

Abstract: VA Form 26-6381 is completed by veterans who are selling their homes by assumption rather than requiring purchaser to obtain their own financing to pay off the loan. VA processes requests for assumption approvals in a manner similar to that used for releases of liability. Title 38, U.S.C. Section 3713(a) provides that when a veteran disposes of his or her interest in the property securing the loan, VA may, upon request, release the original veteran-borrower from personal liability to the Government only if three requirements are fulfilled. First, the loan must be current. Second, the purchaser must assume all of the veteran's liability to the Government and the mortgage holder on the guaranteed loan. Third, the purchaser must qualify from a credit and income standpoint, to the same extent as if he or she were a veteran applying for a VA-guaranteed loan in the same amount as the loan being assumed. The information furnished is essential to make determinations for assumption approval, release of liability, and substitution of entitlement.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on December 20, 2002 at page 78042.

Affected Public: Individuals or households, Business or other for profit.
Estimated Annual Burden: 596 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 10 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Total Respondents: 3,575.

Dated: April 22, 2003.

By direction of the Secretary.

Jacqueline Parks,

IT Specialist, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 03-11204 Filed 5-5-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0042]

Proposed Information Collection Activity: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Board of Veterans' Appeals, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Board of Veterans' Appeals (BVA), Department of 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 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 for information needed for veteran's service organization to present argument before the Board on behalf of appellants who the service organizations represent.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before July 7, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information to Sue Hamlin, Board of Veterans' Appeals (01), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420 or e-mail sue.hamlin@mail.va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0042" in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sue Hamlin at (202) 565-5686 or FAX (202) 565-4064.

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, BVA invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of BVA's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of BVA'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: Statement of Accredited Representative in Appealed Case, VA Form 646.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0042.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA Form 646 is used by accredited veterans' service organization representatives to present their

argument to the Board on behalf of appellants of whom the service organizations represent. It facilitates appellants' exercise of their representation rights. The legal and factual arguments presented on the form are considered and addressed by the Board in making decisions on appeals. The form is also designed to solicit enough identifying data to enable VA to identify the particular case to which the statement pertains so that it may be properly considered and filed when received by VA. It aids the Board in assuring that rights to representation have been honored by establishing that the record has been made available to the representative for review and presentation of argument.

Affected Public: Not-for-profit institutions.

Estimated Annual Burden: 28,440 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 60 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 28,440.

Dated: April 24, 2003.

By direction of the Secretary.

Jacqueline Parks,

IT Specialist, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 03-11205 Filed 5-5-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0160]

Proposed Information Collection Activity: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) 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 information needed to determine whether State homes providing nursing home care and adult day health care are providing high quality care to eligible veterans.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before July 7, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information to Ann Bickoff, Veterans Health Administration (193B1), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420 or e-mail ann.bickoff@mail.va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0160" in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ann Bickoff at (202) 273-8310.

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, VHA invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of VHA's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VHA'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.

Titles:

- a. State Home Inspection, VA Form 10-3567.
- b. Instructions for State Home Report and Statement of Federal Aid Claimed, VA Form 10-5588.
- c. State Home Program Application for Veterans Care—Medical Certification, VA Form 10-10SH.
- d. Department of Veterans Affairs Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements for Grantees Other Than Individuals, VA Form 10-0143.
- e. Statement of Assurance of Compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, VA Form 10-1043A.
- f. Certification Regarding Lobbying, VA Form 10-0144.
- g. Statement of Assurance of Compliance With Equal Opportunity Law, VA Form 10-144A.
- h. Per Diem for Adult Day Health Care of Veterans in State Homes, 38 CFR Part 52.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0160.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA pays *per diem* to State homes providing adult day health care to eligible veterans. To ensure high quality care is furnished to the veterans, VA requires those facilities providing adult day health care to furnish an application for recognition based on certification; appeal information, application and justification for payment; records and reports which facility management must maintain regarding activities of residents or participants; information relating to whether the facility meets standards concerning residents' rights and responsibilities prior to admission or enrollment, during admission or enrollment, and upon discharge; the records and reports which facilities management and health care professionals must maintain regarding residents or participants and employees; documents pertain to the management of the facilities; food menu planning; pharmaceutical records; and life safety documentation. This information is necessary to ensure that VA *per diem* payments are limited to facilities providing high quality care to eligible veterans.

Affected Public: State, local or tribal government, individuals or households, and not for profit institutions.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 15,886 hours.

- a. State Home Inspection, VA Form 10-3567—86 hours.
 - b. Instructions for State Home Report and Statement of Federal Aid Claimed, VA Form 10-5588—1,026 hours.
 - c. State Home Program Application for Veterans Care—Medical Certification, VA Form 10-10SH—10,565 hours.
 - d. Department of Veterans Affairs Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements for Grantees Other Than Individuals, VA Form 10-0143—21 hours.
 - e. Statement of Assurance of Compliance With Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, VA Form 10-1043A—21 hours.
 - f. Certification Regarding Lobbying, VA Form 10-0144—21 hours.
 - g. Statement of Assurance of Compliance with Equal Opportunity Law, VA Form 10-144A—21 hours.
 - h. Per Diem for Adult Day Health Care of Veterans in State Homes, 38 CFR Part 52—4,125 hours.
- Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent:*
- a. State Home Inspection, VA Form 10-3567—30 minutes.

- b. Instructions for State Home Report and Statement of Federal Aid Claimed, VA Form 10-5588—30 minutes.

- c. State Home Program Application for Veterans Care—Medical Certification, VA Form 10-10SH—30 minutes.

- d. Department of Veterans Affairs Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements for Grantees Other Than Individuals, VA Form 10-0143—7 minutes.

- e. Statement of Assurance of Compliance With Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, VA Form 10-1043A—7 minutes.

- f. Certification Regarding Lobbying, VA Form 10-0144—7 minutes.

- g. Statement of Assurance of Compliance With Equal Opportunity Law, VA Form 10-144A—7 minutes.

- h. Per Diem for Adult Day Health Care of Veterans in State Homes, 38 CFR Part 52—7 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 43,157.

- a. State Home Inspection, VA Form 10-3567—171.

- b. Instructions for State Home Report and Statement of Federal Aid Claimed, VA Form 10-5588—171.

- c. State Home Program Application for Veterans Care—Medical Certification, VA Form 10-10SH—21,129.

- d. Department of Veterans Affairs Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements for Grantees Other Than Individuals, VA Form 10-0143—171.

- e. Statement of Assurance of Compliance With Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, VA Form 10-1043A—171.

- f. Certification Regarding Lobbying, VA Form 10-0144—171.

- g. Statement of Assurance of Compliance with Equal Opportunity Law, VA Form 10-144A—171.

- h. Per Diem for Adult Day Health Care of Veterans in State Homes, 38 CFR Part 52—21,002.

Estimated Total Annual Responses: 45,521.

- a. State Home Inspection, VA Form 10-3567—171.

- b. Instructions for State Home Report and Statement of Federal Aid Claimed, VA Form 10-5588—2,052.

- c. State Home Program Application for Veterans Care—Medical Certification, VA Form 10-10SH—21,129.

- d. Department of Veterans Affairs Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements for Grantees Other Than Individuals, VA Form 10-0143—171.

e. Statement of Assurance of Compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, VA Form 10-1043A—171.

f. Certification Regarding Lobbying, VA Form 10-0144—171.

g. Statement of Assurance of Compliance with Equal Opportunity Law, VA Form 10-144A—171.

h. Per Diem for Adult Day Health Care of Veterans in State Homes, 38 CFR Part 52—21,485.

Dated: April 24, 2003.

By direction of the Secretary.

Jacqueline Parks,

IT Specialist, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 03-11206 Filed 5-5-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-NEW-ALS]

Proposed Information Collection Activity: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Veterans Health Administration (VHA), Department of 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 agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed new collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments for information needed to develop a national registry on veterans diagnosed with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before July 7, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information to Ann W. Bickoff, Veterans Health Administration (193B1), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420 or e-mail ann.bickoff@hq.med.va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-NEW-ALS" in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ann W. Bickoff (202) 273-8310 or FAX (202) 273-9381.

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, VHA invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of VHA's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VHA'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.

Titles:

a. National Registry of Veterans with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), ALS Initial Baseline Screening Form, VA Form, 10-21047.

b. National Registry of Veterans with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), ALS Initial Baseline and Biannual Telephone Assessment.

c. VA Research Consent Form, VA Form 10-1086.

OMB Control Number: 2900-NEW-ALS.

Type of Review: New collection.

Abstract: Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) is a disease of high priority to the Department of Veterans Affairs because of ongoing concerns about the health of veterans who served in the Gulf War. The creation of the registry will have significance both for VA and for the larger U.S. society in understanding the natural history of ALS. It will provide VA with crucial epidemiological data on the current population of veterans with ALS, as well as the ongoing identification of new cases. The data will help VA to understand how veterans are affected by ALS and may assist with early identification of new ALS clusters. This registry will provide a mechanism for informing veterans with ALS of new clinical drug trials and other studies.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden:

a. National Registry of Veterans with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), ALS Initial Baseline Screening Form, VA Form, 10-21047—1,094 hours.

b. National Registry of Veterans with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS),

ALS Initial Baseline and Biannual Telephone Assessment—3,645.

c. VA Research Consent Form, VA Form 10-1086—1,421.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent:

a. National Registry of Veterans with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), ALS Initial Baseline Screening Form, VA Form, 10-21047—30 minutes.

b. National Registry of Veterans with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), ALS Initial Baseline and Biannual Telephone Assessment—30 minutes.

c. VA Research Consent Form, VA Form 10-1086—20 minutes.

Frequency of Response: Semi-annually.

Estimated Number of Respondents:

a. National Registry of Veterans with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), ALS Initial Baseline Screening Form, VA Form, 10-21047—2,196.

b. National Registry of Veterans with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), ALS Initial Baseline and Biannual Telephone Assessment—4,413.

c. VA Research Consent Form, VA Form 10-1086—1,840.

Estimated Number of Responses:

a. National Registry of Veterans with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), ALS Initial Baseline Screening Form, VA Form, 10-21047—2,196.

b. National Registry of Veterans with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), ALS Initial Baseline and Biannual Telephone Assessment—7,674.

c. VA Research Consent Form, VA Form 10-1086—1,840.

Dated: April 24, 2003.

By direction of the Secretary.

Jacqueline Parks,

IT Specialist, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 03-11207 Filed 5-5-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Computer Matching Program Between the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Department of Defense (DoD)

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice of computer matching program.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Department of Veterans Affairs intends to conduct a recurring computer matching program. This will match personnel records of the Department of Defense with VA records of benefit recipients under the Montgomery GI Bill.

The goal of these matches is to identify the eligibility status of veterans,