

463 that a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Prosthetics and Special-Disabilities Programs will be held on January 8, 1997, at VA Headquarters, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC. The meeting will be held in Room 930 and commence at 2:30 p.m. and adjourn no later than 4:30 p.m. The purpose of this meeting is for VA to solicit input from the Advisory Committee on Prosthetics and Special-Disabilities Programs concerning VA's implementation of section 1706 of 38, U.S.C., (Public Law 104-262, The Veterans' Health Care Eligibility Reform Act). Specifically, a draft decision paper regarding VA's definition of capacity and special disability programs will be discussed. Due to the fact that Committee members are located geographically across the country and that this meeting is anticipated to be held no longer than two hours, members of the Advisory Committee on Prosthetics and Special-Disabilities Programs will be contacted for this meeting via conference call.

The meeting is open to the public. Due to the shortness of the meeting, public participation is restricted to written comments. Comments should be submitted 5 days before the meeting or 10 days after the meeting. For those wishing to attend, and/or requesting a copy of Public Law 102-262, section 1706 or additional information concerning the meeting, please contact Kathy Pessagno, Veterans Health Administration (113), phone (202) 273-8512, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420, prior to January 7, 1997. All written comments received

will be available for public inspection at the above address.

Dated: December 12, 1996.

By Direction of the Secretary.

Heyward Bannister,

Committee Management Officer.

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Scientific Review and Evaluation Board for Health Services Research and Development Service, Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Health Administration, gives notice under Pub. L. 92-463, that a meeting of the Scientific Review and Evaluation Board for Health Services Research and Development Service will be held at the Sheraton Gunter Hotel, 205 E. Houston Street, San Antonio, TX, January 7 through January 9, 1997. The session on January 7, 1997, is scheduled to begin at 1 p.m. and end at 5 p.m. (Central Time). The sessions scheduled for January 8 and 9 are scheduled to begin at 8 a.m. and end at 5 p.m. (Central Time). The purpose of the meeting is to review research and development applications concerned with the measurement and evaluation of health care systems and with testing new methods of health care delivery and management. Applications are reviewed for scientific and technical merit. Recommendations regarding their funding are prepared for the Chief Research and Development Officer (12).

This meeting will be open to the public (to the seating capacity of the room) at the start of the January 7

session for approximately one half-hour to cover administrative matters and to discuss the general status of the program. The closed portion of the meeting involves discussion, examination, reference to, and oral review of staff and consultant critiques of research protocols and similar documents. During this portion of the meeting, discussion and recommendations will deal with the qualifications of the personnel conducting the studies (the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy), as well as research information (the premature disclosure of which would be likely to frustrate significantly implementation of proposed agency action regarding such research projects). As provided by the subsection 10(d) of Pub. L. 92-463, as amended by Pub. L. 94-409, closing portions of these meetings are in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552b(c) (6) and (9)(B).

Due to the limited seating capacity of the room, those who plan to attend the open session should contact Mr. E. William, M.S.H.A., Review Program Manager (124F), Health Services Research and Development Service, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C., at least five days before the meeting. For further information, he can be reached at 202.273.8254.

Dated: December 12, 1996.

By Direction of the Secretary:

Heyward Bannister,

Committee Management Officer.

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