

H.923

An act relating to capital construction and State bonding budget adjustment

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 2 is amended to read:

Sec. 2. STATE BUILDINGS

* * *

(b) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2018:

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(13) Burlington, 108 Cherry Street, ~~parking garage, repairs design,~~
engineering, and architectural costs for the repair or replacement of the
existing building and related eligible project costs: \$5,000,000.00

(c) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2019:

(1) Statewide, planning, use, and contingency:

~~\$500,000.00~~ \$600,000.00

(2) Statewide, major maintenance:

\$5,707,408.00

\$6,917,054.00

* * *

(6) Montpelier, 120 State Street, life safety and infrastructure
improvements: ~~\$700,000.00~~ \$968,000.00

* * *

(8) Waterbury, Waterbury State Office Complex, Weeks building,
renovation and fit-up: ~~\$900,000.00~~ \$1,152,085.00

* * *

(e) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services is authorized to use the funds in subdivision (b)(13) of this section to purchase a new building or land, or both, to replace the John J. Zampieri State Office Building if he or she determines it is in the best interest of the State to sell 108 Cherry Street in Burlington.

(f) For the amount appropriated in subdivision (c)(13) of this section, the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services shall evaluate all proposals for a generator, including the use of a generator or battery backup. After evaluation of the proposals, the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services shall notify the Chairs of the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committee on Institutions of the decision prior to the purchase of a generator or battery backup. If required by 29 V.S.A. chapter 6, the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services shall ensure that the Capitol Complex Commission is provided with the proposal.

(g) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services is authorized to use up to \$250,000.00 from the amount appropriated in subdivision (c)(2) of this section to prepare a State-owned building for sale if any renovations are needed.

Appropriation – FY 2018		\$27,857,525.00
Appropriation – FY 2019	\$27,853,933.00	\$29,565,664.00
Total Appropriation – Section 2	\$55,711,458.00	\$57,423,189.00

Sec. 2. 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 3 is amended to read:

Sec. 3. HUMAN SERVICES

* * *

(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, and renovations for up to 50 beds at the Southeast State Correctional Facility: \$300,000.00

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

(3) Secure residential facility, replacement of the facility in Middlesex: \$2,500,000.00

(4) Essex, Woodside Juvenile Rehabilitation Center, design and construction documents: \$1,000,000.00

(c) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services is authorized to use the amount appropriated in subdivision (b)(3) of this section to purchase land or a building, or both, to replace the secure residential facility currently

located in Middlesex. Any funds remaining after the purchase of land or a building may be used for design documents either to renovate a building or construct a new building.

(d) For the amount appropriated in subdivision (b)(2) of this section, it is the intent of the General Assembly that the funds be used for three beds in the Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility and ten beds in the Southern 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.

Appropriation – FY 2018		\$300,000.00
Appropriation – FY 2019	\$300,000.00	<u>\$4,400,000.00</u>
Total Appropriation – Section 3	\$600,000.00	<u>\$4,700,000.00</u>

Sec. 3. 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 4 is amended to read:

Sec. 4. JUDICIARY

* * *

(c) The sum of \$1,496,398.00 is appropriated in FY 2019 to the Judiciary for the case management IT system.

Appropriation – FY 2018		\$3,050,000.00
<u>Appropriation – FY 2019</u>		<u>\$1,496,398.00</u>
Total Appropriation – Section 4	\$3,050,000.00	<u>\$4,546,398.00</u>

Sec. 4. 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 5 is amended to read:

Sec. 5. COMMERCE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

* * *

(c) The sum of ~~\$200,000.00~~ \$300,000.00 is appropriated in FY 2019 to the Department of Buildings and General Services for the Agency of Commerce and Community Development for major maintenance at historic sites statewide.

(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) Underwater preserves: \$30,000.00

(2) Placement and replacement of roadside historic markers:
\$15,000.00 \$29,693.00

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

* * *

Appropriation – FY 2018 \$450,000.00

Appropriation – FY 2019 ~~\$370,000.00~~ \$484,693.00

Total Appropriation – Section 5 ~~\$820,000.00~~ \$934,693.00

Sec. 5. 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 6 is amended to read:

Sec. 6. GRANT PROGRAMS

* * *

(b) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2019 for Building
Communities Grants established in 24 V.S.A. chapter 137:

* * *

(9) To the Enhanced 911 Board for the Enhanced 911 Compliance

<u>Grants Program for school safety:</u>	<u>\$225,000.00</u>
Appropriation – FY 2018	\$1,475,000.00
Appropriation – FY 2019	\$1,400,000.00 <u>\$1,625,000.00</u>
Total Appropriation – Section 6	\$2,875,000.00 <u>\$3,100,000.00</u>

Sec. 6. 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 10 is amended to read:

Sec. 10. NATURAL RESOURCES

* * *

(e) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2019 to the Agency of
Natural Resources for the Department of Environmental Conservation for the
projects described in this subsection:

* * *

(3) State's share of the Federal Superfund and State Lead Hazardous
Waste Program (Elizabeth Mine ~~and Ely Mine~~): ~~\$2,755,000.00~~ \$177,259.00

* * *

Appropriation – FY 2018	\$10,914,000.00
Appropriation – FY 2019	\$8,205,000.00 <u>\$5,627,259.00</u>
Total Appropriation – Section 10	\$19,119,000.00 <u>\$16,541,259.00</u>

Sec. 7. 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 11 is amended to read:

Sec. 11. CLEAN WATER INITIATIVES

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(b) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2018 to the Agency of Natural Resources for the Department of Environmental Conservation projects described in this subsection:

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(4) Municipal Pollution Control Grants, pollution control projects and planning advances for feasibility studies, new projects (Ryegate, Springfield, ~~St. Johnsbury~~, and St. Albans): \$2,704,232.00

* * *

(d)(1) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2018 to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board for the following projects:

~~(1)~~(A) Statewide water quality improvement projects or other conservation projects: \$2,800,000.00

~~(2)~~(B) Water quality farm improvement grants or fee purchase projects that enhance water quality impacts by leveraging additional funds: \$1,000,000.00

(2) A grant issued under subdivision (1)(B) of this subsection:

(A) shall not be considered a State grant under 6 V.S.A. chapter 215, subchapter 3 for purposes of calculating the maximum amount of a State water quality assistance award under 6 V.S.A. § 4824 or 4826; and

(B) may be used to satisfy a grant recipient's cost share requirements.

(e) The sum of ~~\$2,000,000.00~~ \$3,615,000.00 is appropriated in FY 2019 to the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets for Best Management Practices ~~and~~, the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, and the Capital Equipment Assistance Program.

(f) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2019 to the Agency of Natural Resources for the Department of Environmental Conservation projects described in this subsection:

* * *

(2) ~~EcoSystem restoration and protection~~ Restoration and Protection grant programs: \$5,000,000.00

(A) Standard EcoSystem Restoration and Protection programs:
\$3,959,988.00

(B) Municipal Roads Grant-in-Aid: \$3,097,944.00

(C) Multi-Sector Clean Water Block Grants: \$2,000,000.00

(3) Municipal Pollution Control Grants, new projects (Colchester, Rutland City, St. Albans, Middlebury, and St. Johnsbury):
\$1,407,268.00 \$4,044,092.00

(4) ~~Clean Water Act, implementation projects:~~ \$11,112,944.00

The Commissioner of Environmental Conservation may use up to \$1,600,000.00 of the amounts appropriated in subdivision (2) of this subsection to support capital-eligible clean water projects for Lake Carmi;

provided, however, that the Commissioner shall provide prior notification of any project and its cost to the Chairs of the House Committees on Corrections and Institutions and on Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife and of the Senate Committees on Institutions and on Natural Resources and Energy.

(5) For the amount appropriated in subdivision (2)(B) of this subsection, on or before January 15, 2019, the Commissioner of Environmental Conservation shall report back to the House Committees on Corrections and Institutions and on Transportation and of the Senate Committees on Institutions and on Transportation with a description and cost of each project that received funding.

(g)(1) The sum of 2,750,000.00 is following sums are appropriated in FY 2019 to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board for:

(A) statewide water quality improvement projects or other conservation projects: \$2,750,000.00

(B) water quality farm improvement grants or fee purchase projects: \$1,200,000.00

(2) A grant issued under subdivision (1)(B) of this subsection:

(A) shall not be considered a State grant under 6 V.S.A. chapter 215, subchapter 3 for purposes of calculating the maximum amount of a State water quality assistance award under 6 V.S.A. § 4824 or 4826; and

(B) may be used to satisfy a grant recipient's cost share requirements.

(h) It is the intent of the General Assembly that the Secretary of Natural Resources shall use the amount appropriated in ~~subdivision~~ subdivisions (b)(4) and (f)(6) of this section to fund new projects in Ryegate, Springfield, ~~St. Johnsbury~~, and St. Albans City, and in FY 2019 in Colchester, Rutland City, Middlebury, St. Johnsbury, and St. Albans; provided, however, that if the Secretary determines that one of these projects is not ready in FY 2018 or FY 2019, or the amount appropriated exceeds the amount needed to fund these projects, the funds may be used for an eligible new project as authorized by 10 V.S.A. chapter 55 and 24 V.S.A. chapter 120.

* * *

(l) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2019 to the Municipal Mitigation Assistance Program in the Agency of Transportation:

<u>(1) Municipal Highway and Stormwater Mitigation Program:</u>	<u>\$1,000,000.00</u>
<u>(2) Better Roads Program:</u>	<u>\$1,400,000.00</u>
Appropriation – FY 2018	\$21,936,616.00
Appropriation – FY 2019	<u>\$23,470,212.00</u>
	<u>\$24,267,024.00</u>
Total Appropriation – Section 11	\$45,406,828.00
	<u>\$46,203,640.00</u>

Sec. 8. 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 13 is amended to read:

Sec. 13. PUBLIC SAFETY

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(b) ~~The sum of \$5,573,000.00 is~~ following sums are appropriated in
FY 2019 to the Department of Buildings and General Services ~~for~~:

(1) construction of the Williston Public Safety Field Station:

\$5,573,000.00

(2) East Cottage, Robert H. Wood Criminal Justice and Fire Training
Center, renovation and fit up, and historic windows:

\$1,850,000.00

(c) 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.

Appropriation – FY 2018 \$1,927,000.00

Appropriation – FY 2019 ~~\$5,573,000.00~~ \$11,423,000.00

Total Appropriation – Section 13 ~~\$7,500,000.00~~ \$13,350,000.00

Sec. 9. 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 16 is amended to read:

Sec. 16. VERMONT VETERANS' HOME

* * *

(c) ~~The sum of \$50,000.00 is~~ following sums are appropriated in FY 2019
to the Vermont Veterans' Home for:

(1) resident care furnishings: \$50,000.00

(2) security, access system, and safety upgrades: \$100,000.00

(d) It is the intent of the General Assembly that the amounts appropriated in ~~subsections~~ subsection (a) and subdivision (c)(1) of this section shall be used to match federal funds to purchase resident care furnishings for the Veterans' Home.

(e) The Veterans' Home shall only use the funds appropriated in 2015 Acts and Resolves No. 26, Sec. 16 for an electronic medical records system. These funds shall be used to match federal funds and shall only become available after the Veterans' Home notifies the Chairs of the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committee on Institutions and the Commissioner of Finance and Management that the electronic medical records system is in compliance with the criteria for creating and maintaining connectivity established by the Vermont Information Technology Leaders pursuant to 18 V.S.A. § 9352(i).

Appropriation – FY 2018	\$390,000.00
Appropriation – FY 2019	\$50,000.00 <u>\$150,000.00</u>
<u>Total Appropriation – Section 16</u>	\$440,000.00 <u>\$540,000.00</u>

Sec. 10. 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 16a is added to read:

Sec. 16a. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The sum of \$250,000.00 is appropriated in FY 2019 to the Department of Labor to fund the Adult Career and Technical Education Equipment Grant Pilot Program to provide equipment to support adult tech programs.

Sec. 11. 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 16b is added to read:

Sec. 16b. SERGEANT AT ARMS

The sum of \$15,000.00 is appropriated in FY 2019 to the Sergeant at Arms for an assessment of the sound system in the State House and 1 Baldwin Street pursuant to 2 V.S.A. § 62(a)(8). The Sergeant at Arms shall inform interested stakeholders of the outcome of the assessment.

Sec. 12. 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 18 is amended to read:

Sec. 18. REALLOCATION OF FUNDS; TRANSFER OF FUNDS

(a) The following sums are reallocated to the Department of Buildings and General Services from prior capital appropriations to defray expenditures authorized in Sec. 2 of this act:

* * *

(22) of the amount appropriated in 2011 Acts and Resolves No. 40,
Sec. 5(a) (County courthouses, ADA compliance, repairs and upgrades):

\$2,079.09

(23) of the amount appropriated in 2011 Acts and Resolves No. 40,
Sec. 5(b) (County courthouses, ADA compliance, repairs and upgrades):

\$18,688.70

(24) of the amount appropriated in 2013 Acts and Resolves No. 51,
Sec. 4(b)(1) (UVM Health Lab, colocation):

\$383.90

(25) of the amount appropriated in 2013 Acts and Resolves No. 51,
Sec. 5(b) (Lamoille County Courthouse, planning):

\$540.00

(26) of the amount appropriated in 2015 Acts and Resolves No. 26,

Sec. 2(b) (Woodside Juvenile Rehabilitation Center, project design and

planning): \$52,003.54

(27) of the amount appropriated in 2015 Acts and Resolves No. 26,

Sec. 5 (Judiciary, ADA compliance, county courthouses): \$157,394.00

(28) of the amount appropriated in 2015 Acts and Resolves No. 26,

Sec. 13(b) (Robert H. Wood Vermont Fire Academy, burn building):

\$10,646.82

(29) of the amount appropriated in 2016 Acts and Resolves No. 160,

Sec. 8 (Lyndon State College): \$48,634.00

(30) of the amount appropriated in 2016 Acts and Resolves No. 160,

Sec. 11 (Public safety, Waterbury State Office Complex, blood analysis

laboratory, renovations): \$252,085.35

(31) of the amount appropriated in 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84,

Sec. 2 (Department of Libraries, centralized facility renovation): \$447,739.00

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(d) The following unexpended funds appropriated to the Agency of Natural Resources for capital construction projects are reallocated to the Department of Buildings and General Services to defray expenditures authorized in Sec. 2 of this act:

* * *

(4) of the amount appropriated in 2013 Acts and Resolves No. 51,

Sec. 11(a)(1) (water pollution control): \$8,221.85

(5) of the amount appropriated in 2015 Acts and Resolves No. 26,

Sec. 11(a)(8) (municipal pollution control grants, Waterbury): \$136,824.00

(e) The following unexpended funds appropriated to the Agency of
Commerce and Community Development for capital construction projects are
reallocated to defray expenditures authorized in Sec. 5(d) of this act, placement
and replacement of historic site markers:

(1) of the amount appropriated in 2013 Acts and Resolves No. 51,

Sec. 6(a)(2) (Bennington monument, structural repairs and ADA compliance):
\$1,224.51

(2) of the amount appropriated in 2015 Acts and Resolves No. 26,

Sec. 6(b) (Bennington monument, elevator, roof repairs): \$1,997.73

(3) of the amount appropriated in 2015 Acts and Resolves No. 26,

Sec. 6(c) (Bennington monument, elevator, roof repairs): \$6,469.60

Total Reallocations and Transfers – Section 18

\$14,822,286.78 \$15,967,218.87

Sec. 13. 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 19 is amended to read:

Sec. 19. GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS AND APPROPRIATIONS

(a) The State Treasurer is authorized to issue general obligation bonds in the amount of \$132,460,000.00 for the purpose of funding the appropriations of this act. The State Treasurer, with the approval of the Governor, shall

requirements of 29 V.S.A. § 166; provided, however, that if a transfer occurs, the buildings and adjacent land may only be transferred to another State agency for a State use. If the buildings and adjacent land are sold, the proceeds from the sale shall be appropriated to future capital construction projects and expended within two years after the date of sale.

(e) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services is authorized to sell the Rutland Multi-Modal Transit Center (parking garage) located at 102 West Street in Rutland pursuant to the requirements of 29 V.S.A. § 166. The proceeds from the sale shall be appropriated to future capital construction projects and expended within two years after the date of sale.

Sec. 15. 2012 Acts and Resolves, No. 104, Sec. 14, amending 2011 Acts and Resolves, No. 40, Sec. 26, is further amended to read:

Sec. 14. Sec. 26 of No. 40 of the Acts of 2011 is amended to read:

Sec. 26. ~~PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS; MISCELLANEOUS~~

~~The commissioner of buildings and general services may sell the Asa Bloomer State Office Building and the Rutland Multi-Modal Transit Center in accordance with the requirements of 29 V.S.A. § 166(d) and following negotiations with the City of Rutland. If negotiations with the city result in the city's management of the Transit Center, the commissioner may use \$81,000 in unexpended capital funds previously appropriated to the department for other purposes to purchase a flexible parking machine for the Transit Center. It is~~

~~the intent of the general assembly that state offices remain downtown.~~

[Repealed.]

Sec. 15a. 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 20(b) is amended to read:

~~(b) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services is authorized to sell the Rutland Multi-Modal Transit Center (parking garage) located at 102 West Street in Rutland pursuant to the requirements of 29 V.S.A. § 166. The proceeds from the sale shall be appropriated to future capital construction projects. [Repealed.]~~

Sec. 15b. 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 29 is amended to read:

Sec. 29. 2013 Acts and Resolves No. 1, Sec. 100(c), as amended by 2014 Acts and Resolves No. 179, Sec. E.113.1 and 2015 Acts and Resolves No. 58, Sec. E.113.1, is further amended to read:

~~(c) Sec. 97 (general obligation debt financing) shall take effect on July 1, 2018~~ July 1, 2019.

Sec. 16. 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Secs. 33a and 33b are added to read:

* * * Labor * * *

Sec. 33a. ADULT CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

EQUIPMENT GRANT PILOT PROGRAM

(a) The General Assembly hereby establishes a pilot grant program to authorize the Department of Labor, in consultation with the State Workforce Development Board, to administer the Adult Career and Technical Education Equipment Grant Pilot Program to support the purchase of equipment

necessary for the delivery of occupational training for students enrolled in a postsecondary course offered by Vermont's Career and Technical Education Centers.

(b) An applicant's training program shall qualify for a grant described in subsection (a) of this section if it includes all of the following requirements:

(1) meets current occupational demand, as evidenced by current labor market information;

(2) aligns with a career pathway or set of stackable credentials involving a college or university accredited in Vermont;

(3) guarantees delivery of equipment to more than one region of the State;

(4) is supported with a business or industry partnership;

(5) sets forth how equipment will be maintained, insured, shared, and transported, if applicable; and

(6) is endorsed by the Adult Career and Technical Education Association.

(c) Grants awarded under this program shall be used to purchase capital-eligible equipment. Grants shall not be used to support curriculum development, instruction, or program administration.

(d) On or before July 15, 2018, the Department shall develop and publish a simplified grant application that meets the criteria described in subsection (b) of this section. The Department shall consult with the Agency of Education

and the State Workforce Development Board in reviewing applications and selecting grantees.

(e) Grantees shall have ownership over any share of equipment purchased with the use of these funds. Any equipment purchased from this program may also be used by secondary career technical education programs.

(f) On or before February 15, 2019, the Department of Labor shall submit a report to the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committee on Institutions that includes the following:

(1) how the funds were used, expected outcomes, recommended performance metrics to ensure success of the program, and any other relevant information that would inform future decisions about the use of this program;

(2) assessment of the functionality and accessibility of shared-equipment agreements; and

(3) how, and the extent to which, the program shall be funded in the future.

* * * Sunset of Adult Career and Technical Education

Equipment Grant Program * * *

Sec. 33b. REPEAL OF ADULT CAREER AND TECHNICAL

EDUCATION EQUIPMENT GRANT PROGRAM

The Adult Career and Technical Education Equipment Grant Program

established in Sec. 33a of this act shall be repealed on July 1, 2019.

Sec. 17. 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 36a is added to read:

Sec. 36a. SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM

(a) Creation. There is created the School Safety and Security 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.

(b) Use of funds. 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 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 one-to-one matching grants of up to \$25,000.00 per school. The required match shall be met through dollars raised and not in-kind services. It is the intent of the General Assembly that

grants shall be used to match federal funds from the Department of Homeland Security at a ratio of four State dollars to one federal dollar.

(d) Administration. The Department of Public Safety, in coordination with the Agency of Education, shall administer and coordinate 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 grants awarded under this section to the Chairs of the Senate Committee on Institutions and the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions.

Sec. 17a. 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 seven 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;

(6) a representative of the Vermont Principals' Association; and

(7) the Executive Director of the Vermont Independent Schools 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.

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

Sec. 18. REPEAL OF SCHOOL SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM

The School Safety and Security Grant Program established in Sec. 17 of this act shall be repealed on July 1, 2019.

Sec. 19. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.