



Fast Track Proposed Regulation Agency Background Document

Agency name	Board of Education
Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) citation	<u>8VAC20-710</u>
Regulation title	<i>Regulations Governing the Process for Submitting Proposals to Consolidate School Divisions</i>
Action title	In response to SB 1201, passed by the 2013 General Assembly, the Board of Education proposes to repeal this regulation.
Date this document prepared	June 14, 2013

This information is required for executive branch review and the Virginia Registrar of Regulations, pursuant to the Virginia Administrative Process Act (APA), Executive Orders 14 (2010) and 58 (1999), and the *Virginia Register Form, Style, and Procedure Manual*.

Brief summary

Please provide a brief summary (no more than 2 short paragraphs) of the proposed new regulation, proposed amendments to the existing regulation, or the regulation proposed to be repealed. Alert the reader to all substantive matters or changes.

The Governor's 2012 Regulatory Reform Initiative was established to "repeal regulations that are unnecessary or no longer in use, reduce unnecessary regulatory burdens on individuals, businesses, and other regulated groups, and identify statutes that require unnecessary or overly burdensome regulations." Three Board of Education regulations were identified as meeting these criteria, as they duplicate requirements already set forth in the *Code of Virginia*, including *Regulations Governing the Process for Submitting Proposals to Consolidate School Divisions* (8 VAC 20-710). However, the language in § 22.1-25 of the *Code* requires the Board to promulgate regulations about the consolidation of school divisions.

The Governor proposed legislation to eliminate the statutory requirements for the Board of Education to promulgate these regulations. The legislation, SB 1201 (McDougle), which was passed unanimously by the 2013 General Assembly and signed by the Governor, eliminated references to the Board of Education's responsibility for promulgating these regulations in § 22.1-25 of the *Code*.

Acronyms and Definitions

Please define all acronyms used in the Agency Background Document. Also, please define any technical terms that are used in the document that are not also defined in the "Definition" section of the regulations.

None

Statement of final agency action

Please provide a statement of the final action taken by the agency including (1) the date the action was taken, (2) the name of the agency taking the action, and (3) the title of the regulation.

The Virginia Board of Education is taking final action to repeal *Regulations Governing the Process for Submitting Proposals to Consolidate School Divisions*, 8VAC20-710, on June 27, 2013.

Legal basis

Please identify the state and/or federal legal authority to promulgate this proposed regulation, including (1) the most relevant citations to the Code of Virginia or General Assembly chapter number(s), if applicable, and (2) promulgating entity, i.e., agency, board, or person. Your citation should include a specific provision authorizing the promulgating entity to regulate this specific subject or program, as well as a reference to the agency/board/person's overall regulatory authority.

SB 1201, which was passed unanimously by the 2013 General Assembly and signed by the Governor, eliminates language in § 22.1-25(D) that requires the Board of Education to promulgate regulations about the consolidation of school divisions. The bill says, in part:

~~"D.. Consistent with its the authority of the Board pursuant to Article VIII, Section 5 of the Constitution of Virginia to designate school divisions in the Commonwealth of such geographic size and school-age population as will best promote the realization of the standards of quality, the Board shall promulgate regulations consistent with the provisions of this section that provide for a process whereby school divisions local school boards may submit proposals for the consolidation of school divisions to the Board of Education. Such regulations shall provide for, among other things, a public Prior to the submission of a consolidation proposal, the submitting school board shall give notice to the public and hearing process to be conducted by the applicant school divisions shall conduct one or more public hearings.~~

School divisions submitting proposals for consolidation shall include such information and data as may be required by the Board necessary to support their proposal..."

Purpose

Please explain the need for the new or amended regulation. Describe the rationale or justification of the proposed regulatory action. Detail the specific reasons the regulation is essential to protect the health, safety or welfare of citizens. Discuss the goals of the proposal and the problems the proposal is intended to solve.

Repealing this regulation is necessary to comport with the Governor’s Regulatory Reform Initiative.

Rationale for using fast track process

Please explain the rationale for using the fast track process in promulgating this regulation. Why do you expect this rulemaking to be noncontroversial?

Please note: If an objection to the use of the fast-track process is received within the 30-day public comment period from 10 or more persons, any member of the applicable standing committee of either house of the General Assembly or of the Joint Commission on Administrative Rules, the agency shall (i) file notice of the objections with the Registrar of Regulations for publication in the Virginia Register, and (ii) proceed with the normal promulgation process with the initial publication of the fast-track regulation serving as the Notice of Intended Regulatory Action.

Repeal of the regulation is not expected to be controversial because SB 1201 passed the General Assembly unanimously, and there was no opposition from any of the education organizations or other entities during the General Assembly. The regulations simply duplicate the provisions already in the Code.

Substance

Please briefly identify and explain the new substantive provisions, the substantive changes to existing sections, or both where appropriate. (Provide more detail about these changes in the “Detail of changes” section.) Please be sure to define any acronyms.

None. This would simply repeal regulations that duplicate provisions of the Code.

Issues

Please identify the issues associated with the proposed regulatory action, including:
1) *the primary advantages and disadvantages to the public, such as individual private citizens or businesses, of implementing the new or amended provisions;*
2) *the primary advantages and disadvantages to the agency or the Commonwealth; and*
3) *other pertinent matters of interest to the regulated community, government officials, and the public. If there are no disadvantages to the public or the Commonwealth, please indicate.*

The regulations duplicate language in the Code and are unnecessary.

Requirements more restrictive than federal

Please identify and describe any requirement of the proposal which is more restrictive than applicable federal requirements. Include a rationale for the need for the more restrictive requirements. If there are no applicable federal requirements or no requirements that exceed applicable federal requirements, include a statement to that effect.

N/A

Localities particularly affected

Please identify any locality particularly affected by the proposed regulation. Locality particularly affected means any locality which bears any identified disproportionate material impact which would not be experienced by other localities.

N/A

Regulatory flexibility analysis

Pursuant to §2.2-4007.1B of the Code of Virginia, please describe the agency's analysis of alternative regulatory methods, consistent with health, safety, environmental, and economic welfare, that will accomplish the objectives of applicable law while minimizing the adverse impact on small business. Alternative regulatory methods include, at a minimum: 1) the establishment of less stringent compliance or reporting requirements; 2) the establishment of less stringent schedules or deadlines for compliance or reporting requirements; 3) the consolidation or simplification of compliance or reporting requirements; 4) the establishment of performance standards for small businesses to replace design or operational standards required in the proposed regulation; and 5) the exemption of small businesses from all or any part of the requirements contained in the proposed regulation.

Repealing unnecessary and duplicative regulations is the most flexible alternative that was considered.

Economic impact

Please identify the anticipated economic impact of the proposed new regulations or amendments to the existing regulation. When describing a particular economic impact, please specify which new requirement or change in requirement creates the anticipated economic impact.

Projected cost to the state to implement and enforce the proposed regulation, including (a) fund source / fund detail, and (b) a delineation of one-time versus on-going expenditures	None
Projected cost of the new regulations or changes to existing regulations on localities.	None
Description of the individuals, businesses or other entities likely to be affected by the new regulations or changes to existing regulations.	N/A
Agency's best estimate of the number of such entities that will be affected. Please include an estimate of the number of small businesses affected. Small business means a business entity, including its affiliates, that (i) is independently owned and operated and (ii) employs fewer than	N/A

500 full-time employees or has gross annual sales of less than \$6 million.	
All projected costs of the <i>new regulations or changes to existing regulations</i> for affected individuals, businesses, or other entities. Please be specific and include all costs. Be sure to include the projected reporting, recordkeeping, and other administrative costs required for compliance by small businesses. Specify any costs related to the development of real estate for commercial or residential purposes that are a consequence of the proposed regulatory changes or new regulations.	None
Beneficial impact the regulation is designed to produce.	Elimination of a duplicative and unnecessary regulation.

Alternatives

Please describe any viable alternatives to the proposal considered and the rationale used by the agency to select the least burdensome or intrusive alternative that meets the essential purpose of the action. Also, include discussion of less intrusive or less costly alternatives for small businesses, as defined in §2.2-4007.1 of the Code of Virginia, of achieving the purpose of the regulation.

The alternative would be to maintain the regulation.

Family impact

Please assess the impact of the proposed regulatory action on the institution of the family and family stability including to what extent the regulatory action will: 1) strengthen or erode the authority and rights of parents in the education, nurturing, and supervision of their children; 2) encourage or discourage economic self-sufficiency, self-pride, and the assumption of responsibility for oneself, one's spouse, and one's children and/or elderly parents; 3) strengthen or erode the marital commitment; and 4) increase or decrease disposable family income.

None

Detail of changes

Please list all changes that are being proposed and the consequences of the proposed changes. If the proposed regulation is a new chapter, describe the intent of the language and the expected impact. Please describe the difference between existing regulation(s) and/or agency practice(s) and what is being proposed in this regulatory action.

*If the proposed regulation is intended to replace an emergency regulation, please list separately (1) all differences between the **pre-emergency** regulation and this proposed regulation, and (2) only changes made since the publication of the emergency regulation.*

For changes to existing regulation(s), use this chart:

Current section number	Proposed new section number, if applicable	Current requirement	Proposed change, intent, rationale, and likely impact of proposed requirements
8VAC20-710-10		Definitions	Repeal the section because it is unnecessary.
8VAC20-710-20		Administration	Repeal the section because it is unnecessary.
8VAC20-710-30		Consolidation process	Repeal the section because it is unnecessary.