

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 Organizational Data from Builder, VA Form Letter 26-312.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0093.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA will refuse to appraise properties if it is determined that any party or parties involved, or financially interested in the construction of a unit, have participated in the construction of units sold to veterans which involved substantial deficiencies in construction or a failure or indicated inability to discharge contractual obligations to the veteran who contracted for the construction of the unit. The form letter is completed by builders and sponsors to identify individuals who have controlling, proprietary, or financial interest in their company. The information is used by VA to determine eligibility for participation in the Loan Guaranty Program.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit.

Estimated Annual Burden: 4,000 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 30 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 8,000.

Dated: December 24, 1997.

By direction of the Secretary.

Barbara H. Epps,

Management Analyst, Information Management Service.

[FR Doc. 98-2102 Filed 1-28-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0387]

Proposed Information Collection Activity: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of

Veterans Affairs, 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 to determine whether a veteran qualified as a prospective mortgagor for mortgage insurance or guaranty or as a borrower for a rehabilitation loan under the VA program.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before March 30, 1998.

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. 2900-0387" in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nancy J. Kessinger at (202) 273-5079 or FAX (202) 275-5146.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995 (Pub. L. 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 Verification of Deposit, VA Form 26-8497a.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0387.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: The form is primarily used by lenders making guaranteed and insured loans to verify deposits of applicants in banks and other savings institutions. It is also used in processing direct loans, offers on acquired properties, and release from liability/substitution of entitlement cases when needed. In these types of cases, part I of the form is completed by the lender and signed by the applicant then forwarded to the depository. The depository completes part II, verifying the applicant's deposits, providing information and payment experience on outstanding loans, and returns the form to the lender. The information is used by VA to determine the applicant's present and anticipated income and expenses and that the applicant is a satisfactory credit risk.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit.

Estimated Annual Burden: 21,565 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 5 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 258,775.

Dated: December 24, 1997.

By direction of the Secretary.

Barbara H. Epps,

Management Analyst, Information Management Service.

[FR Doc. 98-2103 Filed 1-28-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0525]

Proposed Information Collection Activity: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), 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 the information needed to change the