

H.953

An act relating to fiscal year 2020 supplemental budget adjustments

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

Sec. 1. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. B.138 is amended to read:

Sec. B.138 Renter rebate

Grants	<u>9,500,000</u>	<u>8,100,000</u>
Total	9,500,000	8,100,000
Source of funds		
General fund	<u>9,500,000</u>	<u>8,100,000</u>
Total	9,500,000	8,100,000

Sec. 2. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. B.145 is amended to read:

Sec. B.145 Total general government

Source of funds

General fund	93,659,436	92,266,436
Transportation fund	4,019,636	4,019,636
Special funds	14,959,116	14,959,116
Federal funds	1,116,678	1,116,678
Internal service funds	125,854,235	125,854,235
Interdepartmental transfers	7,215,255	7,215,255
Enterprise funds	23,052	23,052
Pension trust funds	9,704,432	9,704,432
Private purpose trust funds	<u>1,125,701</u>	<u>1,125,701</u>

Total	257,677,541	256,284,541
-------	------------------------	-------------

Sec. 3. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. B.219 as amended by 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 88, Sec. 9 is further amended to read:

Sec. B.219 Military - veterans' affairs

Personal services	833,614	833,614
Operating expenses	173,955	173,955
Grants	43,300	<u>33,300</u>
Total	1,050,869	1,040,869

Source of funds

General fund	803,651	793,651
Special funds	147,218	147,218
Federal funds	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>
Total	1,050,869	1,040,869

Sec. 4. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. B.240 as amended by 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 88, Sec. 10 is further amended to read:

Sec. B.240 Total protection to persons and property

Source of funds

General fund	164,720,860	164,710,860
Transportation fund	20,250,000	20,250,000
Special funds	88,767,278	88,767,278
Tobacco fund	561,843	561,843

Federal funds	54,587,748	54,587,748
ARRA funds	921,260	921,260
Interdepartmental transfers	14,655,414	14,655,414
Enterprise funds	<u>11,472,400</u>	<u>11,472,400</u>
Total	355,936,803	355,926,803

Sec. 5. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. B.301 as amended by 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 88, Sec. 12 is further amended to read:

Sec. B.301 Secretary's office - global commitment

Operating expenses	3,150,212	3,150,212
Grants	1,630,119,013	<u>1,629,912,361</u>
Total	1,633,269,225	1,633,062,573

Source of funds

General fund	557,208,815	513,632,278
Special funds	34,969,169	44,969,169
Tobacco fund	21,049,373	21,049,373
State health care resources fund	21,101,110	22,601,110
Federal funds	983,572,979	1,015,442,864
Interdepartmental transfers	15,367,779	<u>25,367,779</u>
Total	1,633,269,225	1,633,062,573

Sec. 6. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. B.306 as amended by 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 88, Sec. 14 is further amended to read:

Sec. B.306 Department of Vermont health access - administration

Personal services	140,308,825	140,308,825
Operating expenses	29,905,859	29,905,859
Grants	<u>6,764,723</u>	<u>6,764,723</u>
Total	176,979,407	176,979,407

Source of funds

General fund	32,242,529	32,228,890
Special funds	6,096,108	6,096,108
Federal funds	124,749,165	124,735,526
Global Commitment fund	9,369,215	9,369,215
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>4,522,390</u>	<u>4,549,668</u>
Total	176,979,407	176,979,407

Sec. 7. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. B.307 as amended by 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 88, Sec. 15 is further amended to read:

Sec. B.307 Department of Vermont health access - Medicaid program -
global commitment

Personal services	547,983	547,983
Grants	<u>725,790,989</u>	<u>718,744,003</u>
Total	726,338,972	719,291,986

Source of funds

Global Commitment fund	<u>726,338,972</u>	<u>719,291,986</u>
Total	<u>726,338,972</u>	719,291,986

Sec. 8. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. B.309 as amended by 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 88, Sec. 17 is further amended to read:

Sec. B.309 Department of Vermont health access - Medicaid program -
state only

Grants	<u>53,864,800</u>	<u>49,128,572</u>
Total	<u>53,864,800</u>	49,128,572

Source of funds

General fund	42,034,845	39,150,622
Global Commitment fund	<u>11,829,955</u>	9,892,450
Enterprise funds	<u>0</u>	<u>85,500</u>
Total	<u>53,864,800</u>	49,128,572

Sec. 9. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. B.310 as amended by 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 88, Sec. 18 is further amended to read:

Sec. B.310 Department of Vermont health access - Medicaid non-waiver
matched

Grants	<u>33,297,789</u>	<u>33,076,106</u>
Total	<u>33,297,789</u>	33,076,106

Source of funds

General fund	12,140,974	11,896,989
Federal funds	<u>21,157,815</u>	<u>21,179,117</u>
Total	33,297,789	33,076,106

Sec. 10. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. B.313 is amended to read:

Sec. B.313 Health - alcohol and drug abuse programs

Personal services	4,363,807	4,363,807
Operating expenses	255,634	255,634
Grants	<u>51,538,398</u>	<u>50,316,237</u>
Total	56,157,839	54,935,678

Source of funds

General fund	1,946,686	1,946,686
Special funds	1,170,177	1,170,177
Tobacco fund	949,917	949,917
Federal funds	17,574,970	17,574,970
Global Commitment fund	<u>34,516,089</u>	<u>33,293,928</u>
Total	56,157,839	54,935,678

Sec. 11. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. B.314 as amended by 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 88, Sec. 19 is further amended to read:

Sec. B.314 Mental health - mental health

Personal services	32,137,652	32,342,021
-------------------	-----------------------	------------

Operating expenses	4,434,083	4,434,083
Grants	237,094,507	<u>237,759,022</u>
Total	273,666,242	274,535,126
Source of funds		
General fund	7,699,658	7,699,658
Special funds	1,684,904	1,480,535
Federal funds	9,132,390	10,205,643
Global Commitment fund	255,076,042	255,076,042
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>73,248</u>	<u>73,248</u>
Total	273,666,242	274,535,126

Sec. 12. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. B.318 as amended by 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 88, Sec. 22 is further amended to read:

Sec. B.318 Department for children and families - child development

Personal services	4,618,948	4,618,948
Operating expenses	1,031,325	1,031,325
Grants	79,924,977	<u>84,335,043</u>
Total	85,575,250	89,985,316
Source of funds		
General fund	39,843,744	39,843,744
Special funds	1,820,000	1,820,000
Federal funds	33,144,045	37,554,111

Global Commitment fund	10,744,961	10,744,961
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>22,500</u>	<u>22,500</u>
Total	85,575,250	89,985,316

Sec. 13. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. B.325 as amended by 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 88, Sec. 26 is further amended to read:

Sec. B.325 Department for children and families - office of economic opportunity

Personal services	522,340	522,340
Operating expenses	43,673	43,673
Grants	<u>10,137,256</u>	<u>12,471,323</u>
Total	10,703,269	13,037,336

Source of funds

General fund	5,037,111	5,037,111
Special funds	57,990	57,990
Federal funds	4,778,480	7,112,547
Global Commitment fund	<u>829,688</u>	<u>829,688</u>
Total	10,703,269	13,037,336

Sec. 14. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. B.346 as amended by 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 88, Sec. 34 is further amended to read:

Sec. B.346 Total human services

Source of funds

General fund	1,007,088,907	960,370,523
Special funds	123,986,513	123,782,144
Tobacco fund	23,088,208	23,088,208
State health care resources fund	21,101,110	22,601,110
Federal funds	1,424,376,911	1,464,072,845
Global Commitment fund	1,593,280,128	1,583,073,476
Internal service funds	2,035,610	2,035,610
Interdepartmental transfers	36,346,190	46,373,468
Permanent trust funds	25,000	25,000
Enterprise funds	0	<u>85,500</u>
Total	4,231,328,577	4,225,507,884

Sec. 15. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. B.711 is amended to read:

Sec. B.711 Environmental conservation - office of water programs

Personal services	21,732,819	21,732,819
Operating expenses	6,821,783	6,821,783
Grants	32,104,881	<u>31,354,321</u>
Total	60,659,483	59,908,923

Source of funds

General fund	7,994,351	7,994,351
Special funds	19,641,195	18,890,635
Federal funds	31,935,599	31,935,599

Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,088,338</u>	<u>1,088,338</u>
Total	60,659,483	59,908,923

Sec. 16. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. B.714 is amended to read:

Sec. B.714 Total natural resources

Source of funds

General fund	29,608,969	29,608,969
Special funds	60,039,636	59,289,076
Fish and wildlife fund	9,236,567	9,236,567
Federal funds	54,971,917	54,971,917
Interdepartmental transfers	10,178,254	10,178,254
Permanent trust funds	<u>60,000</u>	<u>60,000</u>
Total	164,095,343	163,344,783

Sec. 17. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. B.802 is amended to read:

Sec. B.802 Housing & community development

Personal services	3,723,802	3,723,802
Operating expenses	779,039	779,039
Grants	<u>11,773,050</u>	<u>11,673,050</u>
Total	16,275,891	16,175,891

Source of funds

General fund	2,753,913	2,753,913
Special funds	5,185,233	5,085,233

Federal funds	7,883,744	7,883,744
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>453,001</u>	<u>453,001</u>
Total	16,275,891	16,175,891

Sec. 18. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. B.813 as amended by 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 88, Sec. 38 is further amended to read:

Sec. B.813 Total commerce and community development

Source of funds

General fund	16,529,933	16,529,933
Special funds	18,730,826	18,630,826
Federal funds	30,578,334	30,578,334
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>522,588</u>	<u>522,588</u>
Total	66,361,681	66,261,681

Sec. 19. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. B.902 is amended to read:

Sec. B.902 Transportation - buildings

Operating expenses	<u>907,746</u>	<u>307,746</u>
Total	907,746	307,746

Source of funds

Transportation fund	<u>907,746</u>	<u>307,746</u>
Total	907,746	307,746

Sec. 20. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. B.903 as amended by 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 88, Sec. 39 is further amended to read:

Sec. B.903 Transportation - program development

Personal services	53,367,048	53,367,048
Operating expenses	217,771,750	217,771,750
Grants	<u>27,258,553</u>	<u>27,258,553</u>
Total	298,397,351	298,397,351

Source of funds

Transportation fund	40,775,234	41,675,234
TIB fund	12,955,317	12,055,317
Federal funds	244,272,581	244,272,581
Interdepartmental transfers	191,790	191,790
Local match	<u>202,429</u>	<u>202,429</u>
Total	298,397,351	298,397,351

Sec. 21. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. B.914 is amended to read:

Sec. B.914 Transportation - town highway bridges

Personal services	3,239,423	3,239,423
Operating expenses	10,143,100	9,843,100
Grants	<u>451,328</u>	<u>451,328</u>
Total	13,833,851	13,533,851

Source of funds

Transportation fund	1,304,648	1,004,648
TIB fund	701,815	701,815
Federal funds	10,887,721	10,887,721
Local match	<u>939,667</u>	<u>939,667</u>
Total	13,833,851	13,533,851

Sec. 22. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. B.919 is amended to read:

Sec. B.919 Transportation - municipal mitigation assistance program

Operating expenses	204,000	204,000
Grants	2,694,000	<u>2,576,515</u>
Total	2,898,000	2,780,515

Source of funds

Transportation fund	700,000	700,000
Special funds	770,000	652,515
Federal funds	<u>1,428,000</u>	<u>1,428,000</u>
Total	2,898,000	2,780,515

Sec. 23. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. B.922 as amended by 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 88, Sec. 42 is further amended to read:

Sec. B.922 Total transportation

Source of funds

Transportation fund	256,457,422	256,457,422
TIB fund	14,417,132	13,517,132

Special funds	1,410,000	1,292,515
Federal funds	319,145,747	319,145,747
Internal service funds	20,112,038	20,112,038
Interdepartmental transfers	1,789,815	1,789,815
Local match	<u>1,142,096</u>	<u>1,142,096</u>
Total	614,474,250	613,456,765

Sec. 24. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. E.219 as amended by 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 88, Sec. 53 is further amended to read:

Sec. E.219 Military – veterans’ affairs

(a) Of this appropriation, \$1,000 shall be used for continuation of the Vermont Medal Program; \$4,800 shall be used for the expenses of the Governor’s Veterans’ Advisory Council; and \$5,000 shall be used for the Military, Family, and Community Network; ~~and \$10,000 shall be granted to the American Legion for the Boys’ State and Girls’ State programs.~~

Sec. 25. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. E.905 as amended by 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 88, Sec. 58 is further amended to read:

Sec. E.905 ~~SUPPLEMENTAL MAINTENANCE OR PROJECT~~
~~SPENDING~~

(a) ~~Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 706 and the limits on program, project, or activity spending authority approved in the fiscal year 2020 Transportation Program, the Secretary of Transportation, with the approval of the Secretary of~~

~~Administration and subject to the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, may transfer up to \$3,000,000.00 in Transportation Fund appropriations, other than appropriations for the Town Highway State Aid, Structures, and Class 2 roadway programs as follows:~~

~~(1) to the Transportation—Maintenance State System (8100002000) appropriation, for the specific purpose of addressing the overall cost of highway maintenance during fiscal year 2020.~~

~~(2) to the Transportation—Program Development (8100001100) appropriation, for the specific purpose of averting delays to project schedules.~~

~~(b)(1) If a contemplated transfer of an appropriation would not significantly delay the planned work schedule of a project, the Secretary may execute the transfer and shall give prompt notice thereof to the Joint Fiscal Office and to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation when the General Assembly is in session and, when the General Assembly is not in session, to the Joint Fiscal Office and the Joint Transportation Oversight Committee.~~

~~(2) If a contemplated transfer of an appropriation would, by itself, significantly delay the planned work schedule of a project, the Secretary:~~

~~(A) when the General Assembly is in session, may execute the transfer, but shall give the House and Senate Committees on Transportation advance notice of at least 10 business days prior to executing the transfer; or~~

~~(B) when the General Assembly is not in session, may execute the~~

~~transfer, but shall give prompt notice of the transfer to the Joint Fiscal Office and the Joint Transportation Oversight Committee.~~

~~(c) In July 2020, the Secretary of Administration shall report all appropriations reductions made under the authority of this section to the Joint Fiscal Office, the Joint Fiscal Committee, and the Joint Transportation Oversight Committee. [Repealed.]~~

Sec. 26. CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC RESPONSE HUMAN SERVICES;
FEDERAL FUNDS AUTHORIZATION

(a) The Agency of Human Services estimates \$6,117,944 of expenses will be incurred related to the coronavirus pandemic and COVID-19 emergency response for the provision of emergency food assistance and costs for establishing isolation housing and recovery options for vulnerable populations with potential COVID-19 disease or exposure. These expenses also include rent, staffing, security, supplies, and telemedicine capacity.

(b) In fiscal year 2020, the Agency of Human Services is authorized to expend FEMA funds for 75% Federal Emergency Management Agency reimbursement for these incurred expenditures. State matching funds have been authorized in the May 11, 2020 Joint Fiscal Committee approved plan for the Coronavirus Relief Fund.

Sec. 27. APPROPRIATION USE REPORTING REQUIREMENT

(a) The Agency of Human Services shall report to the Joint Fiscal

Committee in August 2020 on the use of the funds appropriated from the Agency of Human Services Central Office earned federal receipts via Interdepartmental transfers appropriated in Sec. 5 of this act by further amending 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. B.301.

Sec. 27a. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. E.301 as amended by 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 88, Sec. 55 is further amended to read:

Sec. E.301 Secretary's Office – Global Commitment

* * *

(c) Up to ~~\$15,400,000~~ \$25,367,779 is transferred from the Agency of Human Services Federal Receipts Holding Account to the Interdepartmental Transfer Fund consistent with the amount appropriated in Sec. B.301 – Secretary's Office – global commitment of this act.

Sec. 28. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. D.101 as amended by 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 88, Sec. 45 is further amended to read:

Sec. D.101 FUND TRANSFERS, REVERSIONS, AND RESERVES

* * *

(b) Notwithstanding any provisions of law to the contrary, in fiscal year 2020:

(1) The following amounts shall be transferred to the General Fund from the funds indicated:

<u>21405</u> <u>Bond Investment Earnings</u>	<u>2,738,248.00</u>
--	---------------------

21923	Historic Property Stab & Rehab		32,917.00
22005	AHS Central Office earned federal receipts		15,874,593.00
50300	Liquor Control Fund	18,370,000.00	<u>23,000,000.00</u>
50400	<u>Vermont Life Magazine Fund</u>		<u>375,000.00</u>
62100	Unclaimed Property Fund	2,889,512.00	<u>3,470,512.00</u>
	Caledonia Fair		5,000.00
	North Country Hospital Loan		24,047.30

(2) The following estimated amounts, which may be all or a portion of unencumbered fund balances, shall be transferred from the following funds to the General Fund in fiscal year 2020. The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall report to the Joint Fiscal Committee at its July meeting the final amounts transferred from each fund and certify that such transfers will not impair the agency, office, or department reliant upon each fund from meeting its statutory requirements.

21638	AG-Fees & Reimbursements-Court Order	2,000,000.00	<u>4,000,000.00</u>
21928	Secretary of State Services Fund	2,032,817.00	<u>2,432,817.00</u>

(3) In fiscal year 2020, notwithstanding 2016 Acts and Resolves No. 172, Sec. E.228, ~~\$33,104,193~~ \$36,104,193 of the unencumbered balances in the Insurance Regulatory and Supervision Fund (Fund Number 21075), the Captive Insurance Regulatory and Supervision Fund (Fund Number 21085),

and the Securities Regulatory and Supervision Fund (Fund Number 21080) shall be transferred to the General Fund.

(4) The following amounts shall be transferred from the General Fund to the funds indicated:

21370 Tobacco Litigation Settlement Fund	1,500,000.00
21555 Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund	1,476,322.00
56100 Workers' Compensation Fund	2,715,144.00
56200 State Liability Insurance Fund	2,323,899.00
56300 Risk Management – all other insurance	128,000.00
58600 Equipment Revolving Fund	581,928.00

(A) Of the amount transferred to the Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund, \$865,000 is intended to meet additional projected funding needs for fiscal year 2020, and the remainder is to be applied toward prefunding projected needs for fiscal year 2021.

(B) Of the amount transferred to the Equipment Revolving Fund, \$581,928 shall be for the intended purpose of establishing revolving loans for Information Technology needs and shall be tracked and reported separately from other Equipment Revolving Fund activity.

* * *

(f) ~~The following General Fund amount shall be reserved in fiscal year 2020 for fiscal year 2021 budget expenditures: \$18,365,715. These funds~~

shall be unreserved in fiscal year 2021. In fiscal year 2020, any unreserved and undesignated end of fiscal year General Fund surplus remaining after satisfying the requirements of 32 V.S.A. § 308 and notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 308c shall remain in the General Fund and available for appropriation in fiscal year 2021.

Sec. 29. USE OF GENERAL FUND RESERVES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020

FINANCIAL CLOSE OUT

(a) To the extent funds are required to close the General Fund in balance for fiscal year 2020, the following amounts are unreserved:

(1) First, notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 308c, up to \$31,553,274 is unreserved from the General Fund Balance Reserve (aka Rainy Day Fund).

(2) Second, notwithstanding 32 V.S.A § 308, up to \$79,823,411 is unreserved from the General Fund Budget Stabilization Reserve.

(3) Finally, notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 308c, up to \$98,236,983 is unreserved from Human Services Caseload Reserve.

(b) Should federal fiscal assistance to states become available, including the ability for utilization of interfund borrowing from the Coronavirus Relief Fund that would allow for the use of such federal funding to be directly applied to the General Fund or applied to fiscal year 2020 General Fund expenditures, such funds shall be applied as allowed to reduce or eliminate the need to utilize the provisions of subsection (a) of this section.

Sec. 30. APPLICATION OF FISCAL YEAR 2020 DEFERRED TAX

PAYMENTS COLLECTED IN FISCAL YEAR 2021

(a) To the extent that tax payments that were due to the State in fiscal year 2020 but were deferred as a result of state and federal emergency action taken in response to the Coronavirus Pandemic are received into the General Fund through August 15, 2020, funds from such payments shall be transferred or reserved as follows:

(1) First, to the extent any interfund loan was made from the Coronavirus Relief Fund under the provision of Sec. 29(b) of this act, in an amount to repay the balance of the interfund loan.

(2) Second, in the Human Services Caseload Reserve, in an amount to bring this reserve balance up to \$98,236,983.

(3) Third, in the General Fund Budget Stabilization Reserve, in an amount to bring this reserve balance up to \$81,472,791.

(4) Fourth, in General Fund Balance Reserve (aka Rainy Day Fund), in an amount to bring this reserve balance up to \$31,553,274.

(5) Finally, any additional amounts received from such payments shall remain available in the General Fund for appropriation in fiscal year 2021.

Sec. 31. FISCAL YEAR 2020 CLOSE OUT APPROPRIATION TRANSFER

AUTHORITY

(a) Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 706, in order to facilitate fiscal year 2020

financial closure of the State, the Commissioner of Finance and Management may, upon approval of the Governor, transfer fiscal year 2020 balances of appropriations up to \$250,000, and, upon approval of the Emergency Board, transfer fiscal year 2020 balances at or over \$250,000 made under any appropriation act for the support of the government from one component of an agency, department, or other unit of the Executive Branch of State government, to any component of the same agency, department, or unit. The Commissioner shall provide a report on all transfers made under the provisions of this subsection to the Joint Fiscal Committee in August 2020.

(b) Notwithstanding any other act or provision of law, the Legislative Branch of State government, in order to facilitate fiscal year 2020 financial closure of the Legislative Branch budgets, may transfer up to \$250,000 between appropriation units within the Legislative Branch.

Sec. 32. 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 88, Sec. 49 is amended to read:

Sec. 49. FISCAL YEAR 2020 ONE-TIME GENERAL FUND

APPROPRIATIONS

(a) In fiscal year 2020, the sum of \$370,000 is appropriated to the Secretary of Administration for distribution to departments to provide funding for the fiscal year 2020 change to the Vermont State Employees' Retirement System's employer contribution rate.

(b) ~~In fiscal year 2020, the sum of \$25,000 is appropriated to the Agency of~~

~~Commerce and Community Development for the commissioning of the USS
Vermont.~~

(e) In fiscal year 2020, the sum of \$450,000 is appropriated to the Secretary of State for calendar year 2020 general election expenditures.

Sec. 33. VERMONT STUDENT ASSISTANCE CORPORATION; INTENT

(a) It is the intent of the General Assembly in fiscal year 2021 to fund the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation base appropriation at the level of \$19,978,588 for the 2020–2021 academic year.

Sec. 34. MEDICAID NON-EMERGENCY TRANSPORTATION

(a) In fiscal year 2021, prior to executing a contract to provide Medicaid Non-Emergency Transportation services, the Department of Vermont Health Access shall provide to the Joint Fiscal Committee for review and approval a detailed analysis demonstrating that by executing such a contract:

(1) no State policy, including the coordinated delivery of transportation services in the Elders and Persons with Disability program and the Medicaid Non-Emergency Transportation program, will be compromised;

(2) there will be no degradation of service to eligible individuals; and

(3) the financial stability of the State’s public transportation systems will be maintained.

(b) The analysis shall also include the impact of the Agency of Transportation's investments in vehicles, technology, and other capital investments on the coordinated service delivery model.

Sec. 35. CENTRAL GARAGE FUND REPORT

(a) The Agency of Transportation shall report to the Joint Fiscal Committee and to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation on September 1, 2020 on the status of the Central Garage Fund and the plan to address any negative projected balance in the Fund.

* * * Coronavirus Relief Fund * * *

Sec. 36. ONE-TIME CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND (CRF)

APPROPRIATIONS

(a) The following appropriations are authorized on a one-time basis in fiscal year 2020 from the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) established under the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act to address necessary expenditures with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) public health emergency. These expenditures were not accounted for in the State budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020 and were incurred during the period that began on March 1, 2020, in accordance with the Department of Treasury's April 22, 2020 interpretation of limitations on the permissible use of fund payments. These appropriations shall carry forward to fiscal year 2021, as needed.

(1) Joint Fiscal Committee: \$600,000 is appropriated to the Legislative Joint Fiscal Committee for use or transfer to appropriation units within the General Assembly as necessary to reimburse eligible fiscal year 2020 expenditures. The transfers shall be reviewed and approved through traditional transfer approval processes by the Secretary of Administration. The Joint Fiscal Office shall provide a list of the COVID-19 expenditures funded by this appropriation and related documentation and transfers to other legislative departments to the Joint Legislative Management Committee, the Joint Fiscal Committee, and the Commissioner of Finance and Management on or before July 30, 2020.

(2) Legislature: \$750,000 is appropriated to the Legislature for costs incurred beyond the budgeted 18-week legislative session in fiscal year 2020 due to the response to the Coronavirus pandemic, which includes delays and an extension to legislative work necessitated in the transition to remote or partially remote work for the Legislature.

(3) Agency of Natural Resources: \$2,000,000 is appropriated to the Agency of Natural Resources to be transferred to the Agency's departments as needed to support sanitation efforts at public facilities.

(4) The Vermont State Colleges (VSC): \$12,515,500 is granted to the Vermont State Colleges. \$5,117,792 to cover the cost of rooms and meals refunds provided to students due to campus closures during the spring 2020

semester due to the Coronavirus pandemic. The remaining amount is for other expenses incurred or anticipated to be incurred by June 30, 2020 for COVID-19 response, including distance learning, equipment and supplies, facilities alterations, and staff or contractual costs related to the response.

(5) The University of Vermont (UVM): \$8,691,500 is granted to the University of Vermont. \$5,016,300 to cover the cost of rooms and parking refunds provided to students due to campus closure during the spring 2020 semester due to the Coronavirus pandemic. The remaining amount is for other expenses incurred or anticipated to be incurred by June 30, 2020 for COVID-19 response, including distance learning, equipment and supplies, facilities alterations and staff or contractual costs related to the response.

(6) The Vermont Student Assistance Corporation (VSAC): \$5,100,000 is granted to the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation for increased tuition grants to students as a result of reduced household income in the 2020 calendar year as well as increased demand for skills enhancement grants due to the economic impacts of the Coronavirus pandemic.

(7) The Agency of Human Services (AHS) for Emergency Medical/Ambulance Services: \$3,000,000 is appropriated to AHS for Emergency Medical/Ambulance Services costs and financial assistance during the pandemic allocated as follows:

(A) \$900,000 for the necessary training and support of EMTs including volunteers and paramedic education, these funds may be transferred to the Department of Health for disbursement as necessary.

(B) \$100,000 for AHS in coordination with the Department of Financial Regulation (DFR) to engage through sole source contract one or more financial consultants to assist EMS service providers with applications needed for federal provider relief funds related to coronavirus funding; state prospective payments related to coronavirus through the Agency of Human Services and the Department of Vermont Health Access; and other grant funding that may be available in response to the pandemic.

(C) \$2,000,000, of which five percent shall be reserved for extraordinary financial relief to State EMS providers upon demonstrated need and the remainder of which may be used to make EMS provider stabilization grants in a manner determined by AHS that recognizes the need for administrative simplicity and EMS provider organization size.

(8) Department of Corrections: \$600,000 is appropriated to the Department of Corrections for support of necessary changes in community supervision and community programming resulting from COVID-19 impacts. This may include transfers or grant funding to diversion or community justice programs to maintain these programs to meet increased demand following reduced judicial operations due to the pandemic.

(9) State's Attorneys: \$818,000 is appropriated to the Department of State's Attorneys for costs incurred or anticipated to be incurred by June 30, 2020 in response to the pandemic.

(10) Defender General: \$419,000 is appropriated to the Defender General for costs incurred or anticipated to be incurred by June 30, 2020 in response to the pandemic.

(11) Vermont Center for Crime Victims Services: \$275,000 is appropriated to Center for Crime Victims Services for costs incurred or anticipated to be incurred by June 30, 2020 in response to the pandemic.

(12) Judiciary: \$4,910,500 is appropriated to the Judiciary for costs directly related to impacts from the pandemic. These funds enable Judicial operations to resume in a safe manner, including the support of remote operations, expenditures for hazard pay for public-facing staff, and expenditures to expediently address the backlog of cases resulting from reduced Judicial operations during the pandemic.

(A) The establishment of sixteen (16) exempt full-time limited service positions is authorized, as needed. Given the time frame faced in establishing the pandemic response work, use of temporary positions or contracts may be utilized as an alternative to filling new limited service positions.

Sec. 37. FULL COST ACCOUNTING OF CORONAVIRUS PERSONAL
SERVICE EXPENSES

(a) The State Treasurer shall make a determination of the impact on State Retirement System actuarial obligations of any personnel expenses, hazard pay, overtime, or other personal services costs that are incurred through December 30, 2020 due to the Coronavirus Pandemic. Upon approval of the Secretary of Administration, said amount shall be appropriated and transferred from the Coronavirus Relief Fund to the State Retirement System in fiscal years 2020 or 2021. The State Treasurer shall report the amount transferred under this authority to the Joint Fiscal Committee and the Commissioner of Finance and Management.

Sec. 38. EFFECTIVE DATE

(a) This act shall take effect on passage.