



Policy Priorities for 2026

VICPP is leading the work on these bills and issues. A legislative overview that includes bills that the organization supports through coalitions will be coming out soon.

Affordable Housing

Expediting Affordable Housing: This bill will allow localities to streamline the rezoning process for anyone that wants to build affordable housing at increased density.

Yes in God's Backyard: VICPP supports a state-wide administrative approval process for affordable housing on faith owned land (also known as Faith in Housing by-right).

Criminal Justice Reform

Higher Education in Prison: VICPP supports a bill to expand access to college programs in state prisons, establish a state-level Advisory Group, and include educational data from VDOC in the Virginia Longitudinal Data System (VLDS) to enable assessment of employment impacts.

Restoration of Voting Rights: This bill would take the next step in amending the [Virginia Constitution](#) to restore voting rights to persons with felony convictions after they have completed their sentences. Currently, the Governor has the sole authority to restore voting rights.

Protect the mother/baby in a pregnancy with substance exposure. This is a bill to encourage Virginia moms to enter into prenatal care. Virginia's law currently triggers child abuse and neglect referrals when an infant is born affected by substance use even when the mother is engaged in medicated assisted treatment (MAT), or when the substance involved, such as cannabis, has been decriminalized.

Health Equity

Expand access to midwives: This budget amendment will direct DMAS and VDH to convene a work group that brings stakeholders together to study barriers that prevent Virginia moms on Medicaid from accessing Cardinal Care with all midwives that are licensed by the state upon entry into care.

Bias Reduction: This bill requires that bias reduction training become an eligibility criterion for license renewal for all health care professionals licensed by the Virginia Board of Medicine and Virginia Board of Nursing.

Increase access to health providers in schools: This bill permits the use of at-risk add-on funding to hire registered nurses (RNs) and advance practice registered nurses (APRNs) to support the physical and mental health of students in public schools.

Supporting Working Families

Paid Sick Days: This bill would ensure all workers in Virginia have access to paid sick days. It would create a standard to require all employers to provide up to five paid sick days (40 hours) each year. Employees would earn one hour of paid sick leave for every 30 hours worked.

Child Care: VICPP supports the initiatives of the Virginia Promise Partnership to ensure Virginia families can access quality, affordable child care.