

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) 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. This notice solicits comments on requirements to determine the applicant's eligibility to education benefits.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before August 11, 1997.

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. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0154" in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nancy J. Kessinger at (202) 273-8310 or FAX (202) 275-4884.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995 (Public Law 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 and Form Number: Application for Education Benefits, VA Form 22-1990.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0154.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA uses the information on the application to determine the

applicant's eligibility to education benefits under Chapters 30 and 32, Title 38 U.S.C., Chapter 1606, Title 10 U.S.C., or Public Law 96-342, Section 903. In order to receive VA educational assistance allowance, veterans and members of the selected reserve must complete VA Form 22-1990, Application for Education Benefits.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 90,231 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 45 minutes.

Frequency of Response: Once, initial application.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 154,682.

Dated: May 21, 1997.

By direction of the Secretary.

William Morgan,

Program Analyst, Information Management Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0442]

**Proposed Information Collection
Activity: Proposed Collection;
Comment Request; Extension**

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) 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 currently approved collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on requirements for verification of military service in order to establish entitlement to compensation or pension benefits.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before August 11, 1997.

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. Please

refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0442" in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nancy J. Kessinger at (202) 273-8310 or FAX (202) 275-4884.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995 (Public Law 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 and Form Number: Request for Armed Forces Separation Records, VA Form Letter 21-80e.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0442.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: In order to establish entitlement to VA compensation or pension benefits, a veteran must have had active military service which resulted in separation under other than dishonorable conditions. VA Form Letter 21-80e is completed by the veteran to furnish information relative to his/her military service. The information is used to aid VA in requesting verification of military service. Benefits cannot be paid without verification of service.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 17,000 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 10 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 102,000.

Dated: May 21, 1997.

By direction of the Secretary.

William Morgan,

Program Analyst, Information Management Service.

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