

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0276]

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 January 30, 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. 2900-0276."

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title and Form Number: Manufactured Home Appraisal Report, VA Form 26-8712.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0276.

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

Abstract: VA fee and staff appraisers use VA Form 26-8712 to establish the reasonable value of used manufactured homes. The reasonable value is then used: (1) to establish the maximum loan amount a veteran may obtain for the purchase of a used manufactured home unit; (2) to obtain information on the condition of the unit and its compliance with VA's minimum property requirements; and (3) in the event of foreclosure, to ascertain the value of the unit for resale purposes for use in computation of claims in applicable cases.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on March 13, 1997 at pages 11949-11950.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit—Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: The number of actual burden is 360 hours. However, because the requirement for appraisal reports is a common practice in the housing industry, only 1 hour is being requested for reporting.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 90 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 240.

Send comments and recommendations concerning any aspect of the information collection to VA's OMB Desk Officer, Allison Eydt, OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 (202) 395-4650. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0276" in any correspondence.

Dated: December 9, 1997.

By direction of the Secretary.

Donald L. Neilson,

Director, Information Management Service.

[FR Doc. 97-34130 Filed 12-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**Veterans' Advisory Committee on Environmental Hazards, Notice of Meeting**

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under Pub. L. 92-463 that a meeting of the Veterans' Advisory Committee on Environmental Hazards will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, January 21-22, 1998, in room 230 of VA Central Office, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420. The meeting will convene at 9 a.m. and adjourn at 5 p.m. on both days.

The purpose of the meeting is to review information relating to the health effects of exposure to ionizing radiation. The major items on the agenda for both days will be discussions and analyses of medical and scientific papers concerning the health effects of exposure to ionizing radiation. On the basis of their analyses and discussions, the Committee may make recommendations to the Secretary concerning diseases that are the result of exposure to ionizing radiation. The agenda for the second day will include planning future Committee activities and assignment of tasks among the members.

The meeting is open to the public on both days according to the capacity of the room. Those who wish to attend should contact Judy Veres of the

Department of Veterans Affairs, Compensation and Pension Service, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420, prior to January 14, 1998. Miss Veres may also be reached at 202-273-7210.

Members of the public may submit written questions or prepared statements for review by the Advisory Committee in advance of the meeting. Submitted material must be received at least five (5) days prior to the meeting and should be sent to Mr. Thornberry's attention at the address given above. Those who submit material may be asked to clarify it prior to its consideration by the Advisory Committee.

Dated: December 23, 1997.

By Direction of the Secretary.

Heyward Bannister,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-34124 Filed 12-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**Veterans' Advisory Committee on Rehabilitation, Notice of Meeting**

The Department of Veterans Affairs gives notice that a meeting of the Veterans' Advisory Committee on Rehabilitation, authorized by 38 U.S.C., section 3121, will be held on January 13, 14 and 15, 1998, in Washington, DC. The committee will meet from 9 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. on January 13 and 14, in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Disabled American Veterans Washington Headquarters, 807 Maine Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20024, and from 9 a.m. until 12 noon on January 15, 1998, in room 530 of the Department of Veterans Affairs Central Office, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420. The purpose of the meeting will be to review the administration of veterans' rehabilitation programs and to provide recommendations to the Secretary.

On January 13, the meeting will include discussions about the Vocational Rehabilitation Design Team Report, the Transmission Commission's activities as they relate to vocational rehabilitation. They will also receive updates from the Veterans Health Administration and Vocational Rehabilitation and Counseling Service. They will also discuss the memorandum of understanding between the Department of Labor and VA's Vocational Rehabilitation. On January 14, discussions will include REVERSE data base of vocational rehabilitation job ready candidates, beneficiary travel for

prosthetics service, priority for Chapter 31 clients to receive medical care, and the pilot program of rehabilitation outcome measurements. On January 15, the Committee will discuss recreation therapy, the new Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor position, and future meetings and agenda items.

The meeting will be open to the public. For those wishing to attend, please contact Dianna Murphy at (202) 273-7419. Interested persons may attend, appear before, or file statements with the Committee. Statements, if in written form, may be filed before the meeting. Oral statements will be heard at 9 a.m. on January 15, 1998.

Dated: December 19, 1997.

By Direction of the Secretary.

Heyward Bannister,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-34123 Filed 12-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Scientific Review and Evaluation Board for Health Services Research and Development Service; Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Health Administration, gives notice under Pub. L. 92-463, that a meeting of the Scientific Review and Evaluation Board for Health Services Research and Development Service will be held at the Clarion Hotel, Bay View, 660 K Street, San Diego, CA, January 11, 7 p.m. until 9 p.m., and January 12 through January 13, 1998, from 7:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. each day. The purpose of the meeting is to review research and development applications concerned with the measurement and evaluation of health care systems and with testing new methods of health care delivery and management. Applications are reviewed for scientific and technical merit. Recommendations regarding their funding are prepared for the Chief Research and Development Officer (12).

This meeting will be open to the public at the start of the January 11 session for approximately one half-hour to cover administrative matters and to discuss the general status of the program. The closed portion of the meeting involves discussion, examination, reference to, and oral review of staff and consultant critiques of research protocols and similar documents. During this portion of the meeting, discussion and recommendations will deal with the qualifications of the personnel conducting the studies (the disclosure of

which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy), as well as research information (the premature disclosure of which would be likely to frustrate significantly implementation of proposed agency action regarding such research projects). As provided by the subsection 10(d) of Pub. L. 92-463, as amended by Pub. L. 94-409, closing portions of these meetings is in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(6) and (9)(B).

Due to the limited seating capacity of the room, those who plan to attend the open session should contact Mr. E. William Judy, MSHA, Review Program Manager (124F), Health Services Research and Development Service, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC, at least five days before the meeting. For further information, he can be reached at (202) 273-8254.

Dated: December 19, 1997.

By Direction of the Secretary.

Heyward Bannister,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-34122 Filed 12-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Poverty Threshold

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.
ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) hereby gives notice of the weighted average poverty threshold established for 1996 for one person (unrelated individual) as established by the Bureau of the Census. The amount is \$7,995.

DATES: For VA determinations, the 1996 poverty threshold is effective September 29, 1997, the date on which it was established by the Bureau of the Census.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul Trowbridge, Consultant, Compensation and Pension Service, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420, (202) 273-7218.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: We published a final rule amending 38 CFR 4.16(a) in the **Federal Register** of August 3, 1990, 55 Fed. Reg. 31,579. The amendment provided that marginal employment generally shall be deemed to exist when a veteran's earned annual income does not exceed the amount established by the Bureau of the Census as the poverty threshold for one person. The provisions of 38 CFR 4.16(a) use the poverty threshold as a standard in

defining marginal employment when considering total disability ratings for compensation based on unemployability of an individual. We stated we would publish subsequent poverty threshold figures notices in the **Federal Register**.

The Bureau of the Census recently published the weighted average poverty thresholds for 1996. The threshold for one person (unrelated individuals) is \$7,995.

Dated: December 22, 1997.

Hershel W. Gober,

Acting Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

[FR Doc. 97-34035 Filed 12-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Privacy Act of 1974; Amendment of System of Records

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.
ACTION: Notice.

Notice is hereby given that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is adding new routine uses to the system of records entitled "Personnel and Accounting Pay System—VA" (27VA047) as set forth in the **Federal Register** 40 FR 38095 (8/26/75) and amended in 48 FR 16372 (4/15/83), 50 FR 23009 (5/30/85), 51 FR 6858 (2/26/86), 51 FR 25968 (7/17/86), 55 FR 42534 (10/19/90), 56 FR 23952 (5/24/91), 58 FR 39088 (7/21/93), 58 FR 40852 (7/30/93), 60 FR 35448 (7/7/95), and 62 FR 41483 (8/1/97). This system of records contains information on current salaried VA employees.

Pursuant to Pub. L. 104-193, the "Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996," VA is required to disclose data from 27VA047 to the Office of Child Support Enforcement, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services for use in its Federal Parent Locator System (FPLS) and Federal Tax Offset System, DHHS/OCSE No. 09-90-0074. Information on this system was last published at 62 FR 41483, August 1, 1997.

FPLS is a computerized network through which States may request location information from Federal and State agencies to find non-custodial parents and/or their employers for purposes of establishing paternity and securing support. Effective October 1, 1997, the FPLS will be enlarged to include the National Directory of New Hires, a database containing information on employees commencing employment, quarterly wage data on