
Priorities



2020 General Assembly Legislative Agenda

Economic Justice

Supporting workers and strengthening laws against wage theft are among VICPP's top priorities. We advocate:

- **A law requiring employers to provide five paid sick days** for full-time workers in Virginia (pro-rated for part-time). 1.2 million Virginians do not have access to paid time off when they're sick. This is a critical public health issue. The law is good for children, families, and businesses and it will decrease health care costs.

- **Creating a "Private Cause of Action"** on wage theft cases. When workers are not paid wages owed, they have little recourse. This would allow attorneys to get reasonable fees for representing workers.

- **Funding & Empowering DOLI** (re: investigating wage theft claims). The Virginia Department of Labor & Industry has gone from 20 wage theft investigators to three over the past decade. In addition to more DOLI staff, workers need DOLI to protect their rights against lost wages and against unscrupulous employers.

Environmental Justice

With our merger this year with Virginia Interfaith Power & Light, VICPP is focused on environmental justice issues impacting Virginia's most vulnerable communities. We support legislation including:

- **Incorporating Environmental Justice into State Agencies** would require state agencies to consider the environmental justice impact of projects and programs and report out their findings.

- **RGGI, the Renewable Greenhouse Gas Initiative**, would establish a carbon dioxide emissions limit via auction and use half of auction proceeds to invest in energy efficiency and lower electricity bills for low-income communities.

Health Equity

Building on the success of the passage of Medicaid expansion in 2018, we will support efforts led by the Health Care for All Virginians (HAV) Coalition.

Welcoming All

VICPP opposes discriminatory rhetoric and policies aimed at immigrants, religious minorities, and others. We advocate more welcoming legislation. In 2020, VICPP will support policies sought by immigrant communities:

- **Driver's Licenses for all Virginia residents.** In Virginia, people who are undocumented or fall into 12 categories of lawful presence are denied access to driver's licenses. Creating a Driver's License would be good for all Virginians.

- **In-state tuition for all Virginia residents.** This law would allow undocumented immigrant students who meet Virginia's residency requirements to pay in-state tuition.