



Economic Impact Analysis Virginia Department of Planning and Budget

22 VAC 40-601 – Food Stamp Program
Department of Social Services
July 13, 2006

Summary of the Proposed Regulation

The State Board of Social Services (board) proposes to repeal their three food stamp regulations (22 VAC 40-20, 22 VAC 40-540 and 22 VAC 40-600) and promulgate one regulation that will set rules for all parts of the food stamp program. The only change between the old and new regulations is that the new regulation contains a definition for “local department”.

Result of Analysis

The benefits likely exceed the costs for this proposed regulatory change.

Estimated Economic Impact

Currently, the Department of Social Service’s (DSS) food stamp rules are in three separate regulations. One of these regulations sets the multipliers that allow weekly or biweekly income to be converted to a monthly income, one sets rules for the allowance of telephone costs in figuring food stamp allotments, and one sets rules for administrative hearings.

DSS now proposes to repeal these three regulations and promulgate a new regulation that includes all these rules. The new regulation will not vary in any substantive way from what is in the three regulations that are to be repealed. There are no costs associated with this regulatory action. The public will likely gain some small benefit from this small simplification of the Virginia Administrative Code.

Businesses and Entities Affected

The proposed regulation will affect all 223,000 households in the Commonwealth that receive food stamps.

Localities Particularly Affected

The proposed regulation will affect all localities in the Commonwealth.

Projected Impact on Employment

The proposed regulation will likely not affect employment in the Commonwealth.

Effects on the Use and Value of Private Property

The proposed regulation is not likely to affect the use and value of any private property in the Commonwealth.

Small Businesses: Costs and Other Effects

No small businesses are likely to be affected by the proposed regulation.

Small Businesses: Alternative Method that Minimizes Adverse Impact

No small businesses are likely to be affected by the proposed regulation.

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 21 (02). 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.