

should be included in responses. This request for information is for planning purposes only and is not a solicitation for applications or an obligation on the part of the U.S. Government to provide support for any ideas identified in response to the request. Please note that the U.S. Government will not pay for the preparation of any information submitted or for its use of that information.

Instructions: Response to this request for data and information is voluntary. Each individual or institution is requested to submit only one response. Electronic responses must be provided as attachments to your comment in *regulations.gov*. Comments of 7 pages or fewer (3,500 words) are requested; longer responses will not be considered. Responses should include the name of the person(s) or organization(s) filing the response. Responses containing references, studies, research and other empirical data that are not widely published should include copies of or electronic links to the referenced materials. Responses containing profanity, vulgarity, threats or other inappropriate language or content will not be considered.

Signing Authority

Denis McDonough, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, approved and signed this document on June 12, 2023, and authorized the undersigned to sign and submit the document to the Office of the Federal Register for publication electronically as an official document of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Luvenia Potts,

Regulation Development Coordinator, Office of Regulation Policy & Management, Office of General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2023–13067 Filed 6–16–23; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Rehabilitation Research and Development Service Scientific Merit Review Board; Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. Ch. 10, that a meeting of the Rehabilitation Research and Development Service Scientific Merit Review Board (hereinafter the Board) will be held on Wednesday, August 23, 2023, via Webex. The meeting will be held between 1–1:30 p.m. EST. The meeting will be partially closed to the public from 1:10–1:30 p.m. EST for the

discussion, examination and reference to the research applications and scientific review. Discussions will involve reference to staff and consultant critiques of research proposals. Discussions will also deal with scientific merit of each proposal and qualifications of personnel conducting the studies, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. Additionally, premature disclosure of research information could significantly obstruct implementation of proposed agency action regarding the research proposals. As provided by Public Law 92–463 subsection 10(d), as amended by Public Law 94–409, closing the Board meeting is in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552b(c) (6) and (9)(B).

The objective of the Board is to provide for the fair and equitable selection of the most meritorious research projects for support by VA research funds and to offer advice for research program officials on program priorities and policies. The ultimate objective of the Board is to ensure that the VA Rehabilitation Research and Development program promotes functional independence and improves the quality of life for impaired and disabled Veterans.

Board members advise the Director, Rehabilitation Research and Development Service and the Chief Research and Development Officer on the scientific and technical merit, the mission relevance, and the protection of human and animal subjects of Rehabilitation Research and Development proposals. The Board does not consider grants, contracts or other forms of extramural research.

Members of the public may attend the open portion of the meeting in listen-only mode as the time limited open agenda does not enable public comment presentations. To attend the open portion of the meeting (1–1:10 p.m. EST), the public may join by dialing the phone number 1–833–558–0712 and entering the meeting number (access code): 2760 821 8338.

Written public comments must be sent to Kristy Benton-Grover, Designated Federal Officer, Rehabilitation Research and Development Service, Department of Veterans Affairs (14RDR), 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420, or to *Kristy.Benton-Grover@va.gov* at least five days before the meeting via the email listed above. The written public comments will be shared with the Board members. The public may not attend the closed portion of the meeting as disclosure of research information could significantly obstruct implementation of

proposed agency action regarding the research proposals (Pub. L. 92–463 subsection 10(d), as amended by Public Law 94–409, closing the Board meeting is in accordance with Title 5 U.S.C. 552b(c) (6) and (9)(B).

Dated: June 13, 2023.

LaTonya L. Small,

Federal Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 2023–13010 Filed 6–16–23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900–0321]

Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review: Appointment of Veterans Service Organization as Claimant's Representative and Appointment of Individual as Claimant's Representative

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, this notice announces that the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs, will submit 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 and it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function. Refer to “OMB Control No. 2900–0321.”

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Maribel Aponte, Office of Enterprise and Integration, Data Governance Analytics (008), 810 Vermont Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20006, (202) 266–4688 or email maribel.aponte@va.gov. Please refer to “OMB Control No. 2900–0321” in any correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: 38 U.S.C. 5701, 5702, 5902, 5903, and 7332, 38 CFR 14.631 and 1.525.

Title: Appointment of Veterans Service Organization as Claimant's Representative (VA Form 21-22) and Appointment of Individual as Claimant's Representative (VA Form 21-22a).

OMB Control Number: 2900-0321.

Type of Review: Reinstatement of a previously approved collection.

Abstract: VA Forms 21-22 and 21-22a are used to collect the information needed to determine whom claimants have appointed to represent them in the preparation, presentation, and prosecution of claims for VA benefits. The information is also used to

determine the extent of representatives' access to claimants' records.

No changes have been made to these forms. The respondent burden has increased due to the estimated number of receivables averaged over the past year.

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 at 87 FR 232 on December 5, 2022, page 74474.

Affected Public: Individuals and households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 61,249 hours.

Estimated Average Burden per Respondent: 5 minutes.

Frequency of Response: One time.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 735,004.

By direction of the Secretary.

Maribel Aponte,

VA PRA Clearance Officer, Office of Enterprise and Integration, Data Governance Analytics, Department of Veterans Affairs.

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