

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 October 15, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Denise McLamb, Records Management Service (005E3), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420, (202) 273-8030, fax (202) 273-5981 or e-mail denise.mclamb@mail.va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-NEW." Send comments and recommendations concerning any aspect of the information collection to VA's OMB Desk Officer, OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 (202) 395-7316. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-NEW" in any correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Title:* Annual Certification of Veteran Status and Veteran-Relatives, VA Form 20-0344.

OMB Control Number: 2900-NEW.

Type of Review: New collection.

Abstract: VBA employees, non-VBA employees in VBA space and Veteran Service Organization employees who have access to VA's benefit records complete VA Form 20-0344. These individuals are required to provide personal identifying information for themselves and any veteran relatives, in order for VA to identify and protect those benefit records. VA uses the information to determine which benefit records require special handling to guard against fraud, conflict of interest, improper influence etc. by VA and non-VA employees.

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 June 28, 2004, at page 36162.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 5,834 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 25 minutes.

Frequency of Response: Annually.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 14,000.

Dated: September 1, 2004.

By direction of the Secretary.

Loise Russell,

Director, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 04-20745 Filed 9-14-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0521]

Agency Information Collection 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. 3501-21), this notice announces that the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs, has submitted 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 and includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before October 15, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Denise McLamb, Records Management Service (005E3), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., or e-mail denise.mclamb@mail.va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0521." Send comments and recommendations concerning any aspect of the information collection to VA's OMB Desk Officer, OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 (202) 395-7316. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0521" in any correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Titles:

a. Credit Underwriting Standards and Procedures for Processing VA Guaranteed Loans.

b. Report and Certification of Loan Disbursement, VA Form 26-1820.

c. Request for Verification of Employment, VA Form 26-8497.

d. Request for Verification of Deposit, VA Form 26-8497a.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0521.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract:

a. Credit Underwriting Standards and Procedures for Processing VA Guaranteed Loans—VA set forth, in regulatory form, standards to be used by lenders in underwriting VA-guaranteed loans and to obtain credit information. Lenders must collect certain specific information concerning the veteran and the veteran's credit history (and spouse or other co-borrower, as applicable), in

order to properly underwrite the veteran's loan. A loan may not be guaranteed unless the veteran is a satisfactory credit risk. VA requires the lender to provide the Department with the credit information to assure itself that applications for VA-guaranteed loans are underwritten in a reasonable and prudent manner.

b. VA Form 26-1820 is completed by lenders closing VA guaranteed and insured loans under the automatic or prior approval procedures. Lenders are required to submit with the form, a copy of the loan application (showing income, assets, and obligations) which the lender requires the borrower to execute when applying for the loan; original employment and income verifications obtained from the borrower's place of employment; original verification of assets; and original credit report.

c. VA Form 26-8497 is used by lenders to verify a loan applicant's income and employment information when making guaranteed and insured loans. VA, however, does not require the exclusive use of this form for verification purposes; any comprehensible form or independent verification would be acceptable, provided all information presently shown on VA Form 26-8497 is provided.

d. VA Form 26-8497a is primarily used by lenders making guaranteed and insured loans to verify the applicant's deposits in banks and other savings institutions.

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 June 25, 2004, at pages 35713-35714.

Affected Public: Business or other for profit and individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 162,500 hour.

a. Report and Certification of Loan Disbursement, VA Form 26-1820—87,500 hours.

b. Request for Verification of Employment, VA Form 26-8497—25,000 hours.

c. Request for Verification of Deposit, VA Form 26-8497a—12,500 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent:

a. Report and Certification of Loan Disbursement, VA Form 26-1820—15 minutes.

b. Request for Verification of Employment, VA Form 26-8497—10 minutes.

c. Request for Verification of Deposit, VA Form 26-8497a—5 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 650,000.

a. Report and Certification of Loan Disbursement, VA Form 26-1820—350,000.

b. Request for Verification of Employment, VA Form 26-8497—150,000.

c. Request for Verification of Deposit, VA Form 26-8497a—150,000.

Dated: September 1, 2004.

By direction of the Secretary.

Loise Russell,

Director, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 04-20746 Filed 9-14-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0045]

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 (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 to identify and locate properties for appraisal and to make assignments to appraisers.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before November 15, 2004.

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 or e-mail irmnkess@vba.va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0045" in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nancy J. Kessinger at (202) 273-7079 or fax (202) 275-5947.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995 (Public Law 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 and Form Number: VA Request for Determination of Reasonable Value (Real Estate), VA Form 26-1805.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0045.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA Form 26-1805 is used to collect data necessary for VA compliance with the requirements of title 38, U.S.C. 3710(b)(4), (5), and (6). These requirements prohibit VA guaranty or making of any loan unless the suitability of the property for dwelling purposes is determined, the loan amount does not exceed the reasonable value, and if the loan is for purposes of alteration, repair, or improvements, the work substantially improves the basic livability of the property. The data allows VA to identify and locate properties for appraisal and to make assignments to appraisers.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 60,000 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 12 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 300,000.

Dated: September 1, 2004.

By direction of the Secretary.

Loise Russell,

Director, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 04-20750 Filed 9-14-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0474]

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 (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 information needed to pay the necessary funding fee for VA guaranteed loans.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before November 15, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information to Nancy J. Kessinger, Veterans Benefits Administration (20M35), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420 or e-mail to: irmnkess@vba.va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0474" in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nancy J. Kessinger at (202) 273-7079 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