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Comments Received :

VA Form 10-3542: Instruction 6:

Item 2 of this SSA identifies *five* data elements and *only five* data elements:

Identity, addresses, dates, other than mileage, signature.

VTP already stated in tem 2, "The claim includes a penalty statement and a statement indicating the claimant has traveled at their own expense and not used Government or cost-free resources for this purpose."

The statement also says, "I certify that the above information is correct." This means the appointment was completed, services were recieved.

Add "I have received the services for the appointment related to this claim." to the certification on the VA Form 10-3542 and BTSSS if it makes you feel better

VTP regulation 38 CFR 70.20(e) "Additional information", cited in item 2, equals VOA *determination* criteria.

Determination criteria, is *beyond* VTP authority to *make* payments or *not make* payments.

VOA has transformed *application* procedures into *determination* criteria to *deny* payments.

"Veterans submit about 6 million travel reimbursement claims every year.

A majority of those claims have to be keyed into the BTS-3 system manually,

Worse, the software is completely unable to auto-adjudicate travel reimbursements for community care, so

100% of those claims have to be manually reviewed.

More than four years after the system was rolled out, VA still does not have a good solution for that.

VA actually had to add about 140 more employees to process the travel claims manually."

Rep. Matt Rosendale (R-Mont.), the Chairman of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Technology Modernization, June 11, 2024

<https://veterans.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=6479#>

Why does VTP trust the provider, but not the beneficiary?

VTP cannot alter determination criteria under regulations "Prescribed by the President" and Congress at 38 USC 111, (b)(1)(A) through (b)(3)(C)(a)

38 USC 111, Payments or allowances for beneficiary travel:

"... the Secretary *may* pay... an allowance based upon mileage at a rate of 41.5 cents per mile ..."

"if*... the Secretary exercises the authority under this section to *make* any payments..."

"... the Secretary *shall* make the payments... to or for the following persons:"

Cite the law; chapter, paragraph and sentence, requiring VOA, on the VA Form 10-3542 and in item 2 above.

It is *not* 38 USC 111, PL 116-117 or 38 CFR 70.