



Virginia Interfaith Center 2021 Legislative Priorities

Criminal Justice Reform

- Abolish the Death Penalty in Virginia- **SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR!**
 - SB 1165- Senator Scott Surovell/ HB 2263- Delegate Mike Mullin
 - Becomes law on July 1, 2021

Economic Justice

- Paid Sick Days – Establish a standard of 5 paid sick days for full-time employees for essential workers- **AMENDED VERSION PASSED THAT WILL GET 30,000 HOME CARE WORKERS PAID SICK DAYS! SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR!**
 - HB 2137- Delegate Elizabeth Guzman
 - Becomes law on July 1, 2021

Environmental Justice

- Water is a Human Right– support a proclamation outlining importance of clean, safe, affordable drinking water as a right for all residents of the Commonwealth- **RESOLUTION PASSED!**
 - HJ 538- Delegate Lashrecse Aird
- Equitably Modernize Public Transit- support a study on public transit overhaul- **RESOLUTION PASSED!**
 - HJ 542- Delegate Delores McQuinn
- Environmental Justice Act- support improvements to ground breaking legislation passed in 2020- **DID NOT PASS**
 - SB 1318- Senator Ghazala Hashmi/ HB 2074- Delegate Shelly Simonds

Farm Worker Justice

- Access to the Minimum Wage- many farmworkers in Virginia are not subject to federal or state minimum wage laws leading to some to be paid under \$5/hour- **DID NOT PASS**
 - HB 1786- Delegate Jeion Ward
- Heat Stress- Create standards for outdoor workers including water breaks and shade access on extremely hot days- **NON-LEGISLATIVE SOLUTION AGREED TO**
 - SB 1358- Senator Ghazala Hashmi/ HB 1785- Delegate Jeion Ward

Health Equity

- Prenatal Care for All Mothers – Support a budget amendment to extend Medicaid/FAMIS MOMS prenatal care to undocumented women who meet all other non-immigration eligibility criteria- **BUDGET AMENDMENT PASSED, INCLUDED IN THE FINAL BUDGET!**
 - Budget Amendment: HB 1800 Item 312 #1h & 313 #16h - Delegate Elizabeth Guzman

- Budget Amendment: SB 1100 Item # TBD- Senator Jennifer McClellan