

within the scope of paragraphs 1. and 2. above, to the Department of Justice for purposes of prosecution, grand jury investigation, or any action other than those defined in paragraphs 1. and 2; such authority shall remain with the Chief Counsel for the Internal Revenue Service in accordance with existing delegations.

**Robert E. Rubin,**

*Secretary of the Treasury.*

[FR Doc. 97-34089 Filed 12-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-25-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Fiscal Service

#### Renegotiation Board Interest Rate; Prompt Payment Interest Rate; Contract Disputes Act

**AGENCY:** Bureau of the Public Debt, Fiscal Service, Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** For the period beginning January 1, 1998 and ending on June 30, 1998 the prompt payment interest rate is 6.25% (6 1/4) per centum per annum.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments or inquiries may be mailed to Cynthia Winters, Team Leader, Debt Accounting Branch, Office of Public Debt Accounting, Bureau of the Public Debt, Parkersburg, West Virginia, 26106-1328. A copy of this Notice will be made available for downloading from the <http://www.publicdebt.treas.gov>.

**DATES:** This notice announces the interest rate applicable for the January 1, 1998 to June 30, 1998 period.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Stephanie Brown, Debt Accounting Branch Manager, Office of Public Debt Accounting, Bureau of the Public Debt, Parkersburg, West Virginia, 26106-1328, (304) 480-5171, Cynthia Winters, Team Leader, Debt Accounting Branch, Office of Public Debt Accounting, Bureau of the Public Debt, (304) 480-5174, or Elizabeth S. Gracia, Attorney-Adviser, Office of the Chief Counsel, Bureau of the Public Debt, (304) 480-5187.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Although the Renegotiation Board is no longer in existence, other Federal Agencies are required to use interest rates computed under the criteria established by the Renegotiation Act of 1971 Sec. 2, Pub.L. 92-41, 85 Stat. 97. For example, the Contract Disputes Act of 1978 Sec. 12, Pub.L. 95-563, 92 Stat. 2389 and the Prompt Payment Act of 1982 Sec. 2, Pub.L. 97-177, 96 Stat. 85 provide for the calculation of interest due on claims at a rate established by the Secretary of

the Treasury pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3902(a).

Therefore, notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the above mentioned sections, the Secretary of the Treasury has determined that the rate of interest applicable for the purpose of said sections, for the period beginning January 1, 1998 and ending on June 30, 1998, is 6 1/4 per centum per annum.

Dated: December 23, 1997.

**Donald V. Hammond,**

*Deputy Fiscal Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 97-34049 Filed 12-24-97; 10:44 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-39-P

## UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY

### College and University Affiliations Program (CUAP); Revised Request for Proposals (RFP)

This notice amends the RFP published on October 2, 1997, providing for assistance awards by the Office of Academic Programs of the United States Information Agency to support democratic institution-building and/or civic education. The RFP is amended to include Greece (Media Projects only) as eligible for proposed bilateral projects. The RFP's closing date remains January 16, 1998. Potential applicants should refer to the RFP published on October 2, 1997 for full details about applying for assistance awards under this RFP.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Office of Academic Programs; Advising, Teaching, and Specialized Programs Division; College and University Affiliations Program (CUAP), (ZE/ASU), Room 349, U.S. Information Agency, 301 4th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20547, phone: (202) 619-5289, fax: (202) 401-1433. Send a message via Internet to: [affiliat@usia.gov](mailto:affiliat@usia.gov) to request a Solicitation Package. The Solicitation Package includes more detailed award criteria; all application forms; and guidelines for preparing proposals, including specific criteria for preparation of the proposal budget.

**To Download a Solicitation Package via Internet:** The entire Solicitation Package may be downloaded from USIA's website at <http://www.usia.gov/education/rfps>. Please read all information before downloading.

**To Receive a Solicitation Package Via Fax On Demand:** The entire Solicitation Package may be received via the Bureau's "Grants Information Fax on Demand System," which is accessed by calling 202/401-7616. Please request a "Catalog" of available documents and

order numbers when first entering the system.

Please specify "College and University Affiliations Program Officer" on all inquiries and correspondence. Prospective applicants should read the complete **Federal Register** announcement before addressing inquiries to the College and University Affiliations Program staff or submitting their proposals. Once the RFP deadline has passed, Agency staff may not discuss this competition in any way with applicants until the Bureau proposal review process has been completed.

### Notice

The terms and conditions published in this RFP are binding and may not be modified by any USIA representative. Explanatory information provided by the Agency that contradicts published language will not be binding. Issuance of the RFP does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the Government. The Agency reserves the right to reduce, revise, or increase proposal budgets in accordance with the needs of the program and the availability of funds. Awards made will be subject to periodic reporting and evaluation requirements.

### Notification

Final awards cannot be made until funds have been appropriated by Congress, allocated and committed through internal USIA procedures.

Dated: December 28, 1997.

**Robert L. Earle,**

*Deputy Associate Director for Educational and Cultural Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 97-34028 Filed 12-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8230-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0249]

### Proposed Information Collection Activity: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice

**SUMMARY:** The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs, is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to

publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of a currently approved collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on requirements relating to servicing delinquent guaranteed and insured home loans, loans sold, and portfolio loans.

**DATES:** Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before March 2, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments on the collection of information to Nancy J. Kessinger, Veterans Benefits Administration (20S52), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0249" in any correspondence.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Nancy J. Kessinger at (202) 273-5079 or FAX (202) 275-5146.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the PRA of 1995 (Public Law 104-13; 44 U.S.C., 3501-3520), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. This request for comment is being made pursuant to Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA.

With respect to the following collection of information, VBA invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of VBA's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VBA's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology.

*Title:* Loan Servicing Report, VA Form 26-6808.

*OMB Control Number:* 2900-0249.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Abstract:* Loan Service Representatives during the course of personal contacts with delinquent obligors complete VA Form 26-6808. The information documented on the form is necessary for VA to determine whether a loan default is insoluble or whether the obligor has reasonable prospects for curing the default and

maintaining the mortgage obligation in the future.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 27,083 hours.

*Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent:* 25 minutes.

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 65,000.

Dated: December 2, 1997.

By direction of the Secretary.

**Donald L. Neilson,**

*Director, Information Management Service.*

[FR Doc. 97-34127 Filed 12-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0096]

### Proposed Information Collection

**Activity: Proposed Collection; Comment Request**

**AGENCY:** Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs, is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of a currently approved collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on the information necessary to request the cash surrender or a policy loan values on Government Life Insurance.

**DATES:** Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before March 2, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments on the collection of information to Nancy J. Kessinger, Veterans Benefits Administration (20S52), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0096" in any correspondence.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Nancy J. Kessinger at (202) 273-5079 or FAX (202) 275-5146.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the PRA of 1995 (Public Law 104-13; 44

U.S.C., 3501-3520), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. This request for comment is being made pursuant to Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA.

With respect to the following collection of information, VBA invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of VBA's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VBA's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology.

*Title:* Loan and Cash Surrender Values, VA Form 29-5772.

*OMB Control Number:* 2900-0096.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Abstract:* VA Form 29-5772 is used by the insured to request a loan or cash surrender value on his/her Government life insurance. VA uses the information to initiate the processing of the insured's request.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 5,250 hours.

*Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent:* 10 minutes.

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 31,500.

Dated: December 2, 1997.

**Donald L. Neilson,**

*Director Information Management Service.*

[FR Doc. 97-34129 Filed 12-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0516]

### Proposed Information Collection

**Activity: Proposed Collection; Comment Request**

**AGENCY:** Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs, is announcing an