



Economic Impact Analysis Virginia Department of Planning and Budget

6 VAC 15-40 – Minimum Standards for Jails and Lockups
Board of Corrections
January 25, 2010

Summary of the Proposed Amendments to Regulation

The Board of Corrections proposes 1) to require a Tuberculosis skin test for all inmates within seven days of admission to the facility, 2) to require that at least one Automated External Defibrillator must be available in each facility and all security staff must receive training in the operation of the unit, and 3) to clarify numerous current standards.

Result of Analysis

The benefits likely exceed the costs for all proposed changes.

Estimated Economic Impact

The Board of Corrections proposes 1) to require a Tuberculosis skin test for all inmates within seven days of admission to the facility, 2) to require that at least one Automated External Defibrillator must be available in each facility and all security staff must receive training in the operation of the unit, and 3) to clarify numerous current standards.

According to Department of Corrections, Tuberculosis skin test costs between \$1.37 and \$3.50 per test.¹ The cost is paid by local governments. The number of commitments in fiscal year 2009 was approximately 399,000. However, most of the commitments do not stay at the facility long enough to be administered the test. Thus, it is difficult to precisely estimate the total cost of this change on the localities. On the benefits side, this proposed change helps identifying the infected individuals and isolating them so that other inmates are not infected.

The proposed changes also require facilities to have at least one Automated External Defibrillator available and to train their security personnel. Department of Corrections estimates

¹ One locality reported that they pay \$38 per test to its health department.

that the cost of this equipment is approximately \$600. Also, the training is expected to be completed within 30 minutes or less. It is highly likely that most facilities will incorporate this training into their CPR training curriculum. According to the department, at least half of the facilities already have this equipment available. The main benefit of this change is to be able to quickly intervene and improve the chances of survival when someone is having a heart problem.

The rest of the proposed changes clarify existing standards. Thus, no significant economic impact is expected from those changes other than improving the clarity of the regulations.

Businesses and Entities Affected

Approximately 84 correctional facilities may be affected. The number of individuals housed at these facilities was 28,782 on October 31, 2009.

Localities Particularly Affected

The proposed regulations apply throughout the commonwealth.

Projected Impact on Employment

The proposed regulations are expected to increase demand for labor to administer skin test and train security personnel for Automated External Defibrillator.

Effects on the Use and Value of Private Property

The proposed changes are not expected to have a significant effect on the use and value of private property.

Small Businesses: Costs and Other Effects

The proposed changes do not have direct costs or other affects on small businesses.

Small Businesses: Alternative Method that Minimizes Adverse Impact

The proposed changes do not have an adverse impact on small businesses.

Real Estate Development Costs

The proposed changes do not affect real estate development costs.

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 107 (09). 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.