

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 23 hours, 5 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 2,770,200.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number.

Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

Request for Comments: Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: January 9, 2002.

George Freeland,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 02-986 Filed 1-14-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Open Meeting of the New York Metro Citizen Advocacy Panel

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: An open meeting of the New York Metro Citizen Advocacy Panel will be held in Brooklyn, New York.

DATES: The meeting will be held Wednesday February 27, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eileen Cain at 1-888-912-1227 or 718-488-3555.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. (1988) that an operational meeting of the Citizen Advocacy Panel will be held Wednesday February 27, 2002, 6:00 p.m. to 9:20 p.m. at the Internal Revenue Service, 625 Fulton Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201.

For more information or to confirm attendance, notification of intent to attend the meeting must be made with Eileen Cain. Mrs. Cain can be reached at 1-888-912-1227 or 718-488-3555. The public is invited to make oral comments from 9:00 p.m. to 9:20 p.m. on Wednesday February 27, 2002.

Individual comments will be limited to 5 minutes. If you would like to have the CAP consider a written statement, please call 1-888-912-1227 or 718-488-3555, or write Eileen Cain, CAP Office, P.O. Box R, Brooklyn, NY, 11201. The Agenda will include the following: various IRS issues. **Note:** Last minute changes to the agenda are possible and could prevent effective advance notice.

Dated: January 9, 2002.

Cathy VanHorn,

Director, CAP, Communication and Liaison.

[FR Doc. 02-987 Filed 1-14-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Open Meeting of the New York Metro Citizen Advocacy Panel

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: An open meeting of the New York Metro Citizen Advocacy Panel will be held in Brooklyn, NY.

DATES: The meeting will be held Wednesday March 20, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eileen Cain at 1-888-912-1227 or 718-488-3555.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. (1988) that an operational meeting of the Citizen Advocacy Panel will be held Wednesday March 20, 2002, 6:00 p.m. to 9:20 p.m. at the Internal Revenue Service, 625 Fulton Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201.

For more information or to confirm attendance, notification of intent to attend the meeting must be made with Eileen Cain. Mrs. Cain can be reached at 1-888-912-1227 or 718-488-3555. The public is invited to make oral comments from 9:00 p.m. to 9:20 p.m. on Wednesday March 20, 2002.

Individual comments will be limited to 5 minutes. If you would like to have the CAP consider a written statement, please call 1-888-912-1227 or 718-488-3555, or write Eileen Cain, CAP Office, P.O. Box R, Brooklyn, NY, 11201. The Agenda will include the following: various IRS issues. **Note:** Last minute changes to the agenda are possible and could prevent effective advance notice.

Dated: January 9, 2002.

Cathy VanHorn,

Director, CAP, Communication and Liaison.

[FR Doc. 02-988 Filed 1-14-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0606]

Proposed Information Collection Activity: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) 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 to authorize VA to bill "reasonable charges" instead of "reasonable costs" for medical care or services provided or furnished to a veteran for a non-service-connected condition.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before March 18, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information to Ann Bickoff, Veterans Health Administration (193B1), Department of Veterans Affairs,

810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420 or e-mail: ann.bickoff@hq.med.va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0606" in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ann Bickoff at (202) 273-8310.

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, VHA invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of VHA's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VHA'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: Regulation for Submission of Evidence—Title 38 CFR 17.101(a)(2).

OMB Control Number: 2900-0606.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: A third-party payer that is liable for reimbursing VA for health care VA provided to veterans with non-service connected conditions continues to have the option of paying either the billed charges or the amount the health plan demonstrates it would pay to providers other than entities of the United States for the same care or services in the same geographic area. If the amount submitted for payment is less than the amount billed, VA will accept the submission as payment, subject to verification at VA's discretion. VA may request the third-party payer to submit evidence or information to substantiate the appropriateness of the payment amount (e.g., health plan policies, provider agreements, medical evidence, proof of payment to other providers demonstrating the amount paid for the same care and services VA provided). The information is needed to determine whether the third-party payer has met the test of properly demonstrating its equivalent private sector provider payment amount for the same care or

services and within the same geographic area as provided by VA.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit, Individuals or households, Not for Profit Institutions, Farms, and State, Local or Tribal Government.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 800 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 2 hours.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 400.

Dated: December 27, 2001.

By direction of the Secretary.

Mary Granito,

Management Analyst, Information Management Service.

[FR Doc. 02-989 Filed 1-14-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0116]

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 revision of a currently approved collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments for information needed from penal institutions about incarcerated VA beneficiaries.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before March 18, 2002.

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. 2900-0116" 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: Notice to Department of Veterans Affairs of Veteran or Beneficiary Incarcerated in Penal Institution, VA Form 21-4193.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0116.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA Form 21-4193 is used by penal institutions to furnish information about incarcerated VA beneficiaries. The information is used to determine reduction or termination of a beneficiary's VA compensation or pension rate when the beneficiary is incarcerated in a penal institution in excess of 60 days after conviction.

Affected Public: Individuals or households, and State, Local or Tribal Government.

Estimated Annual Burden: 416 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 15 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,664.

Dated: December 20, 2001.

By direction of the Secretary.

Donald L. Neilson,

Director, Information Management Service.

[FR Doc. 02-991 Filed 1-14-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P