



# Recommendations for Legislative Action

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# Recommendations to General Assembly 2019–2022

- Legislative action – General Assembly has fully or partially implemented 89 recommendations
- No legislative action yet
  - 8 newly issued recommendations from 2022
  - 78 recommendations from 2019, 2020, and 2021 thus far unimplemented

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## Recommendations: Improve legal representation and due process in juvenile delinquency cases

- Increase compensation for court-appointed attorneys for juveniles
- Strengthen training requirements for court-appointed attorneys serving juveniles
- Ensure more timely circuit court hearings for juveniles

Virginia's Juvenile Justice System (2021)

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## Recommendations: Improve rehabilitative programming at state & local detention centers

- Require DJJ to use evidence-based programs shown to reduce likelihood of youth reoffending
- Require local juvenile detention centers to use evidence-based programs
- Set appropriate training requirements for front-line staff in local juvenile detention centers
- Require DJJ to regularly review quality of local juvenile detention center rehabilitative programming
- Direct VDOE to develop a plan to use an extended school year schedule in local juvenile detention centers

Virginia's Juvenile Justice System (2021)

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## Recommendations: Strengthen state's affordable housing role

- Direct DHCD to conduct housing needs assessment and develop statewide housing plan at least every five years
- Require Virginia Housing to submit annual report to money committees on contributions to & balance of REACH program, REACH-supported initiatives, and REACH outcomes
- Require Virginia Housing to reserve units in workforce housing projects for low-income households and ensure rents in those units are affordable
- Direct DHCD to recommend an incentive program to encourage local affordable housing zoning policies

Affordable Housing in Virginia (2021)

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## Recommendations: Improving public and private guardianship

- Require guardians ad litem to include more information in court reports about suitability of potential guardians
- Require circuit courts to hold periodic review hearings for guardianship cases 1 year after appointment, then every 3 years
- Require training for private guardians and prohibit “self dealing”
- Give DARS new responsibilities for private guardianship
- Expand and fund 700 new slots in the public guardianship program to eliminate current waitlist

Improving Virginia’s Adult Guardian and Conservator System (2021)

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## Recommendations: Improve oversight for conservatorships

- Require conservators to complete state-provided training
- Implement requirements to ensure individuals' assets are accurately and completely documented

Improving Virginia's Adult Guardian and Conservator System (2021)

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## Recommendations: Use private day school funds more effectively

- Allow funds currently reserved for private day school placements to be used for services delivered in public schools that can prevent more restrictive placements of students
- Direct transfer of funds for students placed in special education private day school or residential facilities to VDOE

Children's Services Act and Private Special Day School Costs (2020)



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## Recommendations: Improve R&D tax credits

- Prioritize R&D tax credits for smaller companies that will likely benefit most from them
- Improve major R&D tax credit
  - adjust reimbursement structure
  - prioritize research conducted with higher education institutions

Science and Technology Incentives (2022)