

**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS
AFFAIRS****[OMB Control No. 2900–New (26–8261a)]****Proposed Information Collection
(Request for Certificate of Veteran
Status) 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 new collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments for information needed to determine an applicant's eligibility for a reduced down payment when obtaining a loan insured by the Federal Housing Administration (FHA).

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be

received on or before November 16, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information through the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) at <http://www.Regulations.gov> or to Nancy J. Kessinger, Veterans Benefits Administration (20M35), 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–New (26–8261a)" in any correspondence. During the comment period, comments may be viewed online through FDMS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nancy J. Kessinger at (202) 461–9769 or FAX (202) 275–5947.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995 (Pub. L. 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: Request for Certificate of Veteran Status, VA Form 26–8261a.

OMB Control Number: 2900–New (26–8261a).

Type of Review: New collection.

Abstract: The data collected on VA Form 26–8261a will be used to determine Veteran applicants' eligibility to receive a reduced down payment on a FHA backed loan.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 17 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 10 minutes.

Frequency of Response: One time.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 100.

Dated: September 11, 2009.

By direction of the Secretary.

Denise McLamb,

Program Analyst, Enterprise Records Service.
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