

(8) To the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets: \$50,000 for mosquito control.

(9) To the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets: \$50,000 for Farm to School nutrition initiatives.

(10) To the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation: \$100,000 for supplemental funding for the Vermont Outdoor Recreation Economic Collaborative grants awarded in fiscal year 2020.

(11) To the Vermont State Colleges: \$200,000 for Vermont Technical College to design and pilot a minimum of three Associates Degree Programs to be delivered at a minimum of three technical centers in Vermont. Year one of the Associates Degree is to be concurrent with a student's senior year of high school, so that the Associates Degree can be earned the subsequent year. Design work includes seeking appropriate approvals from accreditors.

(12) To the Department for Children and Families: \$1,000,000 to the Child Development Division to begin implementation of the plan established pursuant to Sec. E.318.4 of this act regarding information systems.

(13) To the Department of Children and Families: \$350,000 to the Child Development Division for the following:

(A) \$50,000 to facilitate the implementation of the Council for Professional Regulation's Child Development Associate Credential curriculum in technical centers throughout the State. Any unused funds appropriated pursuant to this section shall be reserved to fund grants set forth in 33 V.S.A. § 3516 for students who completed the Child Development Associate Credential at a Vermont technical center.

(B) \$300,000 for grants for incentivizing child care professionals consistent with 33 V.S.A. § 3516.

(14) To the Department for Children and Families, Woodside Rehabilitation Center: \$200,000 for costs associated with transitioning from a treatment facility to a detention facility.

(15) To the Department of Health, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs: \$200,000 for a pilot program to provide transportation services to support and recovery and treatment programs for clients who are opioid addicted. The Department shall establish participation requirements for clients who are eligible for transportation services under this pilot.

(16) To the Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living: \$750,000. These funds shall be matched with federal Medicaid funds and expended in equal amounts over fiscal years 2020 through 2022. In each year these funds shall be for the statewide administration of the Support and Services at Home (SASH) program. The intent is for this portion of statewide

(24) To the Vermont Council on the Arts: \$5,000 to provide matching funds from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Sec. B.1102 [Deleted.]

Sec. B.1103 [Deleted.]

Sec. C.100 FISCAL YEAR 2019 ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS

(a) In fiscal year 2019, funds are appropriated from the General Fund as follows:

(1) To the Agency of Digital Services: \$500,000 of which \$200,000 is allocated for network device upgrades to enhance network safety and \$300,000 is allocated for a network assessment.

(2) To the Department of Buildings and General Services: \$500,000 for the purpose of installing electric vehicle charging stations at State facilities and to support the purchase of fully electric vehicles for the State motor pool.

(3) To the Department for Children and Families: \$500,000 to fund LIHEAP administration for one year as the Department transitions to lower cost methods for administering this program. The Department shall evaluate the allocation methodology of the program and whether it is being administered efficiently.

(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.

(5) To the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board: \$500,000 for acquisition of land that is of Statewide importance.

(6) To the Department of Labor: \$70,000 to design a coordinated plan for an integrated postsecondary career and technical education system and to provide services and support for New Americans pursuant to requirements enacted during the 2019 legislative session.

(i) The Joint Fiscal Office is authorized to enter into a direct contract with the University of Vermont in lieu of a bid process. In the event that such a contract takes place, the payments shall be made in intervals of: twenty-five percent(25%) upon signing; thirty percent (30%) to be paid after approval of a final work plan by the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, the House Committee on Human Services, and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare Committee; thirty percent (30%) on agreed upon mid-contract term project status report or presentation; and fifteen percent (15%) upon report completion and presentation to the Legislature on or before January 30, 2020.

(ii) The Agency of Human Services and the Department for Children and Families shall execute memoranda and provide data in a timely fashion and in a manner consistent with any federal requirements as needed for this research project.

(B) \$25,000 to be reserved to fund contracted services a direct contract with the Council of State Governments Justice Center for research and findings related to:

(i) Vermont's population of incarcerated women, including the types of offenses for which this population is incarcerated and alternatives to incarceration available to this population to assist the State in its planning for correctional facilities; and

(ii) 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.

* * *

Sec. D.100 APPROPRIATIONS; PROPERTY TRANSFER TAX

(a) This act contains the following amounts appropriated from special funds that receive revenue from the property transfer tax. Expenditures from these appropriations shall not exceed available revenues.

(1) The sum of \$518,000 is appropriated from the Current Use Administration Special Fund to the Department of Taxes for administration of the Use Tax Reimbursement Program. Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 9610(c), amounts above \$518,000 from the property transfer tax that are deposited into the Current Use Administration Special Fund shall be transferred into the General Fund.

(2) The sum of \$10,804,840 is appropriated from the Vermont Housing and Conservation Trust Fund to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB). Notwithstanding 10 V.S.A. § 312, amounts above \$10,804,840 from the property transfer tax and surcharge established by 32 V.S.A. § 9602a that

are deposited into the Vermont Housing and Conservation Trust Fund shall be transferred into the General Fund.

(A) The dedication of \$2,500,000 in revenue from the property transfer tax pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 9610(d) for the debt payments on the affordable housing bond (10 V.S.A. § 314) is to be offset by the reduction of \$1,500,000 in the appropriation to the VHCB and \$1,000,000 from the surcharge established by 32 V.S.A. § 9602a. The fiscal year 2020 appropriation of \$10,804,840 to VHCB reflects the \$1,500,000 reduction. The affordable housing bond and related property transfer tax and surcharge provisions are repealed after the life of the bond on July 1, 2039. Once the bond is retired, the \$1,500,000 reduction in the appropriation to VHCB is intended to be restored.

(3) The sum of \$3,760,599 is appropriated from the Municipal and Regional Planning Fund. Notwithstanding 24 V.S.A. § 4306(a), amounts above \$3,760,599 from the property transfer tax that are deposited into the Municipal and Regional Planning Fund shall be transferred into the General Fund. The \$3,760,599 shall be allocated as follows:

(A) \$2,924,417 for disbursement to regional planning commissions in a manner consistent with 24 V.S.A. § 4306(b);

(B) \$457,482 for disbursement to municipalities in a manner consistent with 24 V.S.A. § 4306(b);

(C) \$378,700 to the Agency of Digital Services for the Vermont Center for Geographic Information established in 10 V.S.A. § 122.

Sec. D.101 FUND TRANSFERS AND REVERSIONS

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the following amounts are transferred from the funds indicated:

(1) From the Clean Water Fund established by 10 V.S.A. § 1388 to the following:

(A) Agricultural Water Quality Special Fund created under 6 V.S.A. § 4803: \$1,845,000.

(B) Lake in Crisis Response Program Fund created under 10 V.S.A. § 1315: \$50,000.

(2) From the Transportation Fund to the Downtown Transportation and Related Capital Improvement Fund established by 24 V.S.A. § 2796 to be used by the Vermont Downtown Development Board for the purposes of the Fund: \$423,966.

(3) From the Transportation Infrastructure Bond Fund established by 19 V.S.A. § 11f to the Transportation Infrastructure Bonds Debt Service Fund

Clerk, Senate Secretary, and Sergeant at Arms;

(F) supervisors and employees of every staff office as the Committee deems appropriate;

(G) members of the General Assembly as the Committee deems appropriate; and

(H) any other person the Committee deems appropriate.

(b) Report. On or before December 15, 2019, the Committee shall submit to the General Assembly a written report setting forth detailed recommendations concerning the most appropriate organization, structure, and oversight of the staff and staff offices of the General Assembly.

(c) The report shall contain draft statutory language and draft budgetary changes necessary to implement the recommendations set forth in the Committee's report.

(d) Assistance. In carrying out the duties set forth in this section, the Committee shall have the assistance and support of the Joint Fiscal Office, the Office of Legislative Council, and the Sergeant at Arms.

Sec. E.126.2 LEGISLATIVE BRANCH POSITIONS

(a) Legislature: The establishment of two (2) new permanent exempt Legislative Staff positions are authorized within the legislature in fiscal year 2020. The position titles will be determined by the Joint Legislative Management Committee.

(b) Joint Fiscal Office: The establishment of one (1) new permanent exempt Administrative Research Assistant position is authorized within the legislative Joint Fiscal Office in fiscal year 2020.

Sec. E.126.3 JOINT LEGISLATIVE JUSTICE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE; 2019 LEGISLATIVE INTERIM

(a) During the 2019 legislative interim, the Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee shall consider the following criminal justice reform strategies as part of an effort which will be called Justice Reinvestment II. These policies should be pursued in order to create a smarter criminal justice system that prevents avoidable incarceration, returns people to communities without risking public safety, and reduces or eliminates the need for out-of-state prison placements or new prison bed capacity in Vermont:

(1) furlough reform, including the possible elimination of furlough;

(2) management of the detainee population;

(3) sentencing reforms, including the possible elimination of weekend and nighttime sentences, and the elimination of work crew in favor of restorative justice;

(4) expansion of restorative justice and diversion programs;

(5) establishment of new transitional housing facilities to reintegrate offenders into the community;

(6) establishment of new treatment-centered facilities as an alternative to incarceration for certain drug and DUI offenses;

(7) parole reform, including presumptive parole; and

(8) the release of non-violent women offenders for whom community-based treatment and services would be more appropriate.

(b) The Committee should utilize the expertise of the Justice Center of the Council on State Governments to the maximum extent possible, and shall report any recommendations in the form of proposed legislation to the General Assembly on or before December 15, 2019.

Sec. E.127 2 V.S.A. § 501(a) is amended to read:

(a) There is created a Joint Fiscal Committee whose membership shall be appointed ~~at the beginning~~ on or before January 15 of each biennial session of the General Assembly. The Committee shall consist of five Representatives and five Senators as follows:

* * *

Sec. E.127.1 2 V.S.A. § 503 is amended to read:

§ 503. FUNCTIONS

* * *

(b) The Joint Fiscal Committee shall:

(1) furnish research services and secretarial services of a fiscal nature to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, the Senate Committee on Finance, the House Committee on Ways and Means, the House and Senate Committees on Transportation, and the Joint Fiscal Committee;

(2) carry on a continuing review of the fiscal operations of the State, including revenues, budgeting, and expenditures;

(3) accept grants and approve any related limited service positions, gifts, loans, or any other thing of value, approved by the Governor, under the provisions of 32 V.S.A. § 5, when the General Assembly is not in session; and

* * *

Sec. E.127.2 32 V.S.A. § 5 is amended to read:

PILOT Special Fund under 32 V.S.A. § 3709.

Sec. E.144 Payments in lieu of taxes – correctional facilities

(a) Payments in lieu of taxes under this section shall be paid from the PILOT Special Fund under 32 V.S.A. § 3709.

* * * PROTECTION TO PERSONS AND PROPERTY * * *

Sec. E.200 Attorney general

(a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the Office of the Attorney General, Medicaid Fraud and Residential Abuse Unit, is authorized to retain, subject to appropriation, one-half of the State share of any recoveries from Medicaid fraud settlements, excluding interest, that exceed the State share of restitution to the Medicaid Program. All such designated additional recoveries retained shall be used to finance Medicaid Fraud and Residential Abuse Unit activities.

(b) Of the revenue available to the Attorney General under 9 V.S.A. § 2458(b)(4), \$1,390,500 is appropriated in Sec. B.200 of this act.

Sec. E.204 RUTLAND ADULT TREATMENT COURT DOCKET;
FUNDING

(a) In the event the Rutland Adult Treatment Court program does not achieve an average minimum of 20 participants per month during the months of July-December of 2019, General Fund funding of the program shall cease effective January 1, 2020.

Sec. E.208 Public safety – administration

(a) The Commissioner of Public Safety is authorized to enter into a performance-based contract with the Essex County Sheriff's Department to provide law enforcement service activities agreed upon by both the Commissioner of Public Safety and the Sheriff.

Sec. E.208.1 SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM;
ADDISON-RUTLAND SUPERVISORY UNION

(a) The Department of Public Safety shall use \$82,000 of the amount appropriated in Sec. 13 of the fiscal year 2020 Capital Construction and State Bonding Act for the School Safety and Security Grant Program to reimburse capital eligible expenses paid by the Addison-Rutland Supervisory Union to implement safety and security measures at schools within the district.

Sec. E.209 Public safety – state police

(a) Of this appropriation, \$35,000 in special funds shall be available for snowmobile law enforcement activities and \$35,000 in general funds shall be available to the Southern Vermont Wilderness Search and Rescue Team, which comprises State Police, the Department of Fish and Wildlife, county sheriffs,

(4) stakeholder engagement including how their feedback was incorporated into the plan;

(5) a description of how the model works in relation to value-based payment and sustainability of the system and its workforce;

(6) how the model covers the costs of high needs individuals;

(7) the continuation of person-centered care planning and services;

(8) maintaining choice of provider, service management, and service options; and

(9) how it will hold providers accountable for service expenditures and individual recipient outcomes.

Sec. E.335 CORRECTIONS APPROPRIATIONS; TRANSFER; REPORT

(a) In fiscal year 2020, the Secretary of Administration may, upon recommendation of the Secretary of Human Services, transfer unexpended funds between the respective appropriations for correctional services and for correctional services out-of-state beds. At least three days prior to any such transfer being made, the Secretary of Administration shall report the intended transfer to the Joint Fiscal Office and shall report any completed transfers to the Joint Fiscal Committee at its next scheduled meeting.

Sec. E.335.1 JUSTICE REINVESTMENT ALLOCATIONS

(a) In fiscal year 2020 and each fiscal year thereafter the Department of Corrections shall redirect any budgetary savings in contracted services or caseload reductions in any area of corrections services, out-of-state bed need, as well as any savings to the following justice reinvestment priorities:

(1) court diversion, community justice programs and nonincarcerative treatment options for those suffering from either mental health or addiction problems.

(2) community organizations that develop transitional or long-term housing for offenders re-entering the community.

(3) programs operated by the Department or partner organizations serving re-entering offenders regarding employment, reliable transportation, education or vocational training, substance use disorder recovery, peer support, and housing.

Sec. E.335.2 COMMUNITY WORK CREW PROGRAM RESTRUCTURE

(a) On or before October 15, 2019, the Department of Corrections shall report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Judiciary regarding whether the Department should contract with local community justice programs to oversee the work crew sentence requirements

of any individual with work crew obligations under the Department's supervision. The report shall consider the cost and public safety implications, as well as any anticipated effect on recidivism rates, of any such contractual approach to work crew supervision. This report is timely for the General Assembly because of the relatively small number of offenders with work crew obligations, the significant number of Department staff currently tasked with work crew oversight, and the opportunity to better partner with state-supported community and restorative justice programs.

Sec. E.338 Corrections - correctional services

(a) Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 3709(a), the special funds appropriation of \$152,000 for the supplemental facility payments to Newport and Springfield shall be paid from the PILOT Special Fund under 32 V.S.A. § 3709.

(b) The Department shall allocate \$20,000 of community program funding to the Caring Dads program in fiscal year 2020.

Sec. E.338.1 28 V.S.A. § 801 is amended to read:

§ 801. MEDICAL CARE OF INMATES

* * *

(e)(1) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, an inmate who is admitted to a correctional facility while under the medical care of a licensed physician, a licensed physician assistant, or a licensed advanced practice registered nurse and who is taking medication at the time of admission pursuant to a valid prescription as verified by the inmate's pharmacy of record, primary care provider, other licensed care provider, or as verified by the Vermont Prescription Monitoring System or other prescription monitoring or information system, including buprenorphine, methadone, or other medication prescribed in the course of medication-assisted treatment, shall be entitled to continue that medication and to be provided that medication by the Department pending an evaluation by a licensed physician, a licensed physician assistant, or a licensed advanced practice registered nurse.

(2)(A) Notwithstanding subdivision (1) of this subsection, the Department may defer provision of a validly prescribed medication in accordance with this subsection if, in the clinical judgment of a licensed physician, a physician assistant, or an advanced practice registered nurse, it is not medically necessary to continue the medication at that time.

(B) Notwithstanding subdivision (1) of this subsection, an inmate taking medication prescribed in the course of medication-assisted treatment shall attend the counseling and behavioral therapy components of medication-assisted treatment.

* * *

Sec. E.338.2 28 V.S.A. § 801b is amended to read:

§ 801b. MEDICATION-ASSISTED TREATMENT IN CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

(a) If an inmate receiving medication-assisted treatment prior to entering the correctional facility continues to receive medication prescribed in the course of medication-assisted treatment pursuant to section 801 of this title, the inmate shall be authorized to receive that medication for as long as medically necessary. The inmate shall attend the counseling and behavioral therapy components of medication-assisted treatment.

(b)(1) If at any time an inmate screens positive as having an opioid use disorder, the inmate may elect to commence buprenorphine-specific medication-assisted treatment if it is deemed medically necessary by a provider authorized to prescribe buprenorphine. The inmate shall be authorized to receive the medication as soon as possible and for as long as medically necessary. The inmate shall attend the counseling and behavioral therapy components of medication-assisted treatment.

(2) Nothing in this subsection shall prevent an inmate who commences medication-assisted treatment while in a correctional facility from transferring from buprenorphine to methadone if:

(A) methadone is deemed medically necessary by a provider authorized to prescribe methadone; and

(B) the inmate elects to commence methadone as recommended by a provider authorized to prescribe methadone.

(c) The licensed practitioner who makes the clinical judgment to discontinue a medication shall cause the reason for the discontinuance to be entered into the inmate's medical record, specifically stating the reason for the discontinuance. The inmate shall be provided, both orally and in writing, with a specific explanation of the decision to discontinue the medication and with notice of the right to have his or her community-based prescriber notified of the decision. If the inmate provides signed authorization, the Department shall notify the community-based prescriber in writing of the decision to discontinue the medication.

(d)(1) As part of reentry planning, the Department shall commence medication-assisted treatment prior to an inmate's release if:

(A) the inmate screens positive for an opioid use disorder;

(B) medication-assisted treatment is medically necessary; and

(C) the inmate elects to commence medication-assisted treatment;
and

(D) the inmate agrees to attend the counseling and behavioral therapy components of medication-assisted treatment.

(2) If medication-assisted treatment is indicated and despite best efforts induction is not possible prior to release, the Department shall ensure comprehensive care coordination with a community-based provider.

(e) ~~Any counseling or~~ Counseling and behavioral therapies shall be provided in conjunction with the use of medication for all medication-assisted treatment ~~shall be medically necessary.~~

Sec. E.338.3 CORRECTIONS HEALTH CARE; REPORTS

(a) On or before November 15, 2019, the Department of Corrections shall provide an interim report to the Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee regarding:

(1) the Department's current and planned future efforts, in consultation with the Agency of Human Services and the other departments in the Agency, to integrate health care services delivered in correctional facilities with Vermont's broader health care reform initiatives;

(2) the Department's implementation of the requirement pursuant to Secs. E.338.1 and E.338.2 of this act that counseling and behavioral therapy services be provided as an essential element of medication-assisted treatment provided in correctional, as well as community, settings; and

(3) the Department's current and planned future efforts to increase the use of local health care professionals and hospitals and to reduce its reliance on traveling nurses and other temporary providers.

(b) On or before January 15, 2020, the Department shall provide a final report on the topics described in subdivisions (a)(1)-(3) of this section to the House Committees on Appropriations, on Corrections and Institutions, on Health Care, and on Human Services and the Senate Committees on Appropriations, on Health and Welfare, on Institutions, and on Judiciary.

Sec. E.338.4 2014 Acts and Resolves No. 131, Sec. 135, as amended by 2015 Acts and Resolves No. 4, Sec. 71 and 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 85, Sec. E.338.2 and 2018 Acts and Resolves No.87, Sec. 51, is further amended to read:

Sec. 135. EFFECTIVE DATES

~~This act shall take effect on passage, except that Secs. 118a and 118b (amending 18 V.S.A. § 4808 and adding 18 V.S.A. § 4809) shall take effect on July 1, 2021. [Repealed.]~~

Sec. E.342 20 V.S.A. § 1716 is amended to read:

§ 1716. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

* * *

~~(11) Report annually on or before July 1 to the Secretary of Administration and the Senate Committee on Appropriations on the number of employees who work at the Vermont Veterans' Home for 16 hours or fewer per week. [Repealed.]~~

Sec. E.342.1 VERMONT VETERANS' HOME SAFETY AND ACCESS CONTROL UPGRADES

(a) The Vermont Veterans' Home is authorized to use \$918,750 as 35 percent State match for its VA grant to address safety and access control. \$140,049 shall be reserved for further use with the approval of the General Assembly.

Sec. E.342.2 VERMONT VETERANS' HOME; PRESCRIPTION SAVINGS

(a) The Vermont Veterans' Home shall develop a program to access lower-cost, safe prescription drugs through the U.S. Veterans Administration to meet the prescription drug needs of as many residents of the Veterans' Home as possible. Savings from the program compared to purchasing the same prescription drugs under the existing process shall be accounted for, and savings shall be reflected in Medicaid rates.

* * * LABOR * * *

Sec. E.400 LABOR PROGRAMS

(a) \$1,335,900 of the General Funds appropriated in Sec. B.400 of this act are workforce education and training funds formerly allocated through the Next Generation fund. Up to 10 percent of these funds may be allocated for administration and the remaining funds are allocated in fiscal year 2020 as follows:

(1) \$350,000 for infrastructure and grants for internships through the Vermont Internship Program pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 544.

(2) \$400,000 for Adult Career Technical Education Programs for the purpose of awarding grants to regional technical centers and high schools to provide adult career technical education as the term is defined in 16 V.S.A. § 1522. Each of the seventeen (17) regional Career Technical Education (CTE) Centers that provides Adult CTE programs shall be awarded a base grant of \$20,000. These grants may be used to support adult program staff or instructor salaries, scholarships for eligible adult CTE students, or curriculum development for adult CTE courses. The remaining \$60,000 is to support the

coordination and organization of the State's regional adult career technical education programs.

(3) \$100,000 to support the Vermont Returnship Program pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 545. The Department of Labor may award a performance grant to assist in the coordination, outreach, and implementation of the program.

(4) \$75,000 to support workforce education and training activities for Vermont inmates in the State's correctional facilities that are consistent with their re-entry plan. The Department may fund these activities directly or in coordination with the Department of Corrections, a local restorative justice center, a regional Career Technical Education Center, or other qualified training provider. Training opportunities funded with this allocation will be aligned with an identified employment need, and when possible, should result in an industry-recognized credential.

(5) \$277,310 to support of demand-driven trainings or programs aimed at meeting employment needs throughout the State. High-priority sectors include: health care, construction, manufacturing, transportation, hospitality, and business services. Grants may be awarded to training providers, businesses, or service providers who help out-of-school youth, veterans, dislocated workers, mature workers, individuals in recovery, or geographically isolated job seekers to overcome barriers to employment.

Sec. E.400.1 VERMONT YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

(a) On or before September 1, 2019 the Department of Labor shall design and begin implementation of the Vermont Youth Employment Program, the purpose of which shall be to provide paid work experiences and paid or unpaid internships for Vermont youth with individualized pre-employment, academic, occupational, and technical skill development supports available as needed. In coordination with existing federal youth education, training, and employment programs, the Vermont Youth Employment Program shall include:

(1) a summer youth employment program for individuals 15-24 years of age; and

(2) a non-seasonal youth employment program for out-of-school youth as defined in 20 CRF §681.210 or individuals 18-24 years of age who are not pursuing a post-secondary degree or credential.

(b) The Department shall implement the Program using funds from the State's Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act grant from the U.S. Department of Labor, and other State and federal sources, to the extent allowed under applicable law.

(c) The Department shall design the Program to serve approximately 150 individual Vermonters annually, and it shall be designed to support

(b) VSAC shall report on the program to the House Committees on Appropriations and on Commerce and Economic Development and to the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs on or before January 15, 2020.

* * * NATURAL RESOURCES * * *

Sec. E.700 24 V.S.A. § 4752 is amended to read:

§ 4752. DEFINITIONS

As used in this chapter:

* * *

(20) "Hardship municipality" means a municipality served by a municipally owned public community water system that:

(A) has a residential population of 250 or less;

(B) has an annual household user cost that exceeds \$1,000.00 or 1.5 percent of the median household income after construction of the water supply improvements project as determined by the Secretary; and

(C) requires improvements to address an imminent public health hazard or a substantial threat to public health as determined by the Secretary.

Sec. E.700.1 24 V.S.A. § 4769 is added to read:

§ 4769. LOANS TO HARDSHIP MUNICIPALITIES

(a) Waiver of bond vote. A hardship municipality may receive a loan for an eligible project that includes a loan subsidy of up to \$200,000.00 in the form of 100 percent principal forgiveness with no interest or administrative fee from funds authorized in 24 V.S.A § 4753(a)(3), subject to the availability of such loan subsidy. Notwithstanding the provisions of 24 V.S.A. § 4755(a)(3), the loan is not required to be evidenced by a municipal bond up to the amount to be forgiven.

(b) Waiver of reimbursement method required in statute. Notwithstanding the provisions of 24 V.S.A. § 4755(b), loan funds may be disbursed to a hardship municipality for its approved project upon receipt by the Department of eligible project invoices without prior payment by the municipality.

Sec. E.702 WATER QUALITY TREATMENT AND TESTING:
SALISBURY FISH HATCHERY

(a) The Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Department of Environmental Conservation shall review the water quality treatment and testing currently implemented at the Salisbury fish hatchery. On or before January 15, 2022, the Department of Environmental Conservation and the Department of Fish and Wildlife, where appropriate, shall modify the water quality treatment and testing requirements at the hatchery in order to bring the

hatchery into compliance with the Vermont water quality standards. The review conducted by the Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Department of Environmental Conservation shall include evaluation of:

- (1) modifications to the discharge point of compliance at the hatchery;
- (2) rate of discharge from the hatchery;
- (3) the placement of the discharge output for the hatchery;
- (4) potential discharge treatment systems designed to bring the hatchery into compliance with the Vermont water quality standards;
- (5) an evaluation of the appropriate monitoring and sampling protocols of the receiving State waters.

(b) Beginning on January 15, 2020, and annually thereafter until January 15, 2023, the Department of Fish and Wildlife, after consultation with the Department of Environmental Conservation, shall report to the House Committees on Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife, on Corrections and Institutions, on Appropriations, and on Ways and Means and the Senate Committees on Natural Resources and Energy, on Institutions, on Finance, and on Appropriations regarding implementation of the modifications resulting from the review required under subsection (a) of this section.

Sec. E.711 ENVIRONMENTAL CONTINGENCY FUND; BENNINGTON WATER LINE EXTENSION

(a) In fiscal year 2019, there is transferred \$2,500,000 from the General Fund from a settlement with multiple gasoline refiners related to contamination from the gasoline additive methyl tertiary-butyl ether to the Environmental Contingency Fund established pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 1283 for the purpose of extending municipal water to contaminated properties in the Town of Bennington.

Sec. E.711.1 BENNINGTON WATER LINE EXTENSION

(a) Waiver of bond vote. The Town of Bennington shall receive a loan for the Operational Unit C / Chapel Road Project in an amount of up to \$1,500,000 to receive loan subsidy in the form of 100 percent principal forgiveness with no interest or administrative fee from funds authorized in 24 V.S.A. § 4753(a)(3). Notwithstanding the provisions of 24 V.S.A. § 4755(a)(3), the loan is not required to be evidenced by a municipal bond.

(b) Waiving reimbursement method required in statute. Notwithstanding the provisions of 24 V.S.A. § 4755(b), loan funds may be disbursed to the Town of Bennington for Operational Unit C / Chapel Road Project upon receipt by the Agency of Natural Resources of eligible project invoices without prior payment by the Town.

(c) Cost recovery of loan funds. The loan provided pursuant to this section is to implement a remedial action approved by the Agency of Natural Resources and shall be recoverable from any person responsible for the release of a hazardous material in the same manner as funds spent pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 1283.

Sec. E.711.2 10 V.S.A. § 1283 is amended to read:

§ 1283. CONTINGENCY FUND

* * *

(b) Disbursements under this subsection may be made for emergency purposes or to respond to other than emergency situations; provided, however, that disbursements in response to an individual situation that is not an emergency situation shall not exceed \$100,000.00 for costs attributable to each of the subdivisions of this subsection, unless the Secretary has received the approval of the General Assembly, or the Joint Fiscal Committee, in case the General Assembly is not in session. Furthermore, the balance in the Fund shall not be drawn below the amount of \$100,000.00, except in emergency situations. If the balance of the Fund becomes insufficient to allow a proper response to one or more emergencies that have occurred, the Secretary shall appear before the Emergency Board, as soon as possible, and shall request that necessary funds be provided. Within these limitations, disbursements from the Fund may be made:

* * *

(6) to pay administrative and field supervision costs incurred by the Secretary or by a municipality at the direction of the Secretary in carrying out the provisions of this subchapter. Annual disbursements, for these costs, to the Department of Environmental Conservation under this subdivision shall not exceed ~~2.0~~ 2.5 percent of annual revenues;

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* * * TRANSPORTATION * * *

Sec. E.903 Transportation – program development

(a) Of the Transportation Funds appropriated in Sec. B.903 of this act, \$300,000 shall be allocated for an Electric Vehicle purchase or lease incentive program. This funding allocation in combination with the appropriation in Sec. C.100(b)(2) of this act provides a total funding amount of \$2,000,000 for an EV incentive program.

Sec. E.903.1 [Deleted.]

Sec. E.915 Transportation – town highway aid program

(a) This appropriation is authorized notwithstanding the provisions of