

(a) Intent. In response to the unprecedented challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the General Assembly acknowledges that continued funding of capital projects and infrastructure will help boost our local economy and support the health and welfare of Vermonters. Accordingly, it is the intent of the General Assembly that the projects funded in this capital construction act will serve to support and help drive growth in Vermont's economy during this uncertain time.

(b) Reallocation authority. Notwithstanding 29 V.S.A. § 152(a)(20) and (a)(25) nor any other provision of law, the Emergency Board, in consultation with the Chairs of the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committee on Institutions, is authorized to reallocate any project balances from any capital construction acts for any capital expenditures associated with the COVID-19 emergency response.

(c) Report. On or before August 15, 2020, the Commissioner of Finance and Management, in consultation with the Joint Fiscal Office and the Office of Legislative Council, shall report to the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committee on Institutions, with a review of all capital expenditures associated with the COVID-19 emergency response, an assessment of whether CARES Act funding may be used to address any capital expenditures, whether any other federal funds are available to meet those needs, and an assessment of any General Fund need that may qualify as a capital expenditure.

(For text see House Journal May 14, page 1014)

Senate Proposal of Amendment

H. 959

An act relating to education property tax

The Senate proposes to the House to amend the bill as follows:

In Sec. 3, interfund loans; borrowing; State Treasurer, in subsection (a), after “appropriation of sufficient revenue to” by striking out the word “support” and inserting in lieu thereof the word repay

(For text see House Journal June 3, page 1103)

Senate Proposal of Amendment to House Proposal of Amendment

S. 301

An act relating to miscellaneous telecommunications changes

The Senate concurs in the House proposal of amendment with the following proposal of amendment thereto:

By striking out Sec. 4 in its entirety and by inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 4 to read:

Sec. 4. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 79, Sec. 25 is amended to read:

Sec. 25. OUTAGES AFFECTING E-911 SERVICE; REPORTING;
RULE; E-911 BOARD

(a) The Contingent upon the event described in subsection (b) of this section, the E-911 Board shall adopt a rule establishing protocols for the E-911 Board to obtain information about or be apprised of, in a timely manner, system outages applicable to wireless service providers, to providers of facilities-based, fixed voice service that is not line-powered, and to electric companies for the purpose of enabling the E-911 Board to assess 911 service availability during such outages. An outage for purposes of this section includes any loss of E-911 calling capacity, whether caused by lack of function of the telecommunications subscriber's backup power equipment, lack of function within a telecommunications provider's system network failure, or an outage in the electric power system. The E-911 Board shall file a final proposed rule with the Secretary of State and with the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 841 on or before February 1, 2020.

(b) When one or more states with a combined population of 20,000,000 residents adopts a rule or enacts a law that applies a lower reporting threshold than is required under 47 C.F.R. Part 4, § 4.9(e)(1)(ii) as it pertains to wireless service providers, the E-911 Board shall initiate the rulemaking required under subsection (a) of this section and shall incorporate the lowest above-referenced reporting threshold applicable to wireless service providers into its proposed rule, which shall be filed with the Secretary of State pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 838 not more than 60 days after the rulemaking has commenced. Subsequent reporting thresholds adopted or enacted outside Vermont shall not trigger a new rulemaking under this section.

(For House Proposal of Amendment see House Journal June 12, 2020,)

Ordered to Lie

H. 162

An act relating to removal of buprenorphine from the misdemeanor crime of possession of a narcotic.

Pending Action: Second reading

H. 492

An act relating to establishing a homeless bill of rights and prohibiting discrimination against people without homes.

Pending Action: Second reading

H. 535

An act relating to approval of amendments to the charter of the Town of Brattleboro.

Pending Action: Second reading