VA Form 21-0513.

f. DIC Parent's Eligibility Verification Report, VA Form 21-0514.

g. Improved Pension Eligibility Verification Report (Veteran With No Children), VA Form 21-0516.

h. Improved Pension Eligibility Verification Report (Veteran With Children), VA Form 21-0517.

i. Improved Pension Eligibility Verification Report (Surviving Spouse With No Children), VA Form 21-0518.

j. Improved Pension Eligibility Verification Report (Child or Children), VA Form 21-0519C.

k. Improved Pension Eligibility Verification Report (Surviving Spouse With Children), VA Form 21-0519S.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Need and Uses: These reports are used by VA regional offices to verify continued eligibility for pension and parents' Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) and to determine whether adjustments in the rate of payment are necessary. These reports are also used for developing supplemental income and estate information from claimants who have previously filed a formal application for pension or parents' DIC. It would be

impossible to administer the pension and parents' DIC programs without the collection of information.

Current Actions: Until recently, VA was required by 38 U.S.C. 1315(e) and 38 U.S.C. 1506(2) to secure a completed Eligibility Verification Report (EVR) at least once a year from every pension beneficiary and every parents' DIC beneficiary under the age of 72, showing the beneficiary's income and dependency status and verifying other entitlement factors. Public Law 103-271, the Board of Veterans' Appeals Administrative Procedures Improvement Act of 1994, amended 38 U.S.C. 1315 and 1506 to give the Secretary of Veterans Affairs discretionary authority to require submission of income and resource reports by recipients of income-based benefits. VA amended 38 CFR 3.256 and 38 CFR 3.277 to require submission of an EVR in three instances. First, VA will require submission of an EVR by any beneficiary whose Social Security number, or whose spouse's Social Security number, has not been verified by the Social Security Administration. VA will also require beneficiaries who receive income other than Social Security to submit an EVR. Further, VA will require completion of an EVR if it determines that submission of an EVR is necessary to preserve program integrity.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 406,250 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 30 minutes per report.

Frequency of Response: Semi-annually.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 325,000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information or copies of the reports should be directed to Department of Veterans Affairs, Attn: Ron Taylor, VA Clearance Officer (045A4), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420, Telephone (202) 565-4412 or FAX (202) 565-8267.

Dated: March 13, 1996.

By direction of the Secretary.

William T. Morgan,
Management Analyst.

[FR Doc. 96-7328 Filed 3-26-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

Agency Information Collection; Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Veterans Health Administration, Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Veterans Health Administration (VHA), Department of Veterans Affairs, has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) the following proposal for the collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

OMB Control Number: None Assigned.

Title and Form Number: Study of Environmental Health and Persian Gulf War Syndrome, VA Form 10-20989(NR).

Type of Review: Existing collection in use without an OMB control number.

Need and Uses: This information collection will be a case controlled study to describe and elucidate the causes of Gulf War Syndrome. Participants will be 2,000 veterans of the Persian Gulf War who currently reside in Oregon and Washington.

Affected Public: Individuals and households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 2,833 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 1 hour and 15 minutes.

Frequency of Response: Generally one-time.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 2,000.

ADDRESSES: A copy of the submission may be obtained from Ann Bickoff, Veterans Benefits Administration (161B4), Department of Veterans Affairs,

810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420, (202) 565-7407.

Comments and recommendations concerning the submission should be directed to VA's OMB Desk Officer, Allison Eydt, OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 (202) 395-4650. Do not send requests for benefits to this address.

DATES: Comments on the collection of information should be directed to the OMB Desk Officer on or before April 26, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ron Taylor, VA Clearance Officer (045A4), (202) 565-4412.

Dated: March 14, 1996.

By direction of the Secretary.

William T. Morgan,

Management Analyst.

[FR Doc. 96-7325 Filed 3-26-96; 8:45 am]

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VA Residency Realignment Review Committee; Notice of Meeting

As required by the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92-463, the VA hereby gives notice that the Residency Realignment Review Committee has scheduled a meeting on April 8th and 9th, 1996. The meeting on the 8th will start at 10:00 a.m. and end at 5:00 p.m., and the meeting on the 9th will start at 8:30 and end at 12 noon. The meeting will be held in Room 830

at VA Central Office, 810 Vermont Ave., NW., Washington, DC. The purpose of the committee is to review the present scope and structure of Veterans Health Administration's Residency Program to ensure that the program is effective in the future health care setting.

The first day will be to discuss the principles identified in the March meeting which form the basis for the Committee's recommendations, proposals for restructuring the Residency Program to meet both VHA's and the nation's future graduate medical education needs, and how changes could be accomplished within the new headquarters and field structure of VHA. The second day will be to finalize the principles, recommendations, and to prepare the report to the Under Secretary for Health.

The meeting will be open to the public. Due to limited seating capacity of the room, those who plan to attend or who have questions concerning the meeting should contact Betty, Department of Veterans Affairs at 202-565-7954 or 7955.

The Designated Federal Official for the Committee is Jan Lamoreaux, Office of Policy, Planning, and Performance; phone number: 202-565-7961.

Dated: March 13, 1996.

By Direction of the Secretary.

Heyward Bannister,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 96-7327 Filed 3-26-96; 8:45 am]

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