

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 confirm a claimant's continued entitlement to Restored Entitlement Program for Survivors (REPS) benefits.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before April 5, 2005.

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: irmnkess@vba.va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0405" 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: REPS Annual Eligibility Report, (Under the Provisions of Section 156, Public Law 97-377), VA Form 21-8941.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0405.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA Form 21-8941 is completed annually by claimants who have earned income that is at or near the limit of earned income. The REPS program pays benefits to certain surviving spouses and children of

veterans who died or disabled in service prior to August 13, 1981 or who died as a result of a service-connected disability incurred or aggravated prior to August 12, 1981. VA uses the information collected to determine a claimant's continued entitlement to REPS benefits.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 300 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 15 minutes.

Frequency of Response: Annually.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,200.

Dated: January 26, 2005.

By direction of the Secretary.

Loise Russell,

Director, Records Management Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0216]

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 revision 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 the appropriate claimant entitlement to accrued benefits.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before April 5, 2005.

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: irmnkess@vba.va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0216" 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: Application for Reimbursement from Accrued Amounts Due a Deceased Beneficiary, VA Form 21-601.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0216.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: The information collected on VA Form 21-601 is used to determine claimants' entitlement to accrued benefits due a veteran but not paid prior to the veteran's death. Each survivor claiming a share of the accrued benefits must complete a separate VA Form 21-601; however if there is no living survivors who are entitled on the basis of relationship, accrued benefits may be payable as reimbursement to the person or persons who bore the expenses of the veteran's last illness and burial expenses.

Affected Public: Individuals or households and Business or other for-profit.

Estimated Annual Burden: 2,300 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 30 minutes.

Frequency of Response: One time.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 4,600.

Dated: January 26, 2005.

By direction of the Secretary.

Loise Russell,

Director, Records Management Service.

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