

VaOurWay
2026 Legislative Priorities
As of December 6, 2025

Affordable Housing

1. Support/introduce legislation to establish statewide housing targets and require localities to increase their total housing stock by 1.5% per year for five consequent years. This legislation would reduce hurdles in building new, affordable housing and assist non-profits and faith-based organizations who are working with developers to address the housing crisis. Massachusetts, New Jersey and New York have adopted similar housing plans. During the 2025 session, this legislation (HB 2641/SB 975) was sponsored by Delegate Helmer and Senator VanValkenburg. While it passed the House, it failed in Senate Finance and Appropriations.
2. Support legislation to mandate zoning for accessory dwelling units.
3. Support/introduce legislation to facilitate the sale of tax delinquent real property.
4. Create safer and cleaner neighborhoods with “Clean it or Lien it” legislation. Support legislation to fast track the sale of abandoned and rundown properties.

Workforce Development

1. Support proposals to increase partnerships with the Virginia Community College System to expand certificate programs in technology, pharmaceutical and medical fields.
2. Assist and support the following Claude Moore Scholars Program initiatives:
 - a. Establish an expedited pathway for medics and medical corpsmen transitioning from the military into the health care workforce. Delegate Rodney Willett will sponsor the legislation.
 - b. Establish an expedited pathway for military medical personnel to transition into behavioral health. Delegate Rodney Willett will sponsor the legislation.
 - c. Increase funding for the Virginia Health Workforce Innovation Fund to support oral health (dental assistants and dentists). Delegate Rodney Willett will sponsor the legislation or budget amendment.

Early Childhood Care and Education

1. Support Governor-Elect Spanberger's priorities to expand access to early childhood care and education, including reducing the waitlist for childcare subsidy programs.
2. Support Senator Aird's SB 3 that provides grants to employers who help their employees with childcare costs.
3. Support Senator Locke's SB 20 that requires the gradual tapering of child care subsidies when families lose eligibility for the subsidies.

Energy

1. Oppose proposals on net metering that would charge additional fees on homeowners who invest in solar.
2. Introduce/support legislation to encourage the development and use of small modular nuclear reactors (SMRs) as a future energy source.
3. Support legislation on balcony solar (Senator Surovell), solar interconnection, and solar canopies.
4. Support legislation that regulates the siting of data centers to be a specific distance from residential areas and schools.
5. Support energy solutions that require data centers to produce their own energy onsite and reduce their water usage by recycling.
6. Support Virginia Farm Bureau Federation's legislation to define and expand agrivoltaics (co-location of solar energy generation and agriculture). This legislation will provide financial stability for farmers and help reduce their energy costs.

Elections

1. Support ranked choice voting legislation.
2. Support legislation on the National Popular Vote Compact.

Health

1. Expand access to GLP-1 medications for Medicaid members. These medications offer several health benefits beyond weight loss, including improving blood sugar control, cardiovascular health, and metabolic functions.