

**FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET ADJUSTMENT ACT  
HOUSE AND SENATE  
LANGUAGE COMPARISON**

Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
<p><b><i>Removes ERP appropriation and added multiple one-time appropriations:</i></b></p> <p>2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. B.1100 is amended to read:</p> <p>Sec. B.1100 MISCELLANEOUS FISCAL YEAR 2024 ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS</p> <p>(a) Agency of Administration. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(4) <u>\$30,000,000 General Fund to be used as Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) matching funds for costs incurred due to the July 2023 flooding event.</u></p> <p>(5) <u>\$10,000,000 General Fund for grants to municipalities in counties that were impacted by the July 2023 flooding event and are eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance funds under federal disaster declaration DR-4720-VT.</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(j) <u>Department of Mental Health. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:</u></p> <p>(1) <u>\$166,000 General Fund for a grant to the Howard Center to support the Cultural Liaison Program; and</u></p> <p>(2) <u>\$105,000 General Fund to the Department of Mental Health in fiscal year 2024 for expediting competency and sanity evaluations.</u></p> <p>(k) Green Mountain Care Board. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:</p> <p>(1) \$620,000 General Fund for costs associated with the implementation of the Vermont Health Care Uniform Reporting and Evaluation System (VHCURES) database; and</p> <p>(2) <del>\$120,500 General Fund for the implementation of a new financial database solution; and</del></p> <p>(3) <del>\$50,000 General Fund for the development of the statutorily required Health Resources Allocation Plan Tool.</del></p> <p>(l) Agency of Human Services Central Office. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">***</p> <p>(3) \$10,000,000 General Fund to continue to address the emergent and exigent circumstances impacting health care providers following the COVID-19 pandemic. <u>All or</u></p>	39	<p><b><i>Appropriates \$6.25 million for grants to municipalities. Appropriates \$3 million from the Interdepartmental Transfer Fund for ERP (funds come from Act 185 Technology Modernization Fund transfer). Language related to ERP and this transfer appears in Secs. 54 through 57 of the Senate proposal. Lowers the Emergency Housing appropriation from the House as passed by \$1.9 million. Removes House added one-time appropriations except for Essex County Courthouse appropriation:</i></b></p> <p>Sec. 39. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. B.1100 is amended to read:</p> <p>Sec. B.1100 MISCELLANEOUS FISCAL YEAR 2024 ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS</p> <p>(a) Agency of Administration. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(4) <u>\$30,000,000 General Fund to be used as Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) matching funds for costs incurred due to the July 2023 flooding event.</u></p> <p>(5) <u>\$6,250,000 General Fund for grants to municipalities in counties that were impacted by the July 2023 flooding event and are eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance funds under federal disaster declaration DR-4720-VT. Grants shall be made in proportion to the municipality’s share of the overall percentage of residential properties that were majorly damaged or destroyed, as designated by FEMA, by the July 2023 flooding event.</u></p> <p>(6) <u>\$3,000,000 Interdepartmental Transfer Fund for Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Modernization – Business Transformation.</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(o) Department for Children and Families. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(11) <u>\$11,304,802 General Fund for emergency housing needs through the end of fiscal year 2024; and</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p>

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<p>a portion of these funds may also be used as <u>matching funds to the Agency of Human Services Global Commitment Program to provide State match. If funds are used as matching funds to the Agency of Human Services Global Commitment Program to provide State match, the commensurate amount of Global Commitment Fund spending authority may be requested during the Global Commitment Transfer process pursuant to 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. E.301.1;</u></p> <p><del>(4)</del> <u>\$255,000 General Fund for a subgrant to the United Way of Lamoille County to expand resource coordination for employee stability through its Working Bridges Program;</u></p> <p><del>(5)</del> <u>\$671,000 General Fund to the State Refugee Office for grants to support transitional housing for refugees; and</u></p> <p><del>(4)(6)</del> \$10,534,603 General Fund and \$13,693,231 Federal Revenue Fund #22005 for use as Global Commitment matching funds for one-time caseload pressures due to the suspension of Medicaid eligibility redeterminations.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(o) Department for Children and Families. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(3) \$40,000 General Fund <del>the purchase of a driving school vehicle for the Youth Development Program to support foster and former foster youth access to driver's education for the Youth Development Program</del> to fund <u>costs associated with supporting youth in foster care, or formerly in foster care, to learn to drive and to obtain their drivers' licenses and independent transportation;</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p><del>(6)</del> <u>\$3,000,000 \$4,000,000 General Fund for a grant to the Vermont Food Bank to support increased capacity of services to meet persistent food insecurity;</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(9) \$130,000 General Fund for a grant to the Snelling Center to restart the Early Childhood Education Leadership Program; <del>and</del></p> <p>(10) \$300,000 General Fund for a grant to Prevent Child Abuse Vermont to provide education regarding the prevention of unsafe infant sleep and to expand programming and support services regarding child abuse often related to parental substance misuse;</p> <p><del>(11)</del> <u>\$13,204,802 General Fund for emergency housing needs through the end of fiscal year 2024; and</u></p> <p><del>(12)</del> <u>\$4,000,000 General Fund for standing up shelters in five communities.</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p>		

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<p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(x) <u>Judiciary. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:</u>            (1) <u>\$300,000 General Fund for the Essex County Courthouse renovation planning;</u>  <u>and</u>            (2)(A) <u>\$4,680,000 General Fund to the Judiciary for the Judiciary network replacement project.</u>            (B) <u>Judiciary shall update the Joint Information Technology Oversight Committee on the status of this project on or before December 1, 2023.</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(aa) <u>Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:</u>            (1) <u>\$1,000,000 General Fund to grant to meal providers that provide meals to seniors with low income; and</u>            (2) <u>\$450,000 General Fund to the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living to continue the SASH pilot for another year.</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p>		
<p><b><i>Increases ABE and Organic Dairy Farm Assistance appropriations:</i></b></p> <p>2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. B.1101 is amended to read:            Sec. B.1101 WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT –            FISCAL YEAR 2024 ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(b) Youth workforce and high school completion.            * * *</p> <p>(2) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of <del>\$1,000,000</del> <u>\$1,500,000</u> is appropriated from the General Fund to the Agency of Education for grants to Adult Basic Education programs to provide bridge funding for Adult Basic Education programs while the study and report required by Sec. E.504 of this act is completed.            * * *</p> <p>(g) Agriculture Economic Development.            * * *</p> <p>(3) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of <del>\$6,900,000</del> <u>\$7,152,203</u> General Fund is appropriated to the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets to fund Agriculture Development Grants for the Organic Dairy Farm Assistance Program. <u>Farms eligible for</u></p>	40	<p><b><i>Reduces ABE and Organic Dairy Farm Assistance appropriations from House. Adds language specifying that ABE appropriation is for deficit assistance. Modifies Organic Dairy Farm Assistance language to make eligible only those farms in operation as of the passage of the FY24 BAA:</i></b></p> <p>2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. B.1101 is amended to read:            Sec. B.1101 WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT –            FISCAL YEAR 2024 ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(b) Youth workforce and high school completion.            * * *</p> <p>(2) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of <del>\$1,000,000</del> <u>\$1,175,000</u> is appropriated from the General Fund to the Agency of Education for grants to Adult Basic Education programs to provide bridge funding <u>and deficit assistance</u> for Adult Basic Education programs while the study and report required by Sec. E.504 of this act is completed.            * * *</p> <p>(g) Agriculture Economic Development.            * * *</p>

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<p><u>assistance and operating when they timely filed a complete application in calendar year 2023 shall be eligible for an award under the Program.</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p>		<p>(3) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of <del>\$6,900,000</del> <u>\$7,025,492</u> General Fund is appropriated to the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets to fund Agriculture Development Grants for the Organic Dairy Farm Assistance Program. <u>Farms eligible for assistance that timely filed a complete application in calendar year 2023 and that are currently operating as of the passage of the fiscal year 2024 budget adjustment act shall be eligible for an award under the Program.</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p>
<p><i>No change from Gov. Rec.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">41</p>	<p><b><i>Adds language to ensure that DEC shares the findings of the dam engineering assessment with Morrisville Water and Light.</i></b></p> <p>2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. B.1103 is amended to read:            Sec. B.1103 CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT – FISCAL YEAR 2024            ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(h) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$2,500,000 General Fund is appropriated to the Department of Environmental Conservation for the Brownfields Reuse and Environmental Liability Limitation Act as codified in 10 V.S.A. chapter 159. Funds shall be used for the assessment and cleanup planning <del>for a maximum</del> of 25 brownfields sites.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p><u>(n) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$165,000 General Fund is appropriated to the Department of Environmental Conservation to complete the engineering assessment for the Green River Reservoir Dam. The Department shall share the findings of the assessment with Morrisville Water and Light.</u></p>
<p><b><i>Adds section to allow for remainder of \$3 million appropriation (\$160 thousand) to be used for funding the value of modifications to postretirement adjustment allowance.</i></b></p> <p style="color: red;">Sec. 43. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. B.1104 is amended to read:            Sec. B.1104 FISCAL YEAR 2024 ONE-TIME APPROPRIATION;            RETIRED TEACHERS’ COST OF LIVING PAYMENT</p> <p style="color: red;">(a) In fiscal year 2024, notwithstanding any provision of 16 V.S.A. § 4025 to the contrary, the amount of \$3,000,000 is appropriated to the Vermont State Teachers’ Retirement System from the Education Fund for Calendar Year 2023 supplemental payments made in Sec. E.514.2(b) of this act and associated costs <u>and</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">42</p>	<p>No change.</p>

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<u>to fund the present value of modifications to the postretirement adjustments allowance.</u>		
<i>No change from Gov. Rec.</i>	43	<i>No change.</i>
<i>No change from Gov. Rec.</i>	44	<i>No change.</i>
<i>No change from Gov. Rec.</i>	45	<i>No change.</i>
<i>No change from Gov. Rec.</i>	46	<i>No change.</i>
<p><b><i>Revises Gov. Rec. construct with language from LC and House Gov. Ops.:</i></b></p> <p>2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. B.1100, as amended by 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. C.115, is further amended to read:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sec. B.1100 FISCAL YEAR 2023 ONE-TIME GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(b) \$11,000,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Public Safety for regional dispatch funding. The funds are subject to the following conditions:</p> <p>(1) Up to \$1,000,000 shall be available for the retention of technical experts to assist the <u>Public Safety Communications Task Force</u> with the analysis and planning required by <del>Sec. C.112 of this act</del> <u>2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. C.114</u> and to fund the administrative expenses incurred by the Public Safety Communications Task Force. If the Task Force determines <del>in calendar year 2023</del> that additional funding is necessary to achieve its purposes, it may submit a request to the Joint Fiscal Committee. The Joint Fiscal Committee is authorized to approve up to an additional \$1,000,000.</p> <p>(2) Up to \$4,500,000 shall be available to provide funding for pilot projects pursuant to <del>Sec. C.112(f), of this act</del> <u>2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. C.114(f)</u>.</p> <p>(3) Any remaining amounts not obligated pursuant to subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection (b) shall <del>be held in reserve</del> <u>remain unobligated and unexpended</u> until approval to expend the funds is authorized by further enactment of the General Assembly.</p> <p>(4) <del>It is the intent of the General Assembly that the Department of Public Safety In order to extract the greatest value from the limited State and federal dollars currently available for public safety communications modernization, it is the intent of the General Assembly that all such funding is expended in an efficient and complementary manner. To that end, the Commissioner of Public Safety shall seek to draw and deploy the \$9,000,000 in Congressionally Directed Spending to support Vermont’s transition to a modernized, regional communications network in a manner that coordinates with and advances, to the greatest extent possible, the goals of a statewide public safety communications system</del></p>	47	<i>No change.</i>





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<p>3440892214 <u>DCF – Childcare Provider Workforce</u> <del>\$2,879,549.25</del></p> <p>3440892309 <u>DCF – Worker Retention Grant</u> <del>\$564,500.00</del></p> <p>3480007000 <u>Corrections – Justice Reinvest</u> <del>\$831,964.28</del></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p>		<p>(E) the Fire Prevention/Building Inspection Special Fund (21901): \$1,500,000.00; and</p> <p>(F) the Tax Computer System Modernization Fund (21909): \$3,600,000.00;</p> <p>(G) the State Liability Insurance Fund (56200): \$9,500,000.00;</p> <p><u>(H) the Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund (21555): \$17,250,000.00;</u></p> <p>(I) the Act 250 Permit Fund (21260): \$120,300.00;</p> <p>(J) the General Government Projects Fund (31100): \$139.24;</p> <p>(K) the Protection Projects Fund (31200): \$1,180,584.31;</p> <p>(L) the Natural Resources Projects Fund (31500): \$2,127,949.51;</p> <p>(M) the Commerce and Community Development Projects Fund (31600): \$545,295.85; and</p> <p>(N) the General Obligation Bonds Debt Service Fund (35100): \$71,202,993.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(2) From the Education Fund to:</p> <p><u>(A) the Tax Computer System Modernization Fund (21909): \$1,300,000.00; and</u></p> <p><u>(B) the Universal Afterschool and Summer Special Fund: \$2,836,982.94.</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(4) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, in fiscal year 2024, the following amounts shall revert to the Education Fund from the accounts indicated:</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;"><u>5100010000 Administration</u></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$1,280,710.79</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>5100110000 Small School Grant</u></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$391,067.00</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>5100200000 Education – Technical Education</u></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$1,204,216.38</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>5100892310 Education – Universal Meals</u></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$6,823,849.84</u></td> </tr> </table> <p>(5) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, in fiscal year 2024, the following amounts shall revert to the Clean Water Fund from the accounts indicated:</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;"><u>1100010000 Secretary of Administration</u></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$100,000.00</u></td> </tr> </table> <p>(6) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, in fiscal year 2024, the following amounts shall revert to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund from the accounts indicated:</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;"><u>6140892207 Department of Environmental Conservation</u> <u>– Clean Water Board</u></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$6,000,000.00</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>10892111 University of Vermont – Workforce Upskill</u></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$131,670.00</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>10892112 VSAC HS Grad Advancement</u></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$24,539.92</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>10892219 University of Vermont – New Career</u></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$184,485.00</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>00892308 AAFM – Soil Quality Practices</u></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$200,000.00</u></td> </tr> </table>	<u>5100010000 Administration</u>	<u>\$1,280,710.79</u>	<u>5100110000 Small School Grant</u>	<u>\$391,067.00</u>	<u>5100200000 Education – Technical Education</u>	<u>\$1,204,216.38</u>	<u>5100892310 Education – Universal Meals</u>	<u>\$6,823,849.84</u>	<u>1100010000 Secretary of Administration</u>	<u>\$100,000.00</u>	<u>6140892207 Department of Environmental Conservation</u> <u>– Clean Water Board</u>	<u>\$6,000,000.00</u>	<u>10892111 University of Vermont – Workforce Upskill</u>	<u>\$131,670.00</u>	<u>10892112 VSAC HS Grad Advancement</u>	<u>\$24,539.92</u>	<u>10892219 University of Vermont – New Career</u>	<u>\$184,485.00</u>	<u>00892308 AAFM – Soil Quality Practices</u>	<u>\$200,000.00</u>
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		<p>00892204 <u>AHSCO – Workforce Retention</u> <span style="float: right;"><u>\$2,000,000.00</u></span></p> <p>40892205 <u>DCF – OEO – Community Action Agc</u> <span style="float: right;"><u>\$3,182.48</u></span></p> <p>00892203 <u>DOL-COVID-19 Unemployment Syst</u> <span style="float: right;"><u>\$2,456,122.60</u></span></p> <p>(7) <u>Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, in fiscal year 2024, the following amounts shall revert to the Tobacco Fund from the accounts indicated:</u></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;"><u>3400891802 Invest Substance Use Treat</u></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$1,500,000</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>3400891803 Finance Substance Use Treat</u></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$724,241.80</u></td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p><u>(e)(1) Notwithstanding Sec. 1.4.3 of the Rules for State Matching Funds Under the Federal Public Assistance Program, in fiscal year 2024, the Secretary of Administration may provide funding from the Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund that was transferred pursuant to subdivision (a)(1)(H) of this section to subgrantees prior to the completion of a project. In fiscal year 2024, up to 70 percent of the State funding match on the non-federal share of an approved project for municipalities in counties that were impacted by the July 2023 flooding event and are eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance funds under federal disaster declaration DR-4720-VT may be advanced at the request of a municipality.</u></p> <p><u>(2) Notwithstanding Sec. 1.4.1 of the Rules for State Matching Funds Under the Federal Public Assistance Program, in fiscal year 2024, the Secretary of Administration shall increase the standard State funding match on the non-federal share of an approved project to the highest percentage possible given available funding for municipalities in counties that were impacted by the July 2023 flooding event and are eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance funds under federal disaster declaration DR-4720-VT.</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p>	<u>3400891802 Invest Substance Use Treat</u>	<u>\$1,500,000</u>	<u>3400891803 Finance Substance Use Treat</u>	<u>\$724,241.80</u>
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<u>3400891803 Finance Substance Use Treat</u>	<u>\$724,241.80</u>					
<p><b><i>Adds two Cannabis Control Board positions:</i></b></p> <p>2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. E.100 is amended to read:            Sec. E.100 EXECUTIVE BRANCH POSITIONS            (a) The establishment of <del>68</del> <u>75</u> permanent positions is authorized in fiscal year 2024 for the following:            (1) Permanent classified positions: <span style="float: right;">***</span></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><u>(R) Department for Children and Families:</u>  <u>(i) five Family Service Workers;</u></p>	54	<p><b><i>Adds three ERP limited service included in the FY25 Gov. Rec.:</i></b></p> <p>2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. E.100 is amended to read:            Sec. E.100 EXECUTIVE BRANCH POSITIONS <span style="float: right;">***</span></p> <p><u>(c) The establishment of <del>9</del> <u>12</u> new classified limited service positions is authorized in fiscal year 2024 as follows: <span style="float: right;">***</span></u></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><u>(3) Department of Finance and Management:</u>  <u>(A) one VISION Reporting Analyst III; and</u></p>				

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<p><del>(S) Cannabis Control Board:</del>  <del>(i) one Compliance Agent; and</del>  <del>(ii) one Deputy Director of Compliance and Enforcement.</del></p>		<p><u>(B) two VISION Financial Analysts II.</u>  ***</p>
<p><i>Adds section to allow for up to \$3 million from an \$11.8 million authorized expenditure from the Technology Modernization Special Fund to be transferred for ERP:</i></p> <p>2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. E. 105.2 is amended to read:  Sec. E.105.2 FISCAL YEAR 2023; TECHNOLOGY MODERNIZATION SPECIAL FUND; AUTHORIZATIONS</p> <p>(a) In fiscal year 2023, the following expenditures are authorized from the Technology Modernization Special Fund to the projects described in this section:  (1) the sum of \$11,800,000 for Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system upgrade of core statewide financial accounting system and integration with the Vermont Department of Labor and the Agency of Transportation financial systems. <u>Up to \$3,000,000 of these funds may be transferred to other agencies and departments for other Enterprise Resource Planning modernization related projects, including business process transformation;</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">***</p>	<p>55</p>	<p><i>Modifies language construct to correctly amend session law and to authorize an interdepartmental transfer of up to \$3,000,000 of previously appropriated funds, per the Administration’s technical letter to SAC:</i></p> <p>2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. B.1102, as amended by 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 3, Sec. 47, is further amended to read:  Sec. B.1102 FISCAL YEAR 2023 ONE-TIME TECHNOLOGY MODERNIZATION SPECIAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS</p> <p>(a) In fiscal year 2023, funds are appropriated from the Technology Modernization Special Fund (21951) for new and ongoing initiatives as follows:  (1) \$40,010,000 to the Agency of Digital Services to be used as follows:  (A) \$11,800,000 for Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system upgrade of core statewide financial accounting system and integration with the Department of Labor and Agency of Transportation financial systems. <u>The Commissioner of Finance and Management may transfer up to \$3,000,000 of these funds to other agencies and departments for other Enterprise Resource Planning modernization-related projects, including business process transformation;</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">***</p>
<p><i>Adds section to amend statute so that business process transformation is an allowable use of Technology Modernization Special Fund dollars:</i></p> <p>3 V.S.A. § 3306 is amended to read:  § 3306. TECHNOLOGY MODERNIZATION SPECIAL FUND</p> <p>(a) Creation. There is created the Technology Modernization Special Fund, to be administered by the Agency of Digital Services. Monies in the Fund shall be used to <u>fund business process transformation and to</u> purchase, implement, and upgrade technology platforms, systems, and cybersecurity services used by State agencies and departments to carry out their statutory functions.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">***</p>	<p>56</p>	<p><i>No change.</i></p>
<p><i>Adds section directing the Agency of Administration to report to JITOC on any change in status of the ERP project contract and to share the results of its review with the Committee:</i></p>	<p>57</p>	<p><i>Adds language inadvertently left out in House bill.</i></p> <p>AGENCY OF ADMINISTRATION; ENTERPRISE RESOURCE</p>

Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
<p>AGENCY OF ADMINISTRATION; ENTERPRISE RESOURCE PLANNING</p> <p><u>(a) In fiscal year 2024, the Agency of Administration shall report to the Joint Information Technology Oversight Committee within three business days after any change in status of any contract relating to the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) – Modernization Business Transformation project changes.</u></p>		<p>PLANNING</p> <p><u>(a) In fiscal year 2024, the Agency of Administration shall report to the Joint Information Technology Oversight Committee within three business days after any change in status of any contract relating to the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) – Modernization Business Transformation project changes.</u></p> <p><u>(b) The Agency of Administration shall share the results of its independent review with the Committee within three business days after its completion.</u></p>
<p><b><i>No change from Gov. Rec.</i></b></p>	<p>58</p>	<p><b><i>No change.</i></b></p>
<p><b><i>Adds study language:</i></b></p> <p>2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. E.131.2 is added to read:</p> <p>Sec. E.131.2 TREASURER; STATE RESERVES STUDY</p> <p><u>(a) Report. On or before December 15, 2024, the Treasurer shall, in consultation with the Department of Finance and Management and the Joint Fiscal Office, submit a written report to the Joint Fiscal Committee on the State’s fiscal reserve practices and the fiscal reserve practices of other states. The report shall include a review of:</u></p> <p><u>(1) the current fiscal reserve practices of the State, including a review of which funds have statutory reserves and which funds do not;</u></p> <p><u>(2) the fiscal reserve practices of other states and best practices;</u></p> <p><u>(3) how Vermont’s fiscal reserve practices compare to those of other states and to best practices; and</u></p> <p><u>(4) the cash reserve policies of the State as it compares to reserve requirements.</u></p> <p><u>(b) The report shall include the Treasurer’s findings and any recommendations for changes in the fiscal reserve practices of the State.</u></p>	<p>59</p>	<p><b><i>No change.</i></b></p>
<p><b><i>Adds study language:</i></b></p> <p>2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. E.131.3 is added to read:</p> <p>Sec. E.131.3 TREASURER; STRESS-TESTING REPORT</p> <p><u>(a) Report. On or before December 15, 2024, the Treasurer, in consultation with the Department of Finance and Management and the Joint Fiscal Office, shall submit a written report to the Joint Fiscal Committee on fiscal stress-testing practices and methodologies in other states. The report shall address the extent to which such practices may be useful or beneficial and include any recommendations for the implementation of stress-testing practices in State government.</u></p>	<p>60</p>	<p><b><i>No change.</i></b></p>

Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
<p><b>Adds section to clarify that the <i>Blueprint for Health Hub and Spoke program is a pilot funded with one-time funds:</i></b></p> <p>2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. E.300.2 is amended to read:            Sec. E.300.2 BLUEPRINT FOR HEALTH HUB AND SPOKE PROGRAM PILOT; FUND SOURCES</p> <p>(a) The Agency of Human Services, in collaboration with the Departments of Vermont Health Access and of Health, shall identify alternative fund sources, including sales tax revenue from tobacco, cannabis, and liquor, for ongoing funding of the Blueprint for Health Hub and Spoke <u>pilot program funded in Sec. B.1100 of this act</u> and shall update the Joint Fiscal Committee on its findings on or before November 15, 2023.</p>	61	<b>No change.</b>
<p><b>No change from Gov. Rec.</b></p>	62	<b>No change.</b>
<p><b>Adds section to amend Act 78 language on syringe exchange programs and adds \$500 thousand Tobacco Settlement Fund:</b></p> <p>2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. E.312 is amended to read:            Sec. E.312 HEALTH – PUBLIC HEALTH</p> <p>(a) HIV/AIDS funding:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(5) In fiscal year 2024, the Department of Health shall provide grants in the amount of \$300,000 in General Funds Fund dollars and \$500,000 in Tobacco Settlement Fund dollars to the current syringe exchange programs in Vermont AIDS service organizations and other Vermont HIV/AIDS prevention providers for syringe exchange programs. The method by which these prevention funds are distributed shall be determined by mutual agreement of the Department of Health, the Vermont AIDS service organizations, and other Vermont HIV/AIDS prevention providers. The performance period for these grants shall be State fiscal year 2024. Grant reporting shall include outcomes and results.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p>	63	<p><b>Removes House add of \$500 thousand Tobacco Settlement Fund dollars:</b></p> <p>2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. E.312 is amended to read:            Sec. E.312 HEALTH – PUBLIC HEALTH</p> <p>(a) HIV/AIDS funding:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(5) In fiscal year 2024, the Department of Health shall provide grants in the amount of \$300,000 in General Funds Fund dollars and <u>\$500,000 in Tobacco Settlement Fund dollars</u> to the current syringe exchange programs in Vermont AIDS service organizations and other Vermont HIV/AIDS prevention providers for syringe exchange programs. The method by which these prevention funds are distributed shall be determined by mutual agreement of the Department of Health, the Vermont AIDS service organizations, and other Vermont HIV/AIDS prevention providers. The performance period for these grants shall be State fiscal year 2024. Grant reporting shall include outcomes and results.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p>
<p><b>No change from Gov. Rec.</b></p>	64	<b>No change.</b>
<p><b>No change from Gov. Rec.</b></p>	65	<b>No change.</b>
<p><b>No change from Gov. Rec.</b></p>	66	<b>No change.</b>
<p><b>No change from Gov. Rec.</b></p>	67	<b>No change.</b>
<p><b>No change from Gov. Rec.</b></p>	68	<b>No change.</b>

Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
<p><b>Modifies construct from Gov. Rec., increases MileageSmart appropriation by \$500 thousand and decreases Replace Your Ride Program appropriation by \$500 thousand:</b></p> <p>2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. G.600(b), as amended by 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 3, Sec. 85, and 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 62, Sec. 26, is further amended to read:</p> <p>(b) In fiscal year 2023, \$32,200,000 is appropriated from the General Fund and \$550,000 is appropriated from the Transportation Fund for electric vehicle charging infrastructure, electrification incentives and public transportation investments as follows:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(4) <del>\$3,000,000</del> <u>\$3,500,000</u> to the Agency of Transportation to grant to the Community Action Agencies to support the MileageSmart Program, established in 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 59, Sec. 34, as amended.</p> <p>(5) <del>\$2,350,000.00</del> <u>\$1,850,000</u> to the Agency of Transportation for the Replace Your Ride Program, established in 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 55, Sec. 27, as amended.</p> <p>(6) <u>\$500,000 to the Agency of Transportation Electrify Your Fleet Program.</u></p> <p>(7) <del>\$2,200,000</del> <u>\$2,350,000</u> general funds and \$550,000 Transportation funds to the Agency of Transportation for the following:</p> <p>(C) \$50,000 Transportation funds and <del>\$100,000</del> <u>\$150,000</u> general funds to the Agency of Transportation for electric bicycle incentives.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p>	69	<p><b>Increases MileageSmart appropriation by \$500 thousand to \$4 million (over House's \$3.5 million) and reduced Replace Your Ride appropriation to \$1.35 million (below House's \$1.85 million). Corrects construct per Administration's technical letter to SAC:</b></p> <p>2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. G.600(b), as amended by 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 3, Sec. 85, and 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 62, Sec. 26, is further amended to read:</p> <p>(b) In fiscal year 2023, \$32,200,000 is appropriated from the General Fund and \$550,000 is appropriated from the Transportation Fund for electric vehicle charging infrastructure, electrification incentives and public transportation investments as follows:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(4) <del>\$3,000,000</del> <u>\$4,000,000</u> to the Agency of Transportation to grant to the Community Action Agencies to support the MileageSmart Program, established in 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 59, Sec. 34, as amended.</p> <p>(5) <del>\$2,350,000.00</del> <u>\$1,350,000</u> to the Agency of Transportation for the Replace Your Ride Program, established in 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 55, Sec. 27, as amended.</p> <p>(6) <del>\$2,200,000</del> <u>\$2,350,000</u> general funds and \$550,000 Transportation funds to the Agency of Transportation for the following:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(C) \$50,000 Transportation funds and <del>\$100,000</del> <u>\$150,000</u> general funds to the Agency of Transportation for electric bicycle incentives.</p> <p><u>(7) \$500,000 to the Agency of Transportation Electrify Your Fleet Program.</u></p>
<b>No change from Gov. Rec.</b>	70	<b>No change.</b>
<b>No change from Gov. Rec.</b>	71	<b>No change.</b>
<b>No change from Gov. Rec.</b>	72	<b>No change.</b>
<b>No change from Gov. Rec.</b>	73	<b>No change.</b>
<b>No change from Gov. Rec.</b>	74	<b>No change.</b>
<p><b>Adds section raising maximum loan amount for inflation for the Municipal Equipment Loan Fund:</b></p> <p>29 V.S.A. chapter 61 is amended to read:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CHAPTER 61. MUNICIPAL EQUIPMENT LOAN FUND</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>602. APPLICATION; LOANS; CONDITIONS</p>	75	<b>No change.</b>

Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
<p>(a) Upon application of a municipality or two or more municipalities applying jointly, the State Treasurer may loan money from the Fund to that municipality or municipalities for the purchase of equipment. Purchases of equipment eligible for loans from the Fund shall have a useful life of at least five years and a purchase price of at least \$20,000.00 but shall not be eligible for loans in excess of <del>\$110,000.00</del> <u>\$150,000.00</u> from this Fund.</p> <p>(b) The Treasurer is authorized to establish terms and conditions, including repayment schedules of up to five years for loans from the Fund to ensure repayment of loans to the Fund. Before a municipality may receive a loan from the Fund, it shall give to the Treasurer security for the repayment of the funds. The security shall be in such form and amount as the Treasurer may determine and may include a lien on the equipment financed by the loan.</p> <p>(c) The rates of interest shall be as established by this section to assist municipalities in purchasing equipment upon terms more favorable than in the commercial market. Such rates shall be no more than two percent per annum for a loan to a single municipality, and loans shall bear no interest charge if made to two or more municipalities purchasing equipment jointly.</p> <p>(d) In any fiscal year, new loans from the Municipal Equipment Fund shall not exceed an aggregate of \$1,500,000.00. <u>The Treasurer shall put forth recommendations to the General Assembly on a maximum loan amount every five years, commencing on January 15, 2028, based on requests received and loans granted pursuant to this chapter.</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p>		
<p><b><i>Adds section amending VT Saves Program to reflect that program contributions are a percent of wages and that employers must comply with the program, not simply enroll in it:</i></b></p> <p>3 V.S.A. chapter 18 is amended to read:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CHAPTER 18. VT SAVES * * *</p> <p>§ 532. VT SAVES PROGRAM; ESTABLISHMENT * * *</p> <p>(c) Contributions.</p> <p>(1) Unless otherwise specified by the covered employee, a covered employee shall automatically initially contribute five percent of the covered employee's <del>salary or</del> wages to the Program. A covered employee may elect to opt out of the Program at any time or contribute at any higher or lower rate, expressed as a percentage of <del>salary or</del> wages, or, as</p>	76	<p><b><i>No change.</i></b></p>



Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
<p>permitted by the Treasurer, expressed as a flat dollar amount, subject in all cases to the IRA contribution and eligibility limits applicable under the Internal Revenue Code at no additional charge.</p> <p>(2) The Treasurer shall provide for, on a uniform basis, an annual increase of each active participant's contribution rate, by not less than one percent, but not more than eight percent, of <del>salary or</del> wages each year. Any such increases shall apply to active participants, including participants by default with an option to opt out or participants who are initiated by affirmative participant election, provided that any increase is subject to the IRA contribution and eligibility limits applicable under the Internal Revenue Code.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>§ 535. PENALTIES</p> <p>(a) Failure to <del>enroll</del> <u>comply</u>. If a covered employer fails to <del>enroll a covered employee</del> <u>be in compliance with this chapter</u> without reasonable cause, the covered employer is subject to a penalty for each covered employee for each calendar year or portion of a calendar year during which the covered employee was not enrolled in the Program or had not opted out of participation in the Program. The amount of any penalty imposed on a covered employer for the failure to enroll a covered employee without reasonable cause is determined as follows:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(b) Waivers. The Treasurer is authorized to establish a rule waiving the penalty for a covered employer <del>for any failure to enroll a covered employee</del> <u>that fails to be in compliance with this chapter</u> for which it is established that the covered employer did not know that the failure existed and exercised reasonable diligence to meet the requirements of this chapter, provided that:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p>		
<p><b><i>Amends Act 43 to allow for a flexible rollout – all at once – for VT Saves:</i></b></p> <p>2023 Acts and Resolves No. 43, Sec. 2 is amended to read:</p> <p>Sec. 2. VT SAVES; IMPLEMENTATION</p> <p>(a) Subject to an appropriation from the General Assembly, the State Treasurer shall implement the VT Saves Program (Program), established in 3 V.S.A. chapter 18, <del>as follows:</del> <u>in stages as determined by the Treasurer, which may include phasing in the Program based on the size of employers or other factors. The Program shall be implemented so that all covered employees will begin participation and make contributions on or before July 1, 2026</u></p>	77	<b><i>No change.</i></b>



Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
<p><del>(1) Beginning on July 1, 2025, all covered employers with 25 or more covered employees shall offer the Program to all covered employees.</del>  <del>(2) Beginning on January 1, 2026, all covered employers with 15 to 24 covered employees shall offer the Program to all covered employees.</del>  <del>(3) Beginning on July 1, 2026, all covered employers with five to 14 covered employees shall offer the Program to all covered employees.</del>                      (b) As used in this section, “covered employer” and “covered employee” have the same meanings as in 3 V.S.A. § 531.</p>		
<p><b><i>Amends statute to make sure electors meet on a date that complies with federal law:</i></b>                       17 V.S.A. § 2732(a) is amended to read:                      (a) The electors shall meet at the State House on the first <del>Monday</del> <u>Tuesday</u> after the second Wednesday in December next following their election to vote for the President and Vice President of the United States, agreeably to the laws of the United States.</p>	78	<b><i>No change.</i></b>
<p><b><i>Amends statute to give the Commissioner of Health authority to exclude facilities whose primary business relates to opioid use disorder medication from CON:</i></b>                       18 V.S.A. § 9435 is amended to read:                      § 9435. EXCLUSIONS                      * * *                      (g) <del>With the approval of the Commissioner of Health, excluded from this subchapter is a facility in which the prescription, distribution, or administration of medication for opioid use disorder is a principal activity.</del></p>	79	<b><i>No change.</i></b>
<p><b><i>Amends statute to increase the number of Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee meetings:</i></b>                       18 V.S.A. § 4772 is amended to read:                      § 4772. OPIOID SETTLEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE                      * * *                      (f) Meetings.                      (1) The Commissioner of Health shall call the first meeting of the Advisory Committee to occur on or before June 30, 2022.                      (2) The Advisory Committee shall meet at least quarterly but not more than <del>six</del> <u>12</u> times per calendar year.</p>	80	<b><i>No change.</i></b>

Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
<p>(3) The Advisory Committee shall adopt procedures to govern its proceedings and organization, including voting procedures and how the staggered terms shall be apportioned among members.</p> <p>(4) All meetings of the Advisory Committee shall be consistent with Vermont's Open Meeting Law pursuant to 1 V.S.A. chapter 5, subchapter 2.</p> <p>(g) Compensation and reimbursement.</p> <p>(1) For attendance at meetings during adjournment of the General Assembly, a legislative member of the Advisory Committee serving in the member's capacity as a legislator shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to 2 V.S.A. § 23 for not more than <del>six</del> 12 meetings per year. These payments shall be appropriated from the Opioid Abatement Special Fund.</p> <p>(2) Other members of the Advisory Committee shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses as permitted under 32 V.S.A. § 1010 for not more than <del>six</del> 12 meetings per year. These payments shall be appropriated from the Opioid Abatement Special Fund.</p>		
<p><b><i>Amends statute to make sure that the cryptocurrency is liquidated prior to escheatment to the Unclaimed Property Fund:</i></b></p> <p>27 V.S.A. § 1513 is amended to read:</p> <p>§ 1513. PAYMENT OR DELIVERY OF PROPERTY TO ADMINISTRATOR</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(f) <u>If property reported to the Administrator under section 1491 of this title is virtual currency, the holder shall liquidate the virtual currency and remit the proceeds to the Administrator. The liquidation shall occur anytime within 30 days prior to the remittance. The owner of the property shall not have recourse against the holder or the Administrator to recover any gain in value that occurs after the liquidation of the virtual currency for property properly reported as set forth in this chapter.</u></p> <p>(g) The Administrator shall establish procedures for the registration, issuance, method of delivery, transfer, and maintenance of securities delivered to the Administrator by a holder.</p> <p><del>(g)</del>(h) An issuer, holder, and transfer agent or other person acting under this section under instructions of and on behalf of the issuer or holder is not liable to the apparent owner for, and must be indemnified by the State against, a claim arising with respect to property after the property has been delivered to the Administrator.</p>	81	<p><b><i>No change.</i></b></p>

Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
<p><del>(h)(i)</del> A holder is not required to deliver to the Administrator a security identified by the holder as a <del>non-freely</del> <u>nonfreely</u> transferable security. If the Administrator or holder determines that a security is no longer a <del>non-freely</del> <u>nonfreely</u> transferable security, the holder shall deliver the security on the next regular date prescribed for delivery of securities under this chapter. The holder shall make a determination annually whether a security identified in a report filed under section 1491 of this title as a <del>non-freely</del> <u>nonfreely</u> transferable security is no longer a <del>non-freely</del> <u>nonfreely</u> transferable security.</p>		
<p><b><i>Amends statute to increase the survivor's benefit for survivors of EMS personnel:</i></b></p> <p>20 V.S.A. § 3173 is amended to read:            § 3173. MONETARY BENEFIT            (a) The survivors of emergency personnel who dies while in the line of duty or from an occupation-related illness may apply for a payment of <del>\$50,000.00</del> <u>\$80,000.00</u> from the State.            (b) The State Treasurer shall disburse from the Special Fund established in section 3175 of this title the monetary benefit described in subsection (a) of this section and shall adopt necessary procedures for the disbursement of such funds.</p>	82	<b><i>No change.</i></b>
<p><b><i>Amends statute to revert VSTRS COLA to the pre-2016 formula (apply statutory maximum to the size of the COLA rather than to the size of the net percentage change in the CPI):</i></b></p> <p>16 V.S.A. § 1949 is amended to read:            § 1949. POSTRETIREMENT ADJUSTMENTS TO RETIREMENT ALLOWANCES            (a) Postretirement adjustments to retirement allowance. On January 1 of each year, the retirement allowance of each beneficiary of the System who is in receipt of a retirement allowance for at least a one-year period as of December 31 in the previous year, and who meets the eligibility criteria set forth in this section, shall be adjusted by the amount described in subsection (d) of this section. In no event shall a beneficiary receive a negative adjustment to the beneficiary's retirement allowance.            (b) Calculation of net percentage increase. Each year, a determination shall be made of any increase or decrease, to the nearest one-tenth of a percent, in the Consumer Price Index for the month ending on June 30 of that year to the average of the Consumer Price Index for the month ending on June 30 of the previous year.</p>	83	<b><i>No change.</i></b>

Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
<p><del>(1) Consumer Price Index; maximum and minimum amounts. Any increase or decrease in the Consumer Price Index shall be subject to adjustment so as to remain within the following maximum and minimum amounts:</del></p> <p><del>(A) For Group A members and Group C members who are eligible for normal retirement or unreduced early retirement, or who are vested deferred, on or before June 30, 2022, the maximum amount of any increase or decrease utilized to determine the net percentage increase shall be five percent.</del></p> <p><del>(B) For Group C members who are eligible for retirement and leave active service on or after July 1, 2022, the maximum amount of any increase or decrease utilized to determine the net percentage increase shall be four percent.</del></p> <p><del>(2)(1) Consumer Price Index; decreases. In the event of a decrease of the Consumer Price Index as of June 30 for the preceding year, there shall be no adjustment to the retirement allowance of a beneficiary for the subsequent year beginning on January 1; provided, however, that:</del></p> <p><del>(A) such decrease shall be applied as an offset against the first subsequent year's increase of the Consumer Price Index up to the full amount of such increase; and</del></p> <p><del>(B) to the extent that such decrease is greater than such subsequent year's increase, such decrease shall be offset in the same manner against two or more years of such increases, for up to but not exceeding five subsequent years of such increases, until fully offset.</del></p> <p><del>(3)(2) Consumer Price Index; increases. Subject to the maximum and minimum amounts set forth in subdivision (1) of this subsection, in In the event of an increase in the Consumer Price Index, and provided there remains an increase following the application of any offset as in subdivision (2)(1) of this subsection, that amount shall be identified as the net percentage increase and used to determine the members' postretirement adjustment as set forth in subsection (d) of this section.</del></p> <p><del>(c) Eligibility for postretirement adjustment. In order for a beneficiary to receive a postretirement adjustment allowance, the beneficiary must meet the following eligibility requirements:</del></p> <p><del>(1) For any Group A or Group C member eligible for normal retirement, or who is vested deferred, on or before June 30, 2022, the member must be in receipt of a retirement allowance for at least 12 months prior to the January 1 effective date of any postretirement adjustment; and.</del></p>		

Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
<p>(2) <del>for</del> For any Group C member who is <u>first</u> eligible for <u>normal</u> retirement and leaves active service on or after July 1, 2022, the member must be in receipt of a retirement allowance for at least 24 months prior to the January 1 effective date of any postretirement adjustment.</p> <p><u>(3) Special rule for Group C early retirement. A Group C member in receipt of an early retirement allowance shall not receive a postretirement adjustment to the member's retirement allowance until such time as the member has reached normal retirement age, provided the member meets all eligibility criteria set forth in this subsection.</u></p> <p>(d) Amount of postretirement adjustment. The postretirement adjustment for each member who meets the eligibility criteria set forth in subsection (c) shall be as follows:</p> <p>(1) the full amount of the net percentage increase calculated pursuant to subsection (b) of this section for all Group A members; <del>and, provided that:</del></p> <p><u>(A) the net percentage increase following the application of any offset as provided in this section equals or exceeds one percent; and</u></p> <p><u>(B) the maximum amount of any adjustment under this section shall be five percent; and</u></p> <p>(2) one-half of the net percentage increase <u>calculated pursuant to subsection (b) of this section</u> for all Group C members; <del>, provided that:</del></p> <p><u>(A) For Group C members eligible for normal retirement or who are vested deferred on or before June 30, 2022, the maximum amount of any adjustment under this section shall be five percent. An adjustment of less than one percent shall be assigned a value of one percent.</u></p> <p><u>(B) For Group C members first eligible for normal retirement and who leave active service on or after July 1, 2022, the maximum amount of any adjustment under this section shall be four percent, and the minimum amount shall be zero percent.</u></p> <p>(e) As used in this section, "Consumer Price Index" <del>shall mean</del> <u>means</u> the Northeast Region Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers, designated as "CPI-U," in the northeast region, as published by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.</p>		
<p><b><i>Amends Act 47 to remove duplicative language and ensure that any subsidy given through the program either stays with the property or is recaptured by the State upon sale:</i></b></p> <p>2023 Acts and Resolves No. 47, Sec. 36 is amended to read:</p> <p><b>Sec. 36 MIDDLE-INCOME HOMEOWNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT</b></p>	<p>84</p>	<p><b><i>No change.</i></b></p>

Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
<p><b>PROGRAM</b></p> <p>(a) The Vermont Housing Finance Agency shall establish a Middle-Income Homeownership Development Program pursuant to this section.</p> <p>(b) As used in this section:</p> <p>(1) “Affordable owner-occupied housing” means owner-occupied housing identified in 26 U.S.C. § 143(c)(1) or that qualifies under Vermont Housing Finance Agency criteria governing owner-occupied housing.</p> <p>(2) “Income-eligible homebuyer” means a Vermont household with annual income that does not exceed 150 percent of area median income.</p> <p>(c) The Agency shall use the funds appropriated in this section to provide subsidies for new construction or acquisition and substantial rehabilitation of affordable owner-occupied housing for purchase by income-eligible homebuyers.</p> <p>(d) The total amount of subsidies for a project shall not exceed 35 percent of eligible development costs, as determined by the Agency, which the Agency may allocate consistent with the following:</p> <p>(1) Developer subsidy. The Agency may provide a direct subsidy to the developer, which shall not exceed the difference between the cost of development and the market value of the home as completed.</p> <p>(2) Affordability subsidy. Of any remaining amounts available for the project after the developer subsidy, the Agency may provide a subsidy for the benefit of the homebuyer to reduce the cost of purchasing the home, provided that:</p> <p>(A) the Agency includes conditions in the subsidy; <u>agreement</u> or uses another legal mechanism; to ensure that, <del>to the extent the home value has risen, the amount of the subsidy upon sale of the home, to the extent proceeds are available, the amount of the affordability subsidy either:</del></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">(i) remains with the home to offset the cost to future homebuyers; or</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">(ii) <u>is recaptured by the Agency upon sale of the home for use in a similar program to support affordable homeownership development; or</u></p> <p>(B) the subsidy is subject to a housing subsidy covenant, as defined in 27 V.S.A. § 610, that preserves the affordability of the home for a period of 99 years or longer.</p> <p>(3) The Agency shall allocate not less than 33 percent of the funds available through the Program to projects that include a housing subsidy covenant consistent with subdivision (2)(B) of this subsection.</p> <p>(e) The Agency shall adopt a Program plan that establishes application and selection criteria, including:</p>		

Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
<p>(1) project location;</p> <p>(2) geographic distribution;</p> <p>(3) leveraging of other programs;</p> <p>(4) housing market needs;</p> <p>(5) project characteristics, including whether the project includes the use of existing housing as part of a community revitalization plan;</p> <p>(6) construction standards, including considerations for size;</p> <p>(7) priority for plans with deeper affordability and longer duration of affordability requirements;</p> <p>(8) sponsor characteristics;</p> <p>(9) energy efficiency of the development; and</p> <p>(10) the historic nature of the project.</p> <p>(f)(1) When implementing the Program, the Agency shall consult stakeholders and experts in the field.</p> <p>(2) The Program shall include:</p> <p>(A) a streamlined and appropriately scaled application process;</p> <p>(B) an outreach and education plan, including specific tactics to reach and support eligible applicants, especially those from underserved regions or sectors;</p> <p>(C) an equitable system for distributing investments statewide on the basis of need according to a system of priorities that includes consideration of:</p> <p>(i) geographic distribution;</p> <p>(ii) community size;</p> <p>(iii) community economic need; and</p> <p>(iv) whether an application has already received an investment or is from an applicant in a community that has already received Program funding.</p> <p><del>(3) The Agency shall use its best efforts to ensure:</del></p> <p><del>(A) that investments awarded are targeted to the geographic communities or regions with the most pressing economic and employment needs; and</del></p> <p><del>(B) that the allocation of investments provides equitable access to the benefits to all eligible geographical areas.</del></p> <p>(g) The Agency may assign its rights under any investment or subsidy made under this section to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board or any State agency or nonprofit organization qualifying under 26 U.S.C § 501(c)(3), provided such assignee acknowledges and agrees to comply with the provisions of this section.</p>		



Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
<p>(h) The Department shall report to the House Committee on General and Housing and the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs on the status of the Program annually, on or before January 15.</p>		
<p><b><i>Adds language to unreserve the \$9.1 million Education Fund reserved for VSTRS in Act 78 and appropriates \$9.34 million Education Fund to fund the present value of modifications made to the postretirement adjustments allowance in this BAA:</i></b></p> <p>UNRESERVED EDUCATION FUNDS; VERMONT STATE TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM APPROPRIATION</p> <p><u>(a) In fiscal year 2024, notwithstanding any provision of 16 V.S.A. § 4025 to the contrary, the amount of \$9,100,000 in Education Fund dollars reserved in 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. D.104(a) is unreserved and the sum of \$9,340,000 in Education Fund dollars is appropriated to the Vermont Teachers' Retirement Fund, established in 16 V.S.A. § 1944, to fund the present value of modifications made to the postretirement adjustments allowance set forth in Sec. 89 of this act.</u></p>	<p>85</p>	<p><b><i>No change.</i></b></p>
<p><b><i>Adds language to extend GA through June 30 for all households eligible for GA and temporary emergency housing under the adverse weather condition policy. Sets a rate cap of \$75 per household per day and allows AHS to enter into a contractual agreement with a licensed motel or hotel operator. Allows AHS and a shelter provider or community housing agency to enter into a full facility lease or sales agreement with a licensed hotel or motel provider:</i></b></p> <p>TEMPORARY EMERGENCY HOUSING</p> <p><u>(a) The Commissioner for Children and Families shall ensure that temporary emergency housing is provided through June 30, 2024 to households eligible for the General Assistance Emergency Housing Program, including households eligible under the Adverse Weather Conditions Policy, and beneficiaries of the emergency housing transition benefit that is set to conclude on April 1, 2024, pursuant to 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 81, Sec. 6.</u></p> <p><u>(b) Temporary emergency housing required pursuant to subsection (a) of this section may be provided through the use of approved shelters, new unit generation, open units, or other appropriate shelter space.</u></p> <p><u>(c) On or before the last day of each month from April 2024 through June 2024, the Agency of Human Services, or other relevant agency or department, shall continue</u></p>	<p>86</p>	<p><b><i>Adds language that states that housing shall be provided for households eligible for GA through June 30, to the extent housing is available. Excludes individuals who only qualify for temporary emergency housing under the adverse weather condition policy. Increases room rate cap to \$80 and includes language to allow AHS to house a household in multiple rooms depending on its size and composition. Removes cap on lease agreement per room per day rate. Adds language to continue Act 81 reports through the end of the fiscal year:</i></b></p> <p>Sec. 86. TEMPORARY EMERGENCY HOUSING</p> <p><u>(a) To the extent emergency housing is available, the Commissioner for Children and Families shall ensure that temporary emergency housing is provided through June 30, 2024 to households eligible for the General Assistance Emergency Housing Program, including beneficiaries of the emergency housing transition benefit that is set to conclude on April 1, 2024 and excluding those individuals who only qualify for temporary emergency housing pursuant to the Department's adverse weather condition policy. Participation pursuant to this subsection shall not be bound by day limit maximums and shall be subject to the following eligibility criteria:</u></p> <p><u>(1) for beneficiaries of the emergency housing transition benefit, 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 81, Sec. 6, and Department for Children and Families, Emergency Housing</u></p>

Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
<p><u>submitting a substantially similar report to that due pursuant to 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 81, Sec. 6(b).</u></p> <p><u>(d) Beginning on March 1, 2024, the Agency of Human Services shall not reimburse any licensed hotel or motel establishment more than \$75 a day to shelter a household experiencing homelessness and shall strictly enforce the following rules:</u></p> <p><u>(1) Section 2650.1 of the Department for Children and Families, General Assistance (CVR 13-170-260);</u></p> <p><u>(2) Department of Health, Licensed Lodging Establishment Rule (CVR 13-140-023);</u></p> <p><u>(3) Department of Public Safety, Vermont Fire and Building Safety Code (CVR 28-070-001).</u></p> <p><u>(e)(1) Prior to June 1, 2024, the Agency of Human Services and either a shelter provider or a community housing agency may enter into a full facility lease or sales agreement with a hotel or motel provider. Any facility conversion under this section shall comply with the Office of Economic Opportunity’s shelter standards.</u></p> <p><u>(2) If the Agency determines that a contractual arrangement with a licensed hotel or motel operator to secure temporary emergency housing capacity is beneficial to improve the quality, cleanliness, and access to services for those households temporarily housed in the facility, the Agency shall be authorized to enter into such an agreement, provided, however, that in no event shall such an agreement or the negotiations for such an agreement cause a household to become unhoused.</u></p> <p><u>(3) In no event shall an agreement under this subsection exceed a rate of \$75 per day per household.</u></p>		<p><u>Transition Benefit (EH-100), adopted under Secretary of State emergency rule filing number 23-E12 or any future identical emergency rule adopted by the Department; and</u></p> <p><u>(2) for all other participants of the General Assistance Emergency Housing Program, excluding those individuals who only qualify for temporary emergency housing pursuant to the Department’s adverse weather condition policy, Department for Children and Families, General Assistance (CVR 13-170-260) as amended by Department for Children and Families under Secretary of State emergency rule filing number 23-E11 or any future identical emergency rule adopted by the Department.</u></p> <p><u>(b) Temporary emergency housing required pursuant to subsection (a) of this section may be provided through approved shelters, new unit generation, open units, licensed hotels or motels, or other appropriate shelter space. The Agency of Human Services shall, when available, prioritize temporary emergency housing at housing or shelter placements other than licensed hotels or motels.</u></p> <p><u>(c) On or before the last day of each month from April 2024 through June 2024, the Agency of Human Services, or other relevant agency or department, shall continue submitting a substantially similar report to that due pursuant to 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 81, Sec. 6(b).</u></p> <p><u>(d) For temporary emergency housing provided beginning on March 1, 2024 and thereafter, the Agency of Human Services shall not pay a licensed hotel or motel establishment more than the lowest advertised room rate and not more than \$80 a day per room to shelter a household experiencing homelessness. The Agency of Human Services may shelter a household in more than one licensed hotel or motel room depending on the household’s size and composition.</u></p> <p><u>(e) The Agency of Human Services shall apply the following rules:</u></p> <p><u>(1) Section 2650.1 of the Department for Children and Families, General Assistance (CVR 13-170-260);</u></p> <p><u>(2) Department of Health, Licensed Lodging Establishment Rule (CVR 13-140-023); and</u></p> <p><u>(3) Department of Public Safety, Vermont Fire and Building Safety Code (CVR 28-070-001).</u></p> <p><u>(f)(1) Prior to June 1, 2024, the Agency of Human Services may work with either a shelter provider or a community housing agency to enter into a full facility lease or sales agreement with a hotel or motel provider. Any facility conversion under this section shall comply with the Office of Economic Opportunity’s shelter standards.</u></p>

Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
		<p><u>(2) If the Agency determines that a contractual arrangement with a licensed hotel or motel operator to secure temporary emergency housing capacity is beneficial to improve the quality, cleanliness, and access to services for those households temporarily housed in the facility, the Agency shall be authorized to enter into such an agreement; provided, however, that in no event shall such an agreement cause a household to become unhoused.</u></p>
<p><b><i>Adds section to amend Vermont Strong law to ensure that the program changes as outlined in Executive Order 04-23 comply with the Vermont Constitution:</i></b></p> <p>2012 Acts and Resolves No. 71, Sec. 1, as amended by 2012 Acts and Resolves No. 143, Sec. 13, 2014 Acts and Resolves No. 189, Sec. 26, and 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 71, Sec. 24, is further amended to read:</p> <p>Sec. 1. VERMONT STRONG MOTOR VEHICLE PLATES</p> <p>(a) <del>Intent. It is the intent of this act to recognize all of those who have suffered losses because of the destruction brought by Tropical Storm Irene and the flooding of 2011, and to commemorate the contributions of the many who are helping to rebuild Vermont and to make it stronger. [Repealed.]</del></p> <p>(b) Authority; accounting and reporting; bundles.</p> <p>(1) <del>The department of motor vehicles (“department”)</del> <u>Department of Motor Vehicles</u> is authorized to design, manufacture or procure, and distribute <u>one or more</u> commemorative plates that include the text “Vermont Strong” in accordance with this section. <del>The department and Vermont Life magazine are</del> <u>Department is</u> authorized to sell commemorative plates <u>individually or in conjunction with a bundled promotional item.</u> <del>The department</del> <u>Department</u> may also authorize other persons to sell commemorative plates, provided that such persons are required to pay the <del>department</del> <u>\$25.00 Department \$35.00</u> per plate within 30 days <del>of</del> <u>after</u> receiving the plates from the <del>department</del> <u>Department</u>.</p> <p>(2) <del>A The Vermont Strong commemorative plate fund (the “fund”)</del> <u>Commemorative Plate Fund</u> is established. <del>The fund</del> <u>Fund</u> shall be under the control of the <del>commissioner of motor vehicles</del> <u>Commissioner of Motor Vehicles</u>, or designee, and shall consist of all receipts from the sales of Vermont Strong commemorative plates <u>and bundled promotional items.</u> <del>The commissioner</del> <u>Commissioner</u> shall account for all proceeds of sales of commemorative plates <u>and bundled promotional items</u> and all receipts into and disbursements from the <del>fund</del> <u>Fund</u>; shall track the number of plates <u>and bundled promotional items</u> distributed and sold; and shall track and collect payments owed for plates distributed. <del>The commissioner</del> <u>Commissioner</u> shall transfer funds from the <del>fund</del></p>	<p>87</p>	<p><b><i>No change.</i></b></p>

Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
<p><del>Fund</del> in accordance with subsection (d) of this section <del>no</del> <u>not</u> less often than once per month. The <del>department</del> <u>Department</u> shall report its accounting of <del>fund</del> <u>Fund</u> receipts and disbursements, plate inventory, and uncollected payments for plates distributed to the <del>joint fiscal committee at its November 2012 meeting</del> <u>House and Senate Committees on Transportation and the Joint Fiscal Committee not later than May 1, 2024.</u></p> <p>(c) Use. An approved Vermont Strong commemorative plate may be displayed on a motor vehicle registered in Vermont as a pleasure car or on a motor truck registered in Vermont for less than 26,001 pounds, <del>(but excluding vehicles registered under the International Registration Plan),</del> by covering the front registration plate with the commemorative plate any time from the effective date of this act. The regular front registration plate shall not be removed. The regular rear registration plate shall be in place and clearly visible at all times.</p> <p>(d) Price and allocation of revenue.</p> <p>(1) The retail price of the plate shall be <del>\$25.00</del> <u>\$35.00</u>, except that on or after July 1, <del>2016</del> <u>2026</u>, plates may be sold by the Commissioner for \$5.00.</p> <p>(2) Funds received from the sale of plates for \$5.00 shall be allocated to the Department; funds received from the sale of the plates for <del>\$25.00</del> <u>\$35.00</u> shall be allocated as follows:</p> <p><del>(1)(A)</del> <u>(A)</u> \$5.00 to the Department;</p> <p><del>(2)(B)</del> <u>(B)</u> <del>\$18.00 to the Vermont Disaster Relief Fund</del> <u>\$15.00 to the Vermont Community Foundation</u>; and</p> <p><del>(3)(C)</del> <u>(C)</u> <del>\$2.00 to the Vermont Foodbank</del> <u>\$15.00 to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development’s Business Emergency Gap Assistance Program.</u></p> <p>(3) Funds received from the sale of bundled promotional items, less any costs to the Department for the purchase of the bundled promotional items, shall be allocated as follows:</p> <p><u>(A) 50 percent to the Vermont Community Foundation; and</u></p> <p><u>(B) 50 percent to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development’s Business Emergency Gap Assistance Program.</u></p> <p>(e) Funding. The <del>department of motor vehicles</del> <u>Department of Motor Vehicles</u> is authorized to obtain an advance from the Vermont Strong <del>commemorative plate fund</del> <u>Commemorative Plate Fund</u> in an amount to be determined by the <del>commissioner of motor vehicles</del> <u>Commissioner of Motor Vehicles</u> in anticipation of receipts from the administration of this section.</p>		

Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
<p>(f) Tax exemption. Sales of commemorative plates pursuant to this section shall be exempt from the sales and use tax established by 32 V.S.A. chapter 233.</p>		
<p><b><i>Amends Vermont Strong language to prevent bundled promotions from occurring after the effective date of the FY24 BAA and to direct all funds raised by the program after the effective date of the FY24 BAA to the General Fund to be appropriated by the General Assembly for natural disaster relief:</i></b></p> <p>2012 Acts and Resolves No. 71, Sec. 1, as amended by 2012 Acts and Resolves No. 143, Sec. 13, 2014 Acts and Resolves No. 189, Sec. 26, 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 71, Sec. 24, and Sec. 96 of this act is further amended to read:</p> <p>Sec. 1. VERMONT STRONG MOTOR VEHICLE PLATES</p> <p>(a) [Repealed.]</p> <p>(b) Authority; accounting and reporting; <del>bundles.</del></p> <p>(1) The Department of Motor Vehicles is authorized to design, manufacture or procure, and distribute one or more commemorative plates that include the text “Vermont Strong” in accordance with this section. The Department is authorized to sell commemorative plates <del>individually or in conjunction with a bundled promotional item.</del> The Department may also authorize other persons to sell commemorative plates, provided that such persons are required to pay the Department \$35.00 per plate within 30 days after receiving the plates from the Department.</p> <p>(2) The Vermont Strong Commemorative Plate Fund is established. The Fund shall be under the control of the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, or designee, and shall consist of all receipts from the sales of Vermont Strong commemorative plates and bundled promotional items. The Commissioner shall account for all proceeds of sales of commemorative plates and bundled promotional items and all receipts into and disbursements from the Fund; shall track the number of plates and bundled promotional items distributed and sold; and shall track and collect payments owed for plates distributed. The Commissioner shall transfer funds from the Fund in accordance with subsection (d) of this section not less often than once per month. The Department shall report its accounting of Fund receipts and disbursements, plate inventory, and uncollected payments for plates distributed to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation and the Joint Fiscal Committee not later than May 1, 2024.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(d) Price and allocation of revenue.</p>	88	<p><b><i>No change.</i></b></p>

Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
<p>(1) The retail price of the plate shall be \$35.00, except that on or after July 1, 2026, plates may be sold by the Commissioner for \$5.00.</p> <p>(2) Funds received from the sale of plates for \$5.00 shall be allocated to the Department; funds received from the sale of the plates for \$35.00 shall be allocated as follows:</p> <p>(A) \$5.00 to the Department; <u>and</u></p> <p>(B) <del>\$15.00</del> \$30.00 to the Vermont Community Foundation; and</p> <p>(C) <del>\$15.00 to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development's Business Emergency Gap Assistance Program</del> General Fund for natural disaster relief.</p> <p>(3) Funds received from the sale of bundled promotional items <u>prior to the effective date of this section</u>, less any costs to the Department for the purchase of the bundled promotional items, shall be allocated as follows:</p> <p>(A) 50 percent to the Vermont Community Foundation; and</p> <p>(B) 50 percent to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development's Business Emergency Gap Assistance Program.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(g) <u>Bundled promotional items. The State shall not be involved with the sale of any bundled promotional items.</u></p>		
<p><b><i>Adds FEMA fund reporting language:</i></b></p> <p>FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY REPORTING AND OVERSIGHT</p> <p><u>(a) The Secretary of Administration shall report to the Joint Fiscal Committee at each of its scheduled meetings in fiscal years 2024 and 2025 on funding received from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance Program and associated emergency relief and assistance funds match for the damages due to the July 2023 flooding event. The report shall include:</u></p> <p><u>(1) a projection of the total funding needs for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance Program and to the extent possible, details about the projected funding by State agency or municipality;</u></p> <p><u>(2) spending authority (appropriated and excess receipts) granted to date for the FEMA Public Assistance Program and the associated emergency relief and assistance funds match;</u></p> <p><u>(3) information on any audit findings that may result in financial impacts to the State; and</u></p>	<p>89</p>	<p><b><i>No change.</i></b></p>

Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
<p><u>(4) actual expenditures to date made from the spending authority granted and to the extent possible, details about the expended funds by State agency or municipality.</u>  <u>(b) Reports shall be posted on the legislative and administration websites after submission.</u></p>		
	90	<p><b><i>Adds language to extend Certificate Of Need moratorium for home health services to 2030:</i></b></p> <p>Sec. 90. 2010 Acts and Resolves No. 83, Sec. 2, as amended by 2013 Acts and Resolves No. 65, Sec. 1, 2016 Acts and Resolves No. 117, Sec. 2, and 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 5, Sec. 1, is further amended to read:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Sec. 2. CERTIFICATE OF NEED WORK GROUP; MORATORIUM                      * * *</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no CON shall be granted for the offering of home health services, which includes hospice, or for a new home health agency during the period beginning on the effective date of this act and continuing through January 1, <del>2025</del> 2030, or until the General Assembly lifts the moratorium after considering a progress report on the Green Mountain Care Board’s implementation of its health care reform initiatives and health planning function and how they relate to home health agencies, whichever occurs first; provided, however, that the moratorium established pursuant to this subsection shall not apply to a continuing care retirement community that has been issued a certificate of authority or to a licensed home for persons who are terminally ill as defined in 33 V.S.A. § 7102.                      * * *</p>
	91	<p><b><i>Adds citation language cleanup relating to the CON moratorium:</i></b></p> <p>Sec. 91. 2013 Acts and Resolves No. 65, Sec. 2, as amended by 2016 Acts and Resolves No. 117, Sec. 3 and 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 5, Sec. 2, is further amended to read:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Sec. 2. PERIODIC HEALTH PLANNING FUNCTION                      PROGRESS REPORTS</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">For as long as the moratorium continues for certificates of need for the offering of home health services, as established in 2010 Acts and Resolves No. 83, Sec. 2 and as amended by 2013 Acts and Resolves No. 65, Sec. 1, 2016 Acts and Resolves No.117, Sec. 2, <u>2019 Acts and Resolves No. 5, Sec. 1</u>, and this act, the Green Mountain Care Board shall provide to the House Committees on Health Care and on Human Services and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare any progress reports the Board generates on its</p>



Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
		implementation of its health care reform initiatives and health planning function and how they relate to home health agencies.
	92	<p><b>Adds language exempting permanent legislative staff from State overtime law, so that they may choose to receive compensatory time in lieu of overtime pay:</b></p> <p>Sec. 92. 21 V.S.A. § 384 is amended to read:            § 384. EMPLOYMENT; WAGES</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, an employer shall not pay an employee less than one and one-half times the regular wage rate for any work done by the employee in excess of 40 hours during a workweek. However, this subsection shall not apply to:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>(8) Permanent employees of the Vermont General Assembly.</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p>
	93	<p><b>Reduces FY24 Universal Meals appropriation, per AOE:</b></p> <p>Sec. 93. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 64, Sec. 3a. is amended to read:            Sec. 3a. APPROPRIATION; SCHOOL MEALS</p> <p>The sum of <del>\$29,000,000.00</del> <u>\$24,000,000</u> is appropriated from the Education Fund to the Agency of Education for fiscal year 2024 to provide reimbursement for school meals under 16 V.S.A. § 4017.</p>
<p><b>Adds report language:</b></p> <p>Sec.94. CARRYFORWARD AUTHORITY</p> <p><u>(a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law and subject to the approval of the Secretary of Administration, General, Transportation, Transportation Infrastructure Bond, Education Fund, Clean Water Fund (21932), and Agricultural Water Quality Fund (21933) appropriations remaining unexpended on June 30, 2024 in the Executive Branch shall be carried forward and shall be designated for expenditure.</u></p> <p><u>(b) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, General Fund appropriations remaining unexpended on June 30, 2024 in the Legislative and Judicial Branches shall be carried forward and shall be designated for expenditure.</u></p>	94	<p><b>Removes House language requiring the Commissioner of Finance and Management to submit a report on reversions and carryforward by appropriation as part of the FY25 BAA process:</b></p> <p>Sec.94. CARRYFORWARD AUTHORITY</p> <p><u>(a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law and subject to the approval of the Secretary of Administration, General, Transportation, Transportation Infrastructure Bond, Education Fund, Clean Water Fund (21932), and Agricultural Water Quality Fund (21933) appropriations remaining unexpended on June 30, 2024 in the Executive Branch shall be carried forward and shall be designated for expenditure.</u></p> <p><u>(b) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, General Fund appropriations remaining unexpended on June 30, 2024 in the Legislative and Judicial Branches shall be carried forward and shall be designated for expenditure.</u></p>

Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
<p><u>(c) As part the fiscal year 2025 budget adjustment presentation, the Commissioner of Finance and Management shall provide the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations with a report on reversions and approved carryforward by appropriation.</u></p>		
	<p>94a</p>	<p><i>Adds nondiscrimination language in (a)(2)(c) to the as passed by House language construct in Act 78 (2023) for creating a Universal Afterschool and Summer Special Fund. Creates the Special Fund in session law. Much of this language is currently in 16 V.S.A. § 4018:</i></p> <p>Sec. 94a. UNIVERSAL AFTERSCHOOL AND SUMMER</p> <p><u>(a) The Universal Afterschool and Summer Special Fund is created, to be managed by the Secretary of Education. The cannabis sales tax revenue shall be transferred to the Universal Afterschool and Summer Special Fund. The Secretary shall use the assets in the Fund as follows:</u></p> <p><u>(1) To set up programs to support the expansion of universal afterschool and summer programs with a focus on underserved areas of the State.</u></p> <p><u>(2) Cannabis sales tax revenue shall be used to support a mixed delivery system for afterschool and summer programming. Eligible recipients can be public, private, or nonprofit organizations.</u></p> <p><u>(A) Grants may be used for technical assistance, program implementation, program expansion, program sustainability, and related costs.</u></p> <p><u>(B) Funds may be used to directly target communities with low existing capacity to serve youth in afterschool and summer settings.</u></p> <p><u>(C) The award of grants and any subsequent contract or written agreement issued pursuant to the award of a grant shall require the grantee to comply with 9 V.S.A. § 4502, regardless of whether the grantee meets the definition of a place of public accommodation under 9 V.S.A. § 4501(1).</u></p> <p><u>(D) The Agency may use up to \$500,000.00 for administrative costs to allow for the support of the grant program and technical assistance to communities. This could include subcontracts to support the grant program.</u></p> <p><u>(b) An Advisory Committee is created to support the Secretary of Education in administering the funds. The Agency will provide administrative and technical support to the Committee. The Committee is to be composed of:</u></p> <p><u>(1) State’s Chief Prevention Officer;</u></p> <p><u>(2) DCF Commissioner or designee;</u></p> <p><u>(3) VDH Commissioner or designee;</u></p>

Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
		<p>(4) <u>DMH Commissioner or designee;</u>                      (5) <u>ANR Secretary or designee;</u>                      (6) <u>ACCD Secretary or designee;</u>                      (7) <u>Vermont Afterschool Executive Director or designee; and</u>                      (8) <u>a representative from the Governor’s Office.</u></p> <p>(c) <u>On or before each November 15, the Agency of Education shall submit to the General Assembly a plan to fund grants in furtherance of the purposes of subsection (a) of this section and report outcomes data on the grants made during the previous year. The Agency shall also report on the number of programs, slots, weeks, or hours; geographic distribution; and what is known about costs to families. The report should be inclusive of 21C programming. The amount of grant funds awarded shall be in alignment with the actual revenue collected from the sales and use tax imposed by 32 V.S.A. § 233 on cannabis or cannabis products in this State. Discrepancies between the amount of grant funds awarded and actual revenue shall be reconciled through the budget adjustment process. The provisions of 2 V.S.A. § 20(d) (expiration of required reports) shall not apply to the plan to be made under this subsection.</u></p>
	<p>94b</p>	<p><b><i>Amends statute to direct cannabis sales tax to the Universal Afterschool and Summer Special Fund:</i></b></p> <p>Sec. 94b. 32 V.S.A. chapter 207 is amended to read:                      CHAPTER 207. <u>CANNABIS EXCISE TAX AND CANNABIS SALES TAX REVENUE</u>                      * * *</p> <p><u>§ 7910. CANNABIS SALES TAX REVENUE; UNIVERSAL AFTERSCHOOL AND SUMMER SPECIAL FUND</u>  <u>Revenue from the sales and use tax imposed by chapter 233 of this title on retail sales of cannabis or cannabis products in Vermont shall be deposited into the Universal Afterschool and Summer Special Fund.</u></p>
	<p>94c</p>	<p><b><i>Adds language to repeal the Afterschool and Summer Learning Program from where it was established in statute by Act 78 (2023):</i></b></p> <p>Sec. 94c. <u>REPEAL; AFTERSCHOOL AND SUMMER LEARNING PROGRAMS</u>  <u>16 V.S.A § 4018 (afterschool and summer learning programs) is repealed.</u></p>



## House Sections Struck in Entirety

**Sec. 41.**

*Appropriates funds for Act 47 programs and increases VHCB one-time appropriation.*

Sec. 41. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. B.1102 is amended to read:  
 Sec. B.1102 AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT – FISCAL  
 YEAR 2024 ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS

\* \* \*

(c) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$400,000 General Fund is appropriated to the Department for Children and Families Office of Economic Opportunity for grants for rental housing stabilization services pursuant to 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 47, Sec. 43.

(d) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$1,025,000 General Fund is appropriated to the Agency of Human Services for grants for the Tenant Representation Pilot Program pursuant to 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 47, Sec. 44.

(e) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$2,500,000 General Fund is appropriated to the Department of Housing and Community Development for a grant to the Vermont State Housing Authority for the Rent Arrears Assistance Fund, pursuant to 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 47, Sec. 45.

(f) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$4,500,000 General Fund is appropriated to the Department for Housing and Community Development for a grant to the Vermont Housing Finance Agency for its Middle-Income Homeownership Development Program.

(g) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of ~~\$50,000,000~~ \$54,500,000 General Fund is appropriated to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB):

(1) \$10,000,000 to provide support and enhance capacity for emergency shelter and permanent homes for those experiencing homelessness. The funds shall be used to expand Vermont's shelter capacity, provide homes for those experiencing homelessness, and decrease reliance on the General Assistance Emergency Housing hotel and motel program. The Vermont Housing and Conservation Board shall consult with the Agency of Human Services to ensure new investments in homes and shelters are paired with appropriate support services for residents, including services supported through Medicaid. Funded projects may utilize a range of housing options, including the expansion of shelter capacity, the conversion of hotels to housing, creation of permanent supportive housing, and utilization of manufactured homes on infill sites.

(2) ~~\$40,000,000~~ \$44,500,000 to provide support and enhance capacity for the production and preservation of affordable mixed-income rental housing and homeownership units, including improvements to manufactured homes and communities, permanent homes for those experiencing homelessness, recovery residences, and housing available to farm workers and refugees. The Board is authorized to utilize up to 10 percent of these resources for innovative approaches to helping communities meet their housing needs.

**House Sections Struck in Entirety**

<p><b>Sec. 65.</b>  <i>Language stating that the transfers to the General Obligation Bonds Debt Service Fund are one-time in nature.</i></p>	<p>Sec. 65. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. E.1000.1 is added to read:                  Sec. E.1000.1 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS DEBT SERVICE                  FUND ONE-TIME TRANSFERS                  (a) <u>The transfers from the General Fund and Transportation Fund to the General Obligation Bonds Debt Service Fund made in Sec. D.101(a)(1)(N) and Sec. D.101(a)(4)(B) of this act are one-time transfers that shall not reoccur in future fiscal years.</u></p>
<p><b>Sec. 73.</b>  <i>Amends Act 9 (2021) to allow for VSU to purchase simulation equipment with appropriated funds to increase nursing student enrollment capacity.</i></p> <p><b>STRUCK IN ERROR</b></p>	<p>Sec. 73. 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 9, Sec. 17 is amended to read:                  Sec. 17. PRACTICAL NURSE; WORKFORCE FUNDING                  (a) Due to the increasing challenge of the pandemic on the health professions, the sum of \$1,400,000.00 is appropriated from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund to the Vermont State Colleges to <del>open 40 to 45 seats in the Practical Nurse Program in partnership with skilled nursing facilities across the State to upskill existing staff to achieve certification as a practical nurse</del> purchase nursing simulation equipment to expand nursing student enrollment capacity and address the critical nursing shortage facing Vermont. These funds shall be used as follows:                  (1) Up to \$500,000.00 for administrative and start-up costs for Vermont Technical College.                  (2) Up to \$260,000.00 in incentive payments in the amount of \$6,000.00 per student to offset lost income during enrollment in the Program.                  (3) All remaining funds shall be allocated for tuition and fees payments for required prerequisite courses at Community College of Vermont and for the Practical Nurse Program at Vermont Technical College after available federal and State financial aid is applied to ensure no cost to the student.                  (b) To be eligible to participate in the program, a skilled nursing facility shall provide an incentive match in the amount of \$4,000.00 per student during enrollment in the Program.</p>
<p><b>Sec. 82.</b>  <i>Amends statute to exclude obligated funds from the Choice for Care savings calculation.</i></p>	<p>Sec. 82. 33 V.S.A. § 7601 is amended to read:                  § 7601. DEFINITIONS                  As used in this chapter:                  * * *                  (3) “Savings” means the difference remaining at the conclusion of each fiscal year between the amount of funds appropriated for Choices for Care and the sum of expended <del>and obligated</del> funds, less an amount equal to one percent of that fiscal year’s total Choices for Care expenditure. The one percent shall function as a reserve to avoid implementing a High Needs wait list due to unplanned Choices for Care budget pressures throughout the fiscal year.</p>

**House Sections Struck in Entirety**

<p><b>Sec. 91.</b> <i>Amends Act 47 to repeal language stating that the implementation of the Middle Income Homeownership Development Program is contingent upon an FY24 appropriation.</i></p>	<p>Sec. 91. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 47, Sec. 37 is amended to read: Sec. 37. <del>MIDDLE-INCOME HOMEOWNERSHIP; IMPLEMENTATION</del> <del>The duty to implement Sec. 36 of this act is contingent upon an appropriation of funds in fiscal year 2024 from the General Fund to the Department of Housing and Community Development for a subgrant to the Vermont Housing Finance Agency for the Middle-Income Homeownership Development Program. [Repealed.]</del></p>
<p><b>Sec. 94.</b> <i>Language directing the Secretary of Human Services to request an amendment to the Global Commitment waiver to allow for certain home-delivered meals to qualify as a Medicaid covered service.</i></p>	<p>Sec. 94. HOME-DELIVERED MEALS <del>(a) The Secretary of Human Services shall request approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for an amendment to Vermont’s Global Commitment to Health Section 1115 demonstration that allows home-delivered meals to be a Medicaid covered service when the meals:</del> <del>(1) are part of a participant’s service plan of care; and</del> <del>(2) meet Vermont’s area agencies on aging’s nutrition requirements in accordance with the Older Americans Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 3001–3058ff.</del></p>
<p><b>Sec. 95.</b> <i>Language contingently appropriating unobligated ARPA funds.</i></p>	<p>Sec. 95. AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT; UNOBLIGATED FUNDS <del>(a) It is the intent of the General Assembly that all American Rescue Plan Act funds be obligated on or before December 31, 2024. To the extent to which American Rescue Plan Act funds remain unobligated by November 15, 2024, the funds shall revert to the American Rescue Plan Act Fund and be reappropriated in the following order:</del> <del>(1) \$5,000,000 to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development for the Vermont Community Development Program. It is the intent of the General Assembly that grants from these funds be made to municipalities in counties that were impacted by the July 2023 flooding event and are eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance funds under federal disaster declaration DR-4720-VT.</del> <del>(2) \$30,000,000 to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB) to provide support and enhance capacity for the production and preservation of affordable mixed-income rental housing and homeownership units, including improvements to manufactured homes and communities, permanent homes for those experiencing homelessness, recovery residences, and housing available to farm workers and refugees.</del> <del>(3) \$25,000,000 to the Department for Housing and Community Development for a grant to the Vermont Housing Finance Agency for the Middle-Income Homeownership Development Program and the Vermont Rental Revolving Loan Fund.</del> <del>(b) As part of the fiscal year 2025 budget process, the Secretary of Administration shall submit a report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on the first Tuesday of March, April, and May of calendar year 2024 on the extent to which American Rescue Plan Act funds remain unobligated.</del> <del>(c) At each meeting of the Joint Fiscal Committee in calendar year 2024, the Secretary of Administration shall report on the extent to which there are unobligated American Rescue Plan Act funds. On or before November 15, 2024, the Commissioner of Finance and Management shall submit any recommendations on how these funds should be transferred so that they may be obligated on or before December 31, 2024. The Joint Fiscal Committee shall review the Commissioner’s recommendations and may approve the transfer of any unobligated American Rescue Plan Act funds.</del></p>