

2. Occupant capacity information is provided to help customers avoid exceeding tire load limits. These errors will not contribute to overloading because the correct vehicle weight capacity is provided. The seating capacity is understated. The correct tire pressure information is also provided and the tire load limit will not be exceeded with all seating positions occupied; and

3. A customer would look at the number of seats and the number of safety belts in a car to determine its capacity, rather than look at the placard. If a customer does read the seat capacity numbers on the tire placard, it will be obvious that the numbers are incorrect because the sum of the seat numbers will not equal the total number of the label. It is unlikely that anyone will be confused about the seat capacity of these cars after looking at the seats and safety belts.

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments on the application described above. Comments should refer to the docket number and be submitted to: U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Management, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590. It is requested that two copies be submitted.

All comments received before the close of business on the closing date indicated below will be considered. The application and supporting materials, and all comments received after the closing date, will also be filed and will be considered to the extent possible. When the application is granted or denied, the notice will be published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to the authority indicated below.

Comment closing date: November 27, 1998.

(49 U.S.C. 30118, 30120; delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.50 and 501.8)

Issued on: October 21, 1998.

L. Robert Shelton,

Associate Administrator for Safety Performance Standards.

[FR Doc. 98-28896 Filed 10-27-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Privacy Act of 1974; Computer Matching Program

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.
ACTION: Notice of renewal—VA/IRS/SSA Match Program.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a, the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Guidelines on the Conduct on Matching programs, notice is hereby given of the conduct of an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) computer match. Previous matches with the IRS verified the self-reported income data of nonservice-connected veterans. The proposed expanded match encompasses those categories of veterans who are zero percent service-connected (non-compensable) receiving treatment for their nonservice-connected condition. Expanded veterans records included to conform to Pub. L. 104-262, Veterans Health Care Amendments Act.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The notice will be effective 30 days after publication in the **Federal Register**, (November 27, 1998), unless comments dictate otherwise.

ADDRESSES: Comments or inquiries may be mailed to the Chief Information Office, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janice E. Wheeler, Program Analyst, Health Eligibility Center Policy Division, Office of the Chief Information Officer, (202) 273-6276.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) has a statutory obligation (see 38 U.S.C.) to collect income information from certain veterans applying for medical care and to utilize that income data to determine the appropriate eligibility category for the applicant's medical care. Pub. L. 104-262 (Veterans Health Care Eligibility Reform Act of 1996) requires zero percent non-compensable, service-connected veterans seen for their nonservice-connected condition(s) complete a "Means Test." The purpose of completing the Means Test is to

determine if the veteran's income level allows VA to provide cost-free care for their nonservice-connected conditions. Pub. L. 101-508 (Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1990) authorizes VHA to verify income data reported by nonservice-connected medical care applicants.

The goal of these matches is to validate social security numbers and to obtain IRS/SSA earnings data needed for the income verification process. For the information of all concerned, a summary report of the VHA matching program describing the computer matches follows. The VA records involved in the match are patient medical records maintained in the "Patient Medical Record, VA 24VA136." The IRS records are from the Wage and Information Returns (IRP) Master File, Privacy Act System TreasIRS 22.061. The SSA records are from the Earnings Recording and Self-Employment Income system, SSA/OSR 09-0-059. In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552a(o)(2), copies of the computer matching report are being sent to both Houses of Congress. These matches are expected to commence no sooner than 30 days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, (November 27, 1998), or 40 days after copies of this notice and the agreement are submitted to Congress and the Office of Management and Budget.

This renewal of the original matching agreement expires on December 31, 1999. It may be extended by the involved Data Integrity Boards (DIB) for a twelve month period provided all agencies involved certify to the DIBs, within three months of the termination date of the original match, that the matching program will be conducted without change and the matching programs have been conducted in compliance with the original matching agreement. The matches will not continue past the legislative authorized date to obtain this information.

Togo D. West, Jr.,

Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

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