

The Daily Progress

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WHERE YOUR STORY LIVES

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WEATHER

STATE OF EMERGENCY



MIKE KROPF, TIMES-DISPATCH

Gov. Abigail Spanberger addresses a joint assembly of the state Senate and House of Delegates at the Capitol in Richmond, Monday, Jan. 19, 2026.

Central Virginia, Shenandoah Valley brace for largest snowstorm in a decade

DAILY PROGRESS STAFF

A state of emergency has been declared, roads are being brined, store shelves are being cleared and families are hunkering down as Central Virginia and the Shenandoah Valley prepare for the largest single snowstorm in 10 years.

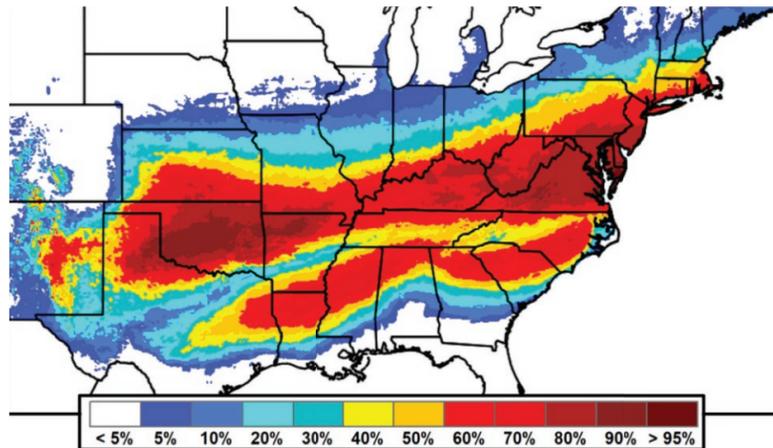
Between Saturday and Sunday, up to a foot of snow is expected to fall on either side of the Blue Ridge, with temperatures as low as 13 degrees in Charlottesville and 10 degrees in Waynesboro, according to the National Weather Service.

Snow is not expected to stop falling until Monday, when temperatures are expected to plummet, with single-digit temperatures forecast throughout next week before another possible snowstorm hits the following weekend.

“Significant icing is possible especially across central Virginia,” the weather service said in a statement.

That ice is likely to have a devastating impact on infrastructure in a region unused to such weather.

The last time a single snowstorm dropped this much snow on Central Virginia and the valley was in 2016, dropping



NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

A map shows areas with a chance of at least moderate snow and ice impacts in the United States from Friday through Monday.

15 1/2 inches on the area between Jan. 23 and 24 of that year. Between 8 and 14 inches fell in the area in early January 2022, but that was over the course of multiple storms.

Dominion Energy, the state’s largest public utility, is “preparing for potentially widespread power outages” this weekend

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fast track to 15

Bill to raise Virginia’s minimum wage to \$15 an hour speeds through committee

DAVE RESS
Richmond Times-Dispatch

Gatekeepers in the Virginia House of Delegates on Tuesday sent three Democratic priorities speeding on their way to Gov. Abigail Spanberger’s desk, including a minimum wage hike that she’s already said is part of her agenda.

The other bills would write into law Virginians’ access to contraception and

eliminate the current health insurance surcharge for smokers.

All three measures were previously vetoed by former Gov. Glenn Youngkin.

The minimum wage bill, House Bill 1, would increase the minimum wage to \$15 an hour on Jan. 1, 2028, with an interim increase to \$13.75 an hour next year. Virginia’s minimum wage is currently \$12.77 an hour.

It would raise paychecks for about 420,000 Virginians.

The bill also says minimum wages should rise in line with the consumer price index, the main national measure of inflation, after Jan. 1, 2029.

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VIRGINIA MERCURY FILE PHOTO

Advocates for raising the minimum wage in Virginia rally at the state Capitol in Richmond on the eve of the 2020 General Assembly.