



Recommendations for Legislative Action

Recommendations: Improve safety and treatment at state's psychiatric hospitals

- Allow state psychiatric hospitals to deny admissions that would push occupancy above 85% of staffed capacity
- Allow state psychiatric hospitals to delay or deny admission to individuals with urgent medical needs that the hospital cannot treat
- Avoid involuntary placement of certain individuals with neurocognitive disorders (e.g., dementia) in psychiatric hospitals

Recommendations 1, 3, 5, and 12 of *Virginia's State Psychiatric Hospitals* (2023)

Recommendations: Improve safety and treatment at state's psychiatric hospitals (cont'd)

- Direct development of a plan to close the Commonwealth Center for Children and Adolescents (CCCA) and pursue alternative placement options included in the November 2024 DBHDS report
- Fund incentives for state-licensed, privately operated psychiatric hospitals to increase their number of involuntary inpatient admissions, including children and youth
 - Funds could be used for additional security, facility safety improvements, staff training
- Direct DBHDS to contract for a comprehensive assessment of state hospitals' staffing needs

Recommendations 7, 22, and 32 of *Virginia's State Psychiatric Hospitals* (2023)

Recommendations: Improve staffing and management of the Department of Health

- Fund specialized “recruiter” positions for VDH’s Office of Human Resources to focus on hiring qualified staff into especially critical or hard-to-fill positions
- Establish in statute a chief operating officer position at VDH and specify qualifications
- Add “organizational leadership” and “administration experience” to the required qualifications of the commissioner of health

Recommendations 18, 29, and 30 from *Virginia Department of Health’s Financial Management, Staffing, and Accountability* (2024)

Recommendation: Consider cost implications of non-instructional policies

- Require boards of visitors to fully consider the impact that policies and decisions in non-instructional areas have on student costs

Recommendation 1 from *Higher Education Spending and Efficiency* (2024)

Recommendation: Improve post-release employment of inmates who enrolled in CTE correctional programs

- Fund positions to help inmates who have enrolled in career and technical education programs obtain employment after release

Recommendation 10 from *Virginia's Correctional Education Programs* (2025)

Recommendations: Help reduce backlogged capital maintenance and ensure key capital outlay projects are well managed

- Direct 6PAC to establish a goal for the percentage of agencies' combined capital maintenance costs that should be funded through the state budget each year
- Direct 6PAC to identify and review significantly delayed capital outlay projects and require corrective action plans
- Require DGS to develop criteria for state capital outlay projects that should be managed by specialized project managers

*Six-Year Capital Outlay Plan Advisory Committee
Recommendations 4, 5, 13, and 15 from *Capital Maintenance and Construction* (2025)

Recommendation: Encourage state and local employee retirement savings

- Increase the defined contribution limit for hybrid plan employees (Hybrid 457 account) to the IRS annual contribution limit

Recommendation 3 from *VRS Hybrid Retirement Plan Employee Contributions (2025)*

Recommendations: Improve economic development incentives

- Increase wage requirements for two incentives to increase their economic benefit
 - Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development Fund Facility Grant
 - Virginia Jobs Investment Program
- Increase the Motion Picture Production Tax Credit for subsequent seasons of multi-season television productions

Recommendation 9 from *Business Location and Expansion Incentives (2023)*; Recommendation 1 from *Workforce and Industry Incentives (2025)*; Recommendation 1 from *Film, Media, and Tourism Incentives (2026)*