

H.923

An act relating to capital construction and State bonding budget adjustment

The House concurs in the Senate proposal of amendment with further amendment thereto as follows:

First: In Sec. 1, amending 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 2, in subdivision (b)(13), by striking out “\$2,281,094.00” and inserting in lieu thereof “\$2,181,094.00”, in (e)(2), in the first sentence, by striking out “may” and inserting in lieu thereof “shall” and by striking out all after subsection (g) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Appropriation – FY 2018	\$27,857,525.00	<u>\$25,038,619.00</u>
Appropriation – FY 2019	\$27,853,933.00	<u>\$28,131,610.00</u>
Total Appropriation – Section 2	\$55,711,458.00	<u>\$53,170,229.00</u>

Second: In Sec. 2, amending 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 3, by striking out all after the ellipses and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

(b) ~~The sum of \$300,000.00 is appropriated in FY 2019 to the Department of Buildings and General Services for the Agency of Human Services for the projects described in subsection (a) of this section.~~ The following sums are appropriated in FY 2019 to the Department of Buildings and General Services for the Agency of Human Services:

(1) Statewide correctional facilities, cameras, locks, perimeter intrusion at correctional facilities: \$300,000.00

(2) Chittenden County Regional Correctional Facility and Northwest State Correctional Facility, renovations, beds for therapeutic placement:
\$600,000.00

(3) Essex, Woodside Juvenile Rehabilitation Center, design and construction documents:
\$500,000.00

(4) Brattleboro, Brattleboro Retreat, renovation and fit-up:
\$4,500,000.00

(5) Serenity House, residential treatment center, addition and renovations:
\$300,000.00

(c) For the amount appropriated in subdivision (b)(2) of this section:

(1) it is the intent of the General Assembly that the funds be used to construct a therapeutic environment in the Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility and in the Northwest State Correctional Facility for persons in the custody of the Department of Corrections who do not meet the clinical criteria for inpatient hospitalization but would benefit from a more therapeutic placement. The therapeutic environment shall include three beds in the Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility and ten or more beds in the Alpha Unit at the Northwest State Correctional Facility.

(2) the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services may use up to \$100,000.00 of the funds appropriated in subdivision (b)(1) of this section to support this project.

(d) For the amount appropriated in subdivision (b)(3) of this section, the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services shall consult with the Secretary of Human Services on the design and construction documents.

(e) For the amount appropriated in subdivision (b)(4) of this section:

(1) The use of funds shall be restricted to capital renovations and fit-up costs and shall not be used for any periodic lease payments, usage fees, or other operating expenses.

(2)(A) The State of Vermont shall execute an agreement with the Brattleboro Retreat for the renovation and fit-up project at the Brattleboro Retreat. The agreement shall include the following provisions:

(i) the Brattleboro Retreat shall provide access to a minimum of an additional 12 level-1 beds to the State for a period determined by the Secretary to be in the best interests of the State;

(ii) the Brattleboro Retreat shall target a completion date for the renovation and fit-up project of December 2019; and

(iii) terms and conditions that ensure the protection of State investment of capital appropriations, including:

(I) an initial strategic plan for long-term reuse of renovated facilities;

(II) authority for the Agency of Human Services to access Brattleboro Retreat's financials to ensure the success of the strategic plan described in subdivision (I) of this subdivision (2)(A)(iii); and

(III) a process for sharing information necessary to the Department of Mental Health for its statutory oversight responsibilities.

(B) Prior to execution, the State Treasurer shall approve the agreement described in subdivision (A) of this subdivision (2) to ensure that it is in compliance with applicable tax-exempt bond requirements.

(3) The Department of Buildings and General Services shall not expend funds until the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services and the Secretary of Human Services have notified the Commissioner of Finance and Management and the Chairs of the House Committees on Corrections and Institutions and on Health Care, and of the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Institutions that the agreement described in subdivision (2)(A) of this subsection (e) has been executed.

(4) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services and the Secretary of Human Services may also propose draft legislation to the House Committees on Corrections and Institutions and on Health Care, and the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Institutions that may be necessary to fulfill the agreement.

(5)(A) On or before October 15, 2018, the Secretary of Human Services shall notify the Chairs of the House Committees on Corrections and Institutions and on Health Care, and of the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Institutions if an agreement between the Brattleboro Retreat and the State of Vermont cannot be reached and shall submit to them an

alternative proposal for the 12 beds. With approval of the Speaker of the House and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, as appropriate, the House Committees on Corrections and Institutions and on Health Care and the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Institutions may meet up to two times when the General Assembly is not in session to evaluate, approve, or recommend alterations to the proposal. Members of the House Committees on Corrections and Institutions and on Health Care, and the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Institutions shall be entitled to receive a per diem and expenses as provided in 2 V.S.A. § 406.

(B) The Secretary of Human Services shall submit a copy of the alternative proposal described in subdivision (A) of this subdivision (5) to the Joint Fiscal Committee.

Appropriation – FY 2018		\$300,000.00
Appropriation – FY 2019	\$300,000.00	<u>\$6,200,000.00</u>
Total Appropriation – Section 3	\$600,000.00	<u>\$6,500,000.00</u>

Third: In Sec. 4, amending 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 5, by striking out all after subsection (c) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

(d) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2019 to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development for the following projects described in this subsection:

(1) Lake Champlain Maritime Museum:

(A) Underwater preserves: \$30,000.00

(B) Schooner Lois McClure project, repairs and upgrades:

\$25,000.00

(2) Placement and replacement of roadside historic markers:

~~\$15,000.00~~ \$29,000.00

(3) VT Center for Geographic Information, digital orthophotographic quadrangle mapping: \$125,000.00

(4) Civil War Heritage Trail, signs: \$30,000.00

(e) The amounts appropriated in subdivisions (a)(2) ~~and~~, (a)(3), (d)(1)(B), and (d)(4) of this section shall be used as a one-to-one matching grant. The funds shall become available after the Agency notifies the Department that the funds have been matched.

(f) It is the intent of the General Assembly that any requests for capital funds be submitted to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development for inclusion in the Governor's annual consolidated capital budget request, pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 309.

Appropriation – FY 2018 \$450,000.00

Appropriation – FY 2019 ~~\$370,000.00~~ \$539,000.00

Total Appropriation – Section 5 ~~\$820,000.00~~ \$989,000.00

Fourth: In Sec. 8, amending 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 11, in subdivision (e)(1)(B), by striking out “\$1,500,000.00” and inserting in lieu thereof “\$1,400,000.00”, in subdivision (f)(4), by striking out “subdivision (2)” and inserting in lieu thereof “subdivision (2)(A)”, in subdivision (g)(1)(B), by

striking out “\$1,000,000.00” and inserting in lieu thereof “\$1,100,000.00”, and in subsection (m), by striking out “\$200,000.00” and inserting in lieu thereof “\$100,000.00”

Fifth: In Sec. 10, amending 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 13, by striking out all after subsection (c) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

(c)(1) The sum of \$4,000,000.00 is appropriated in FY 2019 to the Department of Public Safety for the School Safety and Security Grant Program.

(2) It is the intent of the General Assembly that the amount appropriated in subdivision (1) of this subsection (c) shall be supported by an additional \$1,000,000.00 in federal funds.

Appropriation – FY 2018	\$1,927,000.00
Appropriation – FY 2019	\$5,573,000.00 <u>\$11,458,000.00</u>
Total Appropriation – Section 13	\$7,500,000.00 <u>\$13,385,000.00</u>

Sixth: In Sec. 12, adding 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 16a, by striking out “\$500,000.00” and inserting in lieu thereof “\$400,000.00”

Seventh: By striking out Sec. 26 (amending 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, by adding Secs. 36a and 37a) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 26 to read:

Sec. 26. 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Secs. 36a-36c are added to read:

Sec. 36a. SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY CAPITAL GRANT
PROGRAM

(a) Creation. There is created the School Safety and Security Capital Grant Program to be administered by the Department of Public Safety to enhance safety and security in Vermont schools, as defined in 16 V.S.A. § 3447. The amount appropriated in Sec. 10 of this act, adding 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 13(c)(1), shall be used to fund this Program.

(b) Use of funds. Capital grants authorized in subsection (a) of this section shall be used for the planning, delivery, and installation of equipment for upgrades to existing school security equipment and for new school security equipment identified through threat assessment planning and surveys designed to enhance building security.

(c) Guidelines. The following guidelines shall apply to capital grants for school safety measures:

(1) Grants shall be awarded competitively to schools for capital-eligible expenses to implement safety and security measures identified in a security assessment. Capital-eligible expenses may include video monitoring and surveillance equipment, intercom systems, window coverings, exterior and interior doors, locks, and perimeter security measures.

(2) Grants shall only be awarded after a security assessment has been completed by the Agency of Education and Department of Public Safety.

(3) The Program is authorized to award capital grants of up to \$25,000.00 per school. Each school shall be required to provide a 25 percent match to the grant amount. The required match shall be met through dollars raised and not in-kind services.

(d) Administration. The Department of Public Safety, in coordination with the Agency of Education, shall administer and coordinate capital grants made pursuant to this section. Grant funds shall not be used to administer the Program.

(e) Reporting. The Department of Public Safety shall provide notice of any capital grants awarded under this section to the Chairs of the Senate Committee on Institutions and the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions.

* * * Sunset of School Security Grant Program * * *

Sec. 36b. REPEAL OF SCHOOL SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM

The School Safety and Security Grant Program established in Sec. 26 of this act shall be repealed on July 1, 2019.

* * * School Safety Advisory Group * * *

Sec. 36c. SCHOOL SAFETY ADVISORY GROUP; REPORT

(a) Creation. There is created the School Safety Advisory Group to develop statewide guidelines and best practices concerning school safety and the prevention of school shootings.

(b) Membership. The Advisory Group shall be composed of the following six members:

(1) the Secretary of Administration or designee;

(2) the Secretary of Education or designee;

(3) the Commissioner of Public Safety or designee;

(4) the Executive Director of the Vermont School Boards Association or designee;

(5) the President of the Vermont-National Education Association or designee; and

(6) a representative of the Vermont Principals' Association.

(c) Powers and duties. The Advisory Group shall study the following issues and develop specific guidelines and best practices for Vermont schools concerning them:

(1) improving security in and around school buildings and property;

(2) ensuring staff and students know what they should do in the event of a school shooting or other incident;

(3) training for staff and students, including the type and frequency of the training;

(4) sharing information with parents and community if an event occurs; and

(5) gathering information on security measures implemented in schools from corresponding state education and public safety departments in states where school shootings have occurred.

(d) Assistance. The Advisory Group shall have the administrative, technical, and legal assistance of the Agency of Education and the Department of Public Safety.

(e) Report. On or before July 1, 2018, the Advisory Group shall submit a written report to the General Assembly with its findings, including specific guidelines and best practices, and any recommendations for legislative action necessary to ensure that all schools in Vermont begin implementing those guidelines and best practices and have a plan for compliance before the beginning of the next school year.

(f) Meetings.

(1) The Secretary of Education shall call the first meeting of the Advisory Group.

(2) The Commissioner of Public Safety or designee shall be the Chair.

(3) A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum.

(4) The Advisory Group shall cease to exist on July 1, 2019.

(g) Compensation and reimbursement. Members of the Advisory Group who are not employees of the State of Vermont and who are not otherwise compensated or reimbursed for their attendance shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 1010 for

meetings. These payments shall be made from monies appropriated to the General Assembly.

Eighth: In Sec. 27, by striking out all after subdivision (d)(1) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

(2) On or before October 15, 2018, the Secretary shall present a prioritized list of eligible projects, if any, to the Secretary of Administration for inclusion in the Governor's annual consolidated capital budget request, pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 309.

(e) Notwithstanding the grant program authorized in this section, State aid for school construction remains suspended pursuant to the terms of 2008 Acts and Resolves No. 200, Sec. 45 as amended by 2009 Acts and Resolves No. 54, Sec. 22, as further amended by 2013 Acts and Resolves No. 51, Sec. 45.

Ninth: By striking out all after Sec. 27, and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

* * * Corrections * * *

Sec. 28. 28 V.S.A. § 1354 is amended to read:

§ 1354. ARTICLE IV; THE STATE COUNCIL

(a) ~~A~~ The Vermont state council for interstate adult offender supervision ~~State Council for Interstate Adult Offender Supervision~~ is created. The ~~state council~~ State Council shall consist of ~~five~~ six members:

(1) ~~one representative of the legislative branch appointed by the general assembly pursuant to a process determined by the joint rules committee~~ one

member of the House of Representatives, who shall be appointed by the Speaker, and one member of the Senate, who shall be appointed by the Committee on Committees;

(2) one representative of the ~~judicial branch~~ Judicial Branch appointed by the ~~chief justice~~ Chief Justice of the ~~supreme court~~ Supreme Court;

(3) one representative of the ~~executive branch~~ Executive Branch appointed by the ~~governor~~ Governor;

(4) one representative of a victims group appointed by the ~~governor~~ Governor; and

(5) one individual who in addition to serving as a member of the ~~council~~ Council shall serve as the compact administrator for this ~~state~~ State, appointed by the ~~governor~~ Governor after consultation with the ~~general assembly~~ General Assembly and the ~~supreme court~~ Supreme Court.

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* * * Effective Date * * *

Sec. 29. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.