



Economic Impact Analysis Virginia Department of Planning and Budget

22 VAC 40-411 – General Relief Program
Department of Social Services
May 29, 2008

Summary of the Proposed Amendments to Regulation

The Board of Social Services (Board) proposes to combine the rules for its general relief program into one regulation. At the same time, the Board proposes to repeal the four regulations that currently contain portions of these rules.

Result of Analysis

The benefits very likely exceed the costs for this proposed regulatory action.

Estimated Economic Impact

Currently, rules set by the Board for Local Departments of Social Services' participation in the general relief program are contained in four separate regulations: 22 VAC 40-410, 22 VAC 40-570, 22 VAC 40-630 and 22 VAC 40-640. Taken together, these regulations set the rules for aid given to:

- Adults who are unemployable because of a medical condition,
- Adults who are unemployable because of lack of training,
- Adults who are employable but who live in a locality where there are no employment opportunities,
- Individuals who have applied for SSI benefits but have not received them yet (any aid given in this case would be repaid if and when SSI benefits are approved) and
- Children who are in the custody of unrelated adults.

The general relief program also covers burial assistance for indigent decedents.

The Board proposes to combine all rules for the general relief program into one regulation and, at the same time, repeal the four regulations that currently compose these rules. Because the Board is not proposing any changes, substantive or otherwise, to these rules, affected entities are unlikely to incur any costs on account of this regulatory action. Local Departments of Social Services, and the populations that are covered by the general relief program, will likely only benefit from having all the rules for this program in one regulation where they will be easier to find.

Businesses and Entities Affected

This proposed regulatory action will likely benefit any local Departments of Social Services that participate in some or all of the parts of the general relief program. Individuals who receive benefits under this program will also be (likely positively) affected. The State Department of Social Services (DSS) reports that 83 local departments participate in this program and that 3,183 individuals, on average, receive benefits through this program each month.

Localities Particularly Affected

Localities that participate in the general relief program will likely benefit from this proposed regulatory action.

Projected Impact on Employment

This regulatory action will likely have no impact on employment in the Commonwealth.

Effects on the Use and Value of Private Property

This regulatory action will likely have no effect on the use or value of private property in the Commonwealth.

Small Businesses: Costs and Other Effects

Small businesses in the Commonwealth are unlikely to incur any costs on account of this regulatory action.

Small Businesses: Alternative Method that Minimizes Adverse Impact

Small businesses in the Commonwealth are unlikely to incur any costs on account of this regulatory action.

Real Estate Development Costs

This regulatory action will likely have no effect on real estate development costs in the Commonwealth.

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.H of the Administrative Process Act and Executive Order Number 36 (06). Section 2.2-4007.H 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. Further, if the proposed regulation has adverse effect on small businesses, Section 2.2-4007.H 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.