

Dated: February 12, 2024.

Daniel W. Peck,

Executive Director, U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission.

[FR Doc. 2024-03174 Filed 2-14-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 1137-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0659]

Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review: Statement in Support of Claimed Mental Health Disorder(s) Due to an In-Service Traumatic Event(s)

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, 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 and it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function. Refer to “OMB Control No. 2900-0659.”

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Maribel Aponte, Office of Enterprise and Integration, Data Governance Analytics (008), 810 Vermont Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20006, (202) 266-4688 or email maribel.aponte@va.gov. Please refer to “OMB Control No. 2900-0659” in any correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: 38 U.S.C. 5103(a), 38 U.S.C. 5107(a), Public Law 117-271, Public Law 117-303, 38 CFR 3.304(f).

Title: Statement in Support of Claimed Mental Health Disorder(s) Due to an In-Service Traumatic Event(s) (VA Form 21-0781).

OMB Control Number: 2900-0659.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA Form 21-0781 is primarily used to gather certain information about in-service stressors, so VA may assist claimants in establishing the occurrence of the claimed stressor(s). To establish a grant of service-connected compensation, there must be evidence to support the in-service stressor(s) reported by the veteran. This form is voluntary, however, without this information, VA cannot thoroughly assist certain claimants with the research of military records and other sources of information for supporting evidence about the in-service stressor(s). The form requests information that is necessary to conduct meaningful research of evidence to help substantiate the claim.

This revision combines the two previously approved forms under this collection number into *one* form: resulting in the discontinuance of the previously approved VA Form 21-0781a, a new title, and a total reduction overall of burden on the claimant.

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 at 88 FR 86220 on December 12, 2023.

Affected Public: Individuals or Households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 87,436.

Estimated Average Burden per Respondent: 45 minutes.

Frequency of Response: One time.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 116, 581.

By direction of the Secretary.

Dorothy Glasgow,

VA PRA Clearance Officer, (Alt), Office of Enterprise and Integration, Data Governance Analytics, Department of Veterans Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2024-03148 Filed 2-14-24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0862]

Agency Information Collection Activity: Decision Review Request: Higher-Level Review

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, this notice announces that the

Veterans Benefits Administration, 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 and it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice by clicking on the following link www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain, and select “Currently under Review—Open for Public Comments”, then search the list for the information collection by Title or “OMB Control No. 2900-0862.”

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Maribel Aponte, Office of Enterprise and Integration, Data Governance Analytics (008), 810 Vermont Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20420, (202) 266-4688 or email maribel.aponte@va.gov. Please refer to “OMB Control No. 2900-0862” in any correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Public Law 115-55; 44 U.S.C. 3501-21.

Title: Decision Review Request: Higher-Level Review (VA Form 20-0996).

OMB Control Number: 2900-0862.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA Form 20-0996, *Decision Review Request: Higher-Level Review* is used by a claimant to formally request a higher-level review of a VA decision as the agency of original jurisdiction, in accordance with the Appeals Modernization Act. The information collected is used by VA to identify the issues which the claimant wishes to dispute in their request for a higher-level review. Additionally, the information collected is used to schedule a telephonic informal conference, when requested.

This is an extension of a currently approved collection which was due for renewal. No substantive changes were made to the collection. Minor changes were made to the instructions to make the instructions easier to understand. The requirement to sign in ink was removed. Changes were made to the Optional Informal Conference and Issues For Higher-Level Review sections to make these sections easier for claimants to understand and complete.

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 at 88 FR 86449 on December 13, 2023.

Affected Public: Individuals and households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 49,650 hours.

Estimated Average Burden per Respondent: 15 minutes.

Frequency of Response: One time.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 198,600.

By direction of the Secretary.

Dorothy Glasgow,

VA PRA Clearance Officer, (Alt), Office of Enterprise and Integration, Data Governance Analytics, Department of Veterans Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2024-03132 Filed 2-14-24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

National Research Advisory Council, Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. ch. 10, that the National Research Advisory Council will hold a meeting on Wednesday, March 6, 2024, by Teams. The teleconference number is 1-872-701-0185, Phone Conference ID: 189 112 632# or the meeting link is https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_YzBmZGIwMDctOGU3Zi00NjAxLTlkNmQtYTIiMTU0YTgwZTUw%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22e95f1b23-abaf-45ee-821d-b7ab251ab3bf%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%227a4935a6-e7e0-4f23-b7e9-443546f09fa8%22%7d.

The meeting will convene at 9 a.m. and end at 1 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. This meeting is open to the public and will include time reserved for public comment at the end of the meeting. The public comment period will be 30 minutes. Individual stakeholders will be afforded three to five minutes to express their comments.

The purpose of the National Research Advisory Council (NRAC) is to advise the Secretary on research conducted by the Veterans Health Administration, including policies and programs targeting the high priority of Veterans' health care needs.

On March 6, 2024, the agenda will include remarks from the VA Secretary; The NRAC vision for supporting the VA Research Enterprise; the VA Office of Research and Development Annual Report to NRAC; a Sensitive Species

Subcommittee update; an overview of collaborations with academic partners and external entities; an overview and discussion of high priority research topics; an update on the status of Psychedelic Assisted Treatment research efforts, and a discussion of NRAC recommendations.

Members of the public may submit written statements for review by the NRAC in advance of the meeting. Public comments may be received no later than close of business February 23, 2024, for inclusion in the official meeting record. Please send statements to Rashelle Robinson, Designated Federal Officer, Office of Research and Development (14RD), Department of Veterans Affairs, 811 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420, at 202-443-5768, or Rashelle.robinson@va.gov. Any member of the public seeking additional information should contact Rashelle Robinson at the above phone number or email address noted above.

Dated: February 12, 2024.

LaTonya L. Small,

Federal Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 2024-03182 Filed 2-14-24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0830]

Agency Information Collection Activity: Claim for Reimbursement of Travel Expenses

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Veterans Benefits Administration, 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.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before April 15, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information through Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) at www.Regulations.gov or to

Nancy J. Kessinger, Veterans Benefits Administration (20M33), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420 or email to nancy.kessinger@va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0830" in any correspondence. During the comment period, comments may be viewed online through FDMS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Maribel Aponte, Office of Enterprise and Integration, Data Governance Analytics (008), 810 Vermont Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20420, (202) 266-4688 or email maribel.aponte@va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0830" in any correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995, 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.

Authority: 38 U.S.C. 501(a) and 38 U.S.C. 111.

Title: Claim for Reimbursement of Travel Expenses.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0830.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA Form 28-0968, Claim for Reimbursement of Travel Expenses serves as a request to collect information for claimants to apply for the mileage reimbursement benefit in an efficient, convenient, and accurate manner. VR&E must determine the identity of the claimant; the dates and length of the trip being claimed, based on the claimant's residence and the place of initial evaluation, reevaluation, and counseling to include personal or vocational adjustment, training, and attendant travel, or other place in connection with vocational rehabilitation; and whether expenses other than mileage are being claimed. Once the information is obtained, it is entered into the case