

**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS****[OMB Control No. 2900-0518]****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 reinstatement, without 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 entitlement to income-dependent benefits.

**DATES:** Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before October 30, 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. 2900-0518" 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:* Income Verification, VA Form 21-0161a.

*OMB Control Number:* 2900-0518.

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

*Abstract:* VA's compensation and pension programs require the accurate reporting of income by those who are in receipt of income-dependent benefits. VA Form 21-0161 solicits information from employers of beneficiaries who have been identified as having inaccurately reported their income to VA.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions; Farms; and State, Local, or Tribal Government.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 57,000 hours.

*Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent:* 30 minutes.

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 114,000.

Dated: August 8, 2000.

By direction of the Acting Secretary.

**Donald L. Neilson,**

*Director, Information Management Service.*

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**BILLING CODE 8320-01-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS****[OMB Control No. 2900-0521]****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 reinstatement, without 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 for information needed to underwrite VA-guaranteed loans.

**DATES:** Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before October 30, 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. 2900-0521" 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:* Credit Underwriting Standards and Procedures for Processing VA Guaranteed Loans.

*OMB Control Number:* 2900-0521.

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

*Abstract:* VA set forth, in regulatory form, standards to be used by lenders in underwriting VA-guaranteed loans and to obtain credit information. Lenders must collect certain specific information concerning the veteran and the veteran's credit history (and spouse or other co-borrower, as applicable), in order to properly underwrite the veteran's loan. A loan may not be guaranteed unless the veteran is a satisfactory credit risk. VA requires the lender to provide the Department with the credit information to assure itself that applications for VA-