

**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**

	<b>H.965 – As passed by House</b>	<b>H.965 – Senate Appropriations amendment</b>
<b>Purpose</b>	Sec. 1 appropriates \$300,000,000 from CRF	Sec. 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriates \$329,350,000 from CRF</li> <li>• Costs not compensable if have been/will be covered by another source</li> <li>• Costs eligible for coverage by other federal funding sources not compensable unless authorized by Secretary of Administration</li> </ul>
<b>Consistency with CARES Act and guidance</b>	Sec. 2: Legislative determination of consistency	Sec. 2: Same, plus reference to additional details in memo
<b>Grant recipient requirements; reversion and reallocation</b>	Sec. 3: Circumstances in flux; reversion if CRF monies not expended by December 20, 2020	Sec. 3: Same
<b>CRF grant conditions</b>	Sec. 4: Use CRF monies only for CARES Act purposes or liable for repayment	Sec. 4: Same
<b>Recordkeeping and compliance</b>	Sec. 5: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grantees must report to administering agencies and departments</li> <li>• Administering agencies and departments to report to Legislature by July 31 and September 1</li> </ul>	Sec. 5: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grantees must report to administering agencies and departments</li> <li>• Administering agencies and departments to report to Legislature by August 15 and October 1</li> </ul>
<b>Hazard pay for front-line employees</b>	No similar provision	Sec. 6: Appropriates \$31 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 3/13 and 5/15. Hazard pay amounts are either \$1200 or \$2000 per employee based on the number of hours worked.

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<p><b>Health Care Provider Stabilization Grant Program</b></p>	<p>Sec. 6:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriates \$250,5700,000 to AHS for grants to health care providers</li> <li>• Determination of necessity</li> <li>• List of eligible providers</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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</li> <li>• Criteria for grant award/amount:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Applicant will use CRF grant to maintain or improve quality of health care services during COVID-19</li> <li>○ Applicant will use CRF grant to prepare for surges in COVID-19 cases</li> <li>○ Applicant will use CRF grant for services that would otherwise become limited or unavailable and/or would enable applicant to stay in business</li> <li>○ Applicant will use CRF grant to supplement patient financial assistance and/or keep taking Medicaid</li> <li>○ Applicant can make appropriate and efficient use of CRF funds</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Sec. 7:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriates \$275,000,000 to AHS for grants to health care providers</li> <li>• (Determination of necessity moved to memo)</li> <li>• Same eligible providers, plus:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Adds EMS/ambulance and naturopaths to list of “other health care providers” and “licensed by Board of Medical Practice and [OPR]” at end of “other health care providers”</li> <li>○ Adds to AHS-recognized organizations those providing peer outreach to individuals with intellectual disabilities and those providing children’s integrated services</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Directs AHS to seek to balance grant awards across provider types and across geographic regions of Vermont</li> <li>• Prioritization methodology; must consider:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Impact on applicant’s sustainability</li> <li>○ 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</li> <li>○ Degree to which applicant maintains participation in value-based payment arrangements, if applicable</li> <li>○ Degree to which applicant can make appropriate and efficient use of CRF funds</li> <li>○ Financial assistance received from other sources</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Notice and outreach about grants; minimize administrative burden of application process</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Notice and outreach about grants; minimize administrative burden of application process</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• Updates by July 31 and September 1; final accounting by January 15, 2021</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No specific or minimum grant amounts</li> <li>• Updates by August 15 and October 1; final accounting by January 15, 2021</li> </ul>
<b>Community health investments</b>	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
<b>Addressing health disparities</b>	<p>Sec. 8:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriates \$1 million for grants to community organizations for direct services to specific populations most likely to experience adverse outcomes from COVID-19</li> <li>• Grantees 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</li> <li>• Department of Health must use grantees’ insights and recommendations and Governor’s Racial</li> </ul>	<p>Sec. 8:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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</li> <li>• Appropriates \$500,000 to assist subgrantees in meeting needs for food, shelter, health care, and emotional support not eligible under ELC grant</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• Department of Health must use grantees’ insights and recommendations and Governor’s Racial Equity Task Force recommendations to expand on work on health disparities</li> </ul>

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	Equity Task Force recommendations to expand on work on health disparities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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</li> </ul>
<b>Suicide prevention</b>	Sec. 9 appropriates \$800,000 to Department of Mental Health for suicide prevention initiatives	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
<b>Peer warm line</b>	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	Sec. 10 – same (necessity determination moved to memo)
<b>Child care and supportive services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sec. 11 appropriates \$3.9 million for the Parent Child Center Network</li> <li>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"> <li>\$3 million is for summer camps and afterschool programs</li> <li>\$6 million is for child care providers</li> </ul> </li> <li>Sec. 13 appropriates \$100,000 to DCF to address immediate needs related to providing children’s integrated services</li> </ul>	Sec. 14: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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</li> <li>Directs DCF to determine allocation of funding and report it to Legislature by August 18</li> </ul>
<b>Addressing food insecurity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sec. 14 appropriates \$50,000 for Junior League of Champlain Valley Diaper Bank for diapers and other infant supplies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sec. 11 appropriates \$4.7 million for Vermont Foodbank, including diapers and other necessities</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sec. 15 appropriates \$4.6 million for Vermont Foodbank</li> <li>• Sec. 16 appropriates \$12 million to Agency of Education for summer meals for children</li> <li>• Sec. 17 appropriates \$2 million for area agencies on aging for nutrition services for older Vermonters and other vulnerable populations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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</li> <li>• Sec. 13 does not appropriate funds; it requires DAIL to report to JFC by August 18 on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Adequacy of Title III funding for older Vermonters and other vulnerable populations, including specific COVID-19 funding for meals and funds distributed to AAAs for nutrition services</li> <li>○ Any funds made available for older Vermonters and other vulnerable populations from May 11 JFC CRF allocation and</li> <li>○ Any recommendations for using additional CRF monies</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Adult day programs</b>	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
<b>Supports for New Americans, refugees, immigrants</b>	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)
<b>Grants to vulnerable populations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sec. 20 appropriates \$50,000 for Green Mountain Self-Advocates for peer outreach services to persons with intellectual disabilities</li> <li>• 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</li> </ul>	Sec. 15 appropriates \$2 million to AHS to distribute monies to be used for eligible purposes among populations made vulnerable by COVID-19, including older Vermonters; individuals with disabilities, including advocacy organizations such as Green Mountain Self-Advocates; and households under 300% FPL
<b>Recovery residences</b>	Sec. 22 appropriates \$350,000 for distribution to recovery residences for residents’ rental assistance	No similar provision

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	and to purchase cleaning supplies and personal protective equipment	
<b>COVID-19 health expenses on public lands</b>	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 \$2.5 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
<b>Legislative Branch; health and safety, COVID-19 mitigation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sec. 24:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 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</li> <li>○ 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</li> <li>○ Requires Sergeant at Arms to submit copy of assessment to House Corrections and Institutions and Senate Institutions by August 19, 2020</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 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</li> </ul>	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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	space, camera and video set-up, and purchasing hardware, such as laptops and tablets	
<b>Strategic Plan for Equity and Inclusion</b>	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
<b>Independent colleges; COVID-19 testing</b>	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