

H.97

An act relating to fiscal year 2019 budget adjustments

The Senate concurs in the House proposal of amendment to the Senate proposal of amendment with the following proposals of amendment as follows:

First: By striking out the First and Second House proposals of amendment in their entirety.

Second: By striking out the Third House proposal of amendment in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Third proposal of amendment to read as follows:

Third: In Sec. 56, by striking out subsection (e) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (e) to read as follows:

(e) The following General Fund amount shall be reserved for appropriation or transfer in the fiscal year 2020 budget: \$9,700,000.

Third: By striking out the Sixth House proposal of amendment in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sixth proposal of amendment to read as follows:

Sixth: By striking out Sec. 88 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 88 to read as follows:

Sec. 88. FISCAL YEAR 2019 ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS AND
TRANSFERS FROM THE GENERAL FUND

(a) The following appropriations are made from the General Fund in fiscal year 2019:

(1) To the Agency of Digital Services: \$1,800,000 to be apportioned as follows:

(A) \$1,300,000 for firewalls;

(B) \$500,000 to invest in hardware for the data storage of State devices.

(2) To the Department of Health: \$2,400,000 to fund the testing for lead content in schools' and licensed child care centers' drinking water consistent with the program established in S.40 of 2019. These funds are allocated as follows:

(A) \$125,000 to fund the limited service program position established in S.40 of 2019.

(B) \$150,000 to fund program start-up and data management costs for the program.

(C) \$1,265,000 to fund the initial testing and retesting costs.

(D) \$860,000 to fund the estimated 50 percent State share of tap remediation costs. This State share funding commitment is limited to remediation of tap fixtures only. The funding will provide 50 percent of up

to \$300 for each tap fixture replacement excluding labor at schools, and 50 percent of up to \$600 for each tap fixture replacement including labor at licensed childcare providers.

(3) To the Department of Environmental Conservation: \$125,000 to fund the limited service remediation position established in S.40 of 2019.

(4) To the Attorney General: \$22,662 for the increased diversion and pre-trial services caseload increases in fiscal year 2019.

(5) To Department of Public Safety: \$196,812 for the cost of replacement holsters, sidearm lighting, communications equipment, and less lethal weapons.

(6) To the Joint Fiscal Office: \$275,000 to be allocated as follows for studies that will be comprehensively defined in the fiscal year 2020 budget process:

(A) \$250,000 to be reserved to fund contracted services for research and findings to identify and examine the factors contributing to Vermont's high rate of children entering the custody of the State. Such research shall study the preventive and upstream services and interventions provided to families and the extent to which these supports to families have demonstrated effectiveness in allowing children to remain with their families. Policy recommendations resulting from this research is intended to inform funding decisions regarding these services to ensure the safety of Vermont's vulnerable

children and to enhance the long-term stability and well-being of these families.

(B) \$25,000 to be reserved to fund contracted services for research and findings related to the detention population of the Department of Corrections (DOC) and policy recommendations to reduce this population and/or reduce the need for DOC in-state bed capacity for this population. The report shall be submitted to the General Assembly on or before December 15, 2019.

(b) The following transfers are made from the General Fund in fiscal year 2019:

(1) State Treasurer: \$22,200,000 from the General Fund to the Retired Teachers' Health and Medical Benefits Fund to repay-in-full in fiscal year 2019 the interfund loan obligation authorized by 16 V.S.A. § 1944b(e). This transfer shall be recognized as an additional contribution to the Retired Teachers' Health and Medical Fund in fiscal year 2019.

(2) State Treasurer: \$3,293,817 from the General Fund to the Vermont Teachers' Retirement Fund, established pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 1944. This amount reflects an additional contribution above the actuarially determined employer contribution and the VSTRS Board of Trustees' request for fiscal year 2020. This amount shall be transferred in fiscal year 2019.