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## Letter from the Editor

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

*Elizabeth F. Richer*

Dear Readers,

On behalf of the *Richmond Public Interest Law Review*, it is my honor and privilege to present the first issue of Volume XXV, the 2021 edition of our General Assembly in Review.

In this issue, authors explore matters that impacted the 2021 General Assembly session as well as address the implications of the coronavirus pandemic on these issues. Our issue begins with a survey piece that evaluates the 2021 Virginia General Assembly session in light of the impacts of the current global pandemic. This issue also examines the eviction crisis exacerbated by the pandemic, key criminal justice reforms, the case for adopting the Reproductive Health Equity Act, the incorporation of an environmental justice framework in regulatory matters, and the road to legalization of marijuana in Virginia.

This issue's publication would not have been possible without the dedication of our General Assembly Editor, Andrew Mullen, who authored this issue's survey piece. I would also like to acknowledge the commitment of our staff, who have devoted countless hours to the creation of this issue. We also thank our authors Senator Ghazala Hashmi, Catherine French, Bryan Kennedy, Galina Varchena, Margie Del Castillo, Jasdeep Khaira, Patrice Lewis, Abigail Thompson, Scott Foster, JM Pedini, and Cassidy Crockett-Verba. The dedication of these individuals to public service and to the betterment of the Commonwealth of Virginia is admirable. We are thankful to each of these authors for sharing their insight and expertise. On behalf of the *Richmond Public Interest Law Review*, we hope this issue offers insight on critical issues facing the Commonwealth in the coming years.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth F. Richer

*Editor-in-Chief*