

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.

*Titles:* Health Care for Certain Children of Vietnam Veterans—Covered Birth Defects and Spina Bifida and Claim for Miscellaneous Expenses, VA Health Administration Center, VA Form 10-7959e.

*OMB Control Number:* 2900-0578.

*Type of Review:* Revision of a currently approved collection.

*Abstract:* The information collected will be used to determine whether to approve requests for preauthorization of certain health care services and benefits for children of Vietnam veterans, and to make decisions during the review and appeal process concerning health care. VA Form 10-7959e will be used to claim payment or reimbursement for expenses related to birth defects among Vietnam Veterans' children.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households, Business or other for-profit, and not for profit institutions.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden:* 3,400 hours.

*Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent:* 5 minutes.

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 3,600.

*Estimated Total Annual Responses:* 31,400

Dated: February 13, 2003.

By direction of the Secretary:

**Ernesto Castro,**

*Director, Records Management Service.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0565]

### 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 previously approved collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on the information needed to determine eligibility for plot-interment allowance.

**DATES:** Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before May 5, 2003.

**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](mailto:irmnkess@vba.va.gov). Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0565" 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., 3501-3520), 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:* State Application for Interment Allowance Under 38 U.S.C., Chapter 23, VA Form 21-530a.

*OMB Control Number:* 2900-0565.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a previously approved collection.

*Abstract:* VA Form 21-530a is used by a State to file a consolidated application for plot or interment allowances for eligible veterans buried in a cemetery owned by that State and is used solely for the interment of persons eligible for burial in a national cemetery.

*Affected Public:* State, Local or Tribal Government.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 20,000 hours.

*Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent:* 30 minutes.

*Frequency of Response:* One time.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 40,000.

Dated: February 13, 2003.

By direction of the Secretary:

**Ernesto Castro,**

*Director, Records Management Service.*

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