



Virginia Department of Planning and Budget **Economic Impact Analysis**

12 VAC 5-90; 120 – Regulations for Disease Reporting and Control; Regulations for Testing Children for Elevated Blood Lead Levels
Virginia Department of Health
December 15, 2014

Summary of the Proposed Amendments to Regulation

The State Board of Health proposes to consolidate rules for testing lead levels above certain thresholds in children's blood and for reporting of cases.

Result of Analysis

The benefits likely exceed the costs for all proposed changes.

Estimated Economic Impact

Currently, there are two related regulations on testing lead levels in children's blood. One of the regulations (12 VAC 5-120) addresses testing for blood levels and various subsequent actions that must be taken if the lead levels are above certain thresholds. The other regulation (12 VAC 5-90) addresses reporting of cases if the test results are above the thresholds. This proposed action will consolidate both sets of regulations in 12 VAC 5-90 and will clarify the existing language. While the proposed changes also include a minor change in the lead levels that trigger subsequent action, according to VDH, the proposed levels have been followed in practice for a few years already. Since the proposed action will consolidate two separate sets of regulations under one, it will likely improve the clarity of the regulations and help the public find all of the testing and reporting requirements on this subject in one chapter. Because there will be no change in practice, no significant economic impact is anticipated.

Businesses and Entities Affected

These regulations apply primarily to physicians who diagnose and treat children. There are approximately 1,200 pediatricians and 3,300 family practitioners in Virginia.

Localities Particularly Affected

The regulations apply throughout the Commonwealth.

Projected Impact on Employment

The proposal amendments are unlikely to significantly affect employment.

Effects on the Use and Value of Private Property

The proposed amendments are unlikely to significantly affect the use and value of private property.

Small Businesses: Costs and Other Effects

The proposed amendments are unlikely to significantly affect small businesses.

Small Businesses: Alternative Method that Minimizes Adverse Impact

The proposed amendments are unlikely to adversely affect small businesses.

Real Estate Development Costs

The proposed amendments are unlikely to affect real estate development costs.

Legal Mandate

General: The Department of Planning and Budget (DPB) has analyzed the economic impact of this proposed regulation in accordance with § 2.2-4007.04 of the Code of Virginia and Executive Order Number 17 (2014). Section 2.2-4007.04 requires that such economic impact analyses determine the public benefits and costs of the proposed amendments. Further the report should include but not be limited to:

- the projected number of businesses or other entities to whom the proposed 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.

Small Businesses: If the proposed regulation will have an adverse effect on small businesses, § 2.2-4007.04 requires that such economic impact analyses include:

- an identification and estimate of the number of small businesses subject to the proposed regulation,

- the projected reporting, recordkeeping, and other administrative costs required for small businesses to comply with the proposed regulation, including the type of professional skills necessary for preparing required reports and other documents,
- a statement of the probable effect of the proposed regulation on affected small businesses, and
- a description of any less intrusive or less costly alternative methods of achieving the purpose of the proposed regulation.

Additionally, pursuant to § 2.2-4007.1, if there is a finding that a proposed regulation may have an adverse impact on small business, the Joint Commission on Administrative Rules (JCAR) is notified at the time the proposed regulation is submitted to the *Virginia Register of Regulations* for publication. This analysis shall represent DPB's best estimate for the purposes of public review and comment on the proposed regulation.

000

Town Hall ID: 4091/7064