

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:* VA MATIC Authorization, VA Form 29-0532-1.

*OMB Control Number:* 2900-0492.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Abstract:* Veteran policyholders complete VA Form 29-0532-1 to authorize deduction of Government Life Insurance premiums from their bank account.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 1,500 hours.

*Estimated Average Burden per Respondent:* 30 minutes.

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 3,000.

Dated: December 23, 2013.

By direction of the Secretary.

**Crystal Rennie,**

*VA Clearance Officer, Department of Veterans Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 2013-31067 Filed 12-27-13; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8320-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0131]

### Proposed Information Collection (Request for Supplemental Information on Medical and Nonmedical Applications); 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 without change of a currently approved collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to this notice. This notice solicits comments on information needed to determine the insured's eligibility to reinstate or change government life insurance.

**DATES:** Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before February 28, 2014.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments on the collection of information through Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) at [www.Regulations.gov](http://www.Regulations.gov); or to Nancy J. Kessinger, Veterans Benefits Administration (20M33), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420 or email [nancy.kessinger@va.gov](mailto:nancy.kessinger@va.gov). Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0131" in any correspondence. During the comment period, comments may be viewed online through FDMS.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Nancy J. Kessinger at (202) 632-8924 or FAX (202) 632-8925.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the PRA of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3501-3521), 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 Supplemental Information on Medical and Nonmedical Applications, VA Form Letter 29-615.

*OMB Control Number:* 2900-0131.

*Type of Review:* Extension without change of a currently approved collection.

*Abstract:* VA Form 29-615 used by the insured to apply for new issue, reinstatement or change of plan on Government Life Insurance policies.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 3,000 hours.

*Estimated Average Burden per Respondent:* 20 minutes.

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 9,000.

Dated: December 23, 2013.

By direction of the Secretary.

**Crystal Rennie,**

*VA Clearance Officer, Department of Veterans Affairs.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Discontinuance of Annual Financial Assessments—Delay in Implementation

**AGENCY:** Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) published a Notice in the **Federal Register** on October 25, 2013 (78 FR 64065) announcing that we intended to change financial reporting practices requiring annual financial assessments from veterans enrolled in the VA health care system. The purpose of this Notice is to notify interested parties that due to delays in modifying computer software, VA is postponing implementation of this change.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Kristin J. Cunningham, Director Business Policy, Chief Business Office, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420; (202) 382-2508. (This is not a toll-free number.)

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Certain veterans are enrolled in the VA health care system based on their income: Priority Groups 5, 7, and 8. VA requires these veterans to submit a financial assessment when initially enrolled and then requests resubmission of this information each year thereafter on the enrollment anniversary. VA verifies that self-reported financial information through a computer matching of income reported to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and Social Security Administration (SSA).

VA intends to eliminate this annual burden by changing the financial reporting practices. Veterans will be

requested to submit financial assessment information using a VA Form 10-10EZ only during the initial enrollment process. VA will continue to receive income information from IRS and SSA, which will then be compared to the information initially provided by the veteran. A veteran will be asked to provide further income and asset information, or to verify the data provided by IRS or SSA, only in those cases where VA identifies a change to the veteran's income that would result

in a change to the veteran's priority group status.

As stated in VA's October 25, 2013, Notice, this change in policy will be implemented in phases because the policy change requires revision of current VA forms and processes including updating existing information technology. Phase I, which will eliminate the need for current enrollees to submit the annual financial assessment, was scheduled to be implemented by December 31, 2013. Due to delays in revising and updating

supporting computer software, VA is postponing implementation of Phase I until a date to be determined. VA will publish a Notice in the **Federal Register** to announce the new implementation date.

Dated: December 24, 2013.

**William F. Russo,**

*Deputy Director, Regulation Policy and Management, Office the General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.*

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