

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 the introduced 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 #1h, 330 #1h, 270 #1s, 329 #2s and 330 #2s protect SNAP access (federal program that provides monthly, income-based electronic benefits to low-income households for purchasing nutritious food) threatened by Federal cuts and prepare for the implementation of H.R. 1 mandated requirements in order to prevent delays in access.

Child Care. Amendments 126 #1h and 126 #1s fund a pilot program for child care assistance.

Paid Sick Days. Amendments 352 #1s, 352 #3h, 471 #1h provide funding to support paid sick days.

Affordable Housing

Housing Trust Fund. Budget amendments 102 #3h and 102 #1s would increase the money for Virginia's Housing Trust Fund. In the House, the proposed increase is \$12.5 million, while in the Senate, it's \$50 million.

Expanding access to Virginia's Eviction Reduction Program. Budget amendments 102 #1h and 102 #2s 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 amendment 102 #8h (*no Senate equivalent*) would ensure that Continuum of Care services receive support after federal cuts.

Health Equity

Investing in Virginia's health safety net facilities. Budget amendments 282 #2h and 282 #1s would increase funds for clinics supporting low-income Virginians, primarily free clinics, so they can continue providing health services for the most vulnerable and uninsured Virginians.

Protecting FAMIS investments to maintain access to prenatal care and health insurance.

Amendments 290 #1h and 290 #1s would restore the FAMIS Prenatal Coverage Program so that pregnant women with low incomes have access to prenatal care.

Protecting Medicaid. Given the change in federal funding for Medicaid, it is up to Virginia to ensure that income-eligible families maintain access to needed care. Amendments 282 #1s and 282 #2h provide funding for free and charitable clinics as a safety net.

Creating a midwifery taskforce. Budget amendment 295 #3s (*no House equivalent*) 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.