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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Billing Code 8320-01

[OMB Control No. 2900-0161]

Proposed Information Collection (Medical Expense Report, VA Form 21P-8416)

ACTIVITY: 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.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before **[INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information through Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) at www.Regulations.gov or to Nancy J. Kessinger, Veterans Benefits Administration (20M33), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420 or e-mail to nancy.kessinger@va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0161" in any

correspondence. During the comment period, comments may be viewed online through the FDMS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nancy J. Kessinger at (202) 632-8924 or FAX (202) 632-8925.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995 (Public Law 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3501 – 21), 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: Medical Expense Report, VA Form 21P-0161

OMB Control Number: 2900-0161

Type of Review: Revision of a Currently Approved Collection

Abstract: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), through its Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), administers an integrated program of benefits and services established by law for veterans, service personnel, and their dependents and/or beneficiaries. Information is requested by this form under the authority of 38 U.S.C. §1503(a)(8) regarding exceptions to countable income for needs-based benefits, specifically an amount equal to amounts paid by a claimant or beneficiary for unreimbursed medical expenses.

VA Form 21P-8416 is used by claimants and beneficiaries to report unreimbursed medical expenses for the purpose of reducing their countable income associated with needs-based benefit programs such as VA Pension and Parents' Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC). Unreimbursed medical expenses are deducted from otherwise countable income to determine eligibility for income-based benefits and the rate payable.

Affected Public: Individuals or households

Estimated Annual Burden: 48,200 hours

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 30 minutes

Frequency of Response: One time

Estimated Number of Respondents: 96,400

By direction of the Secretary:

Kathleen M. Manwell

Program Analyst

VA Privacy Service

Office of Privacy and Records Management

Department of Veterans Affairs

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