

issues for analysis, input on potential alternatives, or information/analyses relevant to the proposed action.

Use of the PEA would decrease the time and cost associated with having to prepare stand-alone NEPA documentation for those future VA State Veterans Homes Construction Grant Program projects that would meet the conditions of the PEA. VA would complete additional NEPA compliance as required on projects outside the parameters of the PEA.

The grant program assists in providing eligible Veterans and their families high-quality, long-term domiciliary, nursing, adult day health, and hospital care services in a comfortable setting. The proposed action is needed to provide sufficient capacity to meet the increasing health care needs of eligible Veterans.

The PEA will evaluate the potential direct and indirect impacts on the human environment from the proposed action and alternatives. VA anticipates releasing the Draft PEA for a 30-day public review and comment period later in CY 2024. VA will notify stakeholders via email/mail, publish a notice of availability of the Draft PEA in the **Federal Register**, and solicit comments at that time. Once the Draft PEA is released it will be available for review via the VA website: www.cfm.va.gov/environmental/.

Signing Authority

Denis McDonough, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, approved and signed this document on January 4, 2024, 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 the Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs.

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0856]

Agency Information Collection Activity: Authorization To Disclose Personal Information to a Third Party

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Veterans Benefits Administration, 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 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 March 12, 2024.

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 email to nancy.kessinger@va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0856" in any correspondence. During the comment period, comments may be viewed online through FDMS.

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. 2900-0856" in any correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995, 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.

Authority: Public Law 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3501-3521.

Title: Authorization to Disclose Personal Information to a Third Party VA Form 29-0975 and Authorization to Disclose Personal Information to a Third Party VA Form 29-0975e (DocuSign Version).

OMB Control Number: 2900-0856.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: This form will be used by the Department of Veterans Affairs Insurance Center (VAIC) to enable a third party to act on behalf of the insured Veteran/beneficiary. Many of our customers are of advanced age or suffer from limiting disabilities and need assistance from a third party to conduct their affairs. The information collected provides an optional service and is not required to receive insurance benefits.

Affected Public: Individuals and households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 100 hours.

Estimated Average Burden per Respondent: 5 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,200.

By direction of the Secretary.

Dorothy Glasgow,

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

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