



Healthcare

We support efforts to:

- automatically enroll low-income, disabled Virginians into Medicaid.
- protect eligible Medicaid enrollees from losing coverage after the end of the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- expand health coverage to undocumented children.

We oppose legislation that:

- removes children from Medicaid when there's a small household income increase.
- attacks immigrant coverage options.
- expands the sale of short-term limited duration "junk" health insurance plans.



Domestic & Sexual Violence

Some victims of violence are compelled to ask the court for a Protective Order from an abusive partner or assailant. VPLC works to improve the PO process and make it more accessible to all victims, especially those who are low-income.



Fairness to Consumers

We oppose unfair and unjust treatment of consumers. We will support legislation that:

- prohibits holding college transcripts hostage for an unpaid debt.
- prohibits unfair and abusive conduct by towing companies.



Families

VPLC supports:

- improving legal representation for parents in child dependency cases.
- reduced policing of low-income families by Child Protective Services.



Social Safety Net

VPLC supports:

- increasing the minimum SNAP benefit for the elderly.
- a fair system of waiving unintended unemployment compensation overpayments as exists in 40 other states.



Language Access

Low-income Limited English Proficiency (LEP) speakers should be able to access services from state agencies and the courts regardless of whether they can speak English or have disabilities that affect their ability to communicate. VPLC will continue its work with legislators and other stakeholders to:

- require each state agency to develop and implement a language access plan.
- designate language access coordinators responsible for developing and implementing each agency's language access plan.

Care for Disabled & Older Adults

VPLC supports:

- minimum statewide staffing standards to improve the quality of care in nursing homes to protect residents and staff.
- increased funding for the care of residents in assisted living facilities.

Affordable Energy

VPLC will work to:

- keep electric bills affordable by making changes to the complicated set of Virginia laws that allow monopoly utility companies to keep adding additional fees through riders. Current bills have six riders.
- establish an Energy Policy Commission to review proposed changes to energy laws before they are brought to the legislature.

Housing Affordability & Stability

VPLC supports legislative changes that address the rental housing crisis and strengthen housing stability, including:

VA EVICTION REDUCTION FUND

- a significant increase to the Virginia Eviction Reduction Fund to enable more localities to receive funding. VERP funds local emergency rental assistance and other local programs to prevent evictions.

VA HOUSING STABILITY FUND

- establish and fund the Virginia Housing Stability Fund to provide long-term rental assistance to families.

RENT STABILIZATION

- provide localities with the option of setting limits on how much residential rents can increase each year.

SECURITY DEPOSIT REFORM

- reduce the maximum allowable security deposit from two months' rent to one month's rent, and establish a faster process for security deposit returns.

HOUSING STABILITY

- require better notice of any rent increase.
- improve opportunities for tenants to pay what they owe before their landlord files an eviction case in court. Tenants with eviction court cases on their records have a harder time finding new, suitable housing, even if their cases were dismissed.
- empower localities to bring actions against residential landlords to enforce the health and safety provisions of the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act.

