



Economic Impact Analysis Virginia Department of Planning and Budget

18 VAC 90-30 – Regulations Governing the Licensure of Nurse Practitioners Department of Health Professions November 5, 2004

The Department of Planning and Budget (DPB) has analyzed the economic impact of this proposed regulation in accordance with Section 2.2-4007.G of the Administrative Process Act and Executive Order Number 21 (02). Section 2.2-4007.G requires that such economic impact analyses include, but need not be limited to, 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. The analysis presented below represents DPB's best estimate of these economic impacts.

Summary of the Proposed Regulation

The Board of Nursing (board) proposes to amend these regulations to enable individuals with a registered nurse (RN) license from a Nurse Licensure Compact state to meet the Virginia nurse practitioner license's RN requirement.

Estimated Economic Impact

In order to become a licensed nurse practitioner in Virginia, one must also be a licensed registered nurse (RN). The current regulations specify that the RN license be issued by Virginia. The board proposes to amend these regulations so that the RN license can be from any state that participates in the Nurse Licensure Compact (compact). Currently the following states have entered the compact: Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, Idaho, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah

and Wisconsin.¹ Virginia is in the process of joining. All compact states require that their nurses pass the same National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) examinations and have graduated from an accredited nursing program in order to obtain licensure. Thus, the minimum demonstrated knowledge and abilities necessary RN licensure should be similar for the compact states.

By permitting nurses with RN licensure in other compact states to pursue nurse practitioner licensure in Virginia, the potential supply of individuals with the skills and desire to become practicing nurse practitioners in Virginia increases. This may especially apply to RNs who live close to Virginia's border with Maryland, North Carolina, or Tennessee, all compact states. To the extent that the supply of nurse practitioners may increase, the proposed amendments will be beneficial for Virginia. Areas that have relative few physicians and nurse practitioners compared to their population could benefit in particular by gaining nurse practitioner services.

Businesses and Entities Affected

There are currently approximately 4,600 licensed nurse practitioners in the Commonwealth.² The proposed amendments may moderately increase that number. Their patients will be affected.

Localities Particularly Affected

The proposed amendments affect all Virginia localities, but may affect localities near Maryland, North Carolina, or Tennessee in particular.

Projected Impact on Employment

The proposed amendments may moderately increase the number of nurse practitioners working in the Commonwealth.

Effects on the Use and Value of Private Property

The proposed amendments may moderately increase the amount of nurse practitioner services offered in Virginia.

¹ Source: Department of Health Professions and <http://ncsbn.org/nlc/index.asp> on November 5, 2004.

² Source: Department of Health Professions