

Sec. A.9. BUDGET REPORT

(a) Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 306, for fiscal year 2021 the Governor shall submit to the General Assembly, not later than the August 18, 2020. A budget which shall embody estimates, requests, and recommendations for appropriations or other authorizations for expenditures from the State Treasury for the remainder of fiscal year 2021. The budget shall be based upon the official State revenue estimates, including the Medicaid estimated caseloads and per-member per-month expenditures, adopted by the Emergency Board pursuant to section 305a of this title.

Sec. A.10 – Higher Ed here or separately?

First: In Sec. A.18 by striking out subsection (a) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (a) to read as follows:

(a) The Agency of Digital Services, the Department of Buildings and General Services; the Judiciary; and the Legislative Information Technology department shall report to the Joint Information Technology Oversight Committee and the Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee not later than September 1, 2020 on the status of how software vendors that the State currently engages for the provision of services are bringing contracts and user agreements into compliance with Vermont law so as not to contain presumptively unconscionable terms per 9 V.S.A. chapter 152.

Second: By inserting a new section to be numbered Sec. A.24.a to read as follows:

Sec. A.24.a GLOBAL COMMITMENT WAIVER AMENDMENT

(a) The Secretary of Human Services is authorized to seek a no-change extension of Vermont's Global Commitment to Health Section 1115 Demonstration for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023 approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Third: In Sec. A.29 by striking out subdivision (b)(2) in its entirety and insert in lieu thereof a new subdivision (b)(2) to read as follows:

(2) after the adjournment of the 2020 legislative session, the Agency shall jointly report to the Joint Legislative Child Protection Oversight Committee and the Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee.

Fourth: In Sec. A.31 by striking out subsection (b) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (b) to read as follows:

(b) Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the General Assembly anticipates that the fiscal year 2021 budget will be developed in an initial transition phase, followed by a full budget development later in the August/September session. To assist the General Assembly in appropriating the proper funding for short- and long-term residential placements and treatment services pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, on or before August 15, 2020, the Secretary of Administration or designee shall provide to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, the House and Senate Committees on Judiciary, the House Committee on Human Services, and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare:

Fifth: In Sec. A.49 by striking out subdivision (a)(7)(A) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subdivision (a)(7)(A) read as follows:

(A) \$502,500 for the COVID-19 costs at the Center or Crime Victims Services, the Vermont Network Against Domestic Violence and its member organizations including PPE; hazard pay; equipment and HIPAA-compliant video conference services; increased shelter sanitation costs and increased direct aid to survivors moved into in the community to meet COVID-19 health and safety recommendations.

Sixth: In Sec. A.49 subsection (a) by inserting a new subdivision to be numbered (18) to read as follows:

(18) Agency of Administration, Director of Racial Equity: \$50,000 is appropriated to the Agency of Administration for specialized training on equity and inclusion. This training is to increase understanding and response capabilities given the disproportionate impacts on People of Color and the New Americans of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Vermont created a Statewide Racial Equity Plan, which delineates the outcomes that it commits to in helping Vermonters achieve better health, education and economic outcomes, and it outlines the steps it will take to get there. One of the goals within this plan is specifically related to health outcomes for People of Color and the New Americans community.

Seventh: In Sec. A.50 by striking out subdivision (c)(1)(B) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subdivision (c)(1)(B) read as follows:

(B) A school district that has fiscal year 2020 funds available from this section shall carry those funds into fiscal year 2021 as revenue without waiting for an audit to confirm the existence or amount of the available funds. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the Agency of Education shall evaluate the amount of education fund payments authorized by 16 V.S.A. chapter 133 needed to fund a school district's education spending, taking into account any funds available that resulted from the fiscal year 2020 appropriation under this section and other

factors it determines to be relevant, and shall subtract from the district's first and second fiscal year 2021 education fund payments an amount it determines is not necessary to fully fund the district's education spending.

Seventh: In Sec. A.51 by striking out subsections (d)-(g) in their entirety and inserting in lieu thereof new subsections (d)-(g) to read as follows:

(d) Program established. There is established within Efficiency Vermont the School Indoor Air Quality Grant Program ("the Program") to provide grants to K-12 covered schools in Vermont to repair, maintain, and upgrade heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems in reference to COVID-19-specific guidelines from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE).

(e) Administration; implementation.

(1) The Program shall be administered by Efficiency Vermont, which shall be responsible for:

(A) providing education and outreach to schools on the Program;

(B) providing informational guidance and best practices for school ventilation and air filtration systems; and

(C) awarding available grants to covered schools under the Program, which may be paid directly to a contractor on behalf of a covered school.

(2) Efficiency Vermont, in consultation with the Agency of Education, the Vermont Superintendents Association, and experts in the field of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning, shall design the Program. The Program design shall establish:

(A) An outreach and education plan.

(B) An equitable system for distributing grants statewide based on geographic location, school size, and grant dollar amount.

(C) Guidelines for the ventilation, filtration, monitoring, humidification, and dehumidification measures and costs that will be eligible for grant funding. Eligible measures may include handheld meters, system evaluation, and retrocommissioning.

(3)(A) Efficiency Vermont is authorized to use up to \$100,000 of the amount appropriated in subsection (a) of this section for ~~administration~~ labor.

(B) As the entity appointed to serve as Efficiency Vermont, the Vermont Energy Investment Corp. (VEIC) is also authorized to collect their federally approved indirect rate of 9.3 percent on the Program funds expended.

(C) Monies from the Electric Efficiency Fund created by 30 V.S.A. §209(d)(3) and managed by Efficiency Vermont shall not be used to administer this Program. Where energy

savings measures can be implemented in conjunction with the School Indoor Air Quality Grant Program, Efficiency Vermont may leverage its own program budgets, provided the energy savings measures are cost-effective.

(f) Contracting with vendors; bidding exception. Due to the public health risk posed by COVID-19, any project receiving grant funds under the Program shall be deemed to be an emergency repair for the purposes of 16 V.S.A. § 559(e), and a covered school may enter into a contract with an independent third party without the need to competitively bid the contract.

(g) Report. On or before September 15, 2020, Efficiency Vermont shall submit an update on the Program to the House and Senate Committees on Education. On or before March 15, 2021, Efficiency Vermont shall submit a final report on the Program, which shall include a list of the covered schools served, projects completed, funds expended, results and benefits of the projects completed, and overall lessons learned and recommendations for possible future school ventilation improvement programs. The final report shall also include a summary of any Efficiency Vermont programs that were delivered in conjunction with the Program.