



# JLARC Impacts: Actions Taken & Actions Needed

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# In this presentation

**Actions taken on report recommendations**

Actions needed

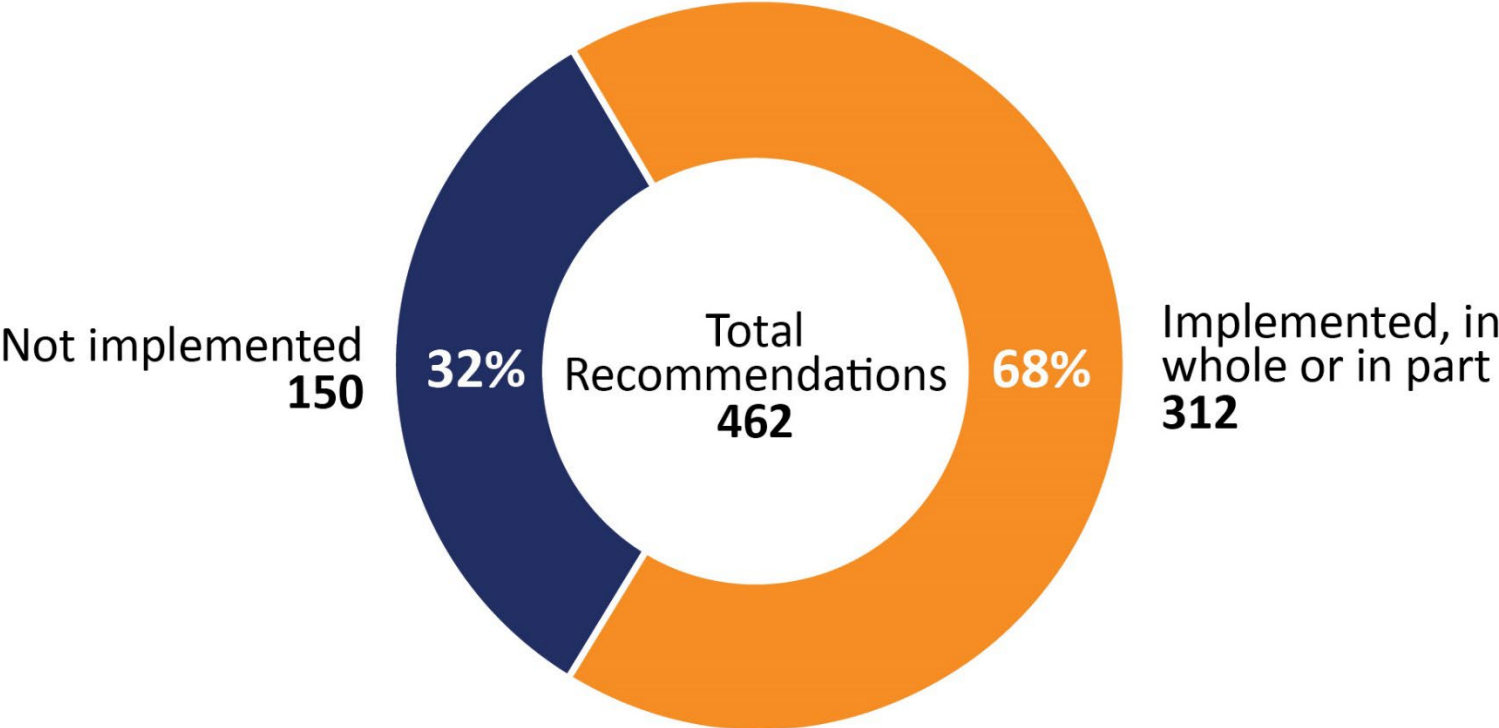
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## Follow-up on JLARC reports

- Recaps actions taken in response to recommendations
- Reports savings from implemented recommendations
- Identifies further actions needed

# JLARC performance measure

## Recommendations



Reports published 2019-2022

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# JLARC performance measure

## Savings FY21 and FY22

Estimated savings of \$9.9M from

- VITA implementing a process to automatically collect financial penalties from IT infrastructure suppliers that do not comply with contractual requirements

Savings as of July 2023. Suppliers can earn back some of the penalties collected through future service level improvements.

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# JLARC performance measure

## Legislation introduced 2022 and 2023

- Bills: 77
- Budget amendments: 66

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## Actions taken: K–12 education

- Allowed provisionally licensed, qualified clinical psychologists to serve as school counselors
- Defined “direct counseling” provided in schools
- Provided additional funds to help with learning loss recovery

*HB 2124 – Wilt; SB 1043 – McPike  
HB 2187 – Rasoul; SB 1043 McPike  
Appropriation Act*

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# Actions taken: Juvenile justice system

## Department of Juvenile Justice

- Created Workforce Program Unit to train youth in areas of high employment demand
- Improved probation services quality assurance function
  - Combined all quality assurance teams
  - Created a new community placement program manager
- Developed new guidelines to govern how long a juvenile should remain in custody
  - Multi-level process to review release decision
  - New guidelines and requirements to meet prior to release



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## Action taken: Transportation

### Commonwealth Transportation Board

- Reduced revenue-sharing allocation timeframe to mitigate impact of labor & materials price inflation

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## Actions taken: Guardianship and conservatorship

- Guardians required to visit adults under their guardianship at least three times a year
- Courts required to hold periodic hearings to determine need for changes to guardianship arrangements
- Guardians prevented from restricting ability of adults under guardianship from communicating with family, friends, others, unless restriction would prevent harm

*HB 2027; HB 2028 – Roem  
SB 987 – Mason*

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## Actions taken: Guardianship and conservatorship

- Entities, including financial institutions, with information relevant to guardianship/conservatorship proceeding required to provide it to the court

*HB 2063 – Glass; SB 1144 – McPike*

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## Actions taken: CSB behavioral health services

- Increased salaries of direct care staff at CSBs
- Expanded behavioral health crisis services
- Established in state law the purpose of CSBs, required DBHDS to set goals/objectives for service delivery
- Required DBHDS to: improve performance contracts with CSBs, such as including enforcement mechanisms; conduct ongoing monitoring of CSBs' performance; and set conditions for CSBs' receipt of state funds

*SB 1465 – Hanger*

*HB 2185 – Rasoul; SB 1169 – Hanger*

*Appropriation Act*

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## Actions taken: Affordable housing

- Required DHCD to assess affordable housing needs every 5 years & maintain a statewide housing plan
- Required certain localities to annually report on adoption of policies that affect housing development

*HB 2046 – Carr; SB 839 – Locke*  
*HB 2494 – Ware*

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## Actions taken: Affordable housing

### Virginia Housing

- Made changes to increase contributions to its REACH program, the state's largest discretionary fund for affordable housing
- **Modified** committee structure to improve focus on finances, internal audit, and CEO compensation

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## Actions taken: Port incentive grants

- Combined two similar port incentives (a grant and a tax credit) into a new, better targeted grant program
- Converted the port volume tax credit and barge and rail usage tax credit into grants

*HB 1832 – Wyatt; SB 1345 - Barker*

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# In this presentation

Actions taken on report recommendations

**Actions needed**



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## Action needed: Strengthen K-12 instruction

- Provide temporary funding for instructional assistants to help teachers
  - provide more group and individualized instruction
  - manage behavioral challenges in the classroom
  - reduce their workload

Pandemic Impact on K-12 Public Education (2022)

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## Action needed: Improve low performing schools

- Direct VDOE to develop and implement a high quality school improvement program
- Direct development of effective measures to evaluate and ensure its effectiveness

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## Actions needed: Fund special education services in least restrictive environment

- 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 Education Day School Costs (2020)

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## Actions needed: Reduce dual enrollment cost burden

- Direct school divisions to provide dual enrollment courses at no cost to economically disadvantaged students
- Provide funds to cover dual enrollment expenses for economically disadvantaged children
- Prohibit community colleges and school divisions from charging dual enrollment tuition if appropriations cover costs

The Costs of Virginia's Dual Enrollment Program (2022)

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## Action needed: Provide financial aid to part-time students

- Authorize part-time undergraduate students to receive pro-rated financial aid awards through the Virginia Guaranteed Assistance Program

Higher Education Financial Aid Grant Programs and Awards (2022)

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## Actions needed: Monitor CSB staffing and strengthen TDO screening

- Direct DBHDS to report annually on average salaries, turnover, vacancy rates by position type and CSB
- Direct DBHDS to establish training and technical assistance for CSB staff who screen individuals for temporary detention order eligibility

CSB Behavioral Health Services (2022)

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## Actions needed: Facilitate Medicaid payments and improve efficiency of TDO bed search process

- Direct DMAS to work with MCOs to standardize policies, procedures, and requirements that CSBs must follow to be reimbursed for Medicaid-eligible services
- Direct DBHDS to implement a means for CSBs to electronically transmit patient documents to psychiatric hospitals to enhance efficiency of bed search process

CSB Behavioral Health Services (2022)

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## Actions needed: Strengthen state's affordable housing role

- Require Virginia Housing to report annually to the General Assembly on contributions to the REACH program, its balance, expenditures, and their impacts
- Direct DHCD to recommend an incentive program to encourage local affordable housing zoning policies



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## Actions needed: Improve assurances that guardians are qualified and capable

- Require guardians ad litem to include more information in court report about guardian candidate, including
  - prospective guardian's caseload
  - distance guardian would travel to the residence of adult under guardianship
  - guardian's involvement in substantiated APS case
- Require guardians ad litem to include information in court report on suitability and propriety of all individuals who wish to serve as guardian

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

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## Actions needed: Protecting adults under guardianship from financial or other harm

- Expand definition of self-dealing to apply to actions taken by guardians or conservators
- Make transparent the assets inventory of adults under consideration for guardianship/conservatorship, such as listing all of the adult's known financial resources in the court order and providing the inventory to family members
- Require guardian to notify designated contacts of changes in condition or circumstances of adult under guardianship

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

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## Action needed: Modify state's repair program for roads and bridges in worst condition

- Allow State of Good Repair program to be used to fund repairs of bridges in fair condition to improve safety and reduce replacement costs

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