

Reduction Act of 1995, the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs/TMA announces proposed new public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed new collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the information collection; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by May 2, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations on the information collection should be sent to the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs) TRICARE Management Activity, Skyline Five, suite 810, 5111 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, Virginia 22041-3206. Attention: Captain Charles Hostettler.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request more information on this proposed information collection, please write to the above address or call CAPT Charles Hostettler, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs), TRICARE Management Activity, (703) 681-1740.

Title; Associated Form; and OMB Number: TRICARE Pharmacy Redesign Pilot Program Enrollment Application Form X407.

Needs and Uses: The collection instrument serves as an application form for enrollment in the TRICARE Pharmacy Redesign Pilot Program. The information collected will be used to provide the Managed Care Support Contractors, contracted to supply administrative support, with the data to determine beneficiary eligibility, other health insurance liability, and premium payment.

Affected Public: Individuals or household.

Annual Burden Hours: 333.

Number of Respondents: 2,000.

Responses Per Respondent: 1.

Average Burden Per Response: 10 minutes.

Frequency: On occasion.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

In June 1998, the General Accounting Office (GAO) testified before the

Subcommittee on Military Personnel, Committee on Armed Services, House of Representatives, that over the past several years, concern about the costs and quality of DoD's pharmacy benefit has surfaced. GAO recommended that DoD establish a more system-wide approach to managing its pharmacy benefit by establishing a uniform, incentive-based formulary across its pharmacy programs. Furthermore, GAO recommended that a system-wide pharmacy benefit be granted to Medicare-eligible retirees who are excluded from the contractor retail network and NMOP pharmacy systems.

In response to the June 1998 GAO report, the FY 1999 Strom Thurmond National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal Year 1999 for Fiscal year 1999 (P.L. 105-261) directed DoD to develop a system-wide pharmacy redesign plan and to implement the system-wide redesigned benefit at two sites for Medicare-eligible beneficiaries.

An eligible beneficiary for the pharmacy redesign demonstration is a member or former member of the uniformed services as described in section 1074(b) of title 10; a dependent of the member described in section 1076(a)(2)(B) or 1076(b) of title 10; or a dependent of a member of the uniformed services who died while on active duty for a period of more than 30 days, who meets the following requirements: (a) 65 years of age or older, (b) entitled to Medicare Part A, (c) enrolled in Medicare part B, and (d) resides in an implementation area.

The pharmacy redesign implantation will be evaluated by an independent entity outside the Department of Defense. The evaluation shall include: (a) An analysis of the cost of the pharmacy redesign implementation under TRICARE, and also to the eligible individuals who participate in the demonstration, (b) an assessment of the eligible beneficiaries' satisfaction with the redesigned pharmacy benefit, (c) an assessment of the effect, if any, on military medical readiness, (d) a description of the rate of participation, and (e) an evaluation of any other matters that the Department considers appropriate.

The DoD component responsible for the conduct of the project is the TRICARE Management Activity.

Dated: February 28, 2000.

Patricia Toppings,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs, DoD.

ACTION: Notice.

In compliance with section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs announces the proposed extension of a public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by May 2, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed information collection should be sent to The Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs, ATTN: DPCR (Mr. Michael Byers), 1400 Defense, The Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-1400.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request more information on this proposed information collection or to obtain a copy of the proposal and associated collection instruments, please write to the above address, or call the Directorate for Programs and Community Relations, at (703) 695-6108.

Title, Associated Form; and OMB Number: "Request for Armed Forces Participation in Public Events (Non-Aviation)," DD Form 2536, and "Request for Military Aerial Support," DD Form 2535, OMB Number 0704-0290.

Needs and Uses: The information collection requirement is necessary to evaluate the eligibility of events to receive Armed Forces community relations support and to determine whether requested military assets are available.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; State or local governments;

Federal agencies or employees; non-profit institutions.

Annual Burden Hours: 5,547.

Number of Respondents: 43,000.

Responses per Respondent: 1.

Average Burden per Response: 8 minutes.

Frequency: On occasion.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Summary of Information Collection

Respondents are individuals or representatives of Federal and non-Federal government agencies, community groups, non-profit organizations, and civic organizations requesting Armed Forces support for patriotic events conducted in the civilian domain. DD Forms 2535 and 2536 record the type of military support requested, event data, and sponsoring organization information. The completed forms provide the Armed Forces the minimum information necessary to determine whether an event is eligible for military participation and whether the desired support permissible and/or available. If the forms are not provided, the review process is greatly increased because the Armed Forces must take additional written and telephonic inquiries with the event sponsor. In addition, use of the forms reduces the event sponsor's preparation time because the forms provide a detailed outline of information required, eliminate the need for a detailed letter, and contain concise information necessary for determining appropriateness of military support. Use of forms is essential to reduce preparation and processing time, increase productivity, and maximize responsiveness to the public.

Dated: February 28, 2000.

Patricia L. Toppings,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

ACTION: Notice.

The Department of Defense has submitted to OMB for clearance, the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Title, Form Number, and OMB Number: Contract Modifications—

Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) Part 243 and Associated Clauses at 252.243; OMB Number 0704-0397.

Type of Request: Extension.

Number of Respondents: 440.

Responses per Respondent: 1.

Annual Responses: 440.

Average Burden Per Response: 4.8 hours.

Annual Burden Hours: 2,120.

Needs and Uses: The information collection required by the clause at DFARS 252.243-7002, Requests for Equitable Adjustment, implements 10 U.S.C. 2410(a). DoD contracting officers and auditors use this information to evaluate contractor requests for equitable adjustment to contract terms. The clause requires contractors to certify that requests for equitable adjustment that exceed the simplified acquisition threshold are made in good faith and that the supporting data are accurate and complete. The clause also requires contractors to fully disclose all facts relevant to the requests for adjustment.

Affected Public: Business or Other For-Profit, Not-For-Profit Institutions.

Frequency: On occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Required to Obtain or Retain Benefits.

OMB Desk Officer: Mr. Peter N. Weiss.

Written comments and recommendations on the proposed information collection should be sent to Mr. Weiss at the Office of Management and Budget, Desk Officer for DoD (Acquisition), Room 10236, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

DOD Clearance Officer: Mr. Robert Cushing.

Written requests for copies of the information collection proposal should be sent to Mr. Cushing, WHS/DIOR, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302.

Dated: February 28, 2000.

Patricia L. Toppings,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Preparation of a Supplement to the National Missile Defense Deployment Draft Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Ballistic Missile Defense Organization.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Ballistic Missile Defense Organization (BMDO) announces the availability of a supplement to the National Missile Defense (NMD) Deployment Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). This supplement addresses the potential environmental impacts of proposed replacement of interior electronic hardware and computer software at early warning radar (EWR) facilities at Clear Air Station (AS), Alaska, Beale Air Force Base (AFB), California, and Cape Cod AS, Massachusetts as part of the NMD system. The proposed NMD modifications would not result in any change to peak or average radiated power levels at these facilities, and power density levels would remain well-within current safety standards.

The supplement has been prepared to support a Department of Defense recommendation, currently scheduled for Summer 2000, on whether to deploy the NMD system. The U.S. Air Force, which operates and has real property accountability over the PAVE PAWS EWR facilities, recently announced that it will be conducting an EIS that addresses maintenance and sustainment of its current EWR operations at Clear AS, Beale AFB, and Cape Cod AS. For this reason, if the proposed action in this supplement is selected, its implementation is contingent upon the outcome of the Air Force EIS. The BMDO would reassess its proposed usage of the EWR facilities in light of the results of the Air Force EIS prior to installation of the NMD modifications.

COMMENTS: To obtain a copy of the supplement to the NMD Deployment Draft EIS, please write: U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, Attn: SMDC-EN-V, Post Office Box 1500, Huntsville, Alabama 35807. Individuals or organizations may provide comments on the supplement by sending written comments to: U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, Attn: SMDC-EN-V, Post Office Box 1500, Huntsville, Alabama 35807.

DATES: Public comments are invited and must be postmarked by April 17, 2000.

Dated: February 25, 2000.

L.M. Bynum,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

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