




STATE OF VERMONT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

MEMORANDUM

To: Representative Stevens, Chair, House General, Housing & Military Affairs

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

Date: January 15, 2019

Subject: Provisions in the Governor's Proposed FY 2019 Budget Adjustment

The House Appropriations Committee has started work on the FY 2019 Governor's proposed budget adjustment and would like to inform you about proposals related to appropriations from the Weatherization program. In addition, there is language related to the Vermont National Guard Tuition Benefit Program.

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 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. If you would like to respond, it would be helpful if you could do so by the end of the day on Tuesday, January 22, 2019.

The House Appropriations Committee budget reporters are listed by subject area on the attached key or can be found on the Committees webpage under the highlights section. In addition, if you have not already informed Theresa of who your committee liaison/s are for the Budgets, please do so soon to allow for good communications and coordination between the committees. Please let us know if you have questions about the enclosed documents or the information in the following page/s.

Numbers Sections:

B.326 – Weatherization - Backfill of Medicaid funding with General Funds.

Note: this section has also been sent to the House Committee on Human Services.

B.342 – Vermont Veteran’s Home - Statewide net-neutral funding of state matching funds for the increased claimable Medicaid Nursing Home rate.

Language Sections:

Sec. 14. Sec. 14. 16 V.S.A. § 2857 is amended to read:

§ 2857. VERMONT NATIONAL GUARD TUITION BENEFIT PROGRAM

* * *

(c) Eligibility. To be eligible for the Program, an individual, whether a resident or nonresident, shall satisfy all of the following requirements:

* * *

(6) have ~~exhausted any~~ used available post-September 11, 2001 tuition benefits and other federally funded military tuition assistance; provided, however, that this subdivision shall not apply to:

(A) tuition benefits and other federally funded military tuition assistance for which the individual has not yet earned the full amount of the benefit or tuition;

(B) Montgomery GI Bill benefits;

(C) post-September 11, 2001 educational program housing allowances; 14

(D) federal educational entitlements;

(E) National Guard scholarship grant;

(F) loans under section 2856 of this title; and

(G) other nontuition benefits; and

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EXPLANATION: The VERMONT NATIONAL GUARD TUITION BENEFIT PROGRAM was included in the last budget and was designed as a last dollar program to be used after available federal funds have been used. However, certain federal funding programs are also last

dollar programs, so it became unclear how this State program would work with these federal programs. Therefore, the attached language modifies the language adopted in the last budget to permit State funds to be used where the federal benefit is not yet fully vested.

Thank you for your review and consideration.

