**Virginia Port Authority**
**Aging Report (HB 110)**
**September 20, 2006**

Below are the Virginia Port Authority's responses to the questions on the impact of Virginia's aging population on the demand for and cost of state agency services, policies, and program management for 2006.

1. *To the extent such data is available, the number of persons who received services from the agency in the past fiscal year who fell into each of the following age ranges: 65-74; 75-84; and 85 and older. If the agency can provide data that compares such numbers to numbers of senior citizens served in the past, please do so. If the agency lacks specific information about the numbers of senior citizens it serves, but has other evidence indicating that it is serving more or fewer senior citizens than it has in the past, please describe the basis for that estimation.*

   The Virginia Port Authority offered services to five (5) seniors between the ages of 65-74 this past fiscal year.

2. *Identify the agency services that are utilized by senior citizens 65 and older in significant numbers. Indicate whether the agency has the capacity at present to serve all interested seniors or whether the demand for certain services exceeds the agency's capacity. If so, does the agency maintain waiting lists for services?*

   Education and training incentives – Senior citizens at the Virginia Port Authority utilize education and training incentives like younger workers. The Agency has experienced an increase in productivity and skill levels. These benefits have created better human capital and increased long-term growth.

   Health Care/Wellness Programs – Senior citizens at the Virginia Port Authority take advantage of health care benefits and wellness programs. As the Virginian population ages, the Authority expects an increase in chronic medical conditions. Seniors will need more medical assistance, as well as more preventive health care assistance and programs that encourage healthy lifestyles.

   The Authority has the capacity at present to serve all interested seniors. However, as the Virginia population ages, the Authority expects an increase in health insurance and pension costs.

3. *Identify current agency programs, specifically designed to serve seniors 65 and older, that fall into any of the following six categories: Health Care/Wellness; Education; Public Safety; Recreation; Financial Security (including Housing); and Transportation.*

   The Authority does not provide services specifically to, or that target, senior citizens 65 and older.

4. *Identify the extent to which your agency provides "consumer-oriented" publications and websites online that are designed to be "senior-friendly." If the information you currently provide is not readily accessible to seniors, identify any steps your agency is taking to improve accessibility.*

The Virginia Port Authority does not currently provide or have plans to provide any "consumer-oriented" publications or websites specifically for seniors.

5. *Describe any other services or programs that the agency has implemented or plans to implement in the future to address the impact of the aging of Virginia's population.*

The Authority addressed an aspect of the potential for soaring pension benefit costs by omitting the automatic cost-of-living (COLA) increase when the Authority established a defined benefit plan in 1997. Omitting the automatic COLA provides management with the ability to better control future pension costs.

As a result of allowing retirees to remain on Authority sponsored health insurance plans, the cost of coverage, both to the Authority and the employee, are expected to increase as more employees retire under the plan. However, as a result of the Authority having a relatively young workforce, the impact over the next few years is expected to be minimal.

If you need any additional information, I have designated Rodney Oliver, Director of Finance and Treasurer to the Board, as the Virginia Port Authority's official agency contact. He can be reached at (757) 683-2170, or roliver@portofvirginia.com.