

insured VA home loans. In VA's supplemental servicing effort, financial counseling is performed in appropriate cases to afford veteran-borrowers the maximum assistance possible to retain their homes during periods of temporary financial difficulty. The information collected is used by VA to make recommendations to the borrower in an effort to help the borrower cure the default status of the loan.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 3,750 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 45 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 5,000.

Dated: August 24, 1998.

By direction of the Secretary.

Donald L. Neilson,

Director, Information Management Service.
[FR Doc. 98-25553 Filed 9-23-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0510]

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 determine whether children's income can be excluded from consideration in determining a parent's eligibility for nonservice-connected pension.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before November 23, 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. 2900-0510" in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nancy J. Kessinger at (202) 273-7079 or FAX (202) 275-5947.

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: Application for Exclusion of Children's Income, VA Form 21-0571.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0510.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: A veteran's or surviving spouse's rate of Improved Pension is determined by family income. Normally, income of children who are members of the household is included in this determination. However, children's income may be excluded if it is unavailable or if consideration of that income would cause hardship. The information collected is used by VA to determine whether children's income can be excluded from consideration in determining a parent's eligibility for nonservice-connected pension.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 18,750 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 45 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 25,000.

Dated: August 24, 1998.

By direction of the Secretary.

Donald L. Neilson,

Director, Information Management Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-NEW (VR&C)]

Agency Information Collection Activities Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, 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 Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), 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 October 26, 1998.

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-NEW (VR&C)."

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Vocational Rehabilitation and Counseling (VR&C) Service Program Outcome Survey, VA Form 28-0317.

OMB Control Number: None assigned.

Type of Review: New collection.

Abstract: VBA plans to conduct a study to assess program outcomes for its Vocational Rehabilitation and Counseling (VR&C) Program. VBA has identified a need for direct input from former program customers, including reactions to VR&C's program offerings, processes, quality of services, and outcomes achieved by veterans who participated in the program. The information collected will be used to identify program outcomes and opportunities for improving VR&C program performance. Specifically, the information will be used to assess whether the services provided under the program meets veterans needs, are provided in a manner that encourages participation by eligible recipients, and promotes successful achievement of rehabilitation and related objectives.