
This act summary is provided for the convenience of the public and members of the General Assembly. It is intended to provide a general summary of the act and may not be exhaustive. It has been prepared by the staff of the Office of Legislative Council without input from members of the General Assembly. It is not intended to aid in the interpretation of legislation or to serve as a source of legislative intent.

Act No. 38 (H.494). Transportation; motor vehicles; property

An act relating to the Transportation Program and miscellaneous changes to transportation-related law

This act:

- Transportation Program Adopted; Definitions. Adopts the Agency of Transportation's ("Agency") fiscal year 2018 (FY18) Transportation Program except as the Program is amended in the bill, and defines terms used throughout the bill.
- Department of Motor Vehicles Spending Authority. Reduces FY18 spending authority for the Department of Motor Vehicles by \$200,000.00.
- State Highway Bridge Program; Project Added. Adds a project to the development and evaluation list of the State Highway Bridge Program for the rehabilitation of the Quechee Gorge Bridge.
- Lamoille Valley Rail Trail (LVRT). Repeals a provision related to FY17 and FY18 matching of funds raised by the Vermont Association of Snow Travelers for the LVRT, and amends projected spending amounts on the LVRT for future fiscal years to reflect an expected \$1,000,000.00 per year in spending on the project in FY19, FY20, and FY21.
- Maintenance Program Spending Authority. Reduces FY18 spending authority for the Maintenance Program by \$1,920,000.00 in federal funds to correct an error in the Agency's proposed budget submission.
- License Plate Savings. Directs the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles to provide the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Transportation an updated analysis of cost savings projected to result from requiring one license plate and, if cost savings exceed \$200,000.00, to propose a FY18 budget adjustment submission that allocates such cost savings.
- Town Highway Bridge Program; Project Added. Adds a project to the Town Highway Bridge Program for a culvert replacement on the access road to the Eagle Point Wildlife Management Area in Derby.
- Town Highway Class 2 Roadway Program Spending Authority. Increases FY18 spending authority for the Town Highway Class 2 Roadway Program by \$600,000.00.

- Town Highway Federal Disasters Program Spending Authority. Reduces FY18 spending authority for the Town Highway Federal Disasters Program by \$20,000.00 in federal funds to correct an error in the Agency's proposed budget submission.
- Transportation Alternatives Grant Program. Updates State law to reflect a reorganization of the federal law governing the Transportation Alternatives Grant Program, and amends the set-aside for grants to municipalities for environmental mitigation projects relating to stormwater and highways.
- Municipal Mitigation Assistance Program. Increases FY18 spending authority in the Municipal Mitigation Assistance Program by \$1,000,000.00; renames the Program; authorizes Program funds to be used by a municipality for the establishment and operation of a stormwater utility without requiring a local match; and authorizes the Agency to use operating expenses appropriated for the Program to pay amounts billed to the Agency by municipal stormwater utilities.
- Future Appropriations of Transportation Funds. Repeals, retroactive to July 1, 2016, a provision related to future appropriations of transportation funds.
- Town Highway Bridge Program. Updates the law governing the Town Highway Bridge Program to reflect that Program projects are managed by the Agency.
- Central Garage Fund. Transfers \$1,296,047.00 from the Transportation Fund to the Central Garage Fund.
- Terminology; Technical Corrections. Updates terminology used to refer to the State's Transportation Program and to the four-year transportation program plan required under federal law.
- Automated Vehicles. Directs the Secretary of Transportation to convene a meeting of public and private stakeholders with expertise related to automated vehicles in order to gather information related to automated vehicles and identify policy areas requiring further research or possible legislation and report back to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation by January 15, 2018 on its activities and any recommendations related to automated vehicles.
- Park and Rides. Adds a definition of "highway" that includes "park and rides" to the chapter of law that authorizes the State to condemn private property for highway projects and governs condemnation proceedings.
- Public Transit Program Funds. Adjusts the timing for the distribution of State grant funds to public transit providers.

- Highways; Utility Facilities. Requires the Agency (in the case of State highways) and municipalities (in the case of town highways) to seek input and consider input received from utilities prior to issuing a utility relocation or adjustment order in connection with highway work, and to allocate to each affected utility a reasonable time to carry out its relocation or adjustment work. This act further provides that if a utility fails to move or adjust its line or other facility within the time specified in the relocation or adjustment order, and the failure was within the utility's control, the utility will be liable to the State or to the municipality for damages that the State or municipality is required to pay a contractor for a delay caused by the failure.

Multiple effective dates, beginning on May 17, 2017

FY18 Transportation Program				
Line #	All funding sources	FY17 As Passed	FY18 As Passed	FY18 vs FY17
1	Administration-finance-planning			
2	Central Admin & Finance	14,206,799	14,622,670	415,871
3	Policy & Planning	9,987,158	10,596,432	609,274
4	Transportation Board	229,245	233,750	4,505
5	Department of Motor Vehicles	28,910,055	29,301,916	391,861
6	Sub-total	53,333,257	54,754,768	1,421,511
7	Facilities			
8	Rest Areas	550,000	663,000	113,000
9	AOT Buildings	2,000,000	1,900,000	-100,000
10	Subtotal	2,550,000	2,563,000	13,000
11	Alternate modes			
12	Public Transit	31,173,698	32,132,157	958,459
13	Aviation	20,035,048	17,736,095	-2,298,953
14	Pedestrian & Bike Facilities	10,052,116	11,590,489	1,538,373
15	Park & Ride	2,600,734	3,387,267	786,533
16	Multi-Modal Facilities	3,012,373	2,476,909	-535,464
17	Rail infrastructure	25,731,604	28,931,250	3,199,646
18	Amtrak	8,150,000	8,150,000	0
19	Subtotal	100,755,573	104,404,167	3,648,594
20	State Highway Infrastructure			
21	Maintenance	91,556,769	89,325,825	-2,230,944
22	Paving	111,084,559	112,841,555	1,756,996
23	Roadway	31,143,236	39,649,087	8,505,851
24	State bridges	32,251,548	31,403,328	-848,220

25	Interstate bridges	52,785,722	36,599,190	-16,186,532
26	Traffic Operations	17,369,262	21,081,752	3,712,490
27	PD Admin & Tech Services	24,624,638	24,559,408	-65,230
28	Program Development generally	-5,972,865	0	5,972,865
29	Subtotal	354,842,869	355,460,145	617,276
30	Town programs			
31	TH Aid	25,982,744	25,982,744	0
32	Town Bridges	20,021,730	16,524,009	-3,497,721
33	TH Class 2	7,648,750	7,848,750	200,000
34	TH Structures	6,333,500	6,333,500	0
35	TH Class 1 supplemental grants	128,750	128,750	0
36	Enhancements	4,575,758	3,893,240	-682,518
37	TH State aid nonfederal disasters	1,150,000	1,150,000	0
38	TH State aid federal disasters	1,280,000	180,000	-1,100,000
39	FEMA grant program	10,940,000	5,640,000	-5,300,000
40	TH VT Local Roads	394,700	400,693	5,993
41	Municipal mitigation grants	2,905,000	9,182,342	6,277,342
42	Subtotal	81,360,932	77,264,028	-4,096,904
43	Cross agency labor savings	0	0	0
44	Total All Programs	592,842,631	594,446,108	1,603,477