

Till - Use of funds from sugar-sweetened beverage tax

Sec. X. § 1901d. STATE HEALTH CARE RESOURCES FUND

(a) The ~~state health care resources fund~~ State Health Care Resources Fund is established in the ~~treasury~~ Treasury as a special fund to be a source of financing health care coverage for beneficiaries of the state health care assistance programs under the Global Commitment to ~~health~~ Health waiver approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services under Section 1115 of the Social Security Act and ~~for the Catamount Health assistance program under subchapter 3A of chapter 19 of this title~~ as a source of financing for the operation of the Vermont Health Benefit Exchange established in chapter 18, subchapter 1 of this title.

(b) Into the ~~fund~~ Fund shall be deposited:

(1) all revenue from the tobacco products tax and from the cigarette tax levied pursuant to 32 V.S.A. chapter 205;

(2) revenue from health care provider assessments pursuant to subchapter 2 of chapter 19 of this title;

(3) revenue from the employer health care premium contribution pursuant to 21 V.S.A. chapter 25;

(4) revenue from the health care claims assessments tax levied pursuant to ~~8 V.S.A. § 4089f~~ 32 V.S.A. § 10402(b)(2);

(5) premium amounts paid by individuals unless paid directly to the insurer;

(6) the proceeds from grants, donations, contributions, taxes, and any other sources of revenue as may be provided by statute, rule, or act of the ~~general assembly~~ General Assembly; and

(7) any remaining balance in the terminated Catamount ~~fund~~ Fund as of June 30, 2012.

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(d) All monies received by or generated to the ~~fund~~ Fund shall be used only as allowed by appropriation of the ~~general assembly~~ General Assembly for the administration and delivery of health care covered through state health care assistance programs administered by the ~~agency~~ Agency under the Global Commitment for Health Medicaid Section 1115 waiver, ~~the Catamount Health assistance program under subchapter 3A of chapter 19 of this title, employer-sponsored insurance premium assistance under section 1974 of this title~~ operation of the Vermont Health Benefit Exchange established in chapter 18, subchapter 1 of this title, immunizations under 18 V.S.A. § 1130, and the development and implementation of the Blueprint for Health under 18 V.S.A. § 702.

Sec. X. 33 V.S.A. § 1901g is added to read:

§ 1901g. HEALTHY VERMONTERS FUND

(a) The Healthy Vermonters Fund is established in the Treasury as a special fund to finance the initiatives described in this section. Into the Fund shall be deposited all revenue from the sugar-sweetened beverage tax levied pursuant to 32 V.S.A. chapter 227.

(b) The Fund shall be administered pursuant to 32 V.S.A. chapter 7, subchapter 5, except that interest earned on the Fund and any remaining balance shall be retained in the Fund. The Agency shall maintain records indicating the amount of money in the Fund at any time.

(c) All monies received by or generated to the Fund shall be used only as allowed by appropriation of the General Assembly for the authorized purposes described in this subsection. The authorized purposes are listed in order of priority; each higher priority category must be fully funded before any monies remaining in the Fund may be applied to the next listed category. Monies in the Fund shall be used only for:

(1) premium assistance and cost-sharing subsidies for eligible individuals and families purchasing health insurance through the Vermont Health Benefit Exchange pursuant to section 1812 of this title;

(2) doubling the purchasing power of 3SquaresVT beneficiaries on purchases of fresh fruits and vegetables at farmers' markets and on purchases of fresh produce, milk, and 100% fruit juice at participating retailers; and

(3) public health initiatives developed by the Department of Health, in consultation with interested stakeholders, to combat obesity in Vermont.