

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, 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 information needed to verify eligibility for benefits.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before June 15, 2001.

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 or email comments to irmnkess@vba.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0442" 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: Request for Armed Forces Separation Records from Veterans, VA Form Letter 21-80e.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0442.

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

Abstract: In order to establish entitlement to VA compensation or pension benefits, a veteran must have

had active military service which resulted in separation under other than dishonorable conditions. VA Form Letter 21-80e is completed by the veteran to furnish information relative to his/her military service. The information is used to aid VA in requesting verification of military service. Benefits cannot be paid without verification of service.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 17,000 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 10 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 102,000.

Dated: March 27, 2001.

By direction of the Secretary:

Barbara H. Epps,

Management Analyst, Information Management Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0020]

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 information needed to designate a beneficiary and select an optional settlement.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before June 15, 2001.

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 or e-mail

irmnkess@vba.va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0020" 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: Designation of Beneficiary, Government Life Insurance, VA Form 29-336.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0020.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: The form is used by the insured to designate a beneficiary and select an optional settlement to be used when the insurance matures by death. The information is required to determine claimant's eligibility to receive proceeds of the insurance.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 13,917 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 15 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 83,500.

Dated: March 27, 2001.

By direction of the Secretary:

Barbara H. Epps,

Management Analyst, Information Management Service.

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