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Sec. X. LEGISLATIVE BRANCH; SPACE AND HEALTH AND SAFETY  
ASSESSMENT; CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND;  
APPROPRIATION

(a) Appropriation. The sum of up to \$100,000.00 is appropriated from the Coronavirus Relief Fund to the Sergeant at Arms in fiscal year 2021 for a short-term and long-term space and health and safety needs assessment for the Legislative Branch for COVID-19 mitigation and to meet social distancing requirements.

(b) Purpose. The General Assembly determines that the expenditure of monies from the Coronavirus Relief Fund as set forth in this section is necessary for addressing the health and safety of legislators, staff, and the public in the State House and other legislative space for the purpose of COVID-19 mitigation.

(c) Authorization. On or before July 10, 2020, the Sergeant at Arms, in consultation with the Department of Buildings and General Services, shall contract with an independent third party for a short-term and long-term space and health and safety needs assessment for the Legislative Branch for COVID-19 mitigation. The assessment shall include:

(1) recommendations for health and safety infrastructure measures needed to protect staff, legislators, and the public, mitigate COVID-19, and meet social distancing requirements in the State House, and any other Legislative Branch space;

Rebecca Wasserman  
Office of Legislative Council  
June 5, 2020

1           (2) short and long-term options for use of space or development of  
2           additional space in the Capitol Complex for legislators, committee meetings,  
3           and legislative staff offices, including 133 State Street; and

4           (3) short and long-term options for use of space for legislators,  
5           committee meetings, and legislative staff offices Statewide.

6           (d) Report. On or before August 19, 2020, the Sergeant at Arms shall  
7           submit the assessment described in subsection (a) of this section to the House  
8           Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committee on  
9           Institutions. The assessment shall include cost estimates for the  
10           recommendations and options described in subdivisions (a)(1)-(3).

11           (e) Contracting procedures. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the  
12           contrary, the Sergeant at Arms may enter into a contract with an independent  
13           third party for the assessment described in this section without the need to  
14           competitively bid such contracts. For the purposes of the assessment, the  
15           public health risk posed by COVID-19 shall be deemed to be an emergency  
16           situation that justifies the execution of sole source contracts pursuant to  
17           Bulletin 3.5, the State's Procurement and Contracting Procedures.