

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 1,297,269.

The following paragraph applies to all the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number.

Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained if their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

*Desired Focus of Comments:* The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is particularly interested in comments that:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including using appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.*, by permitting electronic submissions of responses.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or

included in the ICR for OMB approval of the extension of the information collection; they will also become a matter of public record.

Approved: May 7, 2018.

**R. Joseph Durbala,**  
*IRS Tax Analyst.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Publication of the Date on Which All Amounts Deposited in the Veterans Choice Fund Will Be Exhausted

**AGENCY:** Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014, as amended, directs the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to publish in the **Federal Register** the date on which the Secretary will have exhausted all amounts deposited in the Veterans Choice Fund. This **Federal Register** Notice is VA's publication of this date.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Joseph Duran, Director, Policy and Planning (10D1A1), Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420, (303) 372-4629. This is not a toll free number.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 (the Act), Public Law (Pub. L.) 113-146, as amended, section 802, established the Veterans Choice Fund to be used by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out the Veterans Choice Program established by section 101 of the Act.

Pursuant to sections 101(p)(1) and (2) of the Act, the Secretary may not furnish care and services under the Veterans Choice Program after the date on which the Secretary has exhausted all amounts deposited in the Veterans Choice Fund. Section 101(p)(3) of the Act directs, not later than 30 days prior, VA to publish this date in the **Federal Register** and on an internet website of the Department available to the public. Based on current data, VA believes it will have exhausted the amount that was deposited in the Veterans Choice Fund no earlier than May 31, 2018; however, due to the unique nature of health care and the variability in health care costs, the amounts in the Fund could last as long as June 15, 2018. This information can be found on the internet at <http://www.va.gov/opa/choiceact/index.asp>. VA will update the website if it determines based on the most current information that the amounts in the Fund will be exhausted later than anticipated.

### Signing Authority

The Secretary of Veterans Affairs, or designee, approved this document and authorized the undersigned to sign and submit the document to the Office of the Federal Register for publication electronically as an official document of the Department of Veterans Affairs. Peter M. O'Rourke, Chief of Staff, Department of Veterans Affairs, approved this document on May 7, 2018, for publication.

Dated: May 7, 2018.

**Jeffrey M. Martin,**

*Impact Analyst, Office of Regulation Policy & Management, Office of the Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs.*

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