services assist FMS in determining the most efficient and effective way to deliver Government payments to the public. Disclosures of information maintained in FMS's systems of records, specifically, a payee's name and address, may be required in order for the FRB or a contractor to perform the services for which it has been retained. If disclosure to a financial agent or contractor is necessary, the financial agent or contractor to which disclosure is made will be subject to the same limitations applicable to FMS officers and employees under the Privacy Act. This means that the financial agent or contractor is required to safeguard Privacy Act information to prevent unauthorized use or disclosure of any Privacy Act records. In addition, the FRB and regulated financial institutions impose their own strict limitations concerning the protection of non-public personal information.

FMS is altering the referenced systems of records to allow disclosure of information from such systems to its fiscal or financial agents, their employees, agents or contractors, or to a private contractor as necessary to efficiently operate and manage its payment disbursement processes.

For the reasons set forth above, FMS proposes to alter its systems of records as follows:

Treasury/FMS .002

SYSTEM NAME:

Payment Issue Records for Regular Recurring Benefit Payments—Treasury/Financial Management Service.

* * * * *

ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:

* * * * *

DESCRIPTION OF CHANGE:

The period ''.'' at the end of routine use (14) is replaced with a semicolon '';'', and the following routine use is added at the end thereof:

''(15) Disclose information to a fiscal or financial agent of the Financial Management Service, its employees, agents, and contractors, or to a contractor of the Financial Management Service, for the purpose of ensuring the efficient administration of payment processing services, subject to the same or equivalent limitations applicable to FMS officers and employees under the Privacy Act.''

* * * * *

Treasury/FMS .016

SYSTEM NAME:

Payment Records for Other Than Regular Recurring Benefit Payments—Treasury/Financial Management Service.

* * * * *

ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:

* * * * *

DESCRIPTION OF CHANGE:

The period ''.'' at the end of routine use (14) is replaced with a semicolon '';'', and the following routine use is added at the end thereof:

''(15) Disclose information to a fiscal or financial agent of the Financial Management Service, its employees, agents, and contractors, or to a contractor of the Financial Management Service, for the purpose of ensuring the efficient administration of payment processing services, subject to the same or equivalent limitations applicable to FMS officers and employees under the Privacy Act.''

* * * * *

Dated: March 25, 2003.

W. Earl Wright, Jr.,

Chief Management and Administrative Programs Officer.

[FR Doc. 03–7767 Filed 3–31–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810–35–P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900–NEW (VA Home Loan Guaranty Program Evaluation)]

Proposed Information Collection Activity: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of Planning and Analysis, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Office of Planning and Analysis, 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 of information, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on information needed to evaluate home loan guaranty and specially adapted housing grant programs.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before June 2, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information to Christopher LaLonde, Office of Assistant Secretary for Planning and Analysis (008B), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20420 or *mailto:christopher.lalonde@mail.va.gov.* Please refer to ''OMB Control No. 2900–NEW (VA Home Loan Guaranty Program Evaluation)'' in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christopher LaLonde at (202) 273–2122 or FAX (202) 273–5993.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–13; 44 U.S.C., 3501–3520), 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, the Office of Planning and Analysis invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of VA's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VA'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 Home Loan Guaranty Program Evaluation.

OMB Control Number: None assigned.

Type of Review: New collection.

Abstract: The purpose of these surveys is to provide information for an evaluation that assesses the effectiveness and efficiency of VA Home Loan Guaranty Program for assisting eligible veterans and active duty military personnel to purchase, construct, repair, or improve a dwelling that they will own and occupy as their home; and to assess the adequacy, efficiency, and effectiveness of the Specially Adapted Housing Grant Program. These surveys will assist VA with the improvement of program operations and development of policy

positions to support the needs and requirements of the veteran population.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Time Per Respondent and Annual Burden: 1,140 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 30 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 2,281.

Dated: March 20, 2003.

By direction of the Secretary.

Martin L. Hill,

Acting Director, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 03–7698 Filed 3–31–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900–0265]

Proposed Information Collection Activity: Proposed Collection; 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 of a currently approved 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 entitlement to counseling services.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before June 2, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information to Nancy J. Kessinger, Veterans Benefits Administration (20S52), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420 or e-mail: *irmnkess@vba.va.gov.* Please refer to ''OMB Control No. 2900–0265'' in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nancy J. Kessinger at (202) 273–7079 or FAX (202) 275–5947.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–13; 44 U.S.C., 3501–3520), 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: Application for Counseling, VA Form 28–8832.

OMB Control Number: 2900–0265.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA Form 28–8832 is used by Vocational Rehabilitation and Counseling to quickly assess an applicant's probable entitlement to counseling. A veteran or dependent may use this form to apply for counseling services.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 417 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 5 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 5,000.

Dated: March 20, 2003.

By direction of the Secretary.

Martin L. Hill,

Acting Director, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 03–7699 Filed 3–31–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900–0353]

Agency Information Collection Activities Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C., 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs, has submitted 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; it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before May 1, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY OF THE SUBMISSION CONTACT: Denise McLamb, Records Management Service (005E3), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420, (202) 273–8030, FAX (202) 273–5981 or e-mail: *denise.mclamb@mail.va.gov.* Please refer to ''OMB Control No. 2900–0353.''

Send comments and recommendations concerning any aspect of the information collection to VA's OMB Desk Officer, OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 (202) 395–7316. Please refer to ''OMB Control No. 2900–0353'' in any correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Certification of Lessons Completed, (Chapters 30, 32, and 35, Title 38, U.S.C.; Chapter 1606, Title 10, U.S.C., and section 903, Pub. L. 96–343), VA Forms 22–6553b and 22–6553b–1.

OMB Control Number: 2900–0353.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA Forms 22–6553b and 22–6553b–1 are used to determine the number of lessons completed by a student and serviced by the correspondence school, and if necessary to determine the date of completion or termination of correspondence training. VA pays education benefits based on the information furnished on the form. Benefits are not payable when training is interrupted, discontinued or completed. Without this information, VA would be unable to determine the proper payment or the student's training status.

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 on December 3, 2002, at pages 72029–72030.

Affected Public: Individuals or households, Business or other for-profit.

Estimated Annual Burden: 1,782 hours.