

TO THE HONORABLE SENATE

The Committee on Appropriations to which was referred House Bill No. H. 611, entitled "An act relating to fiscal year 2016 budget adjustments"

respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the Senate propose to the House to amend the bill as follows

First: By striking out Sec. 13 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 13 to read as follows:

Sec. 13. 2015 Acts and Resolves No. 58, Sec. B.301 is amended to read:

|   |                      |                      |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|
| Sec. B.301 Secretary's office - global commitment |                      |                      |
| Operating expenses                                | 4,541,736            | 69,303,699           |
| Grants  | <u>1,372,464,147</u> | <u>1,372,830,610</u> |
| Total   | <u>1,377,005,883</u> | 1,442,134,309        |
| Source of funds                                   |                      |                      |
| General fund                                      | 208,728,673          | 217,281,414          |
| Special funds                                     | 26,550,179           | 27,899,279           |
| Tobacco fund                                      | 28,747,141           | 28,079,458           |
| State health care resources fund                  | 270,712,781          | 282,705,968          |
| Federal funds                                     | 842,227,109          | 886,128,190          |
| Interdepartmental transfers                       | 40,000               | 40,000               |
| Total   | <u>1,377,005,883</u> | 1,442,134,309        |

Second: By striking out Sec. 17 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 17 to read as follows:

Sec. 17. 2015 Acts and Resolves No. 58, Sec. B.307 is amended to read:

Sec. B.307 Department of Vermont health access - Medicaid program - global commitment

|                        |                    |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Grants                 | <u>659,633,970</u> | <u>721,820,039</u> |
| Total                  | <u>659,633,970</u> | 721,820,039        |
| Source of funds        |                    |                    |
| Global commitment fund | <u>659,633,970</u> | <u>721,820,039</u> |
| Total                  | <u>659,633,970</u> | 721,820,039        |

Third: By striking out Sec. 22 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 22 to read as follows:

Sec. 22. 2015 Acts and Resolves No. 58, Sec. B.312 is amended to read:

|                                   |                   |                   |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Sec. B.312 Health - public health |                   |                   |
| Personal services                 | 37,391,426        | 39,304,394        |
| Operating expenses                | 8,229,404         | 8,229,404         |
| Grants                            | <u>39,972,373</u> | <u>39,661,136</u> |
| Total                             | <u>85,593,203</u> | 87,194,934        |
| Source of funds                   |                   |                   |

|                             |            |            |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|
| General fund                | 8,544,109  | 6,595,459  |
| Special funds               | 16,854,895 | 17,004,542 |
| Tobacco fund                | 2,461,377  | 2,461,377  |
| Federal funds               | 38,184,687 | 37,945,155 |
| Global commitment fund      | 18,401,274 | 22,043,386 |
| Interdepartmental transfers | 1,121,861  | 1,120,015  |
| Permanent trust funds       | 25,000     | 25,000     |
| Total                       | 85,593,203 | 87,194,934 |

**Fourth:** By striking out Sec. 36 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 36 to read as follows:

Sec. 36. 2015 Acts and Resolves No. 58, Sec. B.346 is amended to read:

Sec. B.346 Total human services

Source of funds

|                                  |               |               |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| General fund                     | 662,344,182   | 677,913,668   |
| Special funds                    | 95,588,135    | 97,129,681    |
| Tobacco fund                     | 32,619,752    | 31,952,069    |
| State health care resources fund | 270,712,781   | 282,705,968   |
| Education fund                   | 3,554,425     | 3,886,204     |
| Federal funds                    | 1,328,305,215 | 1,388,932,032 |
| Global commitment fund           | 1,314,332,149 | 1,379,045,585 |
| Internal service funds           | 1,816,195     | 1,816,195     |
| Interdepartmental transfers      | 30,798,487    | 34,112,598    |
| Permanent trust funds            | 25,000        | 25,000        |
| Total                            | 3,740,096,321 | 3,897,519,000 |

**Fifth:** In Sec. 53(a)(1), by striking out the following: "21550 Lands & Facilities Trust Fund"

**Sixth:** By adding a new section to be numbered Sec. 55a to read as follows:

Sec. 55a. FISCAL YEAR 2016 CONTINGENT GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS

(a) In fiscal year 2016, to the extent that the Commissioner of Finance and Management determines that General Fund revenues exceed the 2016 official revenue forecast and other fund receipts assumed for all previously authorized fiscal year 2016 appropriations and transfers necessary to ensure the stabilization reserve is at its maximum authorized level under 32 V.S.A. § 308, \$10,300,000 is appropriated to the Agency of Administration for transfer to the Agency of Human Services for Global Commitment upon determination of the Commissioner of Finance and Management of the amount necessary to fund the 53rd week of Medicaid expenditures. Any funds remaining after this 53rd week payment shall be carried forward and revert to the General Fund for

reallocation by the Legislature in the fiscal year 2017 budget adjustment or the fiscal year 2018 budget process.

(b) The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall report to the Joint Fiscal Committee in July 2016 on the status of the funds appropriated in this section.

Seventh: By adding two (2) new sections to be numbered Secs. 60a and 60b to read as follows:

#### Sec. 60a. JUDICIAL BRANCH POSITION AUTHORIZATION

(a) The establishment of the following new permanent exempt position in the Judicial Branch of State government is authorized in fiscal year 2017 – one (1) Superior judge.

Sec. 60b. 4 V.S.A. § 71(a) is amended to read:

(a) There shall be ~~32 superior~~ 34 Superior judges, whose term of office shall, except in the case of an appointment to fill vacancy or unexpired term, begin on April 1 in the year of their appointment or retention, and continue for six years.

Eighth: In Sec. 67, in the first sentence, by striking out the following: “18 V.S.A. chapters 220 and 221” and inserting in lieu thereof the following: chapters 220 and 221 of this title and in the third sentence, by striking out the following: “18 V.S.A. chapter 221” and inserting in lieu thereof the following: chapter 221 of this title

Ninth: By striking out Sec. 71 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 71 to read as follows:

#### Sec. 71. SUPPLEMENTAL RAIL SPENDING

(a) Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 706 and the limits on program, project, or activity spending authority approved in the Fiscal Year 2016 Transportation Program, the Secretary of Transportation, with the approval of the Secretary of Administration and subject to the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, may transfer up to \$3,000,000 in Transportation Fund or Transportation Infrastructure Bond Fund appropriations, other than appropriations for the Town Highway State Aid, Structures, and Class 2 Roadway programs, to the Transportation – Rail appropriation, for the specific purpose of addressing the increased cost of Amtrak service, emergency projects, and projects needing immediate attention during fiscal year 2016.

(b)(1) If a contemplated transfer of an appropriation would not delay the planned work schedule of a project, the Secretary of Transportation may execute the transfer and shall give prompt notice thereof to the Joint Fiscal Office and to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation when the

General Assembly is in session and, when the General Assembly is not in session, to the Joint Transportation Oversight Committee.

(2) If a contemplated transfer of an appropriation would, by itself, delay the planned work schedule of a project, the Secretary:

(A) when the General Assembly is in session, may execute the transfer, but shall give the House and Senate Committees on Transportation advance notice of at least 10 business days prior to executing the transfer; or

(B) when the General Assembly is not in session, shall obtain the prior approval of the Joint Transportation Oversight Committee before the Secretary may execute the transfer.

(3) Contemplated transfers of Transportation Infrastructure Bond Fund appropriations shall comply with the limitations on the uses of such funds as provided in 19 V.S.A. § 11f.

(c) This section shall be repealed on July 1, 2016.

Tenth: By striking out Sec. 72 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 72 to read as follows:

**Sec.72. DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES; GENERAL ASSISTANCE REPORT**

(a) By March 15, 2016, the Commissioner for Children and Families shall provide the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, the House Committees on Human Services and on General, Housing and Military Affairs, and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare a report on the funds spent year-to-date, through January and funds authorized through February 28, 2016, in the General Assistance budget for emergency housing and homelessness assistance that details the budgeted funds, usage, and projections for the remainder of the fiscal year for each type of housing service or assistance provided. The report shall also include the status on the development of alternatives to using motels as a solution for emergency housing, including a summary of programs and projects funded through the Office of Economic Opportunity.

Eleventh: In Sec. 74, by striking out subsection (b) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof two new subsections (b) and (c) to read as follows:

(b) Secs. 60a and 60b shall take effect on July 1, 2016.

(c) This section and all remaining sections shall take effect on passage.

(Committee vote:                    )

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Senator Kitchel  
FOR THE COMMITTEE