

Abstract: VA administers the REPS program. The program pays VA benefits to certain surviving spouses and children of veterans who died in service prior to August 13, 1981 or who died as a result of a service-connected disability incurred or aggravated prior to August 13, 1981. VA Form 21-8924 is used by survivors of deceased veterans to claim REPS benefits. The information is used by VBA to determine if the applicant meets REPS eligibility criteria.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 2,500 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 20 minutes.

Frequency of Response: One time for most beneficiaries.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 7,500.

Dated: November 12, 1998.

By direction of the Secretary.

Barbara H. Epps,

Management Analyst, Information Management Service.

[FR Doc. 98-33957 Filed 12-22-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0519]

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 reinstatement 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 determine pay rates for nurses at VA facilities.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before February 22, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information to Ann Bickoff, Veterans Health Administration

(191A1), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0519" in any correspondence.

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

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, 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 and Form Number: Locality Pay System Survey (DVA Nurse Pay Act of 1990), VA Form 10-0132.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0519.

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

Abstract: The collection of this information is necessary to comply with the provisions of Public Law 101-366, Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Nurse Pay Act of 1990, which specifically provides for a locality pay system for certain health care personnel within VA. The law requires that where available, information from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) will be used in determining the beginning rates of pay. At this time, the BLS surveys do not capture beginning rates of pay or the job description used in the survey comparable to VA positions. Until the BLS can supply this data, VHA remains responsible for collecting the information to implement and adjust rates for registered nurses, nurse anesthetists, and other health care personnel.

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

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 2,531 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 45 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 3,375.

Dated: November 12, 1998.

By direction of the Secretary:

Barbara H. Epps,

Management Analyst Information Management Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0556]

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 reinstatement 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 record a patient's specific instructions about health care decisions in the event the patient no longer has decision-making capacity.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before February 22, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information to Ann Bickoff, Veterans Health Administration (191A1), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0556" in any correspondence.

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

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