

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Institutions to which was referred House Bill No. 882  
3 entitled “An act relating to capital construction and State bonding budget  
4 adjustment” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and  
5 recommends that the Senate propose to the House that the bill be amended by  
6 striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the  
7 following:

8 Sec. 1. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 1 is amended to read:

9 \* \* \* Legislative Intent \* \* \*

10 Sec. 1. LEGISLATIVE INTENT

11 (a) It is the intent of the General Assembly that of the ~~\$122,767,376.00~~  
12 \$130,606,224.00 authorized in this act, not more than ~~\$56,520,325.00~~  
13 \$56,420,325.00 shall be appropriated in the first year of the biennium, and the  
14 remainder shall be appropriated in the second year.

15 (b) It is the intent of the General Assembly that in the second year of the  
16 biennium, any amendments to the appropriations or authorities granted in this  
17 act shall take the form of the Capital Construction and State Bonding  
18 Adjustment Bill. It is the intent of the General Assembly that unless otherwise  
19 indicated, all appropriations in this act are subject to capital budget adjustment.

1   \* \* \* Capital Appropriations \* \* \*

2           Sec. 2. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 2 is amended to read:

3           Sec. 2. STATE BUILDINGS

4   \* \* \*

5           (c) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2025:

6   \* \* \*

7           (4) Middlesex, Middlesex Therapeutic Community Residence, master  
8           plan, design, and decommissioning:   \$400,000.00 \$50,000.00

9           (5) ~~Montpelier, State House, replacement of historic finishes:~~  
10   \$50,000.00 [Repealed.]

11   \* \* \*

12           (11) Statewide, R22 refrigerant phase out:  
13   \$1,000,000.00 \$750,000.00

14           (12) Statewide, Art in State Buildings Program:   \$75,000.00

15           (13) St. Albans, Northwest State Correctional Facility, roof replacement:  
16   \$400,000.00

17           (14) Montpelier, State House, replacement of tables and chairs in  
18           cafeteria:   \$100,000.00

19   \* \* \*

20           Appropriation – FY 2024   \$23,126,244.00

21           Appropriation – FY 2025   \$25,275,000.00 \$25,795,998.00

1 Total Appropriation – Section 2 \$48,401,244.00 \$48,922,242.00

2 Sec. 3. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 3 is amended to read:

3 Sec. 3. HUMAN SERVICES

4 \* \* \*

5 (b) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2025 to the Department of  
6 Buildings and General Services for the Agency of Human Services for the  
7 following projects described in this subsection:

8 (1) Northwest State Correctional Facility, booking expansion, planning,  
9 design, and construction: \$2,500,000.00 \$2,600,000.00

10 \* \* \*

11 (3) Statewide, correctional facilities, HVAC systems, planning, design,  
12 and construction for upgrades and replacements:

13 \$700,000.00 \$5,150,000.00

14 (4) Statewide, correctional facilities, accessibility upgrades:

15 \$822,000.00

16 \* \* \*

17 Appropriation – FY 2024 \$1,800,000.00

18 Appropriation – FY 2025 \$16,200,000.00 \$21,772,000.00

19 Total Appropriation – Section 3 \$18,000,000.00 \$23,572,000.00

1 Sec. 4. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 4 is amended to read:

2 Sec. 4. COMMERCE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

3 \* \* \*

4 (b) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2025 to the Agency of  
5 Commerce and Community Development for the following projects described  
6 in this subsection:

7 (1) Major maintenance at statewide historic sites:

8 ~~\$500,000.00~~ \$700,000.00

9 \* \* \*

10 Appropriation – FY 2024 \$596,000.00

11 Appropriation – FY 2025 ~~\$596,000.00~~ \$796,000.00

12 Total Appropriation – Section 4 ~~\$1,192,000.00~~ \$1,392,000.00

13 Sec. 5. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 9 is amended to read:

14 Sec. 9. NATURAL RESOURCES

15 \* \* \*

16 (f) The following amounts are appropriated in FY 2025 to the Agency of  
17 Natural Resources for the Department of Fish and Wildlife for the projects  
18 described in this subsection:

19 (1) General infrastructure projects, including small-scale maintenance  
20 and rehabilitation of infrastructure, and improvements to buildings, including  
21 conservation camps:

1 \$1,344,150.00 \$2,114,000.00

2 \* \* \*

3 Appropriation – FY 2024 \$6,997,081.00 \$6,897,081.00

4 Appropriation – FY 2025 \$7,497,051.00 \$8,152,901.00

5 Total Appropriation – Section 9 \$14,494,132.00 \$15,049,982.00

6 Sec. 6. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 10 is amended to read:

7 Sec. 10. CLEAN WATER INITIATIVES

8 \* \* \*

9 (e) ~~The sum of \$6,000,000.00 is appropriated in FY 2025 to the Agency of~~  
10 ~~Natural Resources for the Department of Environmental Conservation for~~  
11 ~~clean water implementation projects. [Repealed.]~~

12 \* \* \*

13 (g) The sum of \$550,000.00 is appropriated in FY 2025 to the Agency of  
14 Agriculture, Food and Markets for water quality grants and contracts.

15 (h) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2025 to the Agency of  
16 Natural Resources for the following projects:

17 (1) the Clean Water State/EPA Revolving Loan Fund (CWSRF) match  
18 for the Water Pollution Control Fund: \$1,600,000.00

19 (2) municipal pollution control grants: \$3,300,000.00

1        **(i)** The sum of \$550,000.00 is appropriated in FY 2025 to the Agency of  
2        Natural Resources for the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation for  
3        forestry access roads, recreation access roads, and water quality improvements.

4        **(j)** In FY 2024 and FY 2025, any agency that receives funding from this  
5        section shall consult with the State Treasurer to ensure that the projects are  
6        capital eligible.

7        Appropriation – FY 2024		\$9,885,000.00
8        Appropriation – FY 2025	<del>\$6,000,000.00</del>	<u>\$5,450,000.00</u>
9        Total Appropriation – Section 10	<del>\$15,885,000.00</del>	<u>\$15,335,000.00</u>

10       Sec. 7. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 15a is added to read:

11              Sec. 15a. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

12              The sum of \$1,540,000.00 is appropriated in FY 2025 to the Department of  
13              Buildings and General Services for the Department of Labor for upgrades of  
14              mechanical systems and HVAC, life safety needs, and minor interior  
15              renovations at 5 Green Mountain Drive in Montpelier.

16              \* \* \* Funding \* \* \*

17       Sec. 8. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 16 is amended to read:

18              Sec. 16. REALLOCATION OF FUNDS; TRANSFER OF FUNDS

19              (a) The following sums are reallocated to the Department of Buildings  
20       and General Services from prior capital appropriations to defray expenditures  
21       authorized in Sec. 2 of this act:

1 \* \* \*

2 (5) of the amount appropriated in 2015 Acts and Resolves No. 26, Sec.

3 2(b) (various projects): ~~\$65,463.17~~ \$147,206.37

4 \* \* \*

5 (7) of the amount appropriated in 2016 Acts and Resolves No. 160,

6 Sec. 1(c)(5) (major maintenance): ~~\$93,549.00~~ \$116,671.15

7 \* \* \*

8 (10) of the amount appropriated in 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84,

9 Sec. 2(c) (various projects): ~~\$24,363.06~~ \$476,725.66

10 \* \* \*

11 (13) of the amount appropriated in 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 42,

12 Sec. 2(b)(3) (major maintenance): ~~\$32,780.00~~ \$439,889.66

13 \* \* \*

14 (17) of the amount appropriated in 2012 Acts and Resolves No. 40,

15 Sec. 2(b)(4) (Statewide, major maintenance): \$9,606.45

16 (18) of the amount appropriated in 2013 Acts and Resolves No. 51, Sec.

17 2(b)(4) (Statewide, major maintenance): \$7,207.90

18 (19) of the amount appropriated in 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec.

19 2(b)(5) (Montpelier, State House, Dome, Drum, and Ceres, design, permitting,

20 construction, restoration, renovation, and lighting):

21 \$38,525.00

1 (20) of the amount appropriated in 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84,  
2 Sec. 11(b)(4) (municipal pollution control grants, pollution control projects  
3 and planning advances for feasibility studies, new projects):  
4 \$4,498.17

5 (21) of the amount appropriated in 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84,  
6 Sec. 11(f)(2) (EcoSystem restoration and protection): \$4,298.22

7 (22) of the amount appropriated in 2018 Acts and Resolves No. 190,  
8 Sec. 8(m) (Downtown Transportation Fund pilot project): \$9,150.00

9 (23) of the amount appropriated in 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 42,  
10 Sec. 2(b)(9) (Newport, Northeast State Correctional Facility, direct digital  
11 HVAC control system replacement): \$26,951.52

12 (24) of the amount appropriated in 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 50,  
13 Sec. 2(b)(20), as added by 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 180, Sec. 2 (Windsor,  
14 former Southeast State Correctional Facility, necessary demolition, salvage,  
15 dismantling, and improvements to facilitate future use of the  
16 facility): \$378,180.00

17 \* \* \*

18 (h) From prior year bond issuance cost estimates allocated to the entities  
19 to which funds were appropriated and for which bonding was required as the  
20 source of funds, pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 954, \$1,148,251.79 is reallocated to  
21 defray expenditures authorized by this act.



1 Total Reallocations and Transfers – Section 16

2 \$14,767,376.32 \$17,358,383.85

3 Sec. 9. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 17 is amended to read:

4 Sec. 17. GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS AND APPROPRIATIONS

5 (a) The State Treasurer is authorized to issue general obligation bonds in  
6 the amount of \$108,000,000.00 for the purpose of funding the appropriations  
7 made in Secs. 2–15a of this act. The State Treasurer, with the approval of the  
8 Governor, shall determine the appropriate form and maturity of the bonds  
9 authorized by this section consistent with the underlying nature of the  
10 appropriation to be funded. ~~The State Treasurer shall allocate the estimated~~  
11 ~~cost of bond issuance or issuances to the entities to which funds are~~  
12 ~~appropriated pursuant to this section and for which bonding is required as the~~  
13 ~~source of funds, pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 954.~~

14 (b) The State Treasurer is authorized to issue additional general obligation  
15 bonds in the amount of \$5,247,838.90 that were previously appropriated but  
16 unissued under 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69 for the purposes of funding the  
17 appropriations in this act.

18 Total Revenues – Section 17 \$108,000,000.00 \$113,247,838.90

1       Sec. 10. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 18 is amended to read:

2           Sec. 18. FY 2024 AND 2025; CAPITAL PROJECTS; FY 2024

3                       APPROPRIATIONS ACT; INTENT; AUTHORIZATIONS

4   \* \* \*

5           (c) Authorizations. In FY 2024, spending authority for the following  
6       capital projects are authorized as follows:

7   \* \* \*

8           (7) ~~the Department of Buildings and General Services is authorized to~~  
9       ~~spend \$600,000.00 for planning for the boiler replacement at the Northern~~  
10      ~~State Correctional Facility in Newport; [Repealed.]~~

11   \* \* \*

12          (9) ~~the Department of Buildings and General Services is authorized to~~  
13      ~~spend \$600,000.00 for the Agency of Human Services for the planning and~~  
14      ~~design of the booking expansion at the Northwest State Correctional Facility;~~  
15      ~~[Repealed.]~~

16          (10) the Department of Buildings and General Services is authorized to  
17      spend ~~\$1,000,000.00~~ \$750,000.00 for the Agency of Human Services for the  
18      planning and design of the Department for Children and Families' short-term  
19      stabilization facility;

1 (11) the Department of Buildings and General Services is authorized to  
2 spend \$750,000.00 for the Judiciary for design, renovations, and land  
3 acquisition at the Washington County Superior Courthouse in Barre;

4 \* \* \*

5 (16) the Vermont State Colleges is authorized to spend ~~\$7,500,000.00~~  
6 \$6,500,000.00 for construction, renovation, and major maintenance at any  
7 facility owned or operated in the State by the Vermont State Colleges;  
8 infrastructure transformation planning; and the planning, design, and  
9 construction of Green Hall and Vail Hall;

10 \* \* \*

11 (19) the Agency of Natural Resources is authorized to spend  
12 \$4,000,000.00 for the Department of Environmental Conservation for the  
13 Municipal Pollution Control Grants for pollution control projects and planning  
14 advances for feasibility studies; and

15 (20) the Agency of Natural Resources is authorized to spend  
16 \$3,000,000.00 for the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation for the  
17 maintenance facilities at the Gifford Woods State Park and Groton Forest  
18 State Park; ~~and~~

19 ~~(21) the Agency of Natural Resources is authorized to spend~~  
20 ~~\$800,000.00 for the Department of Fish and Wildlife for infrastructure~~

1 ~~maintenance and improvements of the Department's buildings, including~~  
2 ~~conservation camps. [Repealed.]~~

3 (d) FY 2025 capital projects. To the extent general funds are available to  
4 appropriate to the Fund established in 32 V.S.A. § 1001b in FY 2025, it is the  
5 intent of the General Assembly that the following capital projects receive  
6 funding from the Fund:

7 \* \* \*

8 (3) the sum of ~~\$2,000,000.00~~ \$1,500,000.00 to the Department of  
9 Buildings and General Services for the renovation of the interior HVAC steam  
10 lines at 120 State Street in Montpelier;

11 (4) the sum of ~~\$1,000,000.00~~ \$850,000.00 to the Department of  
12 Buildings and General Services for the Judiciary for design, renovations, and  
13 land acquisition at the Washington County Superior Courthouse in Barre;

14 (5) the sum of ~~\$1,000,000.00~~ \$850,000.00 to the Department of  
15 Buildings and General Services for the Department of Public Safety for the  
16 planning and design of the Special Teams Facility and Storage;

17 (6) the sum of ~~\$1,000,000.00~~ \$850,000.00 to the Department of  
18 Buildings and General Services for the Department of Public Safety for the  
19 planning and design of the Rutland Field Station;

20 \* \* \*





1           (2) To the extent practicable, the Salisbury fish hatchery shall, subject to  
2           annual appropriations, continue operating through December 31, 2027.

3           (3) The Agency of Natural Resources shall examine potential options  
4           for continuing the operation of the Salisbury fish hatchery after fiscal year  
5           2027, including maintaining any necessary permits.

6           (4) The Agency of Natural Resources shall examine options for  
7           maintaining or increasing the State’s current fish stocking capacity following  
8           the potential closure of the Salisbury fish hatchery, including:

9                   (A) replacing the stocking capacity of the Salisbury fish hatchery  
10                  with increased stocking capacity at one or more State-operated or federally  
11                  operated fish hatcheries;

12                   (B) transferring fish broodstock from the Salisbury hatchery to other  
13                  State fish hatcheries;

14                   (C) establishing additional egg production at other State fish  
15                  hatcheries to compensate for any lost egg production; and

16                   (D) utilizing other innovative or more cost-effective approaches for  
17                  replacing any lost stocking capacity.

18           (5) The Agency of Natural Resources shall examine options for limiting  
19           any negative economic impact from the potential closure of the Salisbury fish  
20           hatchery, including impacts from reduced fish stocking on fishing and tourism,  
21           and impacts from the loss of staff positions at the Salisbury fish hatchery.

1           (6) The Salisbury fish hatchery shall not close without prior approval of  
2           the General Assembly, which shall be provided if:

3                   (A) the hatchery is unable to secure the necessary permits to continue  
4                   operating after December 31, 2027; or

5                   (B) the stocking capacity of the hatchery can be replaced in a manner  
6                   that is more cost-effective than the up-front and operating costs of the capital  
7                   improvements necessary for the hatchery to obtain the necessary permits to  
8                   continue operating after December 31, 2027.

9           Sec. 13. SALISBURY FISH HATCHERY; ANNUAL REPORT

10           On or before January 15 of 2025, 2026, and 2027, the Secretary of Natural  
11           Resources shall submit a written report to the Senate Committees on  
12           Institutions and on Natural Resources and Energy and the House Committees  
13           on Corrections and Institutions and on Environment and Energy regarding  
14           efforts undertaken and progress made with respect to sustaining the fish  
15           production and stocking capacity of Vermont's State-operated fish hatcheries,  
16           including:

17                   (1) efforts to maintain permits necessary to continue operating the  
18                   Salisbury fish hatchery after December 31, 2027;

19                   (2) the potential for transferring the stocking capacity of the Salisbury  
20                   fish hatchery to one or more State-operated or federally operated fish  
21                   hatcheries, including estimated costs;



1           (3) the potential for transferring the fish broodstock of the Salisbury fish  
2           hatchery to one or more State-operated fish hatcheries for the purpose of  
3           replacing the Salisbury fish hatchery’s egg production, including estimated  
4           costs;

5           (4) the potential to employ innovative or more cost-effective approaches  
6           than those identified pursuant to subdivisions (1)–(3) of this section to replace  
7           any lost stocking capacity due to the closure of the Salisbury fish hatchery,  
8           including estimated costs; and

9           (5) options for limiting negative economic impact of the potential  
10           closure of the Salisbury fish hatchery after December 31, 2027, including  
11           impacts from reduced fish stocking on fishing and tourism, and impacts from  
12           the loss of staff positions at the Salisbury fish hatchery.

13           **Sec. 14. APPROPRIATION**

14           In addition to other monies appropriated to the Agency of Natural  
15           Resources in fiscal year 2025, the amount of \$550,000.00 is appropriated from  
16           the General Fund for purposes of operating the Salisbury fish hatchery during  
17           fiscal year 2025.

18                           \* \* \* Buildings and General Services \* \* \*

19           **Sec. 15.** 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 22 is amended to read:

20           **Sec. 22. SALE OF PROPERTIES**

21                           \* \* \*

1 (c) 108 Cherry Street. Notwithstanding 29 V.S.A. § 166(b), the  
2 Commissioner of Buildings and General Services is authorized to sell the  
3 property located at 108 Cherry Street in the City of Burlington. The  
4 Commissioner shall first offer in writing to the City the right to purchase the  
5 property.

6 \* \* \*

7 (3) Notwithstanding 29 V.S.A. § 166(d) and 29 V.S.A. § 160, of the  
8 proceeds received by the State for the sale of the property located at 108  
9 Cherry Street in the City of Burlington, \$6,242,500.00 shall be deposited into  
10 the Property Management Revolving Fund (58700) to recover the deficit  
11 incurred in the fund as a result of the original purchase of the property and,  
12 notwithstanding 29 V.S.A. § 168(c), \$293,753.63 shall be deposited into the  
13 State Energy Revolving Fund (59700) to repay debt outstanding for loans for  
14 energy improvement projects on the property.

15 **Sec. 16.** SALE OF FORMER WILLISTON STATE POLICE BARRACKS;

16 INTENT; REPORT

17 It is the intent of the General Assembly that the Town of Williston shall  
18 report to the Senate Committee on Institutions and the House Committee on  
19 Corrections and Institutions in January 2025 regarding:

20 (1) whether the town desires to purchase the property; and

21 (2) if so:

1           (A) the feasibility of the Town purchasing the property, including  
2 any requested conditions on the sale of the property; and

3           (B) the potential future uses of the property envisioned by the Town.

4 Sec. 17. 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 36 is amended to read:

5           Sec. 36. PUBLIC SAFETY FIELD STATION; WILLISTON

6   \* \* \*

7           (b) ~~The Beginning on July 1, 2025, the~~ Commissioner of Buildings and  
8 General Services is authorized to sell the Williston Public Safety Field Station  
9 and adjacent land pursuant to the requirements of 29 V.S.A. § 166. The  
10 proceeds from the sale shall be appropriated to future capital construction  
11 projects.

12 Sec. 18. 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 50, Sec. 34 is amended to read:

13           Sec. 34. WILLISTON PUBLIC SAFETY BARRACKS; SALE

14           ~~The Beginning on July 1, 2025, the~~ Commissioner of Buildings and General  
15 Services is authorized to sell the property known as the Williston Public Safety  
16 Barracks (State Office Building) located at 2777 St. George Road in Williston,  
17 Vermont pursuant to the requirements of 29 V.S.A. § 166. The proceeds from  
18 the sale shall be appropriated to future capital construction projects.

1 Sec. 19. 29 V.S.A. § 152 is amended to read:

2 § 152. DUTIES OF COMMISSIONER

3 (a) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services, in addition to the  
4 duties expressly set forth elsewhere by law, shall have the authority to:

5 \* \* \*

6 (3) Prepare or cause to be prepared plans and specifications for  
7 construction and repair on all State-owned buildings:

8 \* \* \*

9 (B) For which no specific appropriations have been made by the  
10 General Assembly or the Emergency Board. The Commissioner may, with the  
11 approval of the Secretary of Administration, acquire an option, ~~for a price not~~  
12 ~~to exceed \$75,000.00~~, on an individual property without prior legislative  
13 approval, for a price not to exceed five percent of the listed sale price of the  
14 property, provided the option contains a provision stating that purchase of the  
15 property shall occur only upon the approval of the General Assembly and the  
16 appropriation of funds for this purpose. The State Treasurer is authorized to  
17 advance a sum not to exceed ~~\$75,000.00~~ five percent of the listed sale price of  
18 the property, upon warrants drawn by the Commissioner of Finance and  
19 Management for the purpose of purchasing an option on a property pursuant to  
20 this subdivision.

21 \* \* \*

1 (19) Transfer any unexpended project balances between projects that are  
2 authorized within the same section of ~~an annual~~ a biennial capital construction  
3 act.

4 (20) Transfer any unexpended project balances between projects that are  
5 authorized within different capital construction acts, with the approval of the  
6 Secretary of Administration, when the unexpended project balance does not  
7 exceed ~~\$100,000.00~~ \$200,000.00, or with the additional approval of the  
8 Emergency Board when such balance exceeds ~~\$100,000.00~~ \$200,000.00.

9 \* \* \*

10 (22) Use the contingency fund appropriation to cover shortfalls for any  
11 project approved in any capital construction act; however, transfers from the  
12 contingency in excess of ~~\$50,000.00~~ \$100,000.00 shall be done with the  
13 approval of the Secretary of Administration.

14 \* \* \*

15 **Sec. 20.** 29 V.S.A. § 166 is amended to read:

16 § 166. SELLING OR RENTING STATE PROPERTY

17 \* \* \*

18 (b)(1) Upon authorization by the General Assembly, which may be granted  
19 by resolution, and with the advice and consent of the Governor, the  
20 Commissioner of Buildings and General Services may sell real estate owned  
21 by the State. ~~Such~~ The property shall be sold to the highest bidder ~~therefor~~ at

1 public auction or upon sealed bids ~~in~~ at the discretion of the Commissioner of  
2 Buildings and General Services, who may reject any or all bids, or the  
3 Commissioner is authorized to list the sale of property with a real estate agent  
4 licensed by the State. In no event shall the property be sold for less than fair  
5 market value as determined by the Commissioner in consultation with an  
6 independent real estate broker or appraiser, or both, retained by the  
7 Commissioner, unless otherwise authorized by the General Assembly.

8 \* \* \*

9 **Sec. 21.** SOUTHEAST STATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY; POTENTIAL

10 LAND TRANSFER; REPORT

11 (a) The Department of Fish and Wildlife, in consultation with the  
12 Department of Buildings and General Services, shall evaluate the potential  
13 transfer of a portion of the former Southeast State Correctional Facility  
14 property to the Department of Fish and Wildlife for inclusion in the adjacent  
15 wildlife management area. The evaluation shall:

16 (1) delineate the portions of the former Southeast State Correctional  
17 Facility property that could be used for future redevelopment of the site, taking  
18 into account any necessary setbacks from wetlands, streams, or wildlife  
19 habitat;

20 (2) identify any portions of the property that could be transferred into  
21 the adjacent wildlife management area and potential impacts on the

1 redevelopment or sale of the property from the transfer of the identified  
2 portions; and

3 (3) identify any rights of way or easements that will be necessary for the  
4 potential future redevelopment of any retained portion of the property.

5 (b) On or before January 15, 2025, the Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife  
6 and the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services shall report to the  
7 House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committee  
8 on Institutions regarding the evaluation and any legislative action that may be  
9 necessary to facilitate a proposed transfer or redevelopment of the property.

10 **Sec. 22. FORENSIC FACILITY; NEEDS; REVIEW; REPORT**

11 (a) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services, in consultation  
12 with the Commissioners of Mental Health and of Disabilities, Aging, and  
13 Independent Living, shall review the programming needs and facility  
14 requirements of individuals who will be housed in a proposed forensic facility.

15 The review shall be performed during fiscal year 2025 using funds from the  
16 Department's base appropriation as the Commissioner determines to be  
17 appropriate. The Commissioner shall report, on or before February 1, 2025, to  
18 the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Institutions and to the House  
19 Committees on Appropriations and on Corrections and Institutions regarding  
20 the findings of the review.

1           **(b) It is the intent of the General Assembly that the fiscal year 2026 capital**  
2           **construction and State bonding act shall include funding for the design and**  
3           **development of the proposed forensic facility.**

4           **Sec. 23. DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES YOUTH**

5                         SHORT-TERM STABILIZATION AND TREATMENT CENTER;

6                         LONG-TERM LEASE; AUTHORIZATION

7           Notwithstanding any provisions of 29 V.S.A. § 165(h) or 29 V.S.A.  
8           § 166(a) to the contrary, the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services  
9           is authorized to enter into a long-term ground lease agreement at a below-  
10           market rate for an initial term of not more than 20 years with not more than  
11           four five-year renewal options for the Department for Children and Families  
12           Youth Short Term Stabilization and Treatment Center. At the end of the term  
13           and any renewals, the ground lease shall terminate.

14           **Sec. 24. CAPITOL COMPLEX FLOOD RECOVERY; SPECIAL**

15                         COMMITTEE

16           (a) The Special Committee on Capitol Complex Flood Recovery is  
17           established. The Special Committee shall comprise the Joint Fiscal Committee  
18           and the chairs of the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the  
19           Senate Committee on Institutions.



1       (b)(1) The Special Committee shall meet at the call of the chair of the Joint  
2       Fiscal Committee, in consultation with the chairs of the House Committee on  
3       Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committee on Institutions.

4               (2)(A) The Special Committee shall meet to review and recommend  
5       alterations to proposals and plans for Capitol Complex flood recovery.

6               (B) The Special Committee may, as necessary, grant approval to  
7       proposals and plans for Capitol Complex flood recovery.

8       (c) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services shall provide  
9       quarterly updates to the Special Committee on the planning process for Capitol  
10       Complex flood recovery.

11       (d) The Special Committee shall be entitled to per diem and expenses as  
12       provided in 2 V.S.A. § 23.

13       **Sec. 25.** STATE HOUSE; IMPROVEMENTS; DESIGN; SPECIAL

14               COMMITTEE

15       (a)(1) To allow the Department of Buildings and General Services to begin  
16       the design development phase, it is the intent of the General Assembly to  
17       approve a schematic design plan for accessibility, life safety, and mechanical  
18       systems improvements to the State House identified in Scenario 1, as approved  
19       by the Joint Legislative Management Committee on December 15, 2023 and  
20       excluding any improvements that would impact committee rooms.

1           (2) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services shall provide  
2           the Special Committee established pursuant to subsection (b) of this section  
3           with a draft schematic design plan for the work identified pursuant to  
4           subdivision (1) of this subsection on or before July 15, 2024 and a final  
5           schematic design plan on or before September 15, 2024.

6           (b)(1) A Special Committee to be called the Special Committee on State  
7           House Improvements consisting of the Joint Legislative Management  
8           Committee and the Chairs of the House Committee on Corrections and  
9           Institutions and the Senate Committee on Institutions is established.

10           (2) The Special Committee is authorized to meet to:

11           (A) review and recommend alterations to the draft schematic design  
12           to be submitted on or before July 15, 2024 as described in subsection (a) of this  
13           section at a regularly scheduled Joint Legislative Management Committee  
14           meeting; and

15           (B) review and approve the final schematic design to be submitted on  
16           or before September 15, 2024 as described in subsection (a) of this section at a  
17           regularly scheduled Joint Legislative Management Committee meeting.

18           (c) In making its decision, the Special Committee shall consider:

19           (1) how the design impacts the ability of the General Assembly to  
20           conduct legislative business;

21           (2) whether the design allows for public access to citizens;

1           (3) the financial consequences to the State of approval or disapproval of  
2           the proposal; and

3           (4) whether any potential alternatives are available.

4           (d) The Special Committee shall be entitled to per diem and expenses as  
5           provided in 2 V.S.A. § 23.

6   \* \* \* Corrections \* \* \*

7           Sec. 26. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 28 is amended to read:

8           Sec. 28. REPLACEMENT WOMEN’S FACILITIES; SITE LOCATION  
9   PROPOSAL; DESIGN INTENT

10          (a) Site location proposal.

11           (1)(A) ~~Site location proposal.~~ On or before January 15, ~~2024~~ 2025, the  
12          Commissioner of Buildings and General Services shall submit a site location  
13          proposal for replacement women’s facilities for justice-involved women to the  
14          House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committee  
15          on Institutions.

16   (B) It is the intent of the General Assembly that:

17   (i) when evaluating site locations, preference shall be given to  
18          State-owned property; and

19   (ii) the site location, regardless of whether it is on State-owned  
20          land or land proposed to be purchased by the State, shall be:

1               (I) near support services, programming, and work opportunities  
2               needed to facilitate successful reentry into the community; and

3               (II) in a reasonable proximity to the existing workforce to  
4               facilitate retention and continuity of experienced staff.

5               (C)(i) The proposal shall consider both colocating facilities in a  
6               campus-style approach for operational efficiencies and the need for separate  
7               facilities at different locations.

8               (ii) The proposed site location or locations shall be selected in  
9               consideration of the proximity of existing and potential future public transit  
10              services.

11    \* \* \*

12              Sec. 27. REPLACEMENT WOMEN’S FACILITIES; AUTHORITY TO  
13              PURCHASE LAND; INTENT; REPORT

14              (a) Contingent authority to purchase land. In the event that the  
15              Commissioner of Buildings and General Services, in consultation with the  
16              Commissioner of Corrections, is unable to identify appropriate State-owned  
17              site locations for the replacement facilities for justice-involved women, the  
18              Commissioner is authorized to purchase land in a location that is:

19                      (1) near support services, programming, and work opportunities needed  
20                      to facilitate successful reentry into the community;

1           (2) in a reasonable proximity to the existing workforce to facilitate  
2           retention and continuity of experienced staff; and  
3           (3) near existing or potential future public transit services.

4           (b) Reports. Beginning in July 2024 and ending in January 2025, the  
5           Commissioner of Buildings and General Services, in consultation with the  
6           Commissioner of Corrections, shall report at least once per calendar quarter to  
7           the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate  
8           Committee on Institutions regarding progress in fulfilling the requirements of  
9           2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 28 and subsection (a) of this section.

10           Sec. 28. POTENTIAL REUSE OF CHITTENDEN REGIONAL

11                           CORRECTIONAL FACILITY SITE; FEASIBILITY; REPORT

12           (a) On or before February 15, 2025, the Commissioner of Buildings and  
13           General Services, in consultation with the Commissioner of Corrections, shall  
14           report to the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate  
15           Committees on Institutions and on Judiciary regarding the feasibility of  
16           utilizing the site of the Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility for a reentry  
17           facility for eligible justice-involved men following the construction of  
18           replacement facilities for justice-involved women.

19           (b) The report shall:

20                   (1)(A) evaluate the condition and structure of the existing facility to  
21           determine if it can be repurposed as a reentry facility in a manner that supports

1 the programmatic goals of the Department of Corrections using evidence-based  
2 principles for wellness environments for supporting trauma-informed practices;  
3 and

4 (B) if it can be repurposed as a reentry facility, the improvements and  
5 other work necessary to support the programmatic goals of the Department of  
6 Corrections using evidence-based principles for wellness environments for  
7 supporting trauma-informed practices and the estimated cost of performing the  
8 work;

9 (2)(A) evaluate whether a new reentry facility could be constructed on  
10 the site following the demolition of some or all of the existing facility;

11 (B) identify potential designs for a newly constructed reentry facility  
12 at the site that supports the programmatic goals of the Department of  
13 Corrections using evidence-based principles for wellness environments for  
14 supporting trauma-informed practices; and

15 (C) identify any site work, improvements, and other work necessary  
16 to construct a new reentry facility on the site, including the cost of any such  
17 work; and

18 (3) if the existing facility cannot be repurposed as a reentry facility and a  
19 new reentry facility cannot be constructed on the site, identify other potential  
20 sites for a male reentry facility that are near support services, programming,

1 and work opportunities needed to facilitate successful reentry into the  
2 community.

3 (c) As used in this section, “reentry facility” means a facility at which  
4 incarcerated individuals prepare to transition back into the community  
5 following release. Reentry facilities provide services, or enable incarcerated  
6 individuals to obtain services, that will facilitate the transition back into the  
7 community, including career and housing supports, vocational education, job  
8 placement, mental health counseling, substance use disorder treatment or  
9 recovery services, financial education, assistance with obtaining public  
10 benefits, and other similar services.

11 \* \* \* Judiciary \* \* \*

12 Sec. 29. BARRE; WASHINGTON COUNTY SUPERIOR COURTHOUSE;  
13 LAND ACQUISITION; AUTHORIZATION; COMMUNICATION  
14 WITH CITY

15 (a) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services, in consultation  
16 with the Judiciary, is authorized to use the amounts appropriated in 2023 Acts  
17 and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 18(c)(11) and (d)(4) to purchase land as needed to  
18 renovate or replace the Washington County Superior Courthouse.

19 (b) The Commissioner shall:

20 (1) consult with the City of Barre on potential options for renovating or  
21 replacing the Washington County Superior Courthouse in Barre; and





1

FOR THE COMMITTEE