

Act No. 160 (H. 878). Appropriations and finance; bonding

An act relating to capital construction and State bonding budget adjustment

This act adjusts the second year of the State's biennial capital budget for fiscal years 2016 and 2017, and authorizes the State to issue \$9,398,753.35 of additional general obligation bonds that were authorized in fiscal year 2016, but were not issued in fiscal year 2016. This act also:

Appropriations:

- Appropriates capital funds in the amount of \$83,874,821 in fiscal year 2017 for capital construction projects. Of this amount, \$82,027,246 is funded through general obligation bonds, and \$1,847,575 is from the proceeds of the sale of property and the reallocation of unexpended capital appropriations in previous years
- Appropriates an additional \$300,000.00 in fiscal year 2017 to statewide major maintenance projects
- Appropriates an additional \$800,000.00 in fiscal year 2017 to statewide physical security enhancements
- Appropriates \$2 million in fiscal year 2017 for the true up of Waterbury State Office Complex projects
- Decreases the appropriation in fiscal year 2017 to the Department of Finance and Management for the ERP expansion project by \$3,453,589.00
- Appropriates an additional \$615,000.00 in fiscal year 2017 to the Judiciary for court security systems and improvements
- Appropriates \$200,000.00 in fiscal year 2017 to the Enhanced 911 Board for E-911 compliance grants
- Appropriates \$500,000.00 in fiscal year 2017 (as part of a challenge grant) to the University of Vermont for a STEM Complex
- Appropriates \$500,000.00 in fiscal year 2017 and \$500,000.00 (as part of a challenge grant) in fiscal year 2017 to Castleton University for upgrades to the science laboratories
- Appropriates \$100,000.00 in fiscal year 2017 and \$50,000.00 (as part of a challenge grant) to Lyndon State College for installation of a solar array and sound monitoring equipment
- Appropriates \$2,276,494.00 in fiscal year 2017 to the Agency of Natural Resources for municipal pollution control grant projects
- Appropriates \$2,230,000.00 in fiscal year 2017 to the Agency of Natural Resources for construction of the Roxbury Fish Hatchery

- Appropriates \$250,000.00 in fiscal year 2017 for the Williston State Police Barracks
- Appropriates \$530,000.00 for a blood analysis laboratory at the Waterbury State Office Complex
- Appropriates \$1,200,000.00 in fiscal year 2017 to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board for downtown development projects
- Appropriates \$145,000.00 in fiscal year 2017 to the Sergeant at Arms for State House security
- Appropriates \$300,000.00 in fiscal year 2017 to the Department of Public Service for the Connectivity Initiative

Agency of Natural Resources

- Directs the Commissioner of Environmental Conservation to submit a report on projected costs in fiscal year 2018 for the investigation and response to hazardous material releases to the environment

Corrections

- Creates a Correctional Facility Planning Committee to develop a 20-year capital plan for, and an assessment of population needs at, State correctional facilities

Department of Buildings and General Services

- The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services is authorized to:
 - Transfer a parcel of land and survey a parcel of land in the Waterbury State Office Complex
 - Transfer, sell, demolish, or gift a State-owned house in Plymouth Notch
 - Sell, subdivide, lease, lease-purchase, or enter into a common interest community agreement at 144 State Street in Montpelier
 - Evaluate future opportunities to explore biomass facilities to explore the Vermont Agriculture and Environmental Laboratory in Randolph
 - Enter into contractual obligations for construction for the Vermont Agriculture and Environmental Laboratory and the Roxbury Fish Hatchery
 - Enter into agreements on behalf of the Division of Historic Preservation for certain properties
 - Conduct a survey of a parcel of land in Windsor and transfer the parcel to the jurisdiction of the Department of Fish and Wildlife

- Amends the Commissioner's authority to transfer State surplus property to any municipality, school, or nonprofit organization having a justifiable need as determined by a State agency or department

Education

- Directs the Vermont State Colleges and the University of Vermont to develop a long-term strategic plan for the most effective use of capital funds

Judiciary

- Sets forth a process for a county to submit capital requests for a courthouse or court operations to the Court Administrator

Public Safety

- Authorizes the Commissioner of BGS, in consultation with the Commissioner of Public Safety, to evaluate options for the site location of a public safety field station and an equipment storage facility
- Authorizes the Commissioner of BGS to investigate opportunities for the Bradford State Police Barracks
- Establishes the Enhanced 911 Compliance Grants Program to award grants to schools to pay for fees and equipment associated with implementing the Enhanced 911 program pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 7057, and repeals the Program on July 1, 2018

Security

- Authorizes the Sergeant at Arms to use funds to install security cameras and a remote lockdown system, and to conduct trainings in the State House
- Requires the Sergeant at Arms to develop a camera use and data retention policy and procedure and lockdown guidelines for the State House by August 1, 2016

State Building Names

- Repeals the name of the Dale Correctional Facility in Waterbury

Multiple effective dates, beginning on June 2, 2016