



Economic Impact Analysis Virginia Department of Planning and Budget

18 VAC 85-110 – Licensed Acupuncturists
Department of Health Professions
March 25, 2013

Summary of the Proposed Amendments to Regulation

The Board of Medicine (the Board) proposes to allow acupuncturist applicants to use a translating service for their documents in a foreign language rather than having to go through the embassy of the issuing government.

Result of Analysis

The benefits likely exceed the costs for all proposed changes.

Estimated Economic Impact

The proposed regulations will allow applicants to use a translating service for their documents in a foreign language rather than having to go through the embassy of the issuing government. Currently, regulations require that documents which are not in English be translated and certified by the embassy of the issuing government. According to the Department of Health Professions (DHP), embassies often do not fulfill that service, so documents are generally translated by a translating service. The regulations are amended to allow for that option.

According to DHP, approximately one half of the 450 licensed acupuncturists in Virginia are from foreign countries. This proposed change will make it easier for them to have their documents translated and submitted to the Board.

The remaining changes are not expected to have any significant economic impact as they merely update and clarify regulations for acupuncture education and maintenance of records consistent with current requirements and policies of the Board.

Businesses and Entities Affected

The proposed regulations apply to 450 licensed acupuncturists in Virginia. One half of the licensed acupuncturists are estimated to be foreign and likely to benefit from being able to use a translating service for their foreign documents.

Localities Particularly Affected

The proposed regulations apply throughout the Commonwealth.

Projected Impact on Employment

Although the proposed changes have the potential to reduce demand for translating services from embassies and to increase demand from private entities offering translation services, the magnitude of the impact on employment is expected to be very small.

Effects on the Use and Value of Private Property

Although the proposed changes have the potential to increase demand from private entities offering translation services and have a positive impact on their asset values, the magnitude of the impact is not expected to be significant.

Small Businesses: Costs and Other Effects

Almost all of the licensed acupuncturists are thought to practice as small businesses. The proposed changes do not introduce any costs on them, but rather provide some benefit as discussed above.

Small Businesses: Alternative Method that Minimizes Adverse Impact

No adverse impact on small businesses is expected.

Real Estate Development Costs

No real estate development costs are expected from the proposed changes.

Legal Mandate

The Department of Planning and Budget (DPB) has analyzed the economic impact of this proposed regulation in accordance with Section 2.2-4007.04 of the Administrative Process Act and Executive Order Number 14 (10). Section 2.2-4007.04 requires that such economic impact analyses include, but need not be limited to, a determination of the public benefit, the projected

number of businesses or other entities to whom the regulation would apply, the identity of any localities and types of businesses or other entities particularly affected, the projected number of persons and employment positions to be affected, the projected costs to affected businesses or entities to implement or comply with the regulation, and the impact on the use and value of private property. Further, if the proposed regulation has an adverse effect on small businesses, Section 2.2-4007.04 requires that such economic impact analyses include (i) an identification and estimate of the number of small businesses subject to the regulation; (ii) the projected reporting, recordkeeping, and other administrative costs required for small businesses to comply with the regulation, including the type of professional skills necessary for preparing required reports and other documents; (iii) a statement of the probable effect of the regulation on affected small businesses; and (iv) a description of any less intrusive or less costly alternative methods of achieving the purpose of the regulation. The analysis presented above represents DPB's best estimate of these economic impacts.