

**Side-by-side comparison as passed by House and Senate Appropriations proposal of amendment
H.965 – An act relating to health care- and human services-related appropriations from the Coronavirus Relief Fund**

	H.965 – As passed by House	H.965 – Senate Appropriations amendments
Purpose	Sec. 1 appropriates \$300,000,000 from CRF	Sec. 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriates \$326,850,000 from CRF • Costs not compensable if have been/will be covered by another source • Costs eligible for coverage by other federal funding sources not compensable unless authorized by Secretary of Administration
Consistency with CARES Act and guidance	Sec. 2: Legislative determination of consistency	Sec. 2: Same, plus reference to additional details in memo
Grant recipient requirements; reversion and reallocation	Sec. 3: Circumstances in flux; reversion if CRF monies not expended by December 20, 2020	Sec. 3: Same
CRF grant conditions	Sec. 4: Use CRF monies only for CARES Act purposes or liable for repayment	Sec. 4: Same
Recordkeeping and compliance	Sec. 5: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grantees must report to administering agencies and departments • Administering agencies and departments to report to Legislature by July 31 and September 1 	Sec. 5: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grantees must report to administering agencies and departments • Administering agencies and departments to report to Legislature by August 15 and October 1
Hazard pay for front-line employees	No similar provision	Sec. 6: Appropriates \$28 million to provide grants to certain public safety, public health, health care, and human services employers to provide hazard pay to their front-line workers for work performed between March 13, 2020 and May 15, 2020. Hazard pay amounts are either \$1,200 or \$2,000 per employee based on the number of hours worked.

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<p>Health Care Provider Stabilization Grant Program</p>	<p>Sec. 6:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriates \$250,5700,000 to AHS for grants to health care providers • Determination of necessity • List of eligible providers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires AHS to evaluate applicants based on need and ability to meet criteria, not on basis of provider’s size or proportion of health care spending in Vermont • Criteria for grant award/amount: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Applicant will use CRF grant to maintain or improve quality of health care services during COVID-19 ○ Applicant will use CRF grant to prepare for surges in COVID-19 cases ○ Applicant will use CRF grant for services that would otherwise become limited or unavailable and/or would enable applicant to stay in business ○ Applicant will use CRF grant to supplement patient financial assistance and/or keep taking Medicaid ○ Applicant can make appropriate and efficient use of CRF funds 	<p>Sec. 7:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriates \$275,000,000 to AHS for grants to health care providers • (Determination of necessity moved to memo) • Same eligible providers, plus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Adds EMS/ambulance and naturopaths to list of “other health care providers” and “licensed by Board of Medical Practice and [OPR]” after “other health care providers” ○ Adds to AHS-recognized organizations those providing peer outreach to individuals with intellectual disabilities and those providing children’s integrated services • • Directs AHS to seek to balance grant awards across provider types and across geographic regions of Vermont • Prioritization methodology; must consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Impact on applicant’s sustainability, not on applicant’s size or proportion of health care spending in Vermont ○ Degree to which CRF grant would go toward services that would otherwise become limited or unavailable and/or would enable applicant to stay in business ○ Degree to which applicant would use CRF grant to support patient financial assistance and/or keep taking Medicaid ○ Degree to which applicant maintains participation in value-based payment arrangements, if applicable

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notice and outreach about grants; minimize administrative burden of application process • At least \$5 million must go to nursing homes and at least \$8.5 million must go to SUD treatment programs, home health, DA/SSA programs for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and TBI • Updates by July 31 and September 1; final accounting by January 15, 2021 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Degree to which applicant can make appropriate and efficient use of CRF funds ○ Financial assistance received from other sources • Notice and outreach about grants; minimize administrative burden of application process • No specific or minimum grant amounts • Updates by August 15 and October 1; final accounting by January 15, 2021
Community health investments	Sec. 7: \$9 million to sustain population health management programs	No specific provision; included in Stabilization Grant Program prioritization as part of consideration of services that would otherwise become limited or unavailable and/or would enable applicant to stay in business
Addressing health disparities	<p>Sec. 8:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriates \$1 million for grants to community organizations for direct services to specific populations most likely to experience adverse outcomes from COVID-19 • Grantees must be selected based on prior demonstrated work with affected population, membership as part of affected population, and 	<p>Sec. 8:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directs Department of Health to use its ELC Enhanced Detection Grant as allowable for subgrants to community organizations to engage with specific populations most likely to experience outcomes from COVID-19 • Appropriates \$500,000 to assist subgrantees in meeting needs for food, shelter, health care, and emotional support not eligible under ELC grant • To extent feasible, subgrantees must be selected based on prior demonstrated work with affected population, membership as part of affected population, and ability to rapidly implement programming in response to COVID-19

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	<p>ability to rapidly implement programming in response to COVID-19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Department of Health must use grantees’ insights and recommendations and Governor’s Racial Equity Task Force recommendations to expand on work on health disparities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Department of Health must use grantees’ insights and recommendations and Governor’s Racial Equity Task Force recommendations to expand on work on health disparities By August 18, Department must report to Legislature on community subgrants awarded through ELC grant, other resources made available through May 11 JFC CRF allocation, and any recommendations for using additional CRF monies
Suicide prevention	<p>Sec. 9 appropriates \$800,000 to Department of Mental Health for suicide prevention initiatives</p>	<p>Sec. 9 does not appropriate funds; it notes Department of Mental Health’s pending SAMHSA grant application; if not successful, DMN must notify Legislature immediately and inform of any resources that can be made available for suicide prevention through May 11 JFC CRF allocation and/or recommendations for using additional CRF monies</p>
Peer warm line	<p>Sec. 10 appropriates \$200,000 for Pathways Vermont per warm line to run 24/7 through December 30, 2020, with outreach to health care providers and others</p>	<p>Sec. 10 – same (necessity determination moved to memo)</p>
Child care and supportive services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sec. 11 appropriates \$3.9 million for the Parent Child Center Network Sec. 12 appropriates \$9 million to DCF for additional restart grants to summer camps, afterschool programs, and child care providers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$3 million is for summer camps and afterschool programs \$6 million is for child care providers Sec. 13 appropriates \$100,000 to DCF to address immediate needs related to providing children’s integrated services 	<p>Sec. 14:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriates \$12 million to DCF for parent child centers; additional restart grants to summer camps, afterschool programs, and child care providers; and immediate needs related to providing children’s integrated services Directs DCF to determine allocation of funding and report it to Legislature by August 18

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Addressing food insecurity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sec. 14 appropriates \$50,000 for Junior League of Champlain Valley Diaper Bank for diapers and other infant supplies • Sec. 15 appropriates \$4.6 million for Vermont Foodbank • Sec. 16 appropriates \$12 million to Agency of Education for summer meals for children • Sec. 17 appropriates \$2 million for area agencies on aging for nutrition services for older Vermonters and other vulnerable populations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sec. 11 appropriates \$4.7 million for Vermont Foodbank, including diapers and other necessities • Sec. 12 appropriates \$12 million to Agency of Education for summer meals for children; requires report to Legislature by August 18, including any recommendations for using additional CRF monies • Sec. 13 does not appropriate funds; it requires DAIL to report to JFC by August 18 on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Adequacy of funding for nutrition services to older Vermonters and other vulnerable populations, including specific COVID-19 funding for nutrition services and Older Americans Act funds distributed to AAAs for nutrition services ○ Any funds made available for nutrition services older Vermonters and other vulnerable populations from May 11 JFC CRF allocation and ○ Any recommendations for using additional CRF monies for nutrition services
Adult day programs	Sec. 18 appropriates \$850,000 for sustainability payments to adult day programs	No similar provision; adult day programs are eligible for Health Care Provider Sustainability Grant Program
Supports for New Americans, refugees, immigrants	Sec. 19 appropriates \$700,000 for distribution in equal amounts to Association of Africans Living in Vermont and U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants’ Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program for COVID-19-related purposes	Sec. 16 – same (necessity determination moved to memo)
Grants to vulnerable populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sec. 20 appropriates \$50,000 for Green Mountain Self-Advocates for peer outreach services to persons with intellectual disabilities 	Sec. 15 appropriates \$2 million to AHS to distribute monies to be used for permissible household needs among households living below 300% FPL, who were

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sec. 21 appropriates \$300,000 to DCF for small supplemental Reach Up grants to families experiencing extraordinary financial hardship, to be used for eligible purposes 	made vulnerable by COVID-19, including families receiving Reach Up, older Vermonters, and individuals with disabilities
Recovery residences	Sec. 22 appropriates \$350,000 for distribution to recovery residences for residents’ rental assistance and to purchase cleaning supplies and personal protective equipment	No similar provision
COVID-19 health expenses on public lands	Sec. 23 appropriates \$3.5 million for ANR expenditures to implement COVID-19 public health precautions on ANR-owned or -controlled lands	Sec. 17 appropriates \$3 million for ANR expenditures to implement COVID-19 public health precautions on ANR-owned or controlled lands, of which \$120,000 goes to Vermont Youth Conservation Corps to provide youth with employment opportunities by working on the ANR projects
Legislative Branch; health and safety, COVID-19 mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sec. 24: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriates \$750,000 to Sergeant at Arms as follows: \$100,000 for a space and health and safety assessment for the Legislative Branch for COVID-19 mitigation and to meet social distancing requirements; \$150,000 for COVID-mitigation equipment or upgrades to the State House, including PPE; and \$500,000 to purchase equipment or implement upgrades or space transfers recommended in the assessment Authorizes Sergeant at Arms, in consultation with BGS, to contract with independent third party for space and health and safety assessment by July 10, 2020 	Sec. 18 appropriates \$750,000 to the Legislature for the same purposes; does not allocate amounts between Sergeant at Arms and Legislative IT (and moves necessity determination to memo)

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Requires Sergeant at Arms to submit copy of assessment to House Corrections and Institutions and Senate Institutions by August 19, 2020 ● Sec. 25 appropriates \$250,000 to Office of Legislative Information Technology for legislative IT equipment, including networking set-up requires for State House or new legislative space, camera and video set-up, and purchasing hardware, such as laptops and tablets 	
Strategic Plan for Equity and Inclusion	Sec. 26 appropriates \$30,000 to the Attorney General’s Office for the Office’s Strategic Plan for Equity and Inclusion project	No similar provision
Independent colleges; COVID-19 testing	No similar provision	Sec. 19 requires Department of Health to provide assistance to independent colleges preparing to reopen in the fall by making preparations for COVID-19 screening and testing of students, faculty, and staff; if available funding sources are not sufficient to cover costs, Department must submit a request to JFC for CRF allocation