

soliciting public comments, ideas, and suggestions on improving customer service at the Internal Revenue Service. The TAP will use citizen input to make recommendations to the Internal Revenue Service.

DATES: The meeting will be held Thursday, January 15, 2004

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Judi Nicholas at 1-888-912-1227, or 206-220-6096.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. (1988) that an open meeting of the Area 6 Taxpayer Advocacy Panel will be held Thursday, January 15, 2004, from 2 p.m. Pacific time to 4 p.m. Pacific time via a telephone conference call. The public is invited to make oral comments. Individual comments will be limited to 5 minutes. If you would like to have the TAP consider a written statement, please call 1-888-912-1227 or 206-220-6096, or write to Judi Nicholas, TAP Office, 915 2nd Avenue, MS W-406, Seattle, WA 98174. Due to limited conference lines, notification of intent to participate in the telephone conference call meeting must be made with Judi Nicholas. Ms. Nicholas can be reached at 1-888-912-1227 or 206-220-6096.

The agenda will include the following: Various IRS issues.

Dated: December 17, 2003.

Bernard Coston,

Director, Taxpayer Advocacy Panel.

[FR Doc. 03-31691 Filed 12-23-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0358]

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 January 23, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY OF THE SUBMISSION 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. 2900-0358."

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. 2900-0358" in any correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Supplemental Information for Change of Program or Reenrollment After Unsatisfactory Attendance, Conduct or Progress, VA Form 22-8873.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: Veterans and other eligible persons may change their program of education under conditions prescribed by Title 38 U.S.C., Section 3691. A claimant can normally make one change of program without VA approval. If that claimant makes any additional change of program, VA approval is required. Before VA may approve benefits for a second or subsequent change of program, VA must first determine that the new program is suitable to the claimant's aptitudes, interests, and abilities, or that the cause of any unsatisfactory progress or conduct has been resolved before entering into a different program. VA Form 22-8873 is used to gather the necessary information only if the suitability of the proposed training program cannot be established from information already available in the claimant's VA education records or the results of academic or vocational counseling are not available to VA.

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 October 14, 2003, at page 59244-59245. **Affected Public:** Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 9,150 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 30 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.
Estimated Number of Respondents: 18,300.

Dated: December 8, 2003.

By direction of the Secretary.

Jacqueline Parks,

IT Specialist, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 03-31621 Filed 12-23-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0646]

Agency Information Collection Activities Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Veterans Health 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 Health Administration (VHA), 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 January 23, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY OF THE SUBMISSION 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 to: denise.mclamb@mail.va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0646."

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. 2900-0646" in any correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Medication Prescribed by Non-VA Physicians; VA Transitional Pharmacy Benefit, VA Form 10-0411.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0646.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: Under existing law and regulations, a veteran desiring medical care from VA must enroll in VA's health

care system. When a veteran first enrolls in the VA system, and requests an appointment for care, VA schedules an appointment for a visit with a primary care physician. The primary care physician generally learns from the veteran what medication the veteran is taking, if any, assesses the need for the medication and writes prescriptions for any needed medication. Those prescriptions written by the VA physician are filled by a VA pharmacy. In recent years, there has been an increase in the enrollment of veterans into the health care system to obtain pharmacy benefits at no cost or at a reasonable cost. With the dramatically increased enrollment, VA has been unable to provide all enrolled veterans with health care services in a timely manner. Many of those veterans have prescriptions, written by non-VA physicians, that VA primary care

physicians may subsequently confirm and renew when the veterans are able to have initial primary care visits. In an effort to ease financial burden on enrolled veterans currently waiting lengthy periods of time for their initial primary care visits, VA will provide these veterans with medication prior to their initial primary care visits at VA if these veterans present valid prescriptions from the non-VA physicians. VA will fill prescriptions written by non-VA physicians only for a period of time such veterans are awaiting a scheduled appointment with a VA health care provider. VA Form 10-0411, VA Transitional Pharmacy Benefit will be used to collect the data necessary to safely administer these medications.

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 October 7, 2003, at pages 57955-57956.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 30,287 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 10 minutes.

Frequency of Response: One time.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 363,446.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 181,723.

Dated: December 11, 2003.

By direction of the Secretary.

Jacqueline Parks,

IT Specialist, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 03-31622 Filed 12-23-03; 8:45 am]

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