

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Notices Requesting Comments

Comment On: VA-2025-VACO-0001-0143
Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposals, Submissions, and Approvals: Application for Benefits for Qualifying Veteran's Child Born With Disabilities (FR Doc No: 2025-23997)

Document: VA-2025-VACO-0001-0153
Comment on VA-2025-VACO-0001-0143 (Anonymous)

Submitter Information

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General Comment

To the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB):
I am writing as an interested person to provide comments on the proposed revision of the information collection activity concerning VA Form 21-0304, "Application for Benefits for Qualifying Veteran's Child Born With Disabilities," as detailed in the Federal Register Notice (FR Doc No: 2025-23997) dated December 30, 2025. I appreciate the VA making this process transparent and allowing the public the mandated 60-day window to review these procedural revisions before the March 2, 2026 deadline. Overall, I recognize the critical importance of Form 21-0304 for administering benefits authorized under 38 U.S.C. 1805, 1815, 1821, and 1822—benefits that provide vital support to the children of Vietnam and certain Thailand or Korea service veterans affected by Spina Bifida or specific birth defects. Since the notice confirms that there are "No substantive changes" to the form itself, the primary area for comment rests on the burden calculation and practical utility of the existing collection process. I note the estimated annual burden has increased, resulting in an estimated average burden per respondent of 10 minutes, for an estimated 1,209 respondents annually. While the 10-minute estimate seems reasonable for a one-time application, the increase in the estimated number of receivables warrants a quick check. I would be interested to know if the VA has explored ways to streamline the submission aspect of this already approved form. Given that this collection is intended to serve individuals potentially navigating complex medical and veteran-related issues, any effort to reduce the respondent burden beyond what is noted would be beneficial. For instance, if the form is primarily filled out online, confirming that the digital interface is intuitive and minimizes required manual input (perhaps leveraging existing VA records where possible) would enhance both clarity and utility. Since the stated purpose of the PRA solicitation is to assess the necessity, accuracy of burden, and opportunities to minimize burden, I would respectfully ask the VA to confirm that the increased estimate accurately reflects the current intake trends and that all avenues for minimizing the burden—perhaps through digital uploads of supporting documentation rather than physical mail—are being maximized. This form deals with incredibly sensitive issues for veterans' families, and ensuring the collection process

itself is as streamlined and non-burdensome as possible remains a key factor in its practical utility. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important administrative action.