

FACT SHEET

2026 Budget Priorities

Virginia's budget reflects the Commonwealth's priorities. Lawmakers must protect those in need through their funding choices. These amendments are proposed changes to proposed changes to the biennial budget, bill numbers [SB 30](#) and [HB 30](#), which cover spending from July 2026 to June 2028.

Supporting Working Families

Protecting food stamps (SNAP) access. Budget amendments 328 #6h, 329 #1s and 329 #1s would provide money for Virginia's Department of Social Services to create and administer a food assistance program like SNAP to provide state funded food assistance to individuals who meet all other eligibility requirements for SNAP, but are no longer eligible due federal changes from HR 1.

Affordable Housing

Housing Trust Fund. Budget amendments 102 #23h and 102 #2s would provide \$200.0 million each year for the Virginia Housing Trust Fund, which is an increase from the budget.

Expanding access to Virginia's Eviction Reduction Program. Budget amendments 102 #3s, 102 #4s, and 102 #9h would provide additional money for Virginia's Eviction Reduction Program (VERP). These funds can pay rent or cover expenses that will prevent households from being evicted.

Support people experiencing homelessness. Budget amendments 102 #18s and 102 #13h would ensure that Continuum of Care services receive support after federal cuts

Health Equity

Creating additional funding for free and charitable clinics. Amendment 282 #3s would increase funds

for Virginia Federally Qualified Health Clinics to continue providing comprehensive health services for the most vulnerable and uninsured Virginians. Amendment 282 #9s would provide money to support the clinics' delivery of medical, dental, vision, speech, hearing, and behavioral health care, along with medications.

Protecting FAMIS investments to maintain access to prenatal care and health insurance. Budget amendments 290 #1s and 290 #1h would restore the FAMIS Prenatal Coverage Program so that pregnant women with low incomes have access to prenatal care.

Protecting Medicaid. Items 291 #1s and 291 #9h would restore inflation adjustments for various Medicaid providers, such as hospitals and nursing homes, that were proposed in the introduced budget to be withheld for the 2026-2028 Biennium.

Increasing access to Children's Health coverage; increase FAMIS eligibility to 305% of the federal poverty level. Item 290 #4s would provide additional resources to increase the upper income eligibility for coverage for Virginia's Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) beyond households with income below 205 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), of the lowest rates in the country.

Creating a midwifery taskforce. Budget amendment 295 #13s pays for a new position for the Department of Medical Assistance Services and the Virginia Department of Health to convene a workgroup to identify the barriers that prevent certain midwives licensed by the State of Virginia from contracting with managed care organizations (MCOs) through Cardinal Care.