

House Health Care Budget Language Recommend – 5/13/2019

Issue	House	Senate	HHC Recommend
SASH Funding		Sec B 1101: One Time Appropriations (16) To the Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living: \$750,000.	Agree
Electronic Medical Records DA/SSA	Sec C.100 2019 One Time Appropriations (5) To the Agency of Human Services: \$1,500,000 to fund grants for the development of an electronic medical/health records system for the State’s 14 Designated Agency system. (A) The Joint Fiscal Office shall provide a preliminary review and assessment of the proposed project to the Joint Fiscal Committee at its July 2019 meeting and a final report at its September 2019 meeting; (B) The Agency of Human Services and the Designated Agencies shall present a proposal for approval to the Joint Fiscal Committee at its September 2019 meeting. The proposal shall summarize the development and implementation of the system and demonstrate that this project will meet requirements of the Centers for Medicaid Services (CMS) and support current payment reform	Sec C.100 2019 One Time Appropriations (4) To the Agency of Human Services: \$2,000,000 to fund grants for the development of an electronic medical/health records system for the State’s Designated Agency system. (A) Vermont Care Partners and the Agency of Human Services shall present a plan for review and approval by the Joint Fiscal Committee at its July 2019 meeting. The plan shall summarize the development and implementation of the system and demonstrate that this project will support the goals set forth in the State-wide Health Information Technology (HIT) Plan (defined in 18 V.S.A. § 9351) and meet, at a minimum, the connectivity requirements set forth in the State-wide HIT plan and the requirements of the Centers for Medicaid Services (CMS). The plan shall support current payment reform initiatives and include the projected project timeline and total budget including the allocation of this appropriation. No funds shall be released prior to review and approval by the Joint Fiscal Committee.	Agree

	<p>initiatives. The proposal shall include the projected project timeline and total budget. The proposal shall include the proposed allocation of this appropriation and no funds shall be released prior to review and approval by the Joint Fiscal Committee.</p>		
<p>Specialized Housing Vouchers</p>		<p>Sec. E. 300.4 SPECIALIZED HOUSING VOUCHERS                  (a) The Secretary of Human Services shall convene a work group to include one representative from each of the Departments of Mental Health, Corrections, Children and Families, the Housing and Community Development within the Agency of Commerce and Community Development, the Vermont State Housing Authority, and the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board to develop a strategy to fully utilize available federal rental assistance funds for vulnerable populations in Vermont. This rental assistance, in the form of specialized and rapid rehousing vouchers, serves specialized, vulnerable populations including homeless families with children, homeless youth, chronically homeless individuals with mental illness, and families that have lost or are at risk of losing a child to State custody. The working group shall examine the following: (1) Whether existing expenditures on case management or other services for this vulnerable population could be utilized as match to draw federal specialized voucher funds and; (2) Vermont’s current allocation of housing</p>	<p>Agree with need for work group. We understand conference committee discussing language; we request the change to reference House Health Care Committee and add House Human Services in committees receiving report.</p>

		assistance funds to ensure that Vermont maximizes the ability of the State to draw federal voucher funds. (b) On or before January 15, 2020, the Secretary of Human Services shall report the findings of the work group to the House committees on Appropriations, on Health and Welfare and on General, Housing and Military affairs and the Senate Committees on Appropriations, on Health and Welfare, and on Economic Development, Housing, and General Affairs.	
Wholesale Drug Importation	No language	Sec E300.6 Wholesale Drug Importation – extends deadline and outlines process	Agree
Substance Use Disorder and Mental Health Workforce Development	Sec. E.301.2 REPORT; SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER AND MENTAL HEALTH WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT (a) On or before August 1, 2019, the Agency of Human Services, in consultation with community providers of substance use disorder and mental health services, shall submit a framework for distributing workforce development funds appropriated pursuant to 2018 (Sp. Sess.) Acts and Resolves No. 11, Sec. C.106.1. The framework shall be submitted to the Health Reform Oversight Committee and shall include tuition assistance and loan repayment for masters level clinicians with a MSW, MA, or MS; bachelors	Sec. E.301.2 MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER WORKFORCE; (a) The \$1,500,000 allocated to the Agency of Human Services for fiscal year 2019 pursuant to 2018 (Sp. Sess.) Acts and Resolves No. 11, Sec. C.106.1(b)(2) shall be carried forward to fiscal year 2020 and be used for loan repayment and tuition assistance to promote the recruitment and retention of high-quality providers of mental health and substance use disorder treatment services in Vermont. The funds shall be made available to Vermont residents, and to residents of other states enrolled in Vermont educational institutions, based on a three-year commitment to provide mental health services or substance use disorder treatment services, or both, in Vermont, for the following uses: (1) loan repayment for masters-level clinicians, bachelor’s-level direct service staff, and nurses; and (2) tuition assistance for individuals pursuing degrees to become masters-level clinicians, bachelor’s level direct	Agree with proposed changes: Change “provide mental health services or substance use disorder treatment” to say “full-time employment at a designated or specialized service agency.” We want the House budget language directing money to DA/SSA returned to the Senate language.

	level direct service staff; and nurses. Any tuition assistance and loan repayment provided using funds appropriated pursuant to 2018 (Sp. Sess.) Acts and Resolves No. 11, Sec. C.106.1 shall require a <u>three-year commitment to full-time employment at a designated or specialized service agency.</u>	service staff, and nurses. (b) <u>The Agency may contract with Area Health Education Centers or the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation or both to administer these programs.</u> (c) The fiscal year 2020 appropriation pursuant to 2018 (Sp. Sess.) Acts and Resolves No. 11, Sec. C.106.1(b)(2) shall be reserved to be addressed in the fiscal year 2020 budget adjustment or fiscal year 2021 budget processes.	
Immunization	No language	Sec. E.312.1 REPORT; PROMOTION OF IMMUNIZATION (a) On or before July 1, 2019, the Commissioner of Health shall submit a report to the House Committee on Health Care and to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare summarizing the Department’s efforts to promote immunization in Vermont in accordance with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s recommendations. The report shall specifically address: (1) existing efforts by the Department to promote immunization in Vermont, as well as the funding source and annual funding amount used for each effort; and (2) the availability of additional federal funds to enhance Vermont’s efforts to promote immunizations.	No Comment
DMH CRT	No language	Sec. E.314 ENHANCED CRT; SUPPORTED HOUSING (a) \$1,560,800 of the funds provided to the Department of Mental Health shall be utilized to create up to 12 supported housing arrangements for CRT individuals whose acuity and particular needs have been prohibitive to community re-entry. The intent of this funding is	Agree

		reduced inpatient use by individuals who have limited discharge options.	
Success Beyond Six	No language	Sec. E.314.1 SUCCESS BEYOND SIX; REVIEW (a) The Success Beyond Six program is based on agreements between the Designated Agencies and local schools, supervisory unions, or districts. The Agency of Human Services currently does not play a role in negotiating the contracts, however the overall program spending is part of the Medicaid program and impacts overall Medicaid spending and the budget neutrality cap. (b) Given the limited room in the Global Commitment Medicaid budget neutrality cap, the Agency of Human Services (AHS) and Department of Mental Health ( DMH) shall assess and determine how to evaluate Success Beyond Six program spending against other competing priorities in the Medicaid program,. (c) AHS/DMH shall report to the General Assembly on Success Beyond Six evaluation and oversight no later than January 15, 2020. The report shall include: (1) Analysis of the trend in school based mental health programming that is funded through the Success Beyond Six program fiscal mechanism; (2) Evaluation of the program attributes; (3) Determination, in partnership with the with the Designated Agencies, of metrics for evaluating program outcomes; and (4) Determination of how AHS/DMH should participate in Success Beyond Six spending decisions.	<p>We strongly support this addition because of the impact of Success Beyond Six on Medicaid Global Commitment/Investment Caps. The testimony we took this year on this program supports the need for this analysis.</p> <p>Add language directing report to come to House Health Care committee.</p>
1 CONSOLIDATION OF COMMUNITY-BASED 2	Sec. E.100.1 CONSOLIDATION OF COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS; REPORT (a)	No language	No Comment

<p>ORGANIZATIONS; REPORT</p>	<p>The Secretary of Administration shall assess the administrative functions of community-based organizations in this State with which the State of Vermont contracts to serve Vermonters, including, but not limited to, the area agencies on aging, community action agencies, parent-child centers, <u>designated agencies, specialized services agencies</u>, regional planning commissions, and regional economic development corporations. The Secretary shall determine whether consolidating the administrative functions of these community-based organizations would yield savings and shall consider how any such savings could be shared between the organizations and the State. The evaluation shall consider integrating and consolidating administrative functions both among community organizations serving similar clients across the State and among community organizations that serve different populations in the same geographic region. Savings may be achieved by revising State contracts to require</p>		
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	<p>consolidated administrative functions in full or in part. (b) In conducting the analysis required by this section, the Secretary shall have the assistance of the Department of Finance and Management and any other agency that may be required. (c) On or before January 15, 2020, the Secretary shall report to the General Assembly on his or her findings and recommendations on the effects of and potential savings from consolidating the administrative functions of various community-based organizations in Vermont.</p>		
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