

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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2018 Notices Requesting Comments

Comment On: VA-2018-VACO-0001-0374
Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposals, Submissions, and Approvals: Intent to File Claim for Compensation and/or Pension, or Survivors Pension and/or DIC; OMB No. 0826; FR Doc. #2018-02712

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Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposals, Submissions, and Approvals: Intent to File Claim for Compensation and/or Pension, or Survivors Pension and/or DIC; OMB No. 0826; FR Doc. #2018-02712; Servaes, Patricia

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General Comment

The form is not clear enough for the one-time user to understand that

- 1) if the veteran checks compensation but they are filing for pension or vis versa, that they have not established an effective date for the other.
- 2) that if a surviving spouse checks pension in the veteran area that she has invalidated the form.

I think the form should be changed to state that "This is an Intent to File for either a Service Connected Disability Claim or a Pension Claim. If you do not know which you are filing for, check both boxes."

Or "This is an Intent to File for either a Service Connected Disability Claim or a Pension

Claim." and do not have the claimant check anything.

The confusion on the form only results in claimants losing out on benefits, I do not see how there could be any other possible positive result to the claimant by making them select either compensation or Pension at the Intent to File point. They would have a better handle on it by the time they file the full application.