

DRAFT – May 8, 2023 9:00 AM

(b) Corrections workforce.

(1) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$200,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Corrections for the purpose of contracting or expanding an existing contract with a vendor to provide supervisory and management professional development services to the Department’s employees in accordance with the Department’s efforts to address an employee workforce crisis and strengthen workplace satisfaction, pursuant to Sec. **F.7** of this act.

Sec. **F.7 DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS PROFESSIONAL**

DEVELOPMENT; INTENT; CONTRACT

(a) It is the intent of the General Assembly to assist the Department of Corrections to continue and further engage in a professional development initiative to enhance supervisory effectiveness and strengthen leadership development within the Department and among its employees. The Department’s enhanced supervisory training is part of its effort to address an employee workforce crisis and strengthen workplace satisfaction.

(b) The Department of Corrections shall contract or expand an existing contract with a vendor to provide supervisory and management professional development services to the Department and among its employees.

(c) On or before March 15, 2024, the Department and the contracted vendor shall testify before the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions about the progress and effectiveness of its professional development initiative. The Department shall make management, supervisory, and frontline staff available to testify.

(XX) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$90,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development for a subgrant to the Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund to expand its Business Coaching program to work with a group of existing energy services businesses interested in adopting a climate centered mission and working with trades persons looking to start their own climate-centered business.

e) Higher education.

(1) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$1,500,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to the University of Vermont Office of Engagement, in consultation with the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation, for additional forgivable loans of \$5,000 per graduate for recent college graduates across all Vermont higher education institutions who commit to work in Vermont for two years after graduation.

DA/SSA Workforce:

(4) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$3,000,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Mental Health to address workforce needs at the designated and specialized service agencies. These funds shall not be released until a plan to meet training and retention is mutually agreed upon with the designated and specialized service agencies and approved by the Joint Fiscal Committee if the legislature is not in session or the General Assembly in the subsequent legislation. All or a portion of these funds may be used as matching funds to AHS Global Commitment program to provide state match if any part of the plan is eligible to draw federal funds. It is the intent of the legislature to maximize the value of this onetime funding through eligible Global Commitment investment.