

information used to evaluate the applicant's claim for the benefit.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; State, Local or Tribal Government.

Estimated Annual Burden: 85,000 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 15 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 340,000.

Dated: July 23, 1997.

By direction of the Secretary.

Donald L. Neilson,

Director, Information Management Service.
[FR Doc. 97-20745 Filed 8-6-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0559]

Agency Information Collection Activities Under OMB Review

AGENCY: National Cemetery System, 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 National Cemetery System (NCS), 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; it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before September 8, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY OF THE SUBMISSION CONTACT: Ron Taylor, Information Management Service (045A4), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420, (202) 273-8015 or FAX (202) 273-5981. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0559."

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title and Form Number: State Cemetery Data, VA Form 40-0241.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0559.

Type of Review: Reinstatement, without change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired.

Abstract: VA Form 40-0241 is used to collect information regarding the number of interments conducted at state veteran's cemeteries each year. This information is necessary for budget and oversight purposes. In addition, NCS's State Cemetery Grants Service uses the information to answer questions which arise during the course of the year to respond to Congressional correspondence and to project and predict the need for burial space and the demand for state grants. Burial information provides the usage rates and helps in the prediction of when a cemetery needs to develop additional acreage (request a grant to expand) or is going to close. The amount of acreage used helps the State Cemetery Grants Service and National Cemetery System anticipate closing and the requirement for additional cemeteries (either state or national). Lower burial rates may indicate problems such as ineffective outreach or poor maintenance that should be investigated. The information is used in conjunction with the information gained from the national cemeteries to consider where to place

national or state cemeteries. Title 38 CFR, Section 39.3, points out that "the Secretary and any authorized representative (in this case the State Cemetery Grants Service) will have access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers or documents related to the grant." Title 38 CFR, Section 39.5, discusses follow-up procedures once a cemetery is established and points out the need for audits.

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 April 8, 1997 at page 16890.

Affected Public: State, Local or Tribal Government.

Estimated Annual Burden: 52 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 60 minutes.

Frequency of Response: Annually.

Estimated Annual Responses: 52.

Send comments and recommendations concerning any aspect of the information collection to VA's OMB Desk Officer, Allison Eydt, OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 (202) 395-4650. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0559" in any correspondence.

Dated: July 18, 1997.

By direction of the Secretary.

Donald L. Neilson,

Director, Information Management Service.
[FR Doc. 97-20746 Filed 8-6-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P