DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

38 CFR Part 59
RIN 2900–AM42
Priority for Partial Grants to States for Construction or Acquisition of State Home Facilities

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.
ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This document adopts as a final rule, without change, an interim final rule amending the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) regulations regarding grants to States for construction or acquisition of State homes. The amendment was necessary to ensure that projects designed to remedy conditions at an existing State home that have been cited as threatening to the lives or safety of the residents receive priority for receiving VA grants in the future (including in Fiscal Year 2007).

DATES: Effective Date: February 14, 2007.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Frank Salvas, Chief, State Home Construction Grant Program (114), Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20420, 202–273–8534.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
An interim final rule amending VA’s regulations regarding grants to States for construction or acquisition of State homes was published in the Federal Register on August 11, 2006 (71 FR 46103).
We provided a 60-day comment period that ended on October 10, 2006. No comments were received. Based on the rationale set forth in the interim final rule, we now adopt the interim final rule as a final rule without change.

Administrative Procedure Act
This document, without change, affirms the amendment made by the interim final rule that is already in effect. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs concluded that, under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(3)(B), there was good cause to dispense with the opportunity for prior comment with respect to this rule. The Secretary found that it was impracticable, unnecessary, and contrary to the public interest to delay this regulation for the purpose of soliciting prior public comment. Nevertheless, the Secretary invited public comment on the interim final rule but did not receive any comments. The amendment was consistent with the priorities established by Congress and was needed on an expedited basis because the prior version of the regulation may have precluded VA from funding life safety projects during Fiscal Year 2007. While it is important to give States receiving partial grants priority for continued funding, the regulations need to recognize the other priorities for awarding State home grants including the top priority for projects that protect the lives and safety of veterans residing in existing State homes.

Unfunded Mandates
The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 requires, at 2 U.S.C. 1532, that agencies prepare an assessment of anticipated costs and benefits before issuing any rule that may result in an expenditure by the State, local, and tribal governments, in the aggregate, or by the private sector, of $100 million or more (adjusted annually for inflation) in any given year. This final rule will have no such effect on State, local, and tribal governments, or on the private sector.

Executive Order 12866
Executive Order 12866 directs agencies to assess all costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, when regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits (including potential economic, environmental, public health and safety, and other advantages; distributive impacts; and equity). The Executive Order classifies a “significant regulatory action,” requiring review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) unless OMB waives such review, as any regulatory action that is likely to result in a rule that may: (1) Have an annual effect on the economy of $100 million or more or adversely affect a material way the economy, a sector of the economy, productivity, competition, jobs, the environment, public health or safety, or State, local, or tribal governments, or on the private sector; (2) create a serious inconsistency or otherwise interfere with an action taken or planned by another agency; (3) materially alter the budgetary impact of entitlements, grants, user fees, or loan programs or the rights and obligations of recipients thereof; or (4) raise novel legal or policy issues arising out of legal mandates, the President’s priorities, or the principles set forth in the Executive Order.

The economic, interagency, budgetary, legal, and policy implications of this final rule have been examined and it has been determined to be a significant regulatory action under the Executive Order because it is likely to result in a rule that may raise novel...
legal or policy issues arising out of legal mandates, the President’s priorities, or the principles set forth in the Executive Order.

Paperwork Reduction Act

Regulatory Flexibility Act
The Secretary hereby certifies that this regulatory amendment will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities as they are defined in the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601–612. The rule will affect grants to States and will not directly affect small entities. Therefore, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 605(h), this final rule is exempt from the initial and final regulatory flexibility analyses requirements of sections 603 and 604.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance
The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance program number and title for this rule are as follows: 64.005, Grants Assistance program number and title for construction of State Home Facilities.

List of Subjects in 38 CFR Part 59
Administrative practice and procedure, Alcohol abuse, Alcoholism, Claims, Day care, Dental health, Drug abuse, Foreign relations, Government contracts, Grant programs—health, Grant programs—veterans, Health care, Health facilities, Health professions, Health records, Homeless, Medical and dental schools, Medical devices, Medical research, Mental health programs, Nursing homes, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Travel and transportation expenses, Veterans.


Gordon H. Mansfield,
Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

PART 59—GRANTS TO STATES FOR CONSTRUCTION OR ACQUISITION OF STATE HOMES

Accordingly, the interim final rule amending 38 CFR part 59, which was published at 71 FR 46103 on August 11, 2006, is adopted as a final rule without change.

[F.R. Doc. E7–2465 Filed 2–13–07; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Part 64

[CG Docket No. 03–123; FCC 06–182]

Telecommunications Relay Services and Speech-to-Speech Services for Individuals With Hearing and Speech Disabilities; Internet-Based Captioned Telephone Service

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Final rule; clarification.

SUMMARY: In this document, the Commission grants a request for clarification that Internet Protocol (IP) captioned telephone relay service (IP captioned telephone service or IP CTS) is a type of telecommunications relay service (TRS) eligible for compensation from the Interstate TRS Fund (Fund) when offered in compliance with the applicable TRS mandatory minimum standards. The Commission also grants the request that all IP CTS calls be compensated from the Fund until such time as it adopts jurisdiction separation of costs for this services. The Commission conditions its approval on Ultratec’s representation that it will continue to license its captioned telephone technologies, including technologies relating to IP CTS, at reasonable rates. Also in this document, the Commission seeks approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for any Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) burdens contained in this document that will modify OMB Control Number 3060–1053 to have TRS providers offering IP CTS file annual reports with the Commission.

DATES: Effective April 16, 2007. Written comments on the PRA modified information collection requirements must be submitted by the general public, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and other interested parties on or before April 16, 2007.

ADDRESSES: You may submit PRA comments identified by [CG Docket No. 03–123 and/or OMB Control Number 3060–1053], by any of the following methods:

• Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

• Federal Communications Commission’s Web Site: http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

• E-mail: Parties who choose to file by e-mail should submit their PRA comments to PRA@fcc.gov and to Allison E. Zaleski at AllisonE.Zaleski@omb.eop.gov. Please include the docket number 03–123 and/or OMB Control number 3060–1053 in the subject line of the message.

Mail/Fax: Parties who choose to file by paper should submit their PRA comments to Cathy Williams, Federal Communications Commission, Room 1–C823, 445 12th Street SW., Washington, DC 20554, and to Allison E. Zaleski, OMB Desk Officer, Room 10236 NEOB, 725 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503 or via fax (202) 395–5167.

• People with Disabilities: Contact the FCC to request reasonable accommodations (accessible format documents, sign language interpreters, CART, etc.) by e-mail: FCC504@fcc.gov or phone (202) 418–0539 or TTY: (202) 418–0432.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Thomas Chandler, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418–1475 (voice), (202) 418–0597 (TTY), or e-mail Thomas.Chandler@fcc.gov. For additional information concerning the PRA information collection requirements contained in the document, send an e-mail to PRA@fcc.gov or contact Cathy Williams at (202) 418–2918.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This document contains modified information collection requirements subject to the PRA of 1995, Public Law 104–13. These will be submitted to OMB for review under § 3507 of the PRA. OMB, the general public, and other Federal agencies are invited to comment on the modified information collection(s) contained in this proceeding. On July 19, 2005, the Commission released Telecommunications Relay Services and Speech-to-Speech Services for Individuals with Hearing and Speech Disabilities, Order (Two-Line Captioned Telephone Order), CG Docket No. 03–123, FCC 05–141, which was published in the Federal Register on September 14, 2005 (70 FR 54292), concluding that two-line captioned telephone service is a type of TRS eligible for compensation from the Fund, effective October 14, 2005. This is a summary of the Commission’s document FCC 06–182, adopted December 20, 2006, released January 11, 2007. Document FCC 06–182 addresses issues arising from a Petition for Rulemaking to Mandate Captioned Telephone Relay Service and Approve IP Captioned Telephone Relay Services (Petition), filed October 31, 2005, by Self-Help for the Hard of Hearing (SHHH), the Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (AG Bell), the American