

2025 Legislative Agenda

Safe and Affordable Housing

Protect Tenants from Eviction

- ▶ Increase funding for eviction prevention and tenant legal support
- ▶ Extend the “pay or quit” notice for late rent to 14 days

Improve Tenant Choices

- ▶ Prohibit housing discrimination based on expunged eviction records
- ▶ Require landlords to accept all forms of rental payments

Public Housing Protections

- ▶ Simplify eviction appeals for public housing tenants
- ▶ Ban extra fees for repairs in public housing

Manufactured Home Ownership

- ▶ Mandate clear fee disclosures and floodplain status for manufactured home parks

Fair Access to Home Ownership

- ▶ Fund first-time homebuyers in Community Land Trusts

Supporting Families & Children

Access to Healthcare

- ▶ Expand health coverage to all kids and ensure seamless insurance for children from birth to age six
- ▶ Simplify access to prenatal care and reduce barriers to healthcare, including cancer treatment under Emergency Medicaid

Food Security

- ▶ Guarantee free school meals for all children
- ▶ Increase minimum SNAP benefits for seniors

Economic Stability

- ▶ Expand child-focused tax credits and improve services for non-English-speaking families
- ▶ Ensure families can appeal unfair decisions in public benefit cases

(continued on back)

(Supporting Families & Children continued)

Protecting Families

- ▶ Streamline protective orders for domestic violence survivors and restrict abusers' use of cell phones for stalking
- ▶ Modernize divorce laws to reduce delay in cruelty cases

Keeping Families Together

- ▶ Provide legal support to families involved with child protective services to reduce family separation and need for foster care

Empowering Youth in Foster Care

- ▶ Ensure youth are informed of their rights while in care

Protecting Consumer Rights

Strengthening Unemployment Insurance

- ▶ Increase weekly benefits and allow part-time workers to keep more of their earnings
- ▶ Provide additional support for caregivers and their families

Ensuring Utility Fairness

- ▶ Expand access to energy assistance programs like LIHEAP for low-income households

Creating a Fair Marketplace

- ▶ Stop evasions of Virginia's 2020 Fairness in Lending Act
- ▶ Require transparency of mandatory fees

Safeguarding Family Finances

- ▶ Protect wages and bank accounts from unreasonable debt collectors to ensure basic living needs are met
- ▶ Simplify the return of unclaimed property to families without unnecessary delays

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