

prosthetics service, priority for Chapter 31 clients to receive medical care, and the pilot program of rehabilitation outcome measurements. On January 15, the Committee will discuss recreation therapy, the new Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor position, and future meetings and agenda items.

The meeting will be open to the public. For those wishing to attend, please contact Dianna Murphy at (202) 273-7419. Interested persons may attend, appear before, or file statements with the Committee. Statements, if in written form, may be filed before the meeting. Oral statements will be heard at 9 a.m. on January 15, 1998.

Dated: December 19, 1997.

By Direction of the Secretary.

**Heyward Bannister,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 97-34123 Filed 12-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### 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 Clarion Hotel, Bay View, 660 K Street, San Diego, CA, January 11, 7 p.m. until 9 p.m., and January 12 through January 13, 1998, from 7:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. each day. 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 at the start of the January 11 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 is 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 Judy, MSHA, Review Program Manager (124F), Health Services Research and Development Service, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC, at least five days before the meeting. For further information, he can be reached at (202) 273-8254.

Dated: December 19, 1997.

By Direction of the Secretary.

**Heyward Bannister,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 97-34122 Filed 12-30-97; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Poverty Threshold

**AGENCY:** Department of Veterans Affairs.  
**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) hereby gives notice of the weighted average poverty threshold established for 1996 for one person (unrelated individual) as established by the Bureau of the Census. The amount is \$7,995.

**DATES:** For VA determinations, the 1996 poverty threshold is effective September 29, 1997, the date on which it was established by the Bureau of the Census.  
**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Paul Trowbridge, Consultant, Compensation and Pension Service, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420, (202) 273-7218.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** We published a final rule amending 38 CFR 4.16(a) in the **Federal Register** of August 3, 1990, 55 Fed. Reg. 31,579. The amendment provided that marginal employment generally shall be deemed to exist when a veteran's earned annual income does not exceed the amount established by the Bureau of the Census as the poverty threshold for one person. The provisions of 38 CFR 4.16(a) use the poverty threshold as a standard in

defining marginal employment when considering total disability ratings for compensation based on unemployability of an individual. We stated we would publish subsequent poverty threshold figures notices in the **Federal Register**.

The Bureau of the Census recently published the weighted average poverty thresholds for 1996. The threshold for one person (unrelated individuals) is \$7,995.

Dated: December 22, 1997.

**Hershel W. Gober,**

*Acting Secretary of Veterans Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 97-34035 Filed 12-30-97; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Privacy Act of 1974; Amendment of System of Records

**AGENCY:** Department of Veterans Affairs.  
**ACTION:** Notice.

Notice is hereby given that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is adding new routine uses to the system of records entitled "Personnel and Accounting Pay System—VA" (27VA047) as set forth in the **Federal Register** 40 FR 38095 (8/26/75) and amended in 48 FR 16372 (4/15/83), 50 FR 23009 (5/30/85), 51 FR 6858 (2/26/86), 51 FR 25968 (7/17/86), 55 FR 42534 (10/19/90), 56 FR 23952 (5/24/91), 58 FR 39088 (7/21/93), 58 FR 40852 (7/30/93), 60 FR 35448 (7/7/95), and 62 FR 41483 (8/1/97). This system of records contains information on current salaried VA employees.

Pursuant to Pub. L. 104-193, the "Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996," VA is required to disclose data from 27VA047 to the Office of Child Support Enforcement, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services for use in its Federal Parent Locator System (FPLS) and Federal Tax Offset System, DHHS/OCSE No. 09-90-0074. Information on this system was last published at 62 FR 41483, August 1, 1997.

FPLS is a computerized network through which States may request location information from Federal and State agencies to find non-custodial parents and/or their employers for purposes of establishing paternity and securing support. Effective October 1, 1997, the FPLS will be enlarged to include the National Directory of New Hires, a database containing information on employees commencing employment, quarterly wage data on