

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0165]

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 reinstatement, with change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on the information needed to determine the financial status of a debtor, his/her ability to pay, and the feasibility of exploring a compromise on debts due the United States under the Federal Claims Collection Act of 1966 and the Joint Regulations issued by the General Accounting Office and Department of Justice (Title 4, CFR Part 102).

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before January 28, 2000.

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. 2900-0165" 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 (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: Financial Status Report, VA Form 20-5655.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0165.

Type of Review: Reinstatement, with change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired.

Abstract: VA Form 20-5655 is mailed with the first and second demand letters to debtors who owe amounts over \$50. The information collection on the form enables VA to determine the financial status of the debtor, his ability to pay, and the feasibility of exploring compromise.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 41,800 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 1 hour.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 41,800.

Dated: November 1, 1999.

By direction of the Secretary.

Sandra S. McIntyre,

Program Analyst, Information Management Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0399]

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 confirm the continued entitlement of a beneficiary under the Restored Entitlement Program for Survivors (REPS) program.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before January 28, 2000.

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. 2900-0399" 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 (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: Student Beneficiary Report—REPS, VA Form 21-8938.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0399.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: The form is used to verify that an individual who is receiving the REPS (Restored Entitlement Program for Survivors) benefits based on schoolchild status is in fact enrolled full-time in an approved school and is otherwise eligible for continued benefits. The form is released each March and sent to all student beneficiaries. If the form were not used, payments would continue to