

TABLE—ESTIMATED “NON-HOUR BURDEN” COST PER RESPONSE—Continued

Type of Cost	§ 10901	§ 10902	§ 10903	§§ 11323–26
Petitions* Filing Fees .....	Extension, Acquisition, etc.—\$12,500 .....	\$6,600	\$6,300	\$6,600—\$9,300
	Construction—\$74,500 .....			
Notices* Filing Fees .....	\$1,800 .....	1,800	3,600	\$1,100—\$2,400
Other Costs (i.e., copying and mailing) .....	\$450 .....	450	450	\$450

\* Under § 10502, petition for exemptions and notices of exemption are permitted in lieu of an application.

**Needs and Uses:** Under the Interstate Commerce Act, persons seeking to construct, acquire or operate a line of railroad, and railroads seeking to abandon or to discontinue operations over a line of railroad or, in the case of two or more railroads, to consolidate their interests through merger or a common-control arrangement are required to file an application for prior approval and authority with the Board. See 49 U.S.C. 10901–03 and 11323–26. Under 49 U.S.C. 10502, persons may seek an exemption from many of the application requirements of §§ 10901–03 and 11323–26 by filing with the Board a petition for exemption or notice of exemption in lieu of an application. The collection by the Board of these applications, petitions, and notices enables the Board to meet its statutory

duty to regulate the referenced rail transactions.

**DATES:** Comments on this information collection should be submitted by August 15, 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be identified as “Paperwork Reduction Act Comments, Surface Transportation Board, Statutory Licensing and Consolidation Authority.” These comments should be directed to the Office of Management and Budget, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Patrick Fuchs, Surface Transportation Board Desk Officer, by fax at (202) 395–5167; by mail at OMB, Room 10235, 725 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20500; or by email at [OIRA\\_SUBMISSION@OMB.EOP.GOV](mailto:OIRA_SUBMISSION@OMB.EOP.GOV).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Marilyn Levitt, (202) 245–0269. [Federal

Information Relay Service (FIRS) for the hearing impaired: (800) 877–8339.]

Relevant STB regulations are referenced below and may be viewed on the STB’s Web site under E-Library > Reference: STB Rules, <[http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/elibrary/ref\\_stbrules.html](http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/elibrary/ref_stbrules.html)>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under §§ 10901–03 and 11323–26, an application is required to seek authority under these sections, unless an applicant receives an exemption under 49 U.S.C. 10502. Respondents seeking such authority from the Board must submit certain information required under the Board’s related regulations. The table below shows the statutory and regulatory provisions under which the Board requires the information collection that are the subject of this notice.

TABLE—STATUTORY AND REGULATORY PROVISIONS

Certificate required	Statutory provision	Regulations
Construct, Acquire, or Operate Railroad Lines .....	49 U.S.C. 10901 .....	49 CFR part. 1150.
Short Line purchases by Class II and Class III Rail Carriers .....	49 U.S.C. 10902 .....	49 CFR 1150.41–45.
Abandonments and Discontinuances .....	49 U.S.C. 10903 .....	49 CFR part. 1152.
Railroad Acquisitions, Trackage Rights, and Leases .....	49 U.S.C. 11323–26 .....	49 CFR part. 1180.

Under the PRA, a Federal agency conducting or sponsoring a collection of information must display a currently valid OMB control number. A collection of information, which is defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(3) and 5 CFR 1320.3(c), includes agency requirements that persons submit reports, keep records, or provide information to the agency, third parties, or the public. Under § 3506(b) of the PRA, Federal agencies are required to provide, concurrent with an agency’s submitting a collection to OMB for approval, a 30-day notice and comment period, through publication in the **Federal Register**, concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of an existing collection of information.

Dated: July 16, 2012.

**Jeffrey Herzig,**  
Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2012–17615 Filed 7–18–12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4915–01–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Fiscal Service

#### **Surety Companies Acceptable on Federal Bonds—Termination and Merger: Harleysville Mutual Insurance Company (NAIC #14168)**

**AGENCY:** Financial Management Service, Fiscal Service, Department of the Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This is Supplement No. 22 to the Treasury Department Circular 570, 2011 Revision, published July 1, 2011, at 76 FR 38892.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Surety Bond Branch at (202) 874–6850.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is hereby given that the Certificate of Authority issued by the Treasury to the above-named company under 31 U.S.C. 9305 to qualify as acceptable surety on

Federal bonds has been terminated. The above-named company merged with and into Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company (NAIC #23787) effective May 1, 2012. The surviving corporation of the merger activity is Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company (NAIC #23787), an Ohio domiciled corporation. Federal bond-approving officials should annotate their reference copies of the Treasury Department Circular 570 (“Circular”), 2011 Revision, to reflect this change.

In the event bond-approving officers have questions relating to bonds issued by the above-named company, they should contact Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company at (614) 249–7111.

The Circular may be viewed and downloaded through the Internet at [www.fms.treas.gov/c570](http://www.fms.treas.gov/c570).

Questions concerning this notice may be directed to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Financial Management Service, Financial Accounting and

Services Division, Surety Bond Branch, 3700 East-West Highway, Room 6F01, Hyattsville, MD 20782.

Dated: June 29, 2012.

**Laura Carrico,**

*Director, Financial Accounting and Services Division, Financial Management Service.*

[FR Doc. 2012-17359 Filed 7-18-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4810-35-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Fiscal Service

#### **Surety Companies Acceptable on Federal Bonds—Termination: Peerless Insurance Company (NAIC #24198)**

**AGENCY:** Financial Management Service, Fiscal Service, Department of the Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This is Supplement No. 21 to the Treasury Department Circular 570, 2011 Revision, published July 1, 2011, at 76 FR 38892.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Surety Bond Branch at (202) 874-6850.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is hereby given that the Certificate of Authority issued by the Treasury to the above-named company under 31 U.S.C. 9305 to qualify as acceptable surety on Federal bonds is terminated effective June 30, 2012. Federal bond-approving officials should annotate their reference copies of the Treasury Department Circular 570 ("Circular"), 2011 Revision, to reflect this change.

With respect to any bonds currently in force with this company, bond-approving officers may let such bonds run to expiration and need not secure new bonds. However, no new bonds should be accepted from this company, and bonds that are continuous in nature should not be renewed.

The Circular may be viewed and downloaded through the Internet at [www.fms.treas.gov/c570](http://www.fms.treas.gov/c570).

Questions concerning this notice may be directed to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Financial Management Service, Financial Accounting and Services Division, Surety Bond Branch, 3700 East-West Highway, Room 6F01, Hyattsville, MD 20782.

Dated: June 20, 2012.

**Laura Carrico,**

*Director, Financial Accounting and Services Division.*

[FR Doc. 2012-17360 Filed 7-18-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4810-35-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0740]

#### **Proposed Information Collection (Authorization To Substitute a Claim of a Deceased Claimant) Activity: Comment Request**

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), 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 on the information needed to allow claimants to request substitution for a claimant, who passed away, prior to VA processing a claim to completion.

**DATES:** Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before September 17, 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments on the collection of information through Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) at [www.Regulations.gov](http://www.Regulations.gov) or to Nancy J. Kessinger, Veterans Benefits Administration (20M35), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420 or email to [nancy.kessinger@va.gov](mailto:nancy.kessinger@va.gov). Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0740" in any correspondence. During the comment period, comments may be viewed online through FDMS.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Nancy J. Kessinger at (202) 632-8924 or Fax (202) 275-5947.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the PRA of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3501-3521), 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:** Authorization to Substitute a Claim of a Deceased Claimant, VA Form 21-0847.

**OMB Control Number:** 2900-0740.

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

**Abstract:** VA Form 21-0847 will be used to allow claimants to request substitutions for a claimant, who passed away, prior to VA processing a claim to completion. This is only allowed when a claimant dies while a claim or appeal for any benefit under a law administered by the VA is pending. The substitute claimant would be eligible to receive accrued benefits due to a deceased claimant under Section 5121(a). The substitute claim must be filed no later than one year after the date of the death of the claimant. By law, VA must have a claimant's or beneficiary's written permission (an "authorization") to be a substitute claimant. The claimant or beneficiary may revoke the authorization at any time, except if VA has already acted based on the permission.

**Affected Public:** Individuals or households.

**Estimated Annual Burden:** 1,667.

**Estimated Average Burden per Respondent:** 5 minutes.

**Frequency of Response:** One time.

**Estimated Number of Respondents:** 20,000.

Dated: July 13, 2012.

By direction of the Secretary.

**Denise McLamb,**

*Program Analyst, Enterprise Records Service.*

[FR Doc. 2012-17504 Filed 7-18-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8320-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0113]

#### **Agency Information Collection (Application for Fee or Personnel Designation) Activity Under OMB Review**

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