



Economic Impact Analysis Virginia Department of Planning and Budget

22 VAC 40-35 –Virginia Independence Program
Department of Social Services
November 18, 2013

Summary of the Proposed Regulation

The State Board of Social Services (Board) proposed to amend its regulations that govern the Virginia Independence Program to update obsolete language and to change a rule that outlines an exemption from Virginia Initiative for Employment not Welfare (VIEW) requirements for parents of infants under 12 months of age. The VIEW exemption language is being changed so that these regulations are consistent with §63.2-609 (as amended in 2011).

Result of Analysis

Benefits likely exceed costs for all proposed regulatory changes.

Estimated Economic Impact

Regulations for the Virginia Independence Program were last amended in 2009 and still contain references to the Aid for Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program and to the food stamp program, both of which have been renamed/replaced with the Temporary Aid for Needy Families (TANF) program and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), respectively. These regulations also have not been amended to make them consistent with a Code of Virginia change that was passed in 2011 which puts a limit on the number of months that parents of infants qualify for an exemption to work requirements that are normally mandatory in order to receive TANF benefits. The Board now proposes to amend these regulations to update terminology and make regulatory language consistent with controlling statutory language.

No affected entity is likely to incur costs on account of these proposed regulations. To the extent that these changes remove obsolete language that may be confusing and clarify the rules that recipients are subject to, interested parties will benefit from these changes.

Businesses and Entities Affected

Board staff reports that there are approximately 62,250 low-income families that receive TANF benefits each month. All these families, as well as all future recipients will be affected by these proposed regulatory changes.

Localities Particularly Affected

No locality will be particularly affected by these proposed regulations.

Projected Impact on Employment

These proposed regulations are unlikely to have any impact on employment in the Commonwealth.

Effects on the Use and Value of Private Property

These proposed regulations are unlikely to have any effect on the use and value of any private property.

Small Businesses: Costs and Other Effects

No small businesses will be affected by these proposed regulations.

Small Businesses: Alternative Method that Minimizes Adverse Impact

No small businesses will be affected by these proposed regulations.

Legal Mandate

The Department of Planning and Budget (DPB) has analyzed the economic impact of this proposed regulation in accordance with Section 2.2-4007.04 of the Administrative Process Act and Executive Order Number 14 (10). Section 2.2-4007.04 requires that such economic impact analyses include, but need not be limited to, a determination of the public benefit, 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 an adverse effect on small businesses, Section 2.2-4007.04 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.