

on this ICR that the agency was seeking OMB approval. 73 FR 76442. FRA received no comments after issuing this notice. Accordingly, DOT announces that these information collection activities have been evaluated and certified under 5 CFR 1320.5(a) and forwarded to OMB for review and approval pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.10(a).

Before OMB decides whether to approve these proposed collections of information, it must provide 30 days for public comment. 44 U.S.C. 3507(b); 5 CFR 1320.12(d). Federal law requires OMB to approve or disapprove paperwork packages between 30 and 60 days after the 30-day notice is published. 44 U.S.C. 3507(b)–(c); 5 CFR 1320.12(d); *see also* 60 FR 44978, 44983, Aug. 29, 1995. OMB believes that the 30-day notice informs the regulated community to file relevant comments and affords the agency adequate time to digest public comments before it renders a decision. 60 FR 44983, Aug. 29, 1995. Therefore, respondents should submit their respective comments to OMB within 30 days of publication to best ensure having their full effect. 5 CFR 1320.12(c); *see also* 60 FR 44983, Aug. 29, 1995.

The summary below describes the nature of the information collection requirement (ICR) and the expected burden. The revised requirement is being submitted for clearance by OMB as required by the PRA.

Title: Notice Requesting Expressions of Interest in Implementing a High-Speed Inter-City Passenger Rail Corridor.

OMB Control Number: 2130—New.

Type of Request: Regular approval of a new collection of information.

Affected Public: 50 states, District of Columbia, Amtrak, eligible entities.

Abstract: Section 502 of the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008, Public Law 110–690 (October 16, 2008), requires the Secretary of Transportation to “issue a request for proposals for projects for the financing, design, construction, operation, and maintenance of a high-speed intercity passenger rail system operating within” either the Northeast Corridor or a Federally-designated high-speed rail (HSR) corridor. To satisfy this requirement, FRA is soliciting and encouraging the submission of Expressions of Interest for potential projects to finance, design, construct, operate, and maintain an improved HSR intercity passenger system in the Northeast Corridor or in one of ten Federally-designated corridors. FRA envisions this as the first phase of a qualification process that Congress may follow with more specific actions

regarding particular concepts in one or more corridors. Section 502 prescribes that Expressions of Interest received will be considered by FRA and possibly by commissions, representing affected and involved governors, mayors, freight railroads, transit authorities, labor organizations, and Amtrak. The results of these reviews will be summarized in one or more reports to Congress, which will make recommendations for further action regarding no more than one project concept for each corridor. FRA envisions this as the first phase of a qualification process that Congress may follow with more specific actions regarding particular concepts in one or more corridors.

Although authorized, no funds have been appropriated to support implementation of HSR under this program, and the availability of such funds in the future is not known. Respondents to FRA’s request in the December 16, 2008, **Federal Register** (73 FR 76443) acknowledge, by virtue of their response, that the likelihood of future funding and implementation of the projects covered by that notice is unknown, and that the Federal Government will not be liable for any costs incurred in the preparation of responses to this notice.

The information collected will be used by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), commissions to be formed in accordance with Section 502, and Congress. The collection of information—responses that describe high speed rail proposals—will be used to inform the Department and Congress about the benefits to the public and the national transportation system from high speed rail proposals received. Upon receipt of responses and after the close of the Expression of Interest solicitation, FRA will evaluate them and determine if each Expression of Interest is complete and if there is evidence provided in the response that would support conclusions, based on criteria specified in Section 502. If FRA determines that one or more Expressions of Interest satisfy this screening evaluation, FRA would form a commission for each relevant corridor to review and consider the response(s).

Annual Estimated Burden Hours: 34,063 hours.

Addressee: Send comments regarding this information collection to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725 Seventeenth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503, Attention: FRA Desk Officer. Comments may also be sent via e-mail to OMB at the following address: oir_submissions@omb.eop.gov.

Comments are Invited on the Following: Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the Department’s estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

A comment to OMB is best assured of having its full effect if OMB receives it within 30 days of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

Authority: 44 U.S.C. §§ 3501–3520.

Issued in Washington, DC, on February 18, 2009.

Kimberly Orben,

Director, Office of Financial Management, Federal Railroad Administration.

[FR Doc. E9–3901 Filed 2–23–09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

February 18, 2009

The Department of Treasury will submit the following public information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13 on or after the date of publication of this notice. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling the Treasury Bureau Clearance Officer listed. Comments regarding this information collection should be addressed to the OMB reviewer listed and to the Treasury Department Clearance Officer, Department of the Treasury, Room 11000, and 1750 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20220.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before March 26, 2009 to be assured of consideration.

Internal Revenue Service (IRS)

OMB Number: 1545–XXXX.

Type of Review: New Collection.

Title: Form 13997, Validating Your TIN and Reasonable Cause.

Form: 13997.

Description: Under the provisions of Internal Revenue Code Section (IRC §) 6039E, Information Concerning Resident Status, individuals are required to provide certain information (see IRC

§ 6039E(b)) with their application for a U.S. passport or with their application for permanent U.S. residence. This form will be an attachment to Letter 4318 that is being drafted to inform the individual about the IRC provisions, the penalty, and to request them to complete this form and return it to the IRS.

Respondents: Individuals or Households.

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 2,000 hours.

Clearance Officer: Glenn P. Kirkland, (202) 622-3428, Internal Revenue Service, Room 6516, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20224.

OMB Reviewer: Shagufta Ahmed (202) 395-7873, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

Robert Dahl,

Treasury PRA Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. E9-3900 Filed 2-23-09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0609]

Proposed Information Collection (Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA) Activity: 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 extension of a currently approved collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to this notice. This notice solicits comments for information needed to survey veteran enrollees' health status and reliance on VA's health care services.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before April 27, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information through Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) at <http://www.Regulations.gov>; or to Mary Stout, Veterans Health

Administration (193E1), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420; or e-mail: mary.stout@va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0609" in any correspondence. During the comment period, comments may be viewed online through FDMS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mary Stout at (202) 461-5867 or FAX (202) 273-9381.

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, 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.

Title: Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA, VA Form 10-21034g.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0609.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: Public Law 104-262, The Veterans Health Care Eligibility Reform Act of 1996, requires VA implement a priority-based enrollment system. VA must enroll veterans by specified priorities as far down the priorities as the available resources permit. The number of priority levels to which VHA will be able to deliver care will be a function of annual funding levels and utilization of health care services by enrollees. Additionally, eligibility reform has brought about the ever-increasing need for VA to plan and budget for the evolving clinical care needs of its extremely dynamic enrollee population at risk of need or use of VA care.

There is no valid, recent information available in administrative databases on all enrollees' health status, income, and their reliance upon the VA system. The magnitude of changes each year in enrollees, their characteristics, and

system policies make annual surveys necessary to capture this critical information for input into VHA's Health Care Services Demand Model. The survey will provide VA with current information for sound decisions that affect the entire VA health care delivery system and the veterans it serves. VA Form 10-21034g will be used to provide the survey data on morbidity and reliance that is critical to obtaining accurate projections of VA's ability to service veterans who are seeking VA health care services. The projections will also be used to support VA's Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services initiative and will also serve as the basis for VA's new emphasis on population-based budget formulation, policy scenario testing, and strategic planning.

Affected Public: Individuals or households, and Federal Government.

Estimated Annual Burden: 10,900 hours.

Estimated Average Burden per Respondent: 15 minutes.

Frequency of Response: Annually.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 42,200.

Dated: February 17, 2009.

By direction of the Secretary.

Denise McLamb,

Program Analyst, Enterprise Records Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0128]

Agency Information Collection (Notice of Lapse—Government Life Insurance) Activities Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3521), this notice announces that the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs, will submit the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden; it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before March 26, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information through