

public record. Comments are invited on:

- (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility;
- (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information;
- (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected;
- (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and
- (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: March 18, 2003.

Carol Savage,

Program Analyst.

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BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0554]

Agency Information Collection: Emergency Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

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 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) the following emergency proposal for the collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3507(j)(1)). An emergency clearance is being requested for approval of the revisions of VA Form 10-0361 series and to include several new forms to comply with Public Law 107-95. Public Law 107-95 re-established VA's Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program. The law mandated that three new grant programs be created for homeless veterans. VA Form 10-0361 has been revised to reflect the changes mandated by the new public law. Several new forms were created to implement the provision of the statute.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before March 28, 2003.

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. 2900-0554".

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 or FAX (202) 395-6974. Please refer to "2900-0554".

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Titles

a. Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program, Capital Grant Application, VA Form 10-0361-CG.

b. Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program, Life Safety Code Application, VA Form 10-0361-LSC.

c. Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program, Per Diem Only Application, VA Form 10-0361-PDO.

d. Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program, Special Needs Application, VA Form 10-0361-SN.

e. Compliance Reports for Per Diem and Special Needs Grants. No form needed. May be reported to VA in standard business narrative.

f. Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program, Technical Assistance Application, VA Form 10-0361-TA.

g. Compliance Reports for Technical Assistance Grants. No form needed. May be reported to VA in standard business narrative.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0554.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: The information collected on VA Form 10-0361 series, Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program, will be used to determine applicants eligibility to receive a grant/or per diem payments which provide supportive housing/services to assist homeless veterans transition to independent living. The collected information will be used to apply the specific criteria to rate and rank each application; and to obtain information necessary to ensure that Federal funds are awarded to applicants who are financially stable and who will conduct program for which a grant and/or per diem award was made. If this data were not collected, VA would not be able to implement the provisions of Public Law 107-95.

Affected Public: Not-for-profit institution, and State, local or tribal government.

Estimated Total Annual Burden:

a. Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program, Capital Grant

Application, VA Form 10-0361-CG—3,500 hours.

b. Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program, Life Safety Code Application, VA Form 10-0361-LSC—2,000 hours.

c. Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program, Per Diem Only Application, VA Form 10-0361-PDO—3,000 hours.

d. Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program, Special Needs Application, VA Form 10-0361-SN—4,000 hours.

e. Compliance Reports for Per Diem and Special Needs Grants—1,500 hours.

f. Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program, Technical Assistance Application, VA Form 10-0361-TA—250 hours.

g. Compliance Reports for Technical Assistance Grants—90 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent

a. Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program, Capital Grant Application, VA Form 10-0361-CG—35 hours.

b. Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program, Life Safety Code Application, VA Form 10-0361-LSC—10 hours.

c. Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program, Per Diem Only Application, VA Form 10-0361-PDO—20 hours.

d. Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program, Special Needs Application, VA Form 10-0361-SN—20 hours.

e. Compliance Reports for Per Diem and Special Needs Grants—5 hours.

f. Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program, Technical Assistance Application, VA Form 10-0361-TA—10 hours.

g. Compliance Reports for Technical Assistance Grants—2.25 hours.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents

a. Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program, Capital Grant Application, VA Form 10-0361-CG—100.

b. Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program, Life Safety Code Application, VA Form 10-0361-LSC—200.

c. Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program, Per Diem Only Application, VA Form 10-0361-PDO—150.

d. Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program, Special Needs Application, VA Form 10-0361-SN—200.

e. Compliance Reports for Per Diem and Special Needs Grants—300.

f. Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program, Technical Assistance Application, VA Form 10-0361-TA-25.

g. Compliance Reports for Technical Assistance Grants—40.

Dated: March 14, 2003.

By direction of the Secretary.

Martin L. Hill,

Acting Director, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 03-6789 Filed 3-20-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Advisory Committee on Former Prisoners of War, Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under Public Law 92-463 (Federal Advisory Committee Act) that a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Former Prisoners of War (FPOW) will be held on April 28-30, 2003, at the Department of Veterans Affairs Central Office, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420. On April 28, the meeting will be held in the Omar Bradley Conference Room and on April 29 and 30, the Committee will meet in Room 230. Each day the meeting will convene at 9 a.m. and end at 4:30 p.m. The meeting is open to the public.

The purpose of the committee is to advise the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on the administration of benefits under title 38, United States Code, for veterans who are former prisoners of war, and to make recommendations on the needs of such veterans for compensation, health care and rehabilitation.

The agenda for April 28 will begin with an introduction of Committee members, remarks from dignitaries, a review of Committee reports, an update of activities since the last meeting, and a period for FPOW veterans and/or the public to address the committee. The Committee will also discuss future plans for the VA FPOW Learning Seminars, and conclude with a report on the development of Special FPOW Care and Benefits Teams. The agenda on April 29 will include a review of VA's Compensation and Pension Service activities, including new outreach initiatives to FPOWs, initiatives to reduce the number of old pending disability claims, as well as a progress

report from VA's FPOW Medical Presumptions Workgroup. The Committee will also hear presentations on the activities of the Veterans Health Administration, including a report on priority for FPOWs in Long-Term Health Care programs. The Committee will then hear a presentation from the Robert E. Mitchell Center for Prisoner of War Studies. The day will conclude with new business and general discussion. On April 30, the Committee's Medical and Administrative work groups will break out to discuss their activities and report back to the Committee. Additionally, the Committee will review and analyze the comments discussed throughout the meeting for the purpose of assisting and compiling a final report to be sent to the Secretary.

Members of the public may direct questions or submit prepared statements for review by the Committee in advance of the meeting, in writing only, to Mr. Ronald J. Henke, Director, Compensation and Pension Service (21), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420. Submitted materials must be received by April 18, 2003.

Dated: March 14, 2003.

By Direction of the Secretary.

E. Philip Riggan,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 03-6790 Filed 3-20-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

National Commission on VA Nursing; Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs gives notice under Public Law 92-463 (Federal Advisory Committee Act) that the National Commission on VA Nursing will conduct public hearings during the month of April 2003. The purpose of the hearings is to obtain oral and written testimony on current VA performance of nursing staff peer review process, promotion, recognition, respect and rewards. Information gained from this endeavor will be considered in forming conclusions and making recommendations for enhancing staff retention.

The purpose of the Commission is to provide advice and make recommendations to Congress and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs regarding

legislative and organizational policy changes to enhance the recruitment and retention of nurses and other nursing personnel in VA. The Commission is required to submit to Congress and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs a report, not later than two years from May 8, 2002, on its findings and recommendations.

Nursing staff of the Department of Veterans Affairs from across the country will have an opportunity to give oral and written testimony. Hearings will begin at 9 a.m. and end at 5 p.m. Oral testimony will be limited to 10 minutes. An open forum will be available for 20 minutes during the morning and 20 minutes in the afternoon. Each person registered to speak during the open forum will have 3 minutes and will be given a first come first serve slot. All hearings will be conducted by a lead Commission member with other members in attendance.

Hearings are planned to accommodate staff from various networks. The dates and location are as follows:

April 3, 2003: Hotel Monaco, 333 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans, LA 70130. (504) 561-0010.

April 16, 2003: Radisson Plaza-Warwick Hotel, 1701 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103. (215) 735-6000.

April 24, 2003: Marriott Chicago Schaumburg, 50 N. Martingale Road, Chicago, IL 60173. (847) 384-2739.

April 30, 2003: Location to be determined, Los Angeles, CA.

Additional information and instructions for preparing and submitting written testimony is available on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.va.gov/ncvan>.

Members of the public may submit prepared statements for review by the Commission in advance of hearings, to Ms. Oyweda Moorer, Director of the National Commission on VA Nursing, at Department of Veterans Affairs (108N), 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420. Any member of the public wishing to attend the hearing should contact Ms. Stephanie Williams, Program Analyst at (202) 273-4944.

Dated: March 14, 2003.

By direction of the Secretary.

E. Philip Riggan,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 03-6791 Filed 3-20-03; 8:45 am]

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