

Diamonds'' (See list ¹), imported from abroad for the temporary exhibition without profit within the United States, is of cultural significance. This object is imported pursuant to a loan agreement with the foreign lender. I also determine that the exhibition or display of the listed object at the American Museum of Natural History, New York, New York, from approximately April 24, 1998 through August 30, 1998, is in the national interest. Public Notice of this determination is ordered to be published in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: April 15, 1998.

Les Jin,

General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 98-10498 Filed 4-20-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8230-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Fund Availability Under the VA Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Veterans Affairs is announcing the availability of funds for applications for assistance under the grant component of VA's Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program. This Notice contains information concerning the program, application process and amount of funding available.

DATES: An original completed and collated grant application (plus three collated copies) for assistance under the VA Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program must be received in Mental Health Strategic Healthcare Group, Washington, DC, by 4:30 PM Eastern Time on June 10, 1998. Applications may not be sent by facsimile (FAX). In the interest of fairness to all competing applicants, this deadline is firm as to date and hour, and VA will treat as ineligible for consideration any application that is received after the deadline. Applicants should take this practice into account and make early submission of their material to avoid any risk of loss of eligibility brought about by unanticipated delays or other delivery-related problems.

FOR A COPY OF THE APPLICATION PACKAGE, CONTACT: Veterans Industries at (813)

228-2871 (this is not a toll-free call). For a document relating to the VA Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program, see the final rule codified at 38 CFR Part 17.700.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION: An original completed and collated grant application (plus three copies) must be submitted to the following address: Mental Health Strategic Healthcare Group (116), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420. Applications must be received in the Mental Health Strategic Healthcare Group by the application deadline.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Theresa Hayes, Victor Harris, or Roger Casey, VA Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program, Mental Health Strategic Healthcare Group (116), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420; (202) 273-8966 (this is not a toll-free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This Notice announces the availability of funds for assistance under VA's Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program. This program is authorized by Public Law 102-590, the Homeless Veterans Comprehensive Service Programs Act of 1992. Funding applied for under this Notice may be used for: (1) Remodeling or alteration of existing buildings; (2) acquisition of buildings, acquisition and rehabilitation of buildings; (3) new construction. Applicants may apply for more than one type of assistance.

Although a separate notice will be published announcing fund availability for the Per Diem Component of the program, grant applicants seeking such assistance should indicate this request on the application submitted for a grant. The applicants who are awarded grants will not be required to complete a separate application for per diem assistance. VA will review those portions of the grant application that pertain to per diem.

Grant applicants may not receive assistance to replace funds provided by any state or local government to assist homeless persons. For existing projects, VA will fund only the portion of the project that will house the new program or new component of an existing program. A proposal for an existing project that seeks to shift its focus by changing the population to be served or the precise mix of services to be offered is not eligible for consideration. No more than 25 percent of services available in projects funded through this grant program may be provided to

clients who are not receiving those services as veterans.

Authority

VA's Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program is authorized by Sections 3 and 4 of Public Law 102-590, the Homeless Veterans Comprehensive Service Programs Act of 1992 (38 U.S.C. 7721 note) and has been extended through fiscal year 1999 by Public Law 105-114. The program is implemented by the final rule codified at 38 CFR Part 17.700. The final rule was published in the **Federal Register** on June 1, 1994 and February 27, 1995, and revised February 11, 1997. The regulations can be found in their entirety in 38 CFR, Volume 1, Sec. 17.700 through 17.731, revised July 1, 1997. Funds made available under this Notice are subject to the requirements of those regulations.

Allocation

Approximately \$5.0 million is available for the grant component of this program.

Application Requirements

The specific grant application requirements will be specified in the application package. The package includes all required forms and certifications. Conditional selections will be made based on criteria described in the application. Applicants who are conditionally selected will be notified of the additional information needed to confirm or clarify information provided in the application. Applicants will then have one month to submit such information. If an applicant is unable to meet any conditions for grant award within the specified time frame, VA reserves the right to not award funds and to use the funds available for other grant and per diem applicants.

Dated: April 15, 1998.

Togo D. West, Jr.,

Acting Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

[FR Doc. 98-10542 Filed 4-20-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0129]

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

¹ A copy of this list may be obtained by contacting Ms. Neila Sheahan, Assistant General Counsel, at 202/619-5030, and the address is Room 700, U.S. Information Agency, 301 4th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20547-0001.

Veterans Affairs (VA), 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 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 needed to determine the veteran's eligibility to obtain disability insurance benefits.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before June 22, 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. 2900-0129" in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nancy J. Kessinger at (202) 273-7079 or FAX (202) 275-5146.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995 (Pub. L. 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 and Form Number: Insurance, Life Insurance, VA Form Letter 29-30a.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0129.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: The form letter is used by VA to determine the insurer's eligibility to obtain disability insurance benefits. The information on the form is required by 38 U.S.C., Section 1912, 1915, 1942 and 1948.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 548 hours.
Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 5 minutes.
Frequency of Response: On occasion.
Estimated Number of Respondents: 6,570.

Dated: April 2, 1998.

By direction of the Secretary.

Donald L. Neilson,

Director, Information Management Service.

[FR Doc. 98-10558 Filed 4-20-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Veterans' Advisory Committee on Rehabilitation, Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs gives notice that a meeting of the Veterans' Advisory Committee on Rehabilitation (Committee), authorized by 38 U.S.C., Section 3121, will be held on May 12th, 13th, 14th, 1998. The Committee will meet from 9:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. on May 12th and 13th and from 9:00 a.m. until 12 noon on May 14th. The purpose of the meeting will be to visit Chicago area public and private rehabilitation facilities, review the administration of these programs as they relate to the veteran population and to provide recommendations to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs. The Committee will convene at the Tremont Hotel, 100 East Chestnut, Chicago, Illinois. Because the Committee's agenda includes touring several facilities, they will be meeting at several locations as listed below.

On the morning of May 12th, the Committee will tour the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, located at 345 East Superior Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611. In the afternoon, the Committee will meet at the Great Lakes Naval Center, Great Lakes, Illinois 60088-5252, where they will receive a presentation on the Transitional Assistance Program and Disabled Transitional Assistance Program. On May 13th, the Committee will tour the Hines VA Medical Center's Blind Unit, Rehabilitation Engineering Unit, Spinal Cord Injury Unit and Information Fair, located at Roosevelt Road and 5th Avenue, Hines, IL 60141. On May 14th, the Committee will meet at the VA Regional Office, 536 S. Clark Street, Director's Conference Room #508 Chicago, IL 60605. They will discuss the facilities toured and review the minutes from the January meeting. The Committee will also discuss any unfinished business and potential topics for their future meeting.

The meeting will be open to the public. Interested persons may attend, appear before, or file statements with

the Committee. Statements, if in written form, may be filed before the meeting. For those wishing to attend, please contact Frank Donlan at Department of Veterans Affairs, Vocational Rehabilitation and Counseling Service (28), 1800 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006, phone (202) 273-7436.

Dated April 14, 1998.

By Direction of the Acting Secretary.

Heyward Bannister,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-10545 Filed 4-20-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Research and Development Cooperative Studies Evaluation Committee; Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs gives notice under Public Law 92-463 (Federal Advisory Committee Act) as amended, by section 5(c) of Public Law 94-409, that a meeting of the Research and Development Cooperative Studies Evaluation Committee will be held at the Marriott Residence Inn, 500 Army Navy Drive, Arlington, VA 22202, on May 4-5, 1998. The session on May 4 is scheduled to begin at 7:30 a.m. and end at 5:30 p.m. and on May 5 from 7:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. The meeting will be for the purpose of reviewing the following seven new proposals: therapy for hepatitis C related cirrhosis, prophylaxis of medical patients for thromboembolism, telemedicine on diabetic retinopathy, iron and atherosclerosis, influenza vaccine for COPD patients, therapy for heart failure patients, and hernia repair. The Committee will also review the progress of one ongoing study of treatment for liver fibrosis.

The Committee advises the Chief Research and Development Officer through the Chief of the Cooperative Studies Program on the relevance and feasibility of the studies, the adequacy of the protocols, and the scientific validity and propriety of technical details, including protection of human subjects.

The meeting will be open to the public from 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. on both days to discuss the general status of the program. Those who plan to attend should contact Dr. Ping Huang, Coordinator, Research and Development Cooperative Studies Evaluation Committee, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC, (202-273-8295), prior to April 30, 1998.