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MEMORANDUM

To: Representative Stephen Carr, Chair, House Committee on Energy & Technology

From: Representative Kitty Toll, Chair, House Committee on Appropriations

Date: February 7, 2017

Subject: Provisions in the Governor's Proposed FY 2018 State Budget

The House Appropriations Committee has started work on the Governor's proposed FY 2018 State Budget bill and would like to inform you about proposals related areas of your subject area. A summary of these areas is listed on page 2 followed by the excerpts from the Administration proposed language.

The House Appropriations Committee welcomes and appreciates your input and would like to give you the opportunity to comment on any of the proposals; however, it is not necessary to respond to all of the proposals unless you have concerns or recommendations. If you do not wish to comment on any of the issues sent to your committee, please send a quick e-mail or note to the Committee through Theresa Utton-Jerman at tutton@leg.state.vt.us or the reporter of the subject area. If you would like to respond, it would be helpful if you could do so by the end of the day on March 1st. As a note, the Committee understands that there may be unanticipated policy changes after the deadline that may require additional discussions and recommendations by policy committees and we encourage those. Please keep the Committee apprised of any updates to earlier recommendations, through the reporter or Chair, as they develop.

There are several House Appropriations Committee budget reporters for these subject areas, please click [here](#) to review the list or go to the highlights section of the committee's webpage. If you have not already done so, please notify Theresa who your committee's budget liaison/s is for coordination and communications between the two committees.

Summary of Budget Review Sections

Language proposals:

- proposals, totaling \$10,125,000, related to the implementation of Information Technology projects in Sec. B.1101(e);
- a review and recommendations for the future of the HIT fund in Sec. E.300.2;
- and innovation grants to the Agency of Education to advance a vision for technology in schools in Sec. E.517(a)(3).

Note: Daniel Smith, contractor hired by the Joint Fiscal Office, has submitted a report to the General Assembly regarding the Agency of Human Services Integrated eligibility Project, and will continue to update the policy committees on this and other endeavors.

Budget Review Sections

Sec. B.1101 FISCAL YEAR 2018 ONE-TIME GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS

(e) The sum of \$10,125,000 is appropriated to the following departments for the costs of implementing information technology projects:

(1) \$2,125,000 is appropriated to the Agency of Human Services;

(2) \$2,200,000 is appropriated to the Department of Finance and Management;

(3) \$5,800,000 is appropriated to the Judiciary.

EXPLANATION: IT projects were removed from the Capital bill, the above appropriations were planned for FY 2018. The above appropriations will support the integrated eligibility system at the Agency of Human Services, the statewide ERP system at Finance and Management, and the case management system at the judiciary.

Sec. E.300.2 HIT FUND; FUTURE RECOMMENDATION

(a) The Secretary of Administration and the Secretary of Human Services shall review the use of the HIT fund and make recommendations for its use after June 30, 2018. The review shall include but not be limited to a review of the current revenue stream and the current allocation of funds. A plan for proposed changes will be submitted to the General Assembly on or before January 31, 2018.

EXPLANATION: Requires the Secretary of Administration and the Secretary of Human Services to review and make recommendations on the future of the HIT fund.

Sec. E.517 Innovation Grants

(a) Of this appropriation, \$1,600,000 from the Education Fund shall be to support education innovation grants. Notwithstanding 16 V.S.A. § 4025(b), of this Education Fund appropriation, the amount of:

(3) \$250,000 is appropriated to the Secretary of Education to establish school technology and connectivity grants funding to help schools advance a vision for technology-supported education. Resources can support either the cost of upgrading to higher speed internet access or funding plans to use technology to support better operations or transformational practices.

(A)The Secretary shall establish criteria for these competitive grants, which shall include, but not limited to:

(i) school participation in the FCC's E-Rate program; and

(ii) school internet speeds less than 25 mbps.

(B) These funds may be matched to federal funds, special funds, grants, donations, and private funds.

EXPLANATION: Allocation of innovation grant funds.