

Office of Regulatory Management
Economic Review Form

Agency name	Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) Chapter citation(s)	2 VAC 5-360
VAC Chapter title(s)	Regulations for the Enforcement of the Virginia Commercial Feed Act
Action title	Addition of dietary fiber to pet food label requirements
Date this document prepared	October 1, 2025
Regulatory Stage (including Issuance of Guidance Documents)	Proposed

Cost Benefit Analysis

Complete Tables 1a and 1b for all regulatory actions. You do not need to complete Table 1c if the regulatory action is required by state statute or federal statute or regulation and leaves no discretion in its implementation.

Table 1a should provide analysis for the regulatory approach you are taking. Table 1b should provide analysis for the approach of leaving the current regulations intact (i.e., no further change is implemented). Table 1c should provide analysis for at least one alternative approach. You should not limit yourself to one alternative, however, and can add additional charts as needed.

Report both direct and indirect costs and benefits that can be monetized in Boxes 1 and 2. Report direct and indirect costs and benefits that cannot be monetized in Box 4. See the ORM Regulatory Economic Analysis Manual for additional guidance.

Table 1a: Costs and Benefits of the Proposed Changes (Primary Option)

<p>(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)</p>	<p>This regulatory action will amend 2 VAC 5-360, Regulations for the Enforcement of the Virginia Commercial Feed Act. Currently, all commercial animal feed products are required to list a maximum crude fiber guarantee on product labels. The amendment will replace the crude fiber requirement for pet and specialty pet food product labels with a required maximum guarantee of dietary fiber content. This amendment will be limited to pet and specialty pet food only and does not impact labeling requirements for other categories of commercial feed, which will continue to be required to bear a label that states the maximum percentage of the feed’s crude fiber. This regulatory change is a request from the pet food industry for state regulatory agencies to amend their pet food regulations to provide a more consistent and efficient way to label pet food.</p> <p>Direct and Indirect Costs: Pet food manufacturers will be affected by this regulatory change. The proposed amendments will require pet food manufacturers to determine the level of dietary fiber in pet food products being sold and modify the labels of pet food products. Commercial feed manufacturers currently analyze their products to determine the crude fiber content of the products, and the agency anticipates that the costs to determine dietary fiber content in pet food and specialty pet food will not increase the costs that are already incurred by pet food manufacturers under the existing regulation. The proposed regulations provide a transition period of six years to comply with the dietary fiber labeling requirement.</p> <p>Direct and Indirect Benefits: The proposed amendments will align Virginia’s pet food labeling requirements with the pet food labeling requirements that other states are adopting. Pet food manufacturers will benefit from consistent label regulations throughout the U.S., which will eliminate the need for pet food manufacturers to produce a Virginia-specific pet food label.</p>	
<p>(2) Present Monetized Values</p>	<p>Direct & Indirect Costs</p>	<p>Direct & Indirect Benefits</p>
	<p>(a) The agency is unable to provide a reliable estimate of the direct costs.</p>	<p>(b) The agency is unable to provide a reliable estimate of the direct benefits.</p>
<p>(3) Net Monetized Benefit</p>	<p>Unknown</p>	
<p>(4) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)</p>	<p>The regulatory change will have non-monetized benefit for individuals purchasing pet food, as it will require labeling for pet foods that more closely align with labels for products marketed for human consumption and that are more easily understood by customers.</p>	

(5) Information Sources	
-------------------------	--

Table 1b: Costs and Benefits under the Status Quo (No change to the regulation)

(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)	<p>Maintaining the crude fiber labeling requirement for pet food while other states begin to require that pet food labels state the product’s dietary fiber content will create a conflicting national regulatory environment for the pet food industry, which creates difficult manufacturing issues and labeling challenges that will likely lead to inflated product costs. Those costs may be passed on to Virginia consumers.</p> <p>The agency has not identified any direct or indirect benefits that would result from maintaining the status quo.</p>	
(2) Present Monetized Values	Direct & Indirect Costs	Direct & Indirect Benefits
	(a) The agency is unable to provide a reliable estimate of the direct costs.	(b) None
(3) Net Monetized Benefit	None	
(4) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)	None	
(5) Information Sources		

Table 1c: Costs and Benefits under Alternative Approach(es)

(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)	The agency has not identified any alternative that would allow for pet food and specialty pet food to bear a label listing the product's dietary fiber content rather than its crude fiber content.	
(2) Present Monetized Values	Direct & Indirect Costs	Direct & Indirect Benefits
	(a) N/A	(b) N/A
(3) Net Monetized Benefit	N/A	
(4) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)	N/A	
(5) Information Sources		

Impact on Local Partners

Use this chart to describe impacts on local partners. See Part 8 of the ORM Cost Impact Analysis Guidance for additional guidance.

Table 2: Impact on Local Partners

(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)	The agency has not identified any direct or indirect cost or benefit that the proposed amendments will have on local partners.	
(2) Present Monetized Values	Direct & Indirect Costs	Direct & Indirect Benefits
	(a) None	(b) None
(3) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)	None	
(4) Assistance	None	
(5) Information Sources		

Impacts on Families

Use this chart to describe impacts on families. See Part 8 of the ORM Cost Impact Analysis Guidance for additional guidance.

Table 3: Impact on Families

(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)	The agency has not identified any direct or indirect cost or benefit that the proposed amendments will have on families.	
(2) Present Monetized Values	Direct & Indirect Costs	Direct & Indirect Benefits
	(a) None	(b) None
(3) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)	None	
(4) Information Sources		

Impacts on Small Businesses

Use this chart to describe impacts on small businesses. See Part 8 of the ORM Cost Impact Analysis Guidance for additional guidance.

Table 4: Impact on Small Businesses

(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)	See Table 1a.	
(2) Present Monetized Values	Direct & Indirect Costs	Direct & Indirect Benefits
	(a) See Table 1a.	(b) See Table 1a.
(3) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)	See Table 1a.	
(4) Alternatives	N/A	
(5) Information Sources		

Changes to Number of Regulatory Requirements

Table 5: Regulatory Reduction For each individual action, please fill out the appropriate chart to reflect any change in regulatory requirements, costs, regulatory stringency, or the overall length of any guidance documents.

Change in Regulatory Requirements

VAC Section(s) Involved*	Authority of Change	Initial Count	Additions	Subtractions	Total Net Change in Requirements
360-10	(M/A):	0	0	0	0
	(D/A):	0	0	0	0
	(M/R): §3.2-4801	8	0	8	-8
	(D/R): §3.2-4801	7	0	7	-7
360-50	(M/A):	0	0	0	0
	(D/A):	0	0	0	0
	(M/R):	0	0	0	0
	(D/R): §3.2-4801	8	5	0	+5
360-55	(M/A):	N/A	0	0	0
	(D/A):	N/A	0	0	0
	(M/R): §3.2-4801	N/A	1	0	+1
	(D/R): §3.2-4801	N/A	2	0	+2
				Grand Total of Changes in Requirements:	(M/A): 0
					(D/A): 0
					(M/R): -7
					(D/R): 0

Key:

Please use the following coding if change is mandatory or discretionary and whether it affects externally regulated parties or only the agency itself:

(M/A): Mandatory requirements mandated by federal and/or state statute affecting the agency itself

(D/A): Discretionary requirements affecting agency itself

(M/R): Mandatory requirements mandated by federal and/or state statute affecting external parties, including other agencies

(D/R): Discretionary requirements affecting external parties, including other agencies

Cost Reductions or Increases (if applicable)

VAC Section(s) Involved*	Description of Regulatory Requirement	Initial Cost	New Cost	Overall Cost Savings/Increases
360-50	Testing to determine dietary fiber	0	Unknown	Unknown

	content of pet food and modification of pet food labels			
--	---	--	--	--

Other Decreases or Increases in Regulatory Stringency (if applicable)

VAC Section(s) Involved*	Description of Regulatory Change	Overview of How It Reduces or Increases Regulatory Burden
N/A	N/A	N/A

Length of Guidance Documents (only applicable if guidance document is being revised)

Title of Guidance Document	Original Length	New Length	Net Change in Length
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

*If the agency is modifying a guidance document that has regulatory requirements, it should report any change in requirements in the appropriate chart(s).