

Virginia Housing Alliance

Expanding Housing Opportunity and Ending Homelessness

2018 Legislative Agenda

This agenda represents items that VHA and many of its partners are supporting in the 2018 Virginia General Assembly Session.

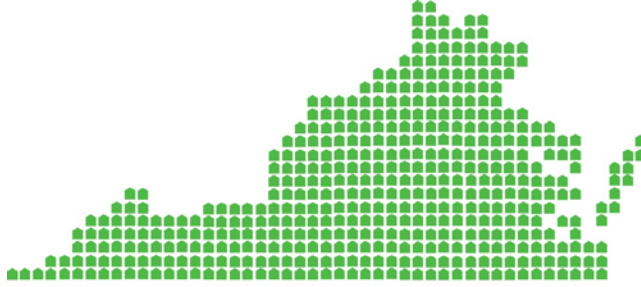
Top Priorities

Secure an Additional \$5.5 Million in Funding for the Virginia Housing Trust Fund

Since its creation in 2012, the Virginia Housing Trust Fund has been instrumental in the creation and preservation of quality, affordable housing, while also fostering regional economic growth through increased capital investment. By increasing funding from \$4.5 million to \$10 million in the state budget, Virginia can address the needs of its most vulnerable, while also supporting local economies. This is why VHA supports bipartisan efforts from Senator Howell (**SB30- Item 105 #1s**) and Delegate Peace (**SB30- Item 105 #2h**) to increase funding for the Trust Fund in 2018.

Increase and Protect Funding for Permanent Supportive Housing for Adults with Serious Mental Illness

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) is an evidence based practice that reduces and prevents homelessness among adults with Serious Mental Illness (SMI), including those with co-occurring medical disabilities or substance use disorders. This funding would expand rental assistance and supportive services to keep hundreds more of adults with SMI stably housed. That is why VHA supports a Delegate Levine's budget amendment (**HB30 - Item 312 #6h**) to increase PSH funding at the level requested by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS). Conversely, VHA opposes efforts by Senator Dunnivant (**SB30 Item 312 #6s**) to move new PSH funding from the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) to Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS), as well as Delegate Poindexter's budget amendment (**SB30 Item 312 #5h**) to eliminate PSH funding for pregnant and parenting women struggling with substance use disorder (SUD).



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Other Bills VHA Supports

Expand Affordable Dwelling Unit (ADU) Ordinances

(SB290 McClellan)

In Northern Virginia, ADU ordinances have been key in allowing localities to create housing affordable to people of all income levels. Amending the law to allow any locality to invest in an ADU program will promote a full range of housing choices and encourage the construction and continued existence of affordable housing across the Commonwealth.

Keep up with all the bills VHA is tracking at:

[Virginia Housing Alliance 2018 Bill Chart](#)

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