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.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 10 minutes.

Frequency of Response: Quarterly.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 3,564.

Number of Responses Annually: 10,692.

Dated: March 13, 2003.

By direction of the Secretary.

Martin L. Hill,

Acting Director, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 03–7700 Filed 3–31–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900–0321]

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 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. 2900–0321.''

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. 2900–0321'' in any correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Appointment of Veterans Service Organization as Claimant's Representative, VA Form 21–22.

OMB Control Number: 2900–0321.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA Form 21–22 is completed by VA beneficiaries to appoint a representative from a recognized veterans service organization to represent them in the prosecution of their VA claims. The information is used to determine who has access to the beneficiary's claim file and the right to receive copies of correspondence from VA to the beneficiary. Title 38, U.S.C. 5902(b)(2), provides that VA may recognize representatives of service organizations to assist beneficiaries in the prosecution of VA claims, but that no individual shall be recognized unless such individual has filed a power of attorney, executed in a manner prescribed by VA.

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 January 30, 2003, at page 4815.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 27,083 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 5 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 325,000.

Dated: March 20, 2003.

By direction of the Secretary.

Martin L. Hill,

Acting Director, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 03–7701 Filed 3–31–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900–0180]

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 whether or not proprietary schools receiving Federal financial assistance from VA and the Department of Education are in compliance with equal opportunity laws.

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. 2900–0180'' 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: Compliance Report of Proprietary Institutions, VA Form 20–4274.

OMB Control Number: 2900–0180.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA Form 20–4274 is used to determine whether or not proprietary educational institutions receiving Federal financial assistance are in compliance with applicable civil rights statute and regulations. The collected information is used to identify areas that