

## **Agency Response to Department of Planning and Budget's Economic Impact Analysis**

### 18 VAC 41-30 – Hair Braiding Regulations

The Board for Barbers and Cosmetology response to the Department of Planning and Budget's Economic Impact Analysis follows:

1. Chapter 600 of the 2003 Acts of the General Assembly amended the definition of cosmetology to include the term "braiding".
2. Research conducted by the Board for Barbers and Cosmetology found that seven other states issue a separate hair braiding license. Of the seven that issue a separate hair braiding license, four require 300 hours of training, one requires 400, one requires 450, and one requires 600. Based on their research, the Board proposed requiring 300 hours of training and through executive review of the proposed hair braiding regulations the required hours of training was established at 170 with the ability for the student to receive up to 130 hours of credit based on a competency assessment. The Board does not believe that the required hours are more than necessary to protect the public.
3. The Board for Barbers and Cosmetology Regulations are strictly enforced. As noted in the EIA, in 2002 action pertaining to a braiding salon was taken based on non-compliance with the Code of Virginia and Board for Barbers and Cosmetology Regulations. The Board investigates all complaints to determine if there was a violation of the law or regulations.
4. The impact on localities would depend more on the options available to customers seeking hair braiding services rather than the size of a sector of the population.
5. The board is not aware of data that indicates the income level of individuals potentially interested in offering hair braiding services or the other sub-regulated parts of the practice of cosmetology. Therefore, this impact is undeterminable.