



Support Critical Annual Funding for Virginia's Free Clinics

Budget Amendment [Item 282 #1h](#) – Del. Willett & [Item 292 #9s](#) – Sen. Locke

- **Virginia's healthcare safety net will be overloaded over the next 24 months when an estimated 310,000 Virginians lose their health insurance due to the expiration of the enhanced ACA premium tax credits and the changes to Medicaid in H.R. 1.**
- **To help meet this unprecedented surge in the number of uninsured, significant funding is needed to stabilize and expand the operational capacity of Virginia's free and charitable clinics, which is currently strained.**
 - **Between 2022 and 2024, free clinics saw a staggering 47% increase in patients while navigating significantly higher operating costs.**
- **In the House, Del. Willett is proposing a \$15 million a year funding increase for free clinics in FY27 & FY28, while in the Senate, Sen. Locke is proposing a \$10 million funding boost for FY27 alone.**
- **We urge the General Assembly to support a \$15 million annual increase for both FY27 & FY28, which would enable free clinics to cover the yearly cost of providing access to care* for an additional 15,000 uninsured patients.**
 - **If those same 15,000 uninsured patients were to turn to their local hospital ER for non-emergency care, the cost would approach \$100 million** a year and overwhelm ER capacity while saddling patients with crushing medical debt.**
- **Current annual state funding of \$8.8 million to support the yearly cost of care associated with only 8,800 uninsured patients out of the clinics' current total of nearly 73,000 uninsured patients.**
- **This critical funding will be used to sustain and expand access for uninsured Virginians to vital health services (primary and specialty medical care, including chronic disease management, plus dental, vision, speech, hearing, behavioral health and substance use disorder services) during a period of unprecedented need.**

*Includes all costs, except pharmacy expenses, associated with the delivery of health care services such as medical, dental, vision, behavioral health, and substance use disorder care provided to uninsured patients.

**Assumes average of 2-3 visits annually at a national average ER visit cost of \$2,500 (per KFF).

SUPPORT CRITICAL ANNUAL FUNDING FOR VIRGINIA'S FREE & CHARITABLE CLINICS

Budget Amendment [Item 282 #1h \(Willett\)](#) & [Item 292 #9s \(Locke\)](#)

Over the next 24 months, an estimated 310,000 Virginians will lose their health insurance due to the expiration of the enhanced ACA premium tax credits and the changes to Medicaid in H.R. 1. Significant funding is needed to stabilize and expand the operational capacity of Virginia's free and charitable clinics.

\$10M ANNUAL INCREASE IN FY27 & FY28:

Would enable free clinics to cover the yearly cost of providing access to care for an additional 10,000 uninsured patients:



Saving up to **\$62M** in avoidable ER visits.

\$15M ANNUAL INCREASE IN FY27 & FY28:

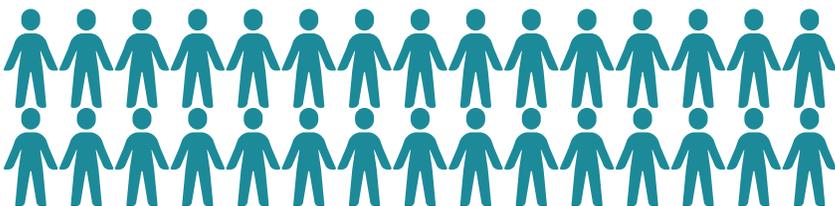
Would enable free clinics to cover the yearly cost of providing access to care for an additional 15,000 uninsured patients:



Saving up to **\$93M** in avoidable ER visits.

\$30M ANNUAL INCREASE IN FY27 & FY28:

Would enable free clinics to cover the yearly cost of providing access to care for an additional 30,000 uninsured patients:



Saving up to **\$187M** in avoidable ER visits.