

Journal of the Senate

FRIDAY, MAY 21, 2021

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Devotional Exercises

A moment of silence was observed in lieu of devotions.

Message from the House No. 82

A message was received from the House of Representatives by Ms. Alona Tate, its Second Assistant Clerk, as follows:

Madam President:

I am directed to inform the Senate that:

The House has considered a bill originating in the Senate of the following title:

S. 101. An act relating to promoting housing choice and opportunity in smart growth areas.

And has passed the same in concurrence with proposal of amendment in the adoption of which the concurrence of the Senate is requested.

The House has considered the reports of the Committees of Conference upon the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on House bills of the following titles:

H. 360. An act relating to accelerated community broadband deployment.

H. 433. An act relating to the Transportation Program and miscellaneous changes to laws related to transportation.

H. 449. An act relating to the membership and duties of the Vermont Pension Investment Commission and the creation of the Pension Benefits, Design, and Funding Task Force.

And has adopted the same on its part.

The House has considered Senate proposals of amendment to the following House bills:

H. 88. An act relating to certification of agricultural use for purposes of the use value appraisal program.

H. 122. An act relating to boards and commissions.

H. 135. An act relating to the State Ethics Commission.

H. 183. An act relating to sexual violence.

H. 337. An act relating to the printing and distribution of State publications.

H. 443. An act relating to approval of the merger of the Wilmington Water District with the Town of Wilmington.

And has severally concurred therein.

The House has considered Senate proposal of amendment to House proposal of amendment to Senate bill of the following title:

S. 97. An act relating to miscellaneous judiciary procedures.

And has concurred therein.

The House has considered Senate proposal of amendment to House bill:

H. 436. An act relating to miscellaneous changes to Vermont's tax laws.

And has severally concurred therein with further amendments in the passage of which the concurrence of the Senate is requested.

Message from the Governor

A message was received from His Excellency, the Governor, by Ms. Brittney L. Wilson, Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs, as follows:

Madam President:

I am directed by the Governor to inform the Senate that on the twentieth day of May, 2021 he approved and signed bills originating in the Senate of the following titles:

S. 1. An act relating to extending the baseload renewable power portfolio requirement.

S. 66. An act relating to electric bicycles.

S. 102. An act relating to the regulation of agricultural inputs for farming.

S. 124. An act relating to miscellaneous utility subjects.

Message from the Governor

A message was received from His Excellency, the Governor, by Ms. Brittney L. Wilson, Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs, as follows:

Madam President:

I am directed by the Governor to inform the Senate that on the twentieth day of May, 2021 he returned without signature and *vetoed* a bill originating in the Senate of the following title:

S. 107. An act relating to confidential information concerning the initial arrest and charge of a juvenile.

Text of Communication from Governor

The text of the communication to the Senate from His Excellency, the Governor, whereby he vetoed and returned unsigned **Senate Bill No. 107** to the Senate is as follows:

“May 20, 2021

The Honorable John Bloomer, Jr.
Secretary of the Senate
115 State House
Montpelier, VT 05633-5401

Dear Mr. Bloomer:

Pursuant to Chapter II, Section 11 of the Vermont Constitution, I am returning S.107, *An act relating to confidential information concerning the initial arrest and charge of a juvenile*, without my signature, because of concerns with the policy to automatically raise the age of accountability for crimes, and afford young adults protections meant for juveniles, without adequate tools or systems in place.

Three years ago, I signed legislation intended to give young adults who had become involved in the criminal justice system certain protections meant for juveniles. At the time, I was assured that, prior to the automatic increases in age prescribed in the bill, plans would be in place to provide access to the rehabilitation, services, housing and other supports needed to both hold these young adults accountable and help them stay out of the criminal justice system in the future.

This has not yet been the case. In addition to ongoing housing challenges, programs designed and implemented for children under 18 are often not appropriate for those over 18. Disturbingly, there are also reports of some young adults being used – and actively recruited – by older criminals, like drug traffickers, to commit crimes because of reduced risk of incarceration, potentially putting the young people we are trying to protect deeper into the criminal culture and at greater risk.

I want to be clear: I'm not blaming the Legislature or the Judiciary for these gaps. All three branches of government need to bring more focus to this issue if we are going to provide the combination of accountability, tools and services needed to ensure justice and give young offenders a second chance.

For these reasons, I believe we need to take a step back and assess Vermont's "raise the age" policy, the gaps that exist in our systems and the unintended consequences of a piecemeal approach on the health and safety of our communities, victims and the offenders we are attempting to help. I see S.107 as deepening this piecemeal approach.

I also remain concerned with the lack of clarity in S.107 regarding the disparity in the public records law between the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Based on the objections outlined above, I am returning this legislation without my signature pursuant to Chapter II, Section 11 of the Vermont Constitution. I believe this presents an opportunity to start a much-needed conversation about the status of our juvenile justice initiatives and make course corrections where necessary, in the interest of public safety and the young Vermonters we all agree need an opportunity to get back on the right path.

Sincerely,

/s/Philip B. Scott

Governor

PBS/kp"

Proposal of Amendment; Third Reading Ordered

H. 157.

Senator Clarkson, for the Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs, to which was referred House bill entitled:

An act relating to registration of construction contractors.

Reported recommending that the Senate propose to the House to amend the bill by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. FINDINGS

The General Assembly finds that:

(1) There is currently no master list of residential construction contractors operating in the State.

(2) There is no standard process for determining or adjudicating construction contract fraud complaints either on the part of contractors or

consumers.

(3) Public authorities have no mechanism to contact all contractors when necessary to provide updates to public health requirements, safe working protocols, codes and standards, and available trainings and certifications.

(4) Wide dissemination of information on codes, standards, and trainings is vital to improving construction techniques throughout the State's construction industry. Since building thermal conditioning represents over one-quarter of the State's greenhouse gas emissions, improving energy performance is a key strategy for meeting the requirements of the Global Warming Solutions Act, 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 153.

(5) While registration is not licensure and confers no assurance of competence, consumers have no way of knowing whether a contractor is operating legally or has been subject to civil claims or disciplinary actions.

(6) A noncommercial, standardized public listing will provide contractors an opportunity to include in their record optional third-party, State-sanctioned certifications.

Sec. 2. 3 V.S.A. § 122 is amended to read:

§ 122. OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

The Office of Professional Regulation is created within the Office of the Secretary of State. The Office of Professional Regulation shall have a director who ~~shall be~~ is an exempt employee appointed by the Secretary of State ~~and shall be an exempt employee.~~ The following boards or professions are attached to the Office of Professional Regulation:

* * *

(50) Residential Contractors

Sec. 3. 26 V.S.A. chapter 107 is added to read:

CHAPTER 107. RESIDENTIAL CONTRACTORS

Subchapter 1. General Provisions

§ 5501. REGISTRATION REQUIRED

(a) A person shall register with the Office of Professional Regulation prior to contracting with a homeowner to perform residential construction in exchange for consideration of more than \$2,500.00, including labor and materials.

(b) Unless otherwise exempt under section 5502 of this title, as used in this chapter, "residential construction" means to build, demolish, or alter a residential dwelling unit, or a building or premises with four or fewer

residential dwelling units, in this State, and includes interior and exterior construction, renovation, and repair; painting; paving; roofing; weatherization; installation or repair of heating, plumbing, solar, electrical, water, or wastewater systems; and other activities the Office specifies by rule consistent with this chapter.

§ 5502. EXEMPTIONS

This chapter does not apply to:

(1) an employee acting within the scope of his or her employment for a business organization registered under this chapter;

(2)(A) a professional engineer, licensed architect, or tradesperson licensed, registered, or certified by the Department of Public Safety acting within the scope of his or her license, registration, or certification; or

(B) a business that performs residential construction exclusively through employees who are individually exempt from registration under subdivision (2)(A) of this section;

(3) delivery or installation of consumer appliances, audio-visual equipment, telephone equipment, or computer network equipment;

(4) landscaping;

(5) work on a structure that is not attached to a residential building; or

(6) work that would otherwise require registration that a person performs in response to an emergency, provided the person applies for registration within a reasonable time after performing the work, as specified by rule.

§ 5503. MANDATORY REGISTRATION AND VOLUNTARY CERTIFICATION DISTINGUISHED

(a)(1) The system of mandatory registration established by this chapter is intended to protect against fraud, deception, breach of contract, and violations of law, but is not intended to establish standards for professional qualifications or workmanship that is otherwise lawful.

(2) The provisions of 3 V.S.A. § 129a, with respect to a registration, shall be construed in a manner consistent with the limitations of this subsection.

(b) The system of voluntary certification established in this chapter is intended to provide consumers and contractors with a publicly available, noncommercial venue for contractors to list optional approved certifications. The Director of Professional Regulation, in consultation with public safety

officials and recognized associations or boards of builders, remodelers, architects, and engineers, may:

(1) adopt rules providing for the issuance of voluntary certifications, as defined in subdivision 3101a(1) of this title, that signify demonstrated competence in particular subfields and specialties related to residential construction;

(2) establish minimum qualifications, and standards for performance and conduct, necessary for certification; and

(3) discipline a certificant for violating adopted standards or other law, with or without affecting the underlying registration.

Subchapter 2. Administration

§ 5505. DUTIES OF THE DIRECTOR

(a) The Director of Professional Regulation shall:

(1) provide information to the public concerning registration, certification, appeal procedures, and complaint procedures;

(2) administer fees established under this chapter;

(3) receive applications for registration or certification, issue registrations and certifications to applicants qualified under this chapter, deny or renew registrations or certifications, and issue, revoke, suspend, condition, and reinstate registrations and certifications as ordered by an administrative law officer; and

(4) prepare and maintain a registry of registrants and certificants.

(b) The Director, after consultation with the advisors appointed pursuant to section 5506 of this title, shall adopt rules to implement this chapter.

§ 5506. ADVISORS

(a) The Secretary of State shall appoint two persons pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 129b to serve as advisors in matters relating to residential contractors and construction.

(b) To be eligible to serve, an advisor shall:

(1) register under this chapter;

(2) have at least three years' experience in residential construction immediately preceding appointment; and

(3) remain active in the profession during his or her service.

(c) The Director of Professional Regulation shall seek the advice of the

advisors in implementing this chapter.

§ 5507. FEES

A person regulated under this chapter shall pay the following fees at initial application and biennial renewal:

(1) Registration, individual: \$75.00.

(2) Registration, business organization: \$250.00.

(3) State certifications: \$75.00 for a first certification and \$25.00 for each additional certification.

Subchapter 3. Registrations

§ 5508. ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for registration, the Director of Professional Regulation shall find that the applicant is in compliance with the provisions of this chapter and applicable State law and has satisfied any judgment order related to the provision of professional services to a homeowner.

§ 5509. REQUIREMENTS OF REGISTRANTS

(a) Insurance. A person registered under this chapter shall maintain minimum liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$300,000.00 per claim and \$1,000,000.00 aggregate, evidence of which may be required as a precondition to issuance or renewal of a registration.

(b) Writing.

(1) A person registered under this chapter shall execute a written contract prior to receiving a deposit or commencing residential construction work if the estimated value of the labor and materials exceeds \$2,500.00.

(2) A contract shall specify:

(A) Price. One of the following provisions for the price of the contract:

(i) a maximum price for all work and materials;

(ii) a statement that billing and payment will be made on a time and materials basis, not to exceed a maximum price; or

(iii) a statement that billing and payment will be made on a time and materials basis and that there is no maximum price.

(B) Work dates. Estimated start and completion dates.

(C) Scope of work. A description of the services to be performed and a description of the materials to be used.

(D) Change order provision. A description of how and when amendments to the contract may be approved and documented, as agreed by the parties.

(3) The parties shall document an amendment to the contract in a signed writing.

(c) Down payment.

(1) If a contract specifies a maximum price for all work and materials or a statement that billing and payment will be made on a time and materials basis, not to exceed a maximum price, the contract may require a down payment of up to one-half of the cost of labor to the consumer, or one-half of the price of materials, whichever is greater.

(2) If a contract specifies that billing and payment will be made on a time and materials basis and that there is no maximum price, the contract may require a down payment as negotiated by the parties.

§ 5510. PROHIBITIONS AND REMEDIES

(a) A person who does not register as required pursuant to this chapter may be subject to an injunction or a civil penalty, or both, for unauthorized practice as provided in 3 V.S.A. § 127(b).

(b) The Office of Professional Regulation may discipline a registrant or certificant for unprofessional conduct as provided in 3 V.S.A. § 129a, except that 3 V.S.A. § 129a(b) does not apply to a registrant.

(c) The following conduct by a registrant, certificant, applicant, or person who later becomes an applicant constitutes unprofessional conduct:

(1) failure to enter into a written contract when required by this chapter;

(2) failure to maintain liability or workers' compensation insurance as required by law;

(3) committing a deceptive act in commerce in violation of 9 V.S.A. § 2453;

(4) falsely claiming certification under this chapter, provided that this subdivision does not prevent accurate and nonmisleading advertising or statements related to credentials that are not offered by this State; and

(5) selling or fraudulently obtaining or furnishing a certificate of registration, certification, license, or any other related document or record, or assisting another person in doing so, including by reincorporating or altering a trade name for the purpose or with the effect of evading or masking revocation, suspension, or discipline against a registration issued under this

chapter.

Sec. 4. IMPLEMENTATION

(a) Notwithstanding any contrary provision of 26 V.S.A. chapter 107:

(1) The initial biennial registration term for residential contractors pursuant to 26 V.S.A. chapter 107 shall begin on April 1, 2022.

(2) The Secretary of State may begin receiving applications for the initial registration term on December 1, 2021.

(3)(A) The registration fee for individuals who submit complete registration requests between December 1, 2021 and March 31, 2022 is \$25.00 and between April 1, 2022 and March 31, 2023, the fee is \$50.00.

(B) The registration fee for business organizations that submit complete registration requests between December 1, 2021 and March 31, 2022 is \$175.00 and between April 1, 2022 and March 31, 2023, the fee is \$200.00.

(4) Prior to April 1, 2023, the Office of Professional Regulation shall not take any enforcement action for unauthorized practice under 26 V.S.A. § 5510(a) against a residential contractor who fails to register as required by this act.

(b) On or before July 1, 2022, the Director of Professional Regulation shall establish an initial set of voluntary certifications, to include at minimum OSHA standards on construction projects and components of energy-efficient “green” building for insulators, carpenters, and heating and ventilation installers.

(c) The Office of Professional Regulation shall adopt and publish model contract provisions to be available to residential contractors and consumers.

Sec. 5. CREATION OF POSITIONS WITHIN THE OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION; LICENSING

(a) There are created within the Secretary of State’s Office of Professional Regulation one new position in licensing and one new position in enforcement.

(b) In fiscal year 2022, the amount of \$200,000.00 in Office of Professional Regulation special funds is appropriated to the Secretary of State to fund the positions created in subsection (a) of this section.

Sec. 6. SECRETARY OF STATE; STATUS REPORT

On or before January 15, 2023, the Office of Professional Regulation shall report to the House Committee on General, Housing and Military Affairs and on Government Operations and to the Senate Committees on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs and on Government Operations

concerning the implementation of 26 V.S.A. chapter 107, including:

- (1) the number of registrations and certifications;
- (2) the resources necessary to implement the chapter;
- (3) the number and nature of any complaints or enforcement actions;
- (4) the potential design and implementation of a one-stop portal for contractors and consumers; and
- (5) any other issues the Office deems appropriate.

Sec. 7. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2021.

And that the bill ought to pass in concurrence with such proposal of amendment.

Senator Sirotkin, for the Committee on Finance, to which the bill was referred, reported recommending that the bill ought to pass in concurrence with proposal of amendment as recommended by the Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

Senator Baruth, for the Committee on Appropriations, to which the bill was referred, reported recommending that the bill ought to pass in concurrence with proposal of amendment as recommended by the Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

Thereupon, the bill was read the second time by title only pursuant to Rule 43, and pending the question, Shall the Senate propose to the House that the bill be amended as recommended by the Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs?, Senators Sirotkin, Clarkson and Bray moved to amend the proposal of amendment of the Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs as follows:

First: In Sec. 3, in 26 V.S.A. chapter 107, in section 5502, in subdivision (2), by striking out subdivision (B) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subdivision (B) to read as follows:

(B) a business that performs residential construction if the work is performed primarily by or under the direct supervision of one or more employees who are individually exempt from registration under subdivision (2)(A) of this section;

Second: In Sec. 4, implementation, by adding a subsection (d) to read as follows:

(d) The Office of Professional Regulation shall collaborate with the Department of Public Safety and interested stakeholders to prepare and

disseminate information, which the Office shall provide upon registration or certification, that:

(1) notifies registrants and certificants that the authorized practice of certain professions is subject to regulation by the Department of Public Safety, including through the licensure, registration, or certification of persons performing certain plumbing and electrical work; and

(2) specifies that registration or certification with the Office of Professional Regulation does not authorize a registrant or certificant to perform any work that requires a separate licensure, registration, or certification from the Department of Public Safety.

Which was agreed to.

Thereupon, the proposal of amendment of the Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs, as amended, was agreed to and third reading of the bill was ordered on a roll call, Yeas 20, Nays 10.

Senator Sirotkin having demanded the yeas and nays, they were taken and are as follows:

Roll Call

Those Senators who voted in the affirmative were: Balint, Baruth, Bray, Champion, Chittenden, Clarkson, Cummings, Hardy, Hooker, Kitchel, Lyons, MacDonald, McCormack, Pearson, Perchlik, Pollina, Ram, Sears, Sirotkin, White.

Those Senators who voted in the negative were: Benning, Brock, Collamore, Ingalls, Mazza, Nitka, Parent, Starr, Terenzini, Westman.

Rules Suspended; Third Reading Ordered; Senate Resolution Adopted

S.R. 10.

Appearing on the Calendar for notice, on motion of Senator Balint, the rules were suspended and Senate resolution entitled:

Senate resolution condemning anti-Asian and anti-Pacific Islander hate in the United States and recognizing May 2021 as Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in Vermont.

Was taken up for immediate consideration.

Thereupon, the Senate resolution was read the second time by title only pursuant to Rule 43, and third reading of the Senate resolution was ordered.

Thereupon, on motion of Senator Balint, the rules were suspended and the Senate resolution was placed on all remaining stages of its adoption forthwith.

Thereupon, the Senate resolution was read the third time and adopted.

**Rules Suspended; Third Reading Ordered; Senate Resolution Adopted
S.R. 11.**

Appearing on the Calendar for notice, on motion of Senator Balint, the rules were suspended and Senate resolution entitled:

Senate resolution honoring the memory of George Floyd by designating May 25, 2021 as a Day of Remembrance and Action.

Was taken up for immediate consideration.

Senator Brock, for the Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs, reported recommending that the second Resolved clause be amended, after the word "Delegation" and before the period, by inserting the following:

, the George Floyd Memorial Foundation, and the family of George Floyd

And that the Senate resolution ought to be adopted with such recommendation of amendment.

Thereupon, the joint resolution was read the second time by title only pursuant to Rule 43, the recommendation of amendment was agreed to, and third reading of the Senate resolution was ordered.

Thereupon, on motion of Senator Balint, the rules were suspended and the Senate resolution was placed on all remaining stages of its adoption.

Thereupon, the Senate resolution was read the third time and adopted.

**Rules Suspended; House Proposal of Amendment to Senate Proposal of
Amendment to House Proposal of Amendment Concurred In**

S. 3.

Appearing on the Calendar for notice, on motion of Senator Balint, the rules were suspended and House proposal of amendment to Senate proposal of amendment to House Proposal of Amendment to Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to competency to stand trial and insanity as a defense.

Was taken up for immediate consideration.

The House concurs in the Senate proposal of amendment to House proposal of Amendment with further amendment thereto as follows:

By striking out Sec. 6, reports; forensic care working group; prosecutor notification; competency restoration models, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 6 to read as follows:

Sec. 6. REPORTS; FORENSIC CARE WORKING GROUP; PROSECUTOR NOTIFICATION; COMPETENCY RESTORATION MODELS

(a) On or before July 15, 2021, the Department of Mental Health shall convene working groups of interested stakeholders to provide recommendations necessary to carry out the provisions in subsections (b) and (c) of this section, including as appropriate:

- (1) a representative from the Department of Corrections;
- (2) a representative from the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living;
- (3) a representative from the Department of Buildings and General Services;
- (4) the Chief Superior Judge;
- (5) a representative from the Department of State's Attorneys and Sheriffs;
- (6) a representative from the Office of the Attorney General;
- (7) a representative from the Office of the Defender General;
- (8) the Director of Health Care Reform or designee;
- (9) a representative, appointed by Vermont Care Partners;
- (10) a representative, appointed by Vermont Legal Aid's Mental Health Project;
- (11) a representative, appointed by the Vermont Medical Society;
- (12) three crime victims representatives, appointed by the Vermont Center for Crime Victim Services;
- (13) the Mental Health Care Ombudsman established pursuant to 18 V.S.A. § 7259 or designee;
- (14) a representative of the designated hospitals, appointed by the Vermont Association of Hospitals and Health Care Systems;
- (15) three individuals with lived experience of mental illness, at least one of whom has lived experience of the criminal justice system or the civil commitment system, or both, appointed by Vermont Psychiatric Survivors;
- (16) a representative, appointed by the Vermont Developmental Disabilities Council; and
- (17) any other interested party permitted by the Commissioner of Mental Health.

(b)(1) On or before August 1, 2022, the Department of Mental Health shall submit a final report to the Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee and the Chairs of the House Committees on Corrections and Institutions, on Health Care, and on Judiciary and of the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Judiciary addressing:

(A) any gaps in the current mental health and criminal justice system structure related to individuals incompetent to stand trial or who are adjudicated not guilty by reason of insanity;

(B) opportunities to:

(i) improve public safety and address the treatment needs for individuals incompetent to stand trial or who are adjudicated not guilty by reason of insanity; and

(ii) consider the importance of victims' rights in the forensic care process;

(C) competency restoration models used in other states, including both models that do not rely on involuntary medication to restore competency and how cases where competency is not restored are addressed;

(D) models used in other states to determine public safety risks and the means used to address such risks, including guilty but mentally ill verdicts in criminal cases;

(E) due process requirements for defendants held without adjudication of a crime and presumed innocent;

(F) processes regarding other mental conditions affecting competence or sanity, including intellectual disabilities, traumatic brain injury, and dementia;

(G) models for forensic treatment, including the size, scope, and fiscal impact of any forensic treatment facility; and

(H) any additional recommendations.

(2) On or before January 15, 2022, the Department shall submit a preliminary report to the House Committees on Corrections and Institutions, on Health Care, and on Judiciary and to the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Judiciary summarizing the work completed pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection to date, except with regard to the work completed pursuant to subdivision (1)(G).

(c) On or before February 15, 2022, the Department of Mental Health shall submit a report to the House Committees on Corrections and Institutions, on

Health Care, and on Judiciary and to the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Judiciary that:

(1) assesses the necessity of notification to the prosecutor upon becoming aware that individuals on orders of nonhospitalization pursuant to 18 V.S.A. § 7618 are not complying with the order or that the alternative treatment is not adequate to meet the individual's treatment needs, including any recommendations:

(A) necessary to clarify the process;

(B) addressing what facts and circumstances should trigger the Commissioner's duty to notify the prosecutor; and

(C) addressing steps that the prosecutor should take after receiving the notification; and

(2) summarizes the work completed to date by the working groups regarding the models for forensic treatment, including the size, scope, and fiscal impact of any forensic treatment facility, pursuant to subdivision (b)(1)(G) of this section.

(d)(1) In conducting the work required by this section, including evaluations for forensic treatment facility models, pursuant to subsections (b) and (c) of this section, the working group shall ensure:

(A) that social and racial equity issues are considered, including issues related to transgender and gender nonconforming persons; and

(B) consistency with the General Assembly's policy in 18 V.S.A. § 7629(c) of working "toward a mental health system that does not require coercion or the use of involuntary medication."

(2) These considerations shall be reflected in the final report submitted pursuant to subdivision (b)(1) of this section and the report submitted pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

(e) The Department shall access regional or national expertise to present models to the working group for review, including any model recommended by members of the working group.

(f) The final report submitted pursuant to subdivision (b)(1) of this section and the report submitted pursuant to subdivision (c)(1) of this section shall include proposed draft legislation addressing any identified needed changes to statute.

(g) Members of the working group who are neither State employees nor otherwise paid to participate in the working group in their professional

capacity shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses for attending meetings as permitted under 32 V.S.A. § 1010.

Thereupon, the question, Shall the Senate concur in the House proposal of amendment to the Senate proposal of amendment to the House proposal of Amendment?, was decided in the affirmative.

Rules Suspended; House Proposals of Amendment to Senate Proposal of Amendment Concurred In; Rules Suspended; Bill Messaged

H. 436.

Appearing on the Calendar for notice, on motion of Senator Balint, the rules were suspended and House proposals of amendment to Senate proposal of amendment to House bill entitled:

An act relating to miscellaneous changes to Vermont's tax laws.

Were taken up for immediate consideration.

The House concurs in the Senate proposal of amendment with further amendment thereto as follows:

First: By striking out Sec. 17, education property tax; yields; nonhomestead rate, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following to read:

Sec. 17. PROPERTY DOLLAR EQUIVALENT YIELD, INCOME DOLLAR EQUIVALENT YIELD, AND NONHOMESTEAD RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022

(a) Pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 5402b(b), for fiscal year 2022 only, the property dollar equivalent yield shall be \$11,317.00.

(b) Pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 5402b(b), for fiscal year 2022 only, the income dollar equivalent yield shall be \$13,770.00.

(c) Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 5402(a)(1) and any other provision of law to the contrary, the tax rate for nonhomestead property for fiscal year 2022 shall be \$1.612 per \$100.00 of equalized education property value.

Second: By striking out Sec. 26, tax increment financing districts, in its entirety, and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 26. 32 V.S.A. § 5404a(l) is amended to read:

(l) The State Auditor of Accounts shall conduct performance audits of all tax increment financing districts according to a schedule, which will be arrived at in consultation with the Vermont Economic Progress Council. The cost of conducting each audit shall be considered a "related cost" as defined in 24 V.S.A. § 1891(6) and shall be billed back to the municipality. Audits

conducted pursuant to this subsection shall include a review of a municipality's adherence to relevant statutes and rules adopted by the Vermont Economic Progress Council pursuant to subsection (j) of this section, an assessment of record keeping related to revenues and expenditures, and a validation of the portion of the tax increment retained by the municipality and used for debt repayment and the portion directed to the Education Fund.

(1)(A) For municipalities with a district created prior to January 1, 2006 and a debt repayment schedule that anticipates retention of education increment beyond fiscal year 2016, an audit shall be conducted when approximately three-quarters of the period for retention of education increment has elapsed, and at the end of that same period, an audit shall be conducted for the final one-quarter period for retention of education increment, ~~except that for the Milton Catamount/Husky district and the Burlington Waterfront district only a final audit shall be conducted to cover the period from the effective date of the rules pursuant to subdivision (j)(1) of this section to the end of the retention period.~~

(B) Notwithstanding subdivision (1)(A) of this subsection, the audit schedule for the Burlington Waterfront Tax Increment Financing District shall be as follows:

(i) an audit shall be conducted on or after October 1, 2021;

(ii) an audit shall be conducted not more than three years from the date debt is incurred as allowed by 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 175, Sec. 29 (4);

(iii) a final audit shall be conducted at the end of the retention period for the District.

* * *

Sec. 26a. 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 175, Sec. 29 is amended to read:

Sec. 29. TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRICTS; DEBT
INCURRENCE PERIODS; EXTENSIONS

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the period to incur indebtedness is extended for the following tax increment financing districts:

(1) The Barre City Downtown Tax Increment Financing District is extended to ~~March 31, 2023~~ March 31, 2024.

(2) The Bennington Downtown Tax Increment Financing District is extended to ~~March 31, 2028~~ March 31, 2029.

(3) The Burlington Downtown Tax Increment Financing District is extended to ~~March 31, 2022~~ March 31, 2023.

(4) The three properties located within the Burlington Waterfront Tax Increment Financing District at 49 Church Street and 75 Cherry Street, as designated on the City of Burlington's Tax Parcel Maps as Parcel ID# 044-4-004-000, Parcel ID# 044-4-004-001, and Parcel ID# 044-4-033-000, is extended to ~~June 30, 2022~~ June 30, 2023; provided, however, that the extension of the period to incur indebtedness is subject to the City of Burlington's submission to the Vermont Economic Progress Council on or before ~~June 30, 2022~~ June 30, 2023 of an executed construction contract with a completion guarantee by the owner of the parcels evidencing commitment to construct not less than \$50 million of private development on the parcels.

(5) The Montpelier Tax Increment Financing District is extended to ~~March 31, 2029~~ March 31, 2030.

(6) The South Burlington Tax Increment Financing District is extended to ~~March 31, 2023~~ March 31, 2024.

(7) The St. Albans City Downtown Tax Increment Financing District is extended to ~~March 31, 2023~~ March 31, 2024.

(b) This section does not:

(1) extend any period that the municipal or education tax increment may be retained by the tax increment financing districts listed in subsection (a) of this section; or

(2) amend any other tax increment financing requirements set forth in 24 V.S.A. chapter 53, subchapter 5; 32 V.S.A. § 5404a; or the TIF District Rule adopted in May 2015, applicable to the tax increment financing districts listed in subsection (a) of this section.

Thereupon, the question, Shall the Senate concur in the House proposals of amendment to the Senate proposal of amendment?, were severally decided in the affirmative.

Thereupon, on motion of Senator Balint, the rules were suspended and the bill was ordered messaged to the House forthwith.

Rules Suspended; Bill Delivered

On motion of Senator Balint, the rules were suspended, and the following bill was ordered delivered to the Governor forthwith:

S. 3.

Appointment Confirmed

Under suspension of the rules (and particularly, Senate Rule 93), as moved by Senator White, the following Gubernatorial appointments were confirmed

together as a group by the Senate, without reports given by the Committees to which they were referred and without debate:

The nomination of

Katz, Adrienne of Williston - Member, Board of Libraries - August 24, 2020 to February 29, 2024.

Was confirmed by the Senate.

The nomination of

Wobby, Lauren of Northfield - Member Vermont Educational and Health Buildings Financing Agency - July 15, 2020 to February 28, 2026.

Was confirmed by the Senate.

Adjournment

On motion of Senator Balint, the Senate adjourned until one o'clock in the afternoon.

Called to Order

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Rules Suspended; Report of Committee of Conference Accepted and Adopted on the Part of the Senate

H. 439.

Appearing on the Calendar for notice, on motion of Senator Balint, the rules were suspended and the report of the Committee of Conference on House bill entitled:

An act relating to making appropriations for the support of government.

Was taken up for immediate consideration.

Senator Kitchel, for the Committee of Conference, submitted the following report:

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

The Committee of Conference to which were referred the disagreeing votes of the two Houses upon House bill entitled:

H. 439. An act relating to making appropriations for the support of government.

Respectfully reports that it has met and considered the same and recommends that the Senate recede from its proposal of amendment and that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in

lieu thereof the following:

Sec. A.100 SHORT TITLE

(a) This bill may be referred to as the BIG BILL – Fiscal Year 2022 Appropriations Act.

Sec. A.101 PURPOSE

(a) The purpose of this act is to provide appropriations for the operations of State government during fiscal year 2022. It is the express intent of the General Assembly that activities of the various agencies, departments, divisions, boards, and commissions be limited to those that can be supported by funds appropriated in this act or other acts passed prior to June 30, 2021. Agency and department heads are directed to implement staffing and service levels at the beginning of fiscal year 2022 so as to meet this condition unless otherwise directed by specific language in this act or other acts of the General Assembly.

Sec. A.102 APPROPRIATIONS

(a) It is the intent of the General Assembly that this act serves as the primary source and reference for appropriations for fiscal year 2022.

(b) The sums in this act stated are appropriated for the purposes specified in the following sections of this act. When no time is expressly stated during which any of the appropriations are to continue, the appropriations are single year appropriations and only for the purpose indicated and shall be paid from funds shown as the source of funds. If in this act there is an error in either addition or subtraction, the totals shall be adjusted accordingly. Apparent errors in referring to section numbers of statutory titles within this act may be disregarded by the Commissioner of Finance and Management.

(c) Unless codified or otherwise specified, all narrative portions of this act apply only to the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2022.

Sec. A.103 DEFINITIONS

(a) As used in this act:

(1) “Encumbrances” means a portion of an appropriation reserved for the subsequent payment of existing purchase orders or contracts. The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall make final decisions on the appropriateness of encumbrances.

(2) “Grants” means subsidies, aid, or payments to local governments, to community and quasi-public agencies for providing local services, and to persons who are not wards of the State for services or supplies and means cash or other direct assistance, including pension contributions.

(3) “Operating expenses” means property management; repair and maintenance; rental expenses; insurance; postage; travel; energy and utilities; office and other supplies; equipment, including motor vehicles, highway materials, and construction; expenditures for the purchase of land and construction of new buildings and permanent improvements; and similar items.

(4) “Personal services” means wages and salaries, fringe benefits, per diems, contracted third-party services, and similar items.

Sec. A.104 RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING LAWS

(a) Except as specifically provided, this act shall not be construed in any way to negate or impair the full force and effect of existing laws.

Sec. A.105 OFFSETTING APPROPRIATIONS

(a) In the absence of specific provisions to the contrary in this act, when total appropriations are offset by estimated receipts, the State appropriations shall control, notwithstanding receipts being greater or less than anticipated.

Sec. A.106 FEDERAL FUNDS

(a) In fiscal year 2022, the Governor, with the approval of the General Assembly or the Joint Fiscal Committee if the General Assembly is not in session, may accept federal funds available to the State of Vermont, including block grants in lieu of or in addition to funds in this act designated as federal. The Governor, with the approval of the General Assembly or the Joint Fiscal Committee if the General Assembly is not in session, may allocate all or any portion of such federal funds for any purpose consistent with the purposes for which the basic appropriations in this act have been made.

(b) If, during fiscal year 2022, federal funds available to the State of Vermont and designated as federal in this and other acts of the 2021 session of the Vermont General Assembly are converted into block grants or are abolished under their current title in federal law and reestablished under a new title in federal law, the Governor may continue to accept such federal funds for any purpose consistent with the purposes for which the federal funds were appropriated. The Governor may spend such funds for such purposes for not more than 45 days prior to legislative or Joint Fiscal Committee approval. Notice shall be given to the Joint Fiscal Committee without delay if the Governor intends to use the authority granted by this section, and the Joint Fiscal Committee shall meet in an expedited manner to review the Governor’s request for approval.

Sec. A.107 NEW POSITIONS

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the total number of authorized State positions, both classified and exempt, excluding temporary

positions as defined in 3 V.S.A. § 311(11), shall not be increased during fiscal year 2022 except for new positions authorized by the 2021 session. Limited service positions approved pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 5 shall not be subject to this restriction.

Sec. A.108 LEGEND

(a) The bill is organized by functions of government. The sections between B.100 and B.9999 contain appropriations of funds for the upcoming budget year. The sections between E.100 and E.9999 contain language that relates to specific appropriations or government functions, or both. The function areas by section numbers are as follows:

<u>B.100–B.199 and E.100–E.199</u>	<u>General Government</u>
<u>B.200–B.299 and E.200–E.299</u>	<u>Protection to Persons and Property</u>
<u>B.300–B.399 and E.300–E.399</u>	<u>Human Services</u>
<u>B.400–B.499 and E.400–E.499</u>	<u>Labor</u>
<u>B.500–B.599 and E.500–E.599</u>	<u>General Education</u>
<u>B.600–B.699 and E.600–E.699</u>	<u>Higher Education</u>
<u>B.700–B.799 and E.700–E.799</u>	<u>Natural Resources</u>
<u>B.800–B.899 and E.800–E.899</u>	<u>Commerce and Community Development</u>
<u>B.900–B.999 and E.900–E.999</u>	<u>Transportation</u>
<u>B.1000–B.1099 and E.1000–E.1099</u>	<u>Debt Service</u>
<u>B.1100–B.1199 and E.1100–E.1199</u>	<u>One-time and other appropriation actions</u>

(b) The C sections contain any amendments to the current fiscal year, the D sections contain fund transfers and reserve allocations for the upcoming budget year, the F sections contain Pay Act provisions, the G sections contain provisions relating to the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Pub. L. No. 117-2 (ARPA) - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund expenditures and other related funding and the H sections contain provisions relating to community and economic development and workforce revitalization.

Sec. B.100 Secretary of administration - secretary's office

Personal services	1,400,682
Operating expenses	104,476
Grants	125,000
Total	1,630,158

Source of funds	
General fund	1,121,847
Special funds	156,000
Internal service funds	173,452
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>178,859</u>
Total	1,630,158
Sec. B.101 Secretary of administration - finance	
Personal services	1,201,006
Operating expenses	<u>111,676</u>
Total	1,312,682
Source of funds	
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,312,682</u>
Total	1,312,682
Sec. B.102 Secretary of administration - workers' compensation insurance	
Personal services	857,369
Operating expenses	<u>118,051</u>
Total	975,420
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>975,420</u>
Total	975,420
Sec. B.103 Secretary of administration - general liability insurance	
Personal services	595,683
Operating expenses	<u>43,858</u>
Total	639,541
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>639,541</u>
Total	639,541
Sec. B.104 Secretary of administration - all other insurance	
Personal services	100,000
Operating expenses	<u>17,643</u>
Total	117,643
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>117,643</u>
Total	117,643
Sec. B.105 Agency of digital services - communications and information technology	
Personal services	56,068,290
Operating expenses	<u>27,848,442</u>

Total	83,916,732
Source of funds	
General fund	174,342
Special funds	387,710
Internal service funds	<u>83,354,680</u>
Total	83,916,732
Sec. B.106 Finance and management - budget and management	
Personal services	1,546,300
Operating expenses	<u>326,217</u>
Total	1,872,517
Source of funds	
General fund	1,277,150
Internal service funds	<u>595,367</u>
Total	1,872,517
Sec. B.107 Finance and management - financial operations	
Personal services	2,148,578
Operating expenses	<u>701,465</u>
Total	2,850,043
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>2,850,043</u>
Total	2,850,043
Sec. B.108 Human resources - operations	
Personal services	8,799,075
Operating expenses	<u>1,287,313</u>
Total	10,086,388
Source of funds	
General fund	2,044,399
Special funds	263,589
Internal service funds	7,334,516
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>443,884</u>
Total	10,086,388
Sec. B.108.1 Human resources - VTHR operations	
Personal services	1,666,791
Operating expenses	<u>705,383</u>
Total	2,372,174
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>2,372,174</u>
Total	2,372,174

 Sec. B.109 Human resources - employee benefits & wellness

Personal services	984,701
Operating expenses	<u>571,628</u>
Total	1,556,329
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>1,556,329</u>
Total	1,556,329

Sec. B.110 Libraries

Personal services	2,148,542
Operating expenses	902,085
Grants	<u>207,795</u>
Total	3,258,422
Source of funds	
General fund	1,965,363
Special funds	34,327
Federal funds	1,150,041
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>108,691</u>
Total	3,258,422

Sec. B.111 Tax - administration/collection

Personal services	16,359,596
Operating expenses	<u>6,063,586</u>
Total	22,423,182
Source of funds	
General fund	20,382,265
Special funds	2,006,808
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>34,109</u>
Total	22,423,182

Sec. B.112 Buildings and general services - administration

Personal services	715,251
Operating expenses	<u>104,757</u>
Total	820,008
Source of funds	
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>820,008</u>
Total	820,008

Sec. B.113 Buildings and general services - engineering

Personal services	2,627,067
Operating expenses	<u>1,497,407</u>
Total	4,124,474

Source of funds	
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>4,124,474</u>
Total	4,124,474
Sec. B.114 Buildings and general services - information centers	
Personal services	2,830,882
Operating expenses	<u>2,211,147</u>
Total	5,042,029
Source of funds	
General fund	630,652
Transportation fund	3,911,594
Special funds	<u>499,783</u>
Total	5,042,029
Sec. B.115 Buildings and general services - purchasing	
Personal services	1,029,319
Operating expenses	<u>211,360</u>
Total	1,240,679
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>1,240,679</u>
Total	1,240,679
Sec. B.116 Buildings and general services - postal services	
Personal services	677,141
Operating expenses	<u>247,846</u>
Total	924,987
Source of funds	
General fund	82,511
Internal service funds	<u>842,476</u>
Total	924,987
Sec. B.117 Buildings and general services - copy center	
Personal services	763,585
Operating expenses	<u>173,362</u>
Total	936,947
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>936,947</u>
Total	936,947
Sec. B.118 Buildings and general services - fleet management services	
Personal services	693,313
Operating expenses	<u>242,645</u>
Total	935,958

Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>935,958</u>
Total	935,958
Sec. B.119 Buildings and general services - federal surplus property	
Operating expenses	<u>6,840</u>
Total	6,840
Source of funds	
Enterprise funds	<u>6,840</u>
Total	6,840
Sec. B.120 Buildings and general services - state surplus property	
Personal services	303,458
Operating expenses	<u>124,052</u>
Total	427,510
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>427,510</u>
Total	427,510
Sec. B.121 Buildings and general services - property management	
Personal services	1,310,767
Operating expenses	<u>486,368</u>
Total	1,797,135
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>1,797,135</u>
Total	1,797,135
Sec. B.122 Buildings and general services - fee for space	
Personal services	15,866,280
Operating expenses	<u>13,699,234</u>
Total	29,565,514
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>29,565,514</u>
Total	29,565,514
Sec. B.124 Executive office - governor's office	
Personal services	1,394,981
Operating expenses	<u>475,012</u>
Total	1,869,993
Source of funds	
General fund	1,672,493
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>197,500</u>
Total	1,869,993

Sec. B.125 Legislative counsel	
Personal services	3,149,408
Operating expenses	<u>250,828</u>
Total	3,400,236
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>3,400,236</u>
Total	3,400,236
Sec. B.126 Legislature	
Personal services	5,033,474
Operating expenses	<u>3,768,163</u>
Total	8,801,637
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>8,801,637</u>
Total	8,801,637
Sec. B.126.1 Legislative information technology	
Personal services	1,028,974
Operating expenses	<u>562,941</u>
Total	1,591,915
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>1,591,915</u>
Total	1,591,915
Sec. B.127 Joint fiscal committee	
Personal services	2,288,387
Operating expenses	<u>158,873</u>
Total	2,447,260
Source of funds	
General fund	2,322,260
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>125,000</u>
Total	2,447,260
Sec. B.128 Sergeant at arms	
Personal services	954,232
Operating expenses	<u>113,792</u>
Total	1,068,024
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>1,068,024</u>
Total	1,068,024

Sec. B.129 Lieutenant governor	
Personal services	200,056
Operating expenses	<u>39,473</u>
Total	239,529
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>239,529</u>
Total	239,529
Sec. B.130 Auditor of accounts	
Personal services	3,965,350
Operating expenses	<u>155,226</u>
Total	4,120,576
Source of funds	
General fund	344,615
Special funds	53,145
Internal service funds	<u>3,722,816</u>
Total	4,120,576
Sec. B.131 State treasurer	
Personal services	4,066,430
Operating expenses	<u>222,134</u>
Total	4,288,564
Source of funds	
General fund	1,066,424
Special funds	3,064,451
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>157,689</u>
Total	4,288,564
Sec. B.132 State treasurer - unclaimed property	
Personal services	801,509
Operating expenses	<u>333,777</u>
Total	1,135,286
Source of funds	
Private purpose trust funds	<u>1,135,286</u>
Total	1,135,286
Sec. B.133 Vermont state retirement system	
Personal services	3,338,784
Operating expenses	<u>1,517,283</u>
Total	4,856,067
Source of funds	
Pension trust funds	<u>4,856,067</u>

Total	4,856,067
Sec. B.134 Municipal employees' retirement system	
Personal services	1,372,679
Operating expenses	<u>940,333</u>
Total	2,313,012
Source of funds	
Pension trust funds	<u>2,313,012</u>
Total	2,313,012
Sec. B.135 State labor relations board	
Personal services	227,764
Operating expenses	<u>54,876</u>
Total	282,640
Source of funds	
General fund	273,064
Special funds	6,788
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>2,788</u>
Total	282,640
Sec. B.136 VOSHA review board	
Personal services	77,471
Operating expenses	<u>14,444</u>
Total	91,915
Source of funds	
General fund	45,958
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>45,957</u>
Total	91,915
Sec. B.136.1 Ethics Commission	
Personal services	83,826
Operating expenses	<u>29,491</u>
Total	113,317
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>113,317</u>
Total	113,317
Sec. B.137 Homeowner rebate	
Grants	<u>18,600,000</u>
Total	18,600,000
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>18,600,000</u>
Total	18,600,000

Sec. B.138 Renter rebate	
Grants	<u>9,500,000</u>
Total	9,500,000
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>9,500,000</u>
Total	9,500,000
Sec. B.139 Tax department - reappraisal and listing payments	
Grants	<u>3,313,356</u>
Total	3,313,356
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>3,313,356</u>
Total	3,313,356
Sec. B.140 Municipal current use	
Grants	<u>17,824,193</u>
Total	17,824,193
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>17,824,193</u>
Total	17,824,193
Sec. B.142 Payments in lieu of taxes	
Grants	<u>9,750,000</u>
Total	9,750,000
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>9,750,000</u>
Total	9,750,000
Sec. B.143 Payments in lieu of taxes - Montpelier	
Grants	<u>184,000</u>
Total	184,000
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>184,000</u>
Total	184,000
Sec. B.144 Payments in lieu of taxes - correctional facilities	
Grants	<u>40,000</u>
Total	40,000
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>40,000</u>
Total	40,000

Sec. B.145 Total general government

Source of funds	
General fund	98,982,912
Transportation fund	3,911,594
Special funds	16,446,601
Federal funds	1,150,041
Internal service funds	138,310,838
Interdepartmental transfers	7,551,641
Enterprise funds	6,840
Pension trust funds	7,169,079
Private purpose trust funds	<u>1,135,286</u>
Total	274,664,832

Sec. B.200 Attorney general

Personal services	11,337,832
Operating expenses	1,555,031
Grants	<u>26,500</u>
Total	12,919,363
Source of funds	
General fund	6,246,043
Special funds	1,886,016
Tobacco fund	348,000
Federal funds	1,382,278
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>3,057,026</u>
Total	12,919,363

Sec. B.201 Vermont court diversion

Personal services	244,715
Grants	<u>2,682,925</u>
Total	2,927,640
Source of funds	
General fund	2,669,643
Special funds	<u>257,997</u>
Total	2,927,640

Sec. B.202 Defender general - public defense

Personal services	12,730,062
Operating expenses	<u>1,140,326</u>
Total	13,870,388
Source of funds	
General fund	13,280,735
Special funds	<u>589,653</u>

Total	13,870,388
Sec. B.203 Defender general - assigned counsel	
Personal services	6,146,919
Operating expenses	<u>49,500</u>
Total	6,196,419
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>6,196,419</u>
Total	6,196,419
Sec. B.204 Judiciary	
Personal services	43,787,084
Operating expenses	10,626,239
Grants	<u>121,030</u>
Total	54,534,353
Source of funds	
General fund	48,337,826
Special funds	3,200,659
Federal funds	900,469
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>2,095,399</u>
Total	54,534,353
Sec. B.205 State's attorneys	
Personal services	14,772,449
Operating expenses	<u>1,941,311</u>
Total	16,713,760
Source of funds	
General fund	13,745,777
Special funds	85,324
Federal funds	212,828
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>2,669,831</u>
Total	16,713,760
Sec. B.206 Special investigative unit	
Personal services	86,200
Grants	<u>2,014,230</u>
Total	2,100,430
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>2,100,430</u>
Total	2,100,430
Sec. B.207 Sheriffs	
Personal services	4,251,923

Operating expenses	<u>398,724</u>
Total	4,650,647
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>4,650,647</u>
Total	4,650,647
Sec. B.208 Public safety - administration	
Personal services	4,005,613
Operating expenses	4,835,894
Total	8,841,507
Source of funds	
General fund	5,070,962
Special funds	4,105
Federal funds	556,962
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>3,209,478</u>
Total	8,841,507
Sec. B.209 Public safety - state police	
Personal services	59,873,563
Operating expenses	12,188,735
Grants	867,153
Total	72,929,451
Source of funds	
General fund	43,273,740
Transportation fund	20,250,000
Special funds	3,103,294
Federal funds	4,417,066
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,885,351</u>
Total	72,929,451
Sec. B.210 Public safety - criminal justice services	
Personal services	4,854,150
Operating expenses	1,748,074
Total	6,602,224
Source of funds	
General fund	1,813,747
Special funds	4,169,503
Federal funds	<u>618,974</u>
Total	6,602,224
Sec. B.211 Public safety - emergency management	
Personal services	3,622,802
Operating expenses	1,208,465

Grants	12,749,486
Total	17,580,753
Source of funds	
General fund	589,847
Special funds	710,000
Federal funds	16,273,680
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>7,226</u>
Total	17,580,753
Sec. B.212 Public safety - fire safety	
Personal services	6,900,872
Operating expenses	2,621,228
Grants	107,000
Total	9,629,100
Source of funds	
General fund	461,669
Special funds	8,639,610
Federal funds	482,821
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>45,000</u>
Total	9,629,100
Sec. B.213 Public safety - Forensic Laboratory	
Personal services	3,051,799
Operating expenses	1,111,583
Total	4,163,382
Source of funds	
General fund	3,217,665
Special funds	61,852
Federal funds	531,072
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>352,793</u>
Total	4,163,382
Sec. B.215 Military - administration	
Personal services	705,613
Operating expenses	649,055
Grants	1,319,834
Total	2,674,502
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>2,674,502</u>
Total	2,674,502
Sec. B.216 Military - air service contract	
Personal services	6,926,201

Operating expenses	1,126,174
Total	8,052,375
Source of funds	
General fund	613,964
Federal funds	<u>7,438,411</u>
Total	8,052,375
Sec. B.217 Military - army service contract	
Personal services	13,662,589
Operating expenses	<u>8,036,445</u>
Total	21,699,034
Source of funds	
Federal funds	<u>21,699,034</u>
Total	21,699,034
Sec. B.218 Military - building maintenance	
Personal services	877,574
Operating expenses	719,418
Total	1,596,992
Source of funds	
General fund	1,534,492
Special funds	<u>62,500</u>
Total	1,596,992
Sec. B.219 Military - veterans' affairs	
Personal services	868,747
Operating expenses	169,267
Grants	49,300
Total	1,087,314
Source of funds	
General fund	823,965
Special funds	163,349
Federal funds	<u>100,000</u>
Total	1,087,314
Sec. B.220 Center for crime victim services	
Personal services	1,848,483
Operating expenses	386,510
Grants	10,388,535
Total	12,623,528
Source of funds	
General fund	1,382,712
Special funds	4,628,381

Federal funds	<u>6,612,435</u>
Total	12,623,528
Sec. B.221 Criminal justice council	
Personal services	1,789,698
Operating expenses	1,382,557
Total	3,172,255
Source of funds	
General fund	2,931,638
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>240,617</u>
Total	3,172,255
Sec. B.222 Agriculture, food and markets - administration	
Personal services	1,708,448
Operating expenses	458,028
Grants	227,972
Total	2,394,448
Source of funds	
General fund	1,037,364
Special funds	901,167
Federal funds	<u>455,917</u>
Total	2,394,448
Sec. B.223 Agriculture, food and markets - food safety and consumer protection	
Personal services	4,295,567
Operating expenses	731,597
Grants	2,780,000
Total	7,807,164
Source of funds	
General fund	2,998,665
Special funds	3,647,045
Federal funds	1,154,454
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>7,000</u>
Total	7,807,164
Sec. B.224 Agriculture, food and markets - agricultural development	
Personal services	3,259,502
Operating expenses	601,797
Grants	3,212,425
Total	7,073,724
Source of funds	
General fund	2,230,367

Special funds	686,753
Federal funds	<u>4,156,604</u>
Total	7,073,724
Sec. B.225 Agriculture, food and markets - agricultural resource management and environmental stewardship	
Personal services	2,689,658
Operating expenses	623,905
Grants	295,334
Total	3,608,897
Source of funds	
General fund	778,555
Special funds	2,084,017
Federal funds	466,470
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>279,855</u>
Total	3,608,897
Sec. B.225.1 Agriculture, food and markets - Vermont Agriculture and Environmental Lab	
Personal services	1,658,109
Operating expenses	1,072,026
Total	2,730,135
Source of funds	
General fund	972,444
Special funds	1,690,632
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>67,059</u>
Total	2,730,135
Sec. B.225.2 Agriculture, Food and Markets - Clean Water	
Personal services	3,249,011
Operating expenses	486,344
Grants	4,060,891
Total	7,796,246
Source of funds	
General fund	1,087,080
Special funds	6,089,920
Federal funds	133,534
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>485,712</u>
Total	7,796,246
Sec. B.226 Financial regulation - administration	
Personal services	2,192,277
Operating expenses	287,859

Total	2,480,136
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>2,480,136</u>
Total	2,480,136
Sec. B.227 Financial regulation - banking	
Personal services	1,952,985
Operating expenses	443,717
Total	2,396,702
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>2,396,702</u>
Total	2,396,702
Sec. B.228 Financial regulation - insurance	
Personal services	4,231,076
Operating expenses	612,474
Total	4,843,550
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>4,843,550</u>
Total	4,843,550
Sec. B.229 Financial regulation - captive insurance	
Personal services	4,462,433
Operating expenses	635,148
Total	5,097,581
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>5,097,581</u>
Total	5,097,581
Sec. B.230 Financial regulation - securities	
Personal services	1,090,028
Operating expenses	267,752
Total	1,357,780
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>1,357,780</u>
Total	1,357,780
Sec. B.232 Secretary of state	
Personal services	10,735,193
Operating expenses	3,366,058
Total	14,101,251
Source of funds	
Special funds	12,643,807

Federal funds	<u>1,457,444</u>
Total	14,101,251
Sec. B.233 Public service - regulation and energy	
Personal services	10,455,905
Operating expenses	1,129,688
Grants	858,000
Total	12,443,593
Source of funds	
Special funds	10,812,770
Federal funds	1,001,919
ARRA funds	520,000
Interdepartmental transfers	55,000
Enterprise funds	<u>53,904</u>
Total	12,443,593
Sec. B.234 Public utility commission	
Personal services	3,412,556
Operating expenses	495,007
Total	3,907,563
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>3,907,563</u>
Total	3,907,563
Sec. B.235 Enhanced 9-1-1 Board	
Personal services	4,012,033
Operating expenses	456,180
Total	4,468,213
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>4,468,213</u>
Total	4,468,213
Sec. B.236 Human rights commission	
Personal services	636,832
Operating expenses	81,350
Total	718,182
Source of funds	
General fund	639,626
Federal funds	<u>78,556</u>
Total	718,182
Sec. B.236.1 Liquor & Lottery Comm. Office	
Personal services	419,403

Operating expenses	21,299
Total	440,702
Source of funds	
Enterprise funds	<u>440,702</u>
Total	440,702
Sec. B.236.2 Lottery Operations	
Personal services	2,068,967
Operating expenses	1,469,560
Grants	250,000
Total	3,788,527
Source of funds	
Enterprise funds	<u>3,788,527</u>
Total	3,788,527
Sec. B.237 Liquor control - administration	
Personal services	3,754,315
Operating expenses	1,178,748
Total	4,933,063
Source of funds	
Tobacco fund	213,843
Enterprise funds	<u>4,719,220</u>
Total	4,933,063
Sec. B.238 Liquor control - enforcement and licensing	
Personal services	1,960,344
Operating expenses	414,536
Total	2,374,880
Source of funds	
Federal funds	184,484
Enterprise funds	<u>2,190,396</u>
Total	2,374,880
Sec. B.239 Liquor control - warehousing and distribution	
Personal services	1,062,133
Operating expenses	530,736
Total	1,592,869
Source of funds	
Enterprise funds	<u>1,592,869</u>
Total	1,592,869
Sec. B.240 Cannabis Control Board	
Personal services	650,000

Total	650,000
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>650,000</u>
Total	650,000
Sec. B.241 Total protection to persons and property	
Source of funds	
General fund	171,360,524
Transportation fund	20,250,000
Special funds	91,319,879
Tobacco fund	561,843
Federal funds	70,315,412
ARRA funds	520,000
Interdepartmental transfers	14,457,347
Enterprise funds	<u>12,785,618</u>
Total	381,570,623
Sec. B.300 Human services - agency of human services - secretary's office	
Personal services	11,427,819
Operating expenses	5,214,621
Grants	2,895,202
Total	19,537,642
Source of funds	
General fund	8,430,401
Special funds	135,517
Federal funds	9,959,398
Global Commitment fund	453,000
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>559,326</u>
Total	19,537,642
Sec. B.301 Secretary's office - global commitment	
Grants	1,680,637,999
Total	1,680,637,999
Source of funds	
General fund	559,592,034
Special funds	33,370,086
Tobacco fund	21,049,373
State health care resources fund	17,078,501
Federal funds	1,044,929,568
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>4,618,437</u>
Total	1,680,637,999

 Sec. B.303 Developmental disabilities council

Personal services	389,631
Operating expenses	94,884
Grants	191,595
Total	676,110
Source of funds	
Special funds	12,000
Federal funds	<u>664,110</u>
Total	676,110

Sec. B.304 Human services board

Personal services	739,966
Operating expenses	88,723
Total	828,689
Source of funds	
General fund	474,851
Federal funds	<u>353,838</u>
Total	828,689

Sec. B.305 AHS - administrative fund

Personal services	330,000
Operating expenses	10,170,000
Total	10,500,000
Source of funds	
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>10,500,000</u>
Total	10,500,000

Sec. B.306 Department of Vermont health access - administration

Personal services	130,163,425
Operating expenses	26,394,423
Grants	3,192,301
Total	159,750,149
Source of funds	
General fund	32,776,219
Special funds	3,363,758
Federal funds	114,469,002
Global Commitment fund	4,314,039
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>4,827,131</u>
Total	159,750,149

Sec. B.307 Department of Vermont health access - Medicaid program - global commitment

Personal services	547,983
Grants	757,772,233
Total	758,320,216
Source of funds	
Global Commitment fund	<u>758,320,216</u>
Total	758,320,216

Sec. B.309 Department of Vermont health access - Medicaid program - state only

Grants	42,367,754
Total	42,367,754
Source of funds	
General fund	42,315,703
Global Commitment fund	<u>52,051</u>
Total	42,367,754

Sec. B.310 Department of Vermont health access - Medicaid non-waiver matched

Grants	32,842,006
Total	32,842,006
Source of funds	
General fund	12,664,602
Federal funds	<u>20,177,404</u>
Total	32,842,006

Sec. B.311 Health - administration and support

Personal services	5,753,602
Operating expenses	6,567,686
Grants	6,313,608
Total	18,634,896
Source of funds	
General fund	2,982,217
Special funds	2,061,857
Federal funds	7,777,658
Global Commitment fund	5,748,858
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>64,306</u>
Total	18,634,896

Sec. B.312 Health - public health

Personal services	48,721,754
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Operating expenses	10,018,085
Grants	38,742,061
Total	97,481,900
Source of funds	
General fund	11,154,334
Special funds	18,897,491
Tobacco fund	1,088,918
Federal funds	49,379,385
Global Commitment fund	15,938,349
Interdepartmental transfers	998,423
Permanent trust funds	<u>25,000</u>
Total	97,481,900
Sec. B.313 Health - alcohol and drug abuse programs	
Personal services	5,167,831
Operating expenses	511,500
Grants	48,713,374
Total	54,392,705
Source of funds	
General fund	1,238,534
Special funds	1,354,762
Tobacco fund	949,917
Federal funds	18,651,302
Global Commitment fund	<u>32,198,190</u>
Total	54,392,705
Sec. B.314 Mental health - mental health	
Personal services	32,985,332
Operating expenses	4,700,264
Grants	246,498,959
Total	284,184,555
Source of funds	
General fund	10,281,092
Special funds	1,685,284
Federal funds	9,398,134
Global Commitment fund	262,745,408
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>74,637</u>
Total	284,184,555
Sec. B.316 Department for children and families - administration & support services	
Personal services	38,362,798

Operating expenses	17,035,520
Grants	3,819,106
Total	59,217,424
Source of funds	
General fund	33,091,620
Special funds	2,711,682
Federal funds	21,062,298
Global Commitment fund	2,000,936
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>350,888</u>
Total	59,217,424
Sec. B.317 Department for children and families - family services	
Personal services	39,332,995
Operating expenses	4,997,338
Grants	81,171,012
Total	125,501,345
Source of funds	
General fund	49,047,462
Special funds	729,587
Federal funds	31,365,138
Global Commitment fund	44,344,158
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>15,000</u>
Total	125,501,345
Sec. B.318 Department for children and families - child development	
Personal services	5,020,429
Operating expenses	848,079
Grants	100,111,841
Total	105,980,349
Source of funds	
General fund	27,348,614
Special funds	16,820,000
Federal funds	50,874,814
Global Commitment fund	10,914,421
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>22,500</u>
Total	105,980,349
Sec. B.319 Department for children and families - office of child support	
Personal services	11,099,902
Operating expenses	3,630,055
Total	14,729,957
Source of funds	

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General fund	4,368,322
Special funds	455,719
Federal funds	9,518,316
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>387,600</u>
Total	14,729,957
Sec. B.320 Department for children and families - aid to aged, blind and disabled	
Personal services	2,252,206
Grants	10,298,023
Total	12,550,229
Source of funds	
General fund	8,649,899
Global Commitment fund	<u>3,900,330</u>
Total	12,550,229
Sec. B.321 Department for children and families - general assistance	
Personal services	15,000
Grants	2,823,574
Total	2,838,574
Source of funds	
General fund	2,441,239
Federal funds	111,320
Global Commitment fund	<u>286,015</u>
Total	2,838,574
Sec. B.322 Department for children and families - 3SquaresVT	
Grants	29,827,906
Total	29,827,906
Source of funds	
Federal funds	<u>29,827,906</u>
Total	29,827,906
Sec. B.323 Department for children and families - reach up	
Operating expenses	29,119
Grants	31,842,843
Total	31,871,962
Source of funds	
General fund	19,904,694
Special funds	5,854,320
Federal funds	3,431,330
Global Commitment fund	<u>2,681,618</u>
Total	31,871,962

Sec. B.324 Department for children and families - home heating fuel assistance/LIHEAP

Grants	16,019,953
Total	16,019,953
Source of funds	
Special funds	1,480,395
Federal funds	<u>14,539,558</u>
Total	16,019,953

Sec. B.325 Department for children and families - office of economic opportunity

Personal services	636,177
Operating expenses	43,488
Grants	19,383,262
Total	20,062,927
Source of funds	
General fund	14,225,798
Special funds	57,990
Federal funds	4,423,154
Global Commitment fund	<u>1,355,985</u>
Total	20,062,927

Sec. B.326 Department for children and families - OEO - weatherization assistance

Personal services	352,504
Operating expenses	44,297
Grants	12,038,018
Total	12,434,819
Source of funds	
Special funds	7,617,551
Federal funds	<u>4,817,268</u>
Total	12,434,819

Sec. B.327 Department for Children and Families - Secure Residential Treatment

Personal services	258,100
Operating expenses	650,463
Grants	3,476,862
Total	4,385,425
Source of funds	
General fund	4,355,425
Global Commitment fund	<u>30,000</u>

Total	4,385,425
Sec. B.328 Department for children and families - disability determination services	
Personal services	7,139,139
Operating expenses	460,858
Total	7,599,997
Source of funds	
General fund	111,120
Federal funds	<u>7,488,877</u>
Total	7,599,997
Sec. B.329 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - administration & support	
Personal services	33,906,585
Operating expenses	5,953,426
Total	39,860,011
Source of funds	
General fund	17,731,954
Special funds	1,390,457
Federal funds	19,671,316
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,066,284</u>
Total	39,860,011
Sec. B.330 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - advocacy and independent living grants	
Grants	19,352,893
Total	19,352,893
Source of funds	
General fund	7,644,654
Federal funds	7,148,466
Global Commitment fund	<u>4,559,773</u>
Total	19,352,893
Sec. B.331 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - blind and visually impaired	
Grants	1,661,457
Total	1,661,457
Source of funds	
General fund	389,154
Special funds	223,450
Federal funds	743,853
Global Commitment fund	<u>305,000</u>

Total	1,661,457
Sec. B.332 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - vocational rehabilitation	
Grants	7,024,368
Total	7,024,368
Source of funds	
General fund	1,371,845
Federal funds	4,402,523
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,250,000</u>
Total	7,024,368
Sec. B.333 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - developmental services	
Grants	253,129,050
Total	253,129,050
Source of funds	
General fund	155,125
Special funds	15,463
Federal funds	359,857
Global Commitment fund	252,548,605
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>50,000</u>
Total	253,129,050
Sec. B.334 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - Brain injury home and community based waiver	
Grants	5,564,689
Total	5,564,689
Source of funds	
Global Commitment fund	<u>5,564,689</u>
Total	5,564,689
Sec. B.334.1 Disabilities, aging and independent living - Long Term Care	
Grants	230,505,916
Total	230,505,916
Source of funds	
General fund	498,579
Federal funds	2,083,333
Global Commitment fund	<u>227,924,004</u>
Total	230,505,916
Sec. B.335 Corrections - administration	
Personal services	3,075,938
Operating expenses	238,644

Total	3,314,582
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>3,314,582</u>
Total	3,314,582
Sec. B.336 Corrections - parole board	
Personal services	361,649
Operating expenses	59,216
Total	420,865
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>420,865</u>
Total	420,865
Sec. B.337 Corrections - correctional education	
Personal services	3,240,204
Operating expenses	244,932
Total	3,485,136
Source of funds	
General fund	3,336,352
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>148,784</u>
Total	3,485,136
Sec. B.338 Corrections - correctional services	
Personal services	119,627,239
Operating expenses	23,264,616
Grants	9,308,427
Total	152,200,282
Source of funds	
General fund	130,083,685
Special funds	935,963
Federal Coronavirus Relief Fund	15,000,000
Federal funds	473,523
Global Commitment fund	5,310,796
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>396,315</u>
Total	152,200,282
Sec. B.339 Corrections - Correctional services-out of state beds	
Personal services	5,640,604
Total	5,640,604
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>5,640,604</u>
Total	5,640,604

Sec. B.340 Corrections - correctional facilities - recreation	
Personal services	514,774
Operating expenses	455,845
Total	970,619
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>970,619</u>
Total	970,619
Sec. B.341 Corrections - Vermont offender work program	
Personal services	1,426,198
Operating expenses	525,784
Total	1,951,982
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>1,951,982</u>
Total	1,951,982
Sec. B.342 Vermont veterans' home - care and support services	
Personal services	19,020,560
Operating expenses	5,426,960
Total	24,447,520
Source of funds	
General fund	2,843,321
Special funds	11,868,942
Federal funds	<u>9,735,257</u>
Total	24,447,520
Sec. B.343 Commission on women	
Personal services	334,422
Operating expenses	71,369
Total	405,791
Source of funds	
General fund	402,018
Special funds	<u>3,773</u>
Total	405,791
Sec. B.344 Retired senior volunteer program	
Grants	146,564
Total	146,564
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>146,564</u>
Total	146,564

 Sec. B.345 Green Mountain Care Board

Personal services	7,351,808
Operating expenses	385,835
Total	7,737,643
Source of funds	
General fund	3,094,435
Special funds	<u>4,643,208</u>
Total	7,737,643

Sec. B.346 Total human services

Source of funds	
General fund	1,022,527,917
Special funds	116,659,874
Tobacco fund	23,088,208
State health care resources fund	17,078,501
Federal Coronavirus Relief Fund	15,000,000
Federal funds	1,497,837,906
Global Commitment fund	1,641,496,441
Internal service funds	1,951,982
Interdepartmental transfers	25,329,631
Permanent trust funds	<u>25,000</u>
Total	4,360,995,460

Sec. B.400 Labor - programs

Personal services	31,359,103
Operating expenses	7,701,210
Grants	1,822,409
Total	40,882,722
Source of funds	
General fund	5,394,154
Special funds	6,422,539
Federal funds	28,658,417
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>407,612</u>
Total	40,882,722

Sec. B.401 Total labor

Source of funds	
General fund	5,394,154
Special funds	6,422,539
Federal funds	28,658,417
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>407,612</u>
Total	40,882,722

Sec. B.500 Education - finance and administration

Personal services	13,479,879
Operating expenses	3,987,842
Grants	16,770,700
Total	34,238,421
Source of funds	
General fund	5,446,749
Special funds	18,343,202
Education fund	3,389,605
Federal funds	6,201,700
Global Commitment fund	260,000
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>597,165</u>
Total	34,238,421

Sec. B.501 Education - education services

Personal services	14,739,327
Operating expenses	1,073,385
Grants	182,915,554
Total	198,728,266
Source of funds	
General fund	4,580,935
Special funds	2,863,170
Tobacco fund	750,388
Federal funds	<u>190,533,773</u>
Total	198,728,266

Sec. B.502 Education - special education: formula grants

Grants	229,000,000
Total	229,000,000
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>229,000,000</u>
Total	229,000,000

Sec. B.503 Education - state-placed students

Grants	17,000,000
Total	17,000,000
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>17,000,000</u>
Total	17,000,000

Sec. B.504 Education - adult education and literacy

Grants	4,262,900
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Total	4,262,900
Source of funds	
General fund	3,496,850
Federal funds	<u>766,050</u>
Total	4,262,900
Sec. B.504.1 Education - Flexible Pathways	
Grants	9,143,000
Total	9,143,000
Source of funds	
General fund	921,500
Education fund	<u>8,221,500</u>
Total	9,143,000
Sec. B.505 Education - adjusted education payment	
Grants	1,502,051,000
Total	1,502,051,000
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>1,502,051,000</u>
Total	1,502,051,000
Sec. B.506 Education - transportation	
Grants	20,476,000
Total	20,476,000
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>20,476,000</u>
Total	20,476,000
Sec. B.507 Education - small school grants	
Grants	8,100,000
Total	8,100,000
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>8,100,000</u>
Total	8,100,000
Sec. B.510 Education - essential early education grant	
Grants	7,050,104
Total	7,050,104
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>7,050,104</u>
Total	7,050,104
Sec. B.511 Education - technical education	

Grants	15,514,300
Total	15,514,300
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>15,514,300</u>
Total	15,514,300
Sec. B.511.1 State Board of Education	
Personal services	38,905
Operating expenses	31,803
Total	70,708
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>70,708</u>
Total	70,708
Sec. B.514 State teachers' retirement system	
Grants	189,646,629
Total	189,646,629
Source of funds	
General fund	152,045,711
Education fund	<u>37,600,918</u>
Total	189,646,629
Sec. B.514.1 State teachers' retirement system administration	
Personal services	3,421,938
Operating expenses	1,687,769
Total	5,109,707
Source of funds	
Pension trust funds	<u>5,109,707</u>
Total	5,109,707
Sec. B.515 Retired teachers' health care and medical benefits	
Grants	35,093,844
Total	35,093,844
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>35,093,844</u>
Total	35,093,844
Sec. B.516 Total general education	
Source of funds	
General fund	201,656,297
Special funds	21,206,372
Tobacco fund	750,388
Education fund	1,848,403,427

Federal funds	197,501,523
Global Commitment fund	260,000
Interdepartmental transfers	597,165
Pension trust funds	<u>5,109,707</u>
Total	2,275,484,879
Sec. B.600 University of Vermont	
Grants	42,509,093
Total	42,509,093
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>42,509,093</u>
Total	42,509,093
Sec. B.602 Vermont state colleges	
Grants	30,500,464
Total	30,500,464
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>30,500,464</u>
Total	30,500,464
Sec. B.602.2 Vermont state colleges - Transformation funding	
Grants	5,000,000
Total	5,000,000
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>5,000,000</u>
Total	5,000,000
Sec. B.603 Vermont state colleges - allied health	
Grants	1,157,775
Total	1,157,775
Source of funds	
General fund	748,314
Global Commitment fund	<u>409,461</u>
Total	1,157,775
Sec. B.605 Vermont student assistance corporation	
Grants	22,251,315
Total	22,251,315
Source of funds	
General fund	19,978,588
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>2,272,727</u>
Total	22,251,315

 Sec. B.605.1 VSAC - Flexible Pathways Stipend

Grants	82,450
Total	82,450
Source of funds	
General fund	41,225
Education fund	<u>41,225</u>
Total	82,450

Sec. B.606 New England higher education compact

Grants	84,000
Total	84,000
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>84,000</u>
Total	84,000

Sec. B.607 University of Vermont - Morgan Horse Farm

Grants	1
Total	1
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>1</u>
Total	1

Sec. B.608 Total higher education

Source of funds	
General fund	98,861,685
Education fund	41,225
Global Commitment fund	409,461
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>2,272,727</u>
Total	101,585,098

Sec. B.700 Natural resources - agency of natural resources - administration

Personal services	4,035,622
Operating expenses	1,189,608
Total	5,225,230
Source of funds	
General fund	3,358,569
Special funds	590,134
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,276,527</u>
Total	5,225,230

Sec. B.701 Natural resources - state land local property tax assessment

Operating expenses	2,623,193
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Total	2,623,193
Source of funds	
General fund	2,196,040
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>427,153</u>
Total	2,623,193
Sec. B.702 Fish and wildlife - support and field services	
Personal services	18,654,752
Operating expenses	6,717,480
Grants	670,446
Total	26,042,678
Source of funds	
General fund	6,403,816
Special funds	239,657
Fish and wildlife fund	9,561,364
Federal funds	8,504,410
Interdepartmental transfers	1,322,431
Permanent trust funds	<u>11,000</u>
Total	26,042,678
Sec. B.703 Forests, parks and recreation - administration	
Personal services	827,425
Operating expenses	1,309,059
Total	2,136,484
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>2,136,484</u>
Total	2,136,484
Sec. B.704 Forests, parks and recreation - forestry	
Personal services	6,525,761
Operating expenses	785,127
Grants	1,417,718
Total	8,728,606
Source of funds	
General fund	4,976,669
Special funds	1,038,423
Federal funds	2,456,651
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>256,863</u>
Total	8,728,606
Sec. B.705 Forests, parks and recreation - state parks	
Personal services	10,025,540
Operating expenses	2,741,662

Grants	70,000
Total	12,837,202
Source of funds	
General fund	1,063,266
Special funds	<u>11,773,936</u>
Total	12,837,202
Sec. B.706 Forests, parks and recreation - lands administration and recreation	
Personal services	2,145,871
Operating expenses	1,355,338
Grants	2,827,587
Total	6,328,796
Source of funds	
General fund	916,929
Special funds	2,206,789
Federal funds	3,082,578
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>122,500</u>
Total	6,328,796
Sec. B.708 Forests, parks and recreation - forest and parks access roads	
Personal services	110,000
Operating expenses	69,925
Total	179,925
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>179,925</u>
Total	179,925
Sec. B.709 Environmental conservation - management and support services	
Personal services	6,421,694
Operating expenses	3,951,865
Grants	145,000
Total	10,518,559
Source of funds	
General fund	1,749,088
Special funds	350,323
Federal funds	1,112,314
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>7,306,834</u>
Total	10,518,559
Sec. B.710 Environmental conservation - air and waste management	
Personal services	25,302,612
Operating expenses	10,449,327
Grants	5,223,462

Total	40,975,401
Source of funds	
General fund	154,530
Special funds	36,839,568
Federal funds	3,822,700
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>158,603</u>
Total	40,975,401
Sec. B.711 Environmental conservation - office of water programs	
Personal services	28,652,311
Operating expenses	6,722,953
Grants	31,819,350
Total	67,194,614
Source of funds	
General fund	7,926,170
Special funds	22,601,929
Federal funds	36,003,082
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>663,433</u>
Total	67,194,614
Sec. B.713 Natural resources board	
Personal services	2,597,208
Operating expenses	545,630
Total	3,142,838
Source of funds	
General fund	631,629
Special funds	<u>2,511,209</u>
Total	3,142,838
Sec. B.714 Total natural resources	
Source of funds	
General fund	31,693,115
Special funds	78,151,968
Fish and wildlife fund	9,561,364
Federal funds	54,981,735
Interdepartmental transfers	11,534,344
Permanent trust funds	<u>11,000</u>
Total	185,933,526
Sec. B.800 Commerce and community development - agency of commerce and community development - administration	
Personal services	1,970,330
Operating expenses	991,006

Grants	579,820
Total	3,541,156
Source of funds	
General fund	3,150,156
Federal funds	<u>391,000</u>
Total	3,541,156
Sec. B.801 Economic development	
Personal services	3,680,070
Operating expenses	1,042,941
Grants	7,458,839
Total	12,181,850
Source of funds	
General fund	4,898,915
Special funds	1,685,350
Federal funds	3,907,085
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,690,500</u>
Total	12,181,850
Sec. B.802 Housing and community development	
Personal services	4,067,492
Operating expenses	631,346
Grants	24,757,290
Total	29,456,128
Source of funds	
General fund	3,884,934
Special funds	4,890,245
Federal funds	18,277,129
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>2,403,820</u>
Total	29,456,128
Sec. B.806 Tourism and marketing	
Personal services	1,875,235
Operating expenses	1,553,194
Grants	76,880
Total	3,505,309
Source of funds	
General fund	3,485,309
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>20,000</u>
Total	3,505,309
Sec. B.808 Vermont council on the arts	
Grants	722,859

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Total	722,859
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>722,859</u>
Total	722,859
Sec. B.809 Vermont symphony orchestra	
Grants	136,978
Total	136,978
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>136,978</u>
Total	136,978
Sec. B.810 Vermont historical society	
Grants	982,317
Total	982,317
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>982,317</u>
Total	982,317
Sec. B.811 Vermont housing and conservation board	
Grants	30,806,887
Total	30,806,887
Source of funds	
Special funds	11,370,550
Federal funds	<u>19,436,337</u>
Total	30,806,887
Sec. B.812 Vermont humanities council	
Grants	227,989
Total	227,989
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>227,989</u>
Total	227,989
Sec. B.813 Total commerce and community development	
Source of funds	
General fund	17,489,457
Special funds	17,946,145
Federal funds	42,011,551
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>4,114,320</u>
Total	81,561,473
Sec. B.900 Transportation - finance and administration	

Personal services	13,654,880
Operating expenses	2,507,103
Grants	50,000
Total	16,211,983
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	15,815,083
Federal funds	<u>396,900</u>
Total	16,211,983
Sec. B.901 Transportation - aviation	
Personal services	3,734,269
Operating expenses	6,007,377
Grants	710,000
Total	10,451,646
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	5,556,388
Federal funds	<u>4,895,258</u>
Total	10,451,646
Sec. B.902 Transportation - buildings	
Operating expenses	850,000
Total	850,000
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	<u>850,000</u>
Total	850,000
Sec. B.903 Transportation - program development	
Personal services	58,611,534
Operating expenses	227,109,245
Grants	28,813,660
Total	314,534,439
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	48,717,849
TIB fund	10,597,637
Federal funds	254,737,875
Local match	<u>481,078</u>
Total	314,534,439
Sec. B.904 Transportation - rest areas construction	
Personal services	195,000
Operating expenses	1,265,000
Total	1,460,000
Source of funds	

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Transportation fund	146,000
Federal funds	<u>1,314,000</u>
Total	1,460,000
Sec. B.905 Transportation - maintenance state system	
Personal services	45,339,790
Operating expenses	57,902,709
Grants	277,000
Total	103,519,499
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	87,191,712
Federal funds	16,227,787
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>100,000</u>
Total	103,519,499
Sec. B.906 Transportation - policy and planning	
Personal services	4,772,462
Operating expenses	951,911
Grants	5,734,525
Total	11,458,898
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	3,153,630
Federal funds	8,285,268
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>20,000</u>
Total	11,458,898
Sec. B.907 Transportation - rail	
Personal services	5,366,807
Operating expenses	30,983,212
Grants	30,000
Total	36,380,019
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	13,897,283
Federal funds	19,232,299
Interdepartmental transfers	2,429,636
Local match	<u>820,801</u>
Total	36,380,019
Sec. B.908 Transportation - public transit	
Personal services	2,264,103
Operating expenses	112,991
Grants	40,444,428
Total	42,821,522

Source of funds	
Transportation fund	3,303,839
Federal funds	39,496,667
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>21,016</u>
Total	42,821,522
Sec. B.909 Transportation - central garage	
Personal services	4,728,892
Operating expenses	17,473,828
Total	22,202,720
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>22,202,720</u>
Total	22,202,720
Sec. B.910 Department of motor vehicles	
Personal services	25,010,265
Operating expenses	10,963,723
Total	35,973,988
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	34,190,338
Federal funds	1,666,250
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>117,400</u>
Total	35,973,988
Sec. B.911 Transportation - town highway structures	
Grants	12,667,000
Total	12,667,000
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	<u>12,667,000</u>
Total	12,667,000
Sec. B.912 Transportation - town highway local technical assistance program	
Personal services	368,939
Operating expenses	42,750
Total	411,689
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	111,689
Federal funds	<u>300,000</u>
Total	411,689
Sec. B.913 Transportation - town highway class 2 roadway	
Grants	15,297,500
Total	15,297,500

Source of funds	
Transportation fund	<u>15,297,500</u>
Total	15,297,500
Sec. B.914 Transportation - town highway bridges	
Personal services	4,475,077
Operating expenses	10,533,896
Grants	399,421
Total	15,408,394
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	1,671,227
TIB fund	800,000
Federal funds	12,405,730
Local match	<u>531,437</u>
Total	15,408,394
Sec. B.915 Transportation - town highway aid program	
Grants	27,105,769
Total	27,105,769
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	<u>27,105,769</u>
Total	27,105,769
Sec. B.916 Transportation - town highway class 1 supplemental grants	
Grants	128,750
Total	128,750
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	<u>128,750</u>
Total	128,750
Sec. B.917 Transportation - town highway: state aid for nonfederal disasters	
Grants	1,150,000
Total	1,150,000
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	<u>1,150,000</u>
Total	1,150,000
Sec. B.918 Transportation - town highway: state aid for federal disasters	
Grants	180,000
Total	180,000
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	20,000
Federal funds	<u>160,000</u>

Total	180,000
Sec. B.919 Transportation - municipal mitigation assistance program	
Operating expenses	265,000
Grants	5,845,000
Total	6,110,000
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	705,000
Special funds	3,977,000
Federal funds	<u>1,428,000</u>
Total	6,110,000
Sec. B.920 Transportation - public assistance grant program	
Operating expenses	200,000
Grants	1,050,000
Total	1,250,000
Source of funds	
Special funds	50,000
Federal funds	1,000,000
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>200,000</u>
Total	1,250,000
Sec. B.921 Transportation board	
Personal services	157,878
Operating expenses	28,733
Total	186,611
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	<u>186,611</u>
Total	186,611
Sec. B.922 Total transportation	
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	271,865,668
TIB fund	11,397,637
Special funds	4,027,000
Federal funds	361,546,034
Internal service funds	22,202,720
Interdepartmental transfers	2,888,052
Local match	<u>1,833,316</u>
Total	675,760,427
Sec. B.1000 Debt service	
Operating expenses	75,981,338

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Total	75,981,338
Source of funds	
General fund	72,953,869
Transportation fund	521,606
ARRA funds	0
TIB debt service fund	<u>2,505,863</u>
Total	75,981,338

Sec. B.1001 Total debt service

Source of funds	
General fund	72,953,869
Transportation fund	521,606
ARRA funds	0
TIB debt service fund	<u>2,505,863</u>
Total	75,981,338

Sec. B.1100 [Deleted.]

Sec. B.1101 [Deleted.]

Sec. B.1102 [Deleted.]

Sec. B.1103 FISCAL YEAR 2022 ONE-TIME DOWNTOWN
TRANSPORTATION AND RELATED CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENT FUND APPROPRIATIONS

(a)(1) In fiscal year 2022, the sum of \$3,500,000 is appropriated from the Downtown Transportation and Related Capital Improvement Fund established by 24 V.S.A. § 2796 to the Department of Housing and Community Development to design, engineer, and construct eligible projects.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, and for the purposes of implementing this one-time funding, the Department of Housing and Community Development is authorized to extend eligibility for the funding allocated in this section to municipalities as follows:

(A) Village centers designated by the Downtown Development Board pursuant to 24 V.S.A. chapter 76a, that have participated in the Better Connections Program administered by the Vermont Agency of Transportation and the Department of Housing and Community Development.

(B) Village centers designated by the Downtown Development Board pursuant to 24 V.S.A. chapter 76a, within Chittenden County that have completed a comprehensive urban/community area planning process with public input, analogous to the Better Connections Program, in accordance with the program guidelines to be established by the Department.

(3) Municipalities in this section may include engineering and design costs in their budget proposals.

(b) This section shall remain in effect until such time as the funds appropriated in this section and in Sec. G.300(b)(8) of this act are fully expended.

Sec. B.1104 FISCAL YEAR 2022 ONE-TIME TRANSPORTATION
FUND APPROPRIATIONS

(a) Funds are appropriated from the Transportation Fund as follows:

(1) To the Agency of Transportation:

(A) \$6,925,000 for vehicle incentive and emission repair programs and electric vehicle supply equipment grants in fiscal year 2022;

(B) \$3,000,000 to be distributed to municipalities through town highway aid in fiscal year 2022 in the same apportionments and for the same purposes prescribed under 19 V.S.A. § 306(a)(3), which shall not be included in any subsequent calculations for the annual appropriation for aid to town highways pursuant to 19 V.S.A. § 306(a); and

(C) \$400,000 to assist with the relocation of the New Haven Train Depot, as need is determined by the Agency of Transportation, in fiscal year 2022.

Sec. B.1105 [Deleted.]

Sec. B.1106 FISCAL YEAR 2022 ONE-TIME GENERAL FUND
APPROPRIATIONS

(a) In fiscal year 2022, funds are appropriated from the General Fund for new and ongoing initiatives as follows:

(1) \$38,430,000 to the Agency of Administration for the following:

(A) \$11,580,000 for distribution to departments to fund the fiscal year 2022 53rd week of Medicaid.

(B) \$12,450,000 for distribution to departments to fund the fiscal year 2022 27th payroll pay period.

(C) \$14,400,000 for distribution to departments to fund the annual increase in the Vermont State Employee Retirement System (VSERS) Actuarially Determined Employer Contribution (ADEC).

(2) \$1,000,000 to the Department of Corrections for the purchase of body cameras.

(3) \$500,000 to the Vermont Department of Health to support

polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) testing in schools.

(4) \$32,500 to the Green Mountain Care Board for its share of the costs associated with rate reviews for the unmerged individual and small group market plans.

(5) \$63,121 to the Council on the Arts for matching federal funds available in the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

(6) \$200,000 to the Legislature to fund independent benefits experts, legal consulting, and actuarial assistance as necessary for the Pension Benefits, Design, and Funding Task Force.

(7) \$200,000 to the Department for Children and Families for the purpose of enabling Building Bright Futures to contract with an independent consulting entity for a childcare and early childhood education systems analysis study required by legislation enacted during the 2021 session.

(8) \$125,000 to the Joint Fiscal Office to contract with a consultant to assist the Task Force on Affordable, Accessible Health Care established in Sec. E.126b of this act.

(9) \$25,000 to the Vermont Symphony Orchestra to offset revenues lost during the pandemic.

(10) \$180,000 to the Agency of Administration Office of Racial Equity for activities related to health disparities and health equity.

(11) \$200,000 to the Department of Human Resources for racial equity training support.

(12) \$126,000 to the Agency of Human Services Secretary's Office to maintain the 211-call center.

(13) \$120,000 to the Department of Health for grants of \$40,000 to be made to each of the three AIDS service organizations to replace grant revenue diverted during the pandemic.

(14) \$25,000 to the Department for Children and Families for a grant to the Vermont Donor Milk Center for statewide activities.

(15) \$40,000 to the Vermont Center for Crime Victim Services to provide a grant for the Vermont Forensic Nursing Program. The funds shall be used to recruit, train, and credential nurses to provide forensic medical care for sexual assault patients within primary care, reproductive health, or campus health care settings in order to expand medical care for sexual assault patients beyond hospital emergency departments.

(16) \$300,000 to the Department of Health to make grants of \$25,000 to

cover the financial impacts of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic at each of the recovery centers statewide.

(17) \$3,700,000 to the Department for Children and Families for one-time grants to parent child centers for capital and program improvements.

(18) \$1,000,000 to the Department for Children and Families for a grant to the Vermont Foodbank to purchase food.

(19) \$500,000 to the Agency of Education to make grants to local education agencies for the purchase of locally produced foods.

(20) \$1,400,000 to the Vermont Center for Crime Victim Services, of which:

(A) \$200,000 shall be used for grants to the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence for pandemic recovery response; and

(B) \$1,200,000 shall be used in a manner consistent with the Victims Compensation Fund (21145).

* * * Fiscal Year 2021 Adjustments, Appropriations and Amendments * * *

Sec. C.100 FISCAL YEAR 2021 ONE-TIME GENERAL FUND
APPROPRIATIONS

(a) In fiscal year 2021, funds are appropriated from the General Fund as follows:

(1) To the Agency of Human Services, Global Commitment Program: \$2,000,000 for the State match for the 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 155 Nurse Scholarship Program and University of Vermont College of Medicine, Medical Student Incentive Scholarship Program, as amended in Sec. E. 311.3 of this act. Of these general funds, \$1,000,000 is for expenditure in fiscal year 2022, and \$1,000,000 is for expenditure in fiscal year 2023.

(2) To the Commission on Women: \$8,500 for information technology support.

(3) To the Agency of Commerce and Community Development: \$25,000 for the administration of the Vermont 250th anniversary celebration.

(4) To the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board: \$50,000 for the Farm and Forest Viability Program to provide business and technical assistance to farm, food, and forest businesses, including applying for and complying with State and federal economic recovery grants.

(5) To the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation: \$1,850,000 to be granted to the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps to establish the Vermont Serve, Learn, and Earn Program with other community partners to create

meaningful paid service and learning opportunities for young adults beginning in the summer and fall of 2021. These funds shall carry forward into fiscal year 2022.

(6) To the Vermont Center for Crime Victims Services: \$345,000 to be granted to the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence for program deficit.

(7) To the Agency of Administration: \$500,000 to address the needs of the FiberConnect libraries project.

8) To the Auditor of Accounts: \$100,000 to contract for an evaluation of the State's unemployment insurance system as specified in legislation enacted in the 2021 session.

(9) To the Judiciary: \$800,000 to plan and design upgrades to county court house HVAC systems. In accordance with the fiscal year 2022 capital budget act, on or before December 15, 2021 the Court Administrator shall submit a list of priority projects for the use of federal funds from the Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund.

Sec. C.101 PENSION AND OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFIT
OBLIGATIONS; LONG-TERM PLAN

(a) In fiscal year 2021, the amount of \$150,000,000 in General Fund monies and \$14,000,000 in Education Fund monies are hereby reserved in their respective funds to be part of pension funding initiatives and prefunding of other postemployment benefits (OPEB).

(b) On or before June 30, 2022, the General Assembly and the Administration, in collaboration with the Treasurer and interested parties, shall develop a long-term plan to address pension and OPEB liabilities. The funds reserved in subsection (a) of this section shall be made available for appropriation to accompany the reforms that are part of this long-term legislative initiative to make Vermont pension and OPEB plans more sustainable.

C.101.1 AGENCY OF HUMAN SERVICES; ALL PAYER
ACCOUNTABLE CARE ORGANIZATION MODEL;
DELIVERY SYSTEM REFORM; HEALTH INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY

(a) The Agency of Human Services is authorized to carry forward to fiscal year 2022 the sum of \$1,588,840 in general funds in their Global Commitment appropriation to be matched by \$2,895,382 in the Department of Vermont Health Access's (DVHA) Global Commitment Fund and \$1,004,618 in DVHA federal funds in fiscal year 2022 for the following purposes related to

implementation of the All-Payer Accountable Care Organization (ACO) Model:

(1) health information technology projects, including:

(A) a hypertension and diabetes identification and management tool to support clinical decision making; and

(B) just-in-time clinical data reporting for quality improvement to support clinical decision making; and

(2) delivery system reform projects focused on implementation of the care model, including expanding trainings and performance improvement activities, and continuation of the Longitudinal Care Home Health Program and the Developmental Understanding and Legal Collaboration for Everyone (DULCE) Program.

Sec. C.102 FISCAL YEAR 2021 GLOBAL COMMITMENT PROGRAM
GENERAL FUND REVERSION

(a) In fiscal year 2021, the amount of \$42,516,329 shall be reverted to the General Fund from the general funds appropriated in Sec. B.301 of 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 154, as amended by 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 3.

(b) The Secretary of Human Services shall report to the Joint Fiscal Committee in July or September 2021 on the status and impact of the reversion required by subsection (a) of this section and any carryforward balance of unobligated General Fund appropriations from fiscal year 2021 to fiscal year 2022. To the extent possible, this report shall also provide updates related to the reversion specified in Sec. D.104 of this act for fiscal year 2022.

Sec. C.103 REVERSION FROM THE NATIONAL GUARD TUITION
BENEFIT PROGRAM

(a) In fiscal year 2021, the amount of \$400,000 shall revert to the General Fund from the Military Administration appropriation for the National Guard Tuition Benefit Program.

Sec. C.104 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 154, Sec. E.215 is amended to read:

Sec. E.215 Military – Administration

(a) The amount of ~~\$953,906~~\$553,906 shall be disbursed to the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation for the National Guard educational assistance program established in 16 V.S.A. § 2856 and the National Guard Tuition Benefit Program established in 16 V.S.A. § 2857.

(b) Subsection (a) of this section supersedes the disbursement referenced in 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 120, Sec. A.23.

Sec. C.105 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 154, Sec. B.505 is amended to read:

Sec. B.505 Education - adjusted education payment

	<u>FY 2021</u> <u>As Passed</u>	<u>Change</u>
Grants	1,489,500,000	1,480,600,000
Total	1,489,500,000	1,480,600,000
Source of funds		
Education fund	1,489,500,000	1,480,600,000
Total	1,489,500,000	1,480,600,000

Sec. C.106 [Deleted.]

Sec. C.107 UTILITY RATEPAYER ARREARAGES; DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE

(a) The sum of \$15,000,000 from the Coronavirus Relief Fund is appropriated to the Department of Public Service in fiscal year 2021 for the purpose of establishing a program to simultaneously minimize financial hardship caused by the COVID-19 public health emergency and mitigate utility rate increases ultimately shared by all utility customers. As used in this section, “utility” means a company subject to the Public Utility Commission’s moratorium on utility disconnections related to COVID-19 or a public water supply or wastewater treatment facility permitted by the Agency of Natural Resources and subject to the Temporary Moratorium on Disconnections from Public Drinking Water and Wastewater Systems in 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 92, Sec. 9.

(b) The Commissioner of Public Service shall set the process, limitations, and means to distribute funds for debt relief for the accounts of utility customers not otherwise eligible or able to access utility assistance or those who, though eligible, are not made whole for such debt through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 or the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, and shall coordinate funding under this section as needed with State agencies charged with distributing such funding. In designing the program, the Commissioner shall establish standards and procedures to prioritize the neediest utility customers for financial assistance under the program.

(c) In administering the program, the Commissioner may coordinate with the Public Utility Commission, enter into cooperative agreements with utilities to apply funding directly to customer accounts, and contract with any third-party administrator as needed. The Department’s administrative costs associated with the program shall be paid from the amount appropriated under subsection (a) of this section.

(d) Customer information submitted pursuant to this program shall be

exempt from disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act; such data may be disclosed only on an anonymized and aggregated basis.

(e) To the extent consistent with guidance and law, any excess funding under the program not obligated for the purposes set forth in this section by November 1, 2021 shall be reallocated to energy and fuel assistance programs administered by the Department for Children and Families.

Sec. C.108 LEGISLATIVE PREPARATION FOR 2022 SESSION

(a) The sum of \$2,500,000 from the Coronavirus Relief Fund is appropriated to the Legislature for costs incurred due to the response to the COVID-19 pandemic and to fund preparations for the 2022 legislative session consistent with Joint Legislative Management Committee recommendations. Funds may be transferred to appropriate units within the General Assembly as necessary to reimburse eligible expenditures. Any transfers shall be reviewed and approved through traditional transfer approval processes by the Secretary of Administration and shall be reported by the Joint Fiscal Office to the Joint Legislative Management Committee and the Commissioner of Finance and Management.

Sec. C.109 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 136, Sec. 7, as amended by 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 154, Sec. B.1121 and 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 3, Sec. 50, is further amended to read:

Sec. 7. AGENCY OF HUMAN SERVICES; HEALTH CARE
PROVIDER STABILIZATION GRANT PROGRAM

* * *

(d) Specific allocations. Notwithstanding any provisions of this section to the contrary, of the funds appropriated in subsection (a) of this section, the Agency of Human Services shall make the following allocations for the following purposes:

* * *

(3) Up to \$3,000,000.00 for COVID-19-related expenses or revenue losses incurred by designated and specialized service agencies through December 30, 2020 June 30, 2021.

* * *

Sec. C.110 REPEAL; FISCAL YEAR 2021 YEAR-END CLOSEOUT
TRANSFERS

(a) 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 154, Sec. B.1123.1 as amended by 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 9, Sec. 30 is repealed.

Sec. C.111 FISCAL YEAR 2021 YEAR-END CLOSEOUT;
CARRYFORWARD AND FUND SOURCE REPLACEMENT

(a) After satisfying the requirements of 32 V.S.A. § 308, and after other reserve requirements have been met, but prior to satisfying the requirements of 32 V.S.A. § 308c, the first \$100,000,000 of remaining unreserved and undesignated funds at the end of fiscal year 2021 shall remain in the General Fund and be carried forward to fiscal year 2022. In fiscal year 2022, the Commissioner of Finance and Management is authorized to replace American Rescue Plan Act - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds with these General Funds in the appropriations listed below:

(1) \$17,000,000 to replace the fund source in the appropriations in Sec. G.300(a)(3)-(6) of this act - (Judiciary, Defender General States Attorney, Department of Labor Apprenticeships).

(2) \$11,000,000 to replace the fund source in the appropriation in Sec. G.300 (a)(11) of this act- (Brownfields).

(3) \$8,820,000 to replace the fund source in the appropriations in Sec. G.300(a)(15)-(22) of this act- (selected economic development programs and appropriations).

(4) \$30,000,000 to partially replace the fund source in the appropriation in Sec. G.400 (a)(1) of this act – (VHCB Housing).

(5) \$23,180,000 to partially replace the fund source in the appropriations in Sec. G.501(a)(1)-(11) of this act - (State Technology Modernization Projects). Projects identified for fund source replacement shall be made in coordination and consultation with the Secretary of the Agency of Digital Services

(6) \$10,000,000 to replace the fund source in the appropriation in Sec. G.600(a)(6) of this act - (VHCB Conservation).

(b) Any remaining amounts shall be allocated in accordance with 32 V.S.A. § 308c.

Sec. C.112 [Deleted.]

Sec. C.113 VEHICLE INCENTIVE PROGRAMS IN FISCAL YEAR 2021

(a) Notwithstanding 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 121, Sec. 1; 19 V.S.A. § 10g(n); and 32 V.S.A. § 706, if prior appropriations for the Incentive Program for New PEVs or MileageSmart are fully depleted prior to July 1, 2021, then to ensure that the programs are not halted due to lack of available funding in fiscal year 2021, the Agency shall cover the fiscal year 2021 funding program gap with other available resources and use a portion of the \$6,925,000

appropriated in Sec. B.1104(a)(1)(A) of this act in fiscal year 2022 to offset any expenditures made under this subsection.

Sec. C.114 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 120, Sec. B.2 is amended to read:

Sec. B.2. FISCAL YEAR 2021 PAY ACT APPROPRIATIONS

(a) Executive Branch. In fiscal year 2021, the fiscal year 2021 provisions of the collective bargaining agreements between the State of Vermont and the Vermont State Employees' Association for the Defender General, Non-Management, Supervisory, and Corrections bargaining units, and, for the purpose of appropriation, the State's Attorneys' offices bargaining unit, for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021; the collective bargaining agreement with the Vermont Troopers' Association, for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021; and salary increases for employees in the Executive Branch not covered by the bargaining agreements shall be funded as follows:

(1) General Fund. The amount of ~~\$11,553,795.00~~ \$4,053,795.00 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Secretary of Administration for distribution to departments to fund the fiscal year 2021 compensation increases permitted by this act.

Sec. C.115 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 9 is amended to read:

* * *

* * * Human Services, Mental Health and Health Care * * *

Sec. 6. DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH; EMERGENCY
OUTREACH SERVICES GRANTS

The sum of \$300,000.00 is appropriated from the ~~American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 -- Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund~~ General Fund to the Department of Mental Health in fiscal year 2021 for grants to peer-led and impacted member-led organizations for emergency outreach services to address COVID-19-related needs. Of these funds, the Department shall allocate \$150,000.00 to a mental health peer-support organization and \$150,000.00 to an organization supporting the needs of LGBTQ youths.

* * *

Sec. 8. DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH; CASE MANAGEMENT
SERVICES

The sum of \$850,000.00 is appropriated from the ~~American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 -- Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund~~ General Fund to the Department of Mental Health in fiscal year 2021 to provide funds to the designated community mental health agencies to enable them each to hire an

additional case manager to provide case management services to Vermont residents who may not previously have been part of an agency's caseload but whose lives have been significantly disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic and who are now urgently in need of these agencies' supports. Agencies have the flexibility to identify where the targeted need exists within their agency, across all programs. The purpose of the funds appropriated in this section is limited to addressing the impacts related to the COVID-19 pandemic and the appropriation of these funds is not intended to create an ongoing funding commitment.

Sec. 9. DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH; WORKFORCE
TRAINING AND WELLNESS SUPPORTS

The sum of \$150,000.00 is appropriated from the ~~American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund~~ General Fund to the Department of Mental Health in fiscal year 2021 for training and wellness supports for frontline health care workers to help them meet Vermont residents' current mental health needs, such as training for emergency department personnel responding to an increased demand for crisis services as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and training on trauma-informed and trauma-specific care for mental health professionals responding to the surge in mental health treatment needs. These workers would also benefit from wellness supports as they continue to care for people in crisis while experiencing their own stress, anxiety, and trauma as a result of the pandemic.

Sec. 9a. RECOVERY CENTER SUPPLEMENTAL GRANTS

The sum of \$240,000.00 is appropriated from the ~~American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund~~ General Fund to the Department of Health to make grants of \$20,000.00 to cover the financial impacts of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic at each of the recovery centers statewide.

Sec. 10. SUPPORTS FOR NEW AMERICANS, REFUGEES, AND
IMMIGRANTS

(a) The sum of \$700,000.00 is appropriated from the ~~American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund~~ General Fund to the Agency of Human Services in fiscal year 2021 for distribution in equal amounts to the Association of Africans Living in Vermont and the U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants' Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program for various purposes related to COVID-19, including:

* * *

Sec. 11. GRANTS TO REACH UP PARTICIPANTS

The sum of \$1,300,000.00 is appropriated from the ~~American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund~~ General Fund to the Department for Children and Families in fiscal year 2021 for the purposes of distributing monies to families participating in the Reach Up program. These funds shall be distributed in a manner similar to the distribution of funds to this population pursuant to 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 136, Sec. 15.

Sec. 12. VERMONT FOOD BANK

(a) The sum of \$1,376,000.00 is appropriated from the ~~American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund~~ General Fund in fiscal year 2021 to the Agency of Human Services' Central Office to be granted to the Vermont Food Bank to pay the costs of the Vermont Farmers to Families Food Box Program for the months of January and February 2021.

(b) The sum of \$82,000.00 is appropriated from the ~~American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund~~ General Fund in fiscal year 2021 to the Agency of Human Services' Central Office to be granted to the Vermont Food Bank for statewide provision of diapers to families in need.

Sec. 13. GRANT TO THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

The sum of \$100,000.00 is appropriated from the ~~American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund~~ General Fund to the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living in fiscal year 2021 to be granted to the Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired for a technology training program for older Vermonters who experience decreased vision and blindness and others who are blind or visually impaired to address social isolation resulting from social distancing.

* * *

* * * Education * * *

* * *

Sec. 16. EDUCATION SERVICES; FEDERAL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS

(a) Afterschool and Summer Programs: In fiscal year 2021 and to be carried forward, the sum of \$4,000,000.00 is appropriated from federal funds for Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSR) (ESSER) provided in the ~~American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Section 2001(f)~~ section 313 of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021, Pub. L. No. 116-260 to the Agency of Education to be used for grants to afterschool and summer programs. At least \$2,000,000.00 of these grants shall

be made with consultation from and approval of the Child Development Division in the Department for Children and Families. ~~These funds shall be used to fulfill requirements specified in the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 pursuant to Section 2001(f)(2) and (3).~~

~~(b) Summer Meals: In fiscal year 2021 and to be carried forward, the sum of \$5,500,000.00 is appropriated from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund to the Agency of Education to ensure that children and families have access to nutritious foods throughout the summer. This appropriation may be adjusted if the Commissioner of Finance and Management determines that FEMA funds will be awarded for this purpose.~~

* * *

* * * Natural Resources and Agriculture * * *

Sec. 22. NATURAL RESOURCES AND AGRICULTURE

(a) In fiscal year 2021, funds are appropriated from the ~~American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund~~ General Fund as follows:

* * *

* * * Technical Assistance * * *

Sec. 25. [Deleted.]

Sec. 26. PROVISION OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

(a) The sum of \$950,000.00 is appropriated from the ~~American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund~~ General Fund to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development to be granted as follows:

* * *

Sec. C.116 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 154, Sec. D.101, as amended by 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 3, Sec. 42, is further amended to read

Sec. D.101 FUND TRANSFERS, REVERSIONS AND RESERVES

* * *

(b) Notwithstanding any provisions of law to the contrary, in fiscal year 2021:

(1) The following amounts shall be transferred to the General Fund from the funds indicated:

22005	AHS Central Office earned federal receipts	6,474,593.00
50300	Liquor Control Fund	22,740,000.00
21990	State Health Care Resources Fund	3,000,000.00
62100	Unclaimed Property Fund	2,710,636.00 <u>4,910,636.00</u>
	Caledonia Fair	5,000.00
	North Country Hospital Loan	24,047.00
21917	Public Funds Investigation Fund	100,000.00

(2) The following estimated amounts, which may be all or a portion of unencumbered fund balances, shall be transferred from the following funds to the General Fund. The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall report to the Joint Fiscal Committee at its next meeting following the final amounts being transferred from each fund and certify that such transfers will not impair the agency, office, or department reliant upon each fund from meeting its statutory requirements.

21638	AG-Fees & reimbursement	
	– Court order	2,250,000.00 <u>3,050,000.00</u>
21928	Secretary of State Services Funds	2,867,898.00

(3) Notwithstanding 2016 Acts and Resolves No. 172, Section E. 228, ~~\$40,368,350~~ \$54,368,350 of the unencumbered balances in the Insurance Regulatory and Supervision Fund (Fund Number 21075), the Captive Insurance Regulatory and Supervision Fund (Fund Number 21085), the Financial Institution Regulatory and Supervision Fund (Fund Number 21065), and the Securities Regulatory and Supervision Fund (Fund Number 21080) shall be transferred to the General Fund.

(4) The following ~~amount~~ amounts shall be transferred from the General Fund to the ~~fund~~ funds indicated:

21270	Forest Parks Revolving Fund	1,200,000.00
	<u>E-911 Special Fund</u>	<u>1,800,000.00</u>

* * *

(d) In fiscal year 2021, the following General Fund reserves shall be made:

(1) Pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 308 and Section D.100.2 of this Act, ~~\$541,962~~ \$2,041,962 shall be reserved in the General Fund Budget Stabilization Reserve. To the extent this transfer exceeds the requirement of 32 V.S.A. § 308 funds and shall remain reserved in the General Fund Budget Stabilization Reserve and be reconciled with this reserve requirement in fiscal

years 2022 or 2023.

* * *

* * * Fiscal Year 2022 Fund Transfers and Reserve Allocations * * *

Sec. D.100 APPROPRIATIONS; PROPERTY TRANSFER TAX

(a) This act contains the following amounts appropriated from special funds that receive revenue from the property transfer tax. Expenditures from these appropriations shall not exceed available revenues.

(1) The sum of \$518,000 is appropriated from the Current Use Administration Special Fund to the Department of Taxes for administration of the Use Tax Reimbursement Program. Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 9610(c), amounts in excess of \$518,000 from the property transfer tax that are deposited into the Current Use Administration Special Fund shall be transferred into the General Fund.

(2) The sum of \$10,804,840 is appropriated from the Vermont Housing and Conservation Trust Fund to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB). Notwithstanding 10 V.S.A. § 312, amounts in excess of \$10,804,840 from the property transfer tax and surcharge established by 32 V.S.A. § 9602a that are deposited into the Vermont Housing and Conservation Trust Fund shall be transferred into the General Fund.

(A) The dedication of \$2,500,000 in revenue from the property transfer tax pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 9610(d) for the debt payments on the affordable housing bond 10 V.S.A. § 314) is to be offset by the reduction of \$1,500,000 in the appropriation to the VHCB and \$1,000,000 from the surcharge established by 32 V.S.A. § 9602a. The fiscal year 2022 appropriation of \$10,804,840 to VHCB reflects the \$1,500,000 reduction. The affordable housing bond and related property transfer tax and surcharge provisions are repealed after the life of the bond on July 1, 2039. Once the bond is retired, the \$1,500,000 reduction in the appropriation to VHCB is intended to be restored.

(3) The sum of \$3,760,599 is appropriated from the Municipal and Regional Planning Fund. Notwithstanding 24 V.S.A. § 4306(a), amounts in excess of \$3,760,599 from the property transfer tax that are deposited into the Municipal and Regional Planning Fund shall be transferred into the General Fund. The \$3,760,599 shall be allocated as follows:

(A) \$2,924,417 for disbursement to regional planning commissions in a manner consistent with 24 V.S.A. § 4306(b);

(B) \$457,482 for disbursement to municipalities in a manner consistent with 24 V.S.A. § 4306(b); and

(C) \$378,700 to the Agency of Digital Services for the Vermont Center for Geographic Information.

Sec. D.101 FUND TRANSFERS, REVERSIONS, AND RESERVES

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the following amounts are transferred from the funds indicated:

(1) From the General Fund to the Environmental Contingency Fund established by 10 V.S.A. § 1283: \$9,500,000.

(2) From the General Fund to the Human Rights Commission Fund (21692): \$300,000.

(3) From the General Fund to the Forest Parks Revolving Fund (21270): \$2,050,000.

(4) From the General Fund to the Act 250 Permit Fund (21260): \$1,000,000.

(5) From the General Fund to the Fire Prevention Special Fund (21901): \$500,000.

(6) From the Clean Water Fund (21932) established by 10 V.S.A. § 1388 to the Agricultural Water Quality Special Fund (21933) created under 6 V.S.A. § 4803: \$4,521,393

(7) From the Clean Water Fund established by 10 V.S.A. § 1388 to the Lake in Crisis Response Program Special Fund (21938) created under 10 V.S.A. § 1315: \$50,000.

(8) From the Transportation Fund to the Downtown Transportation and Related Capital Improvement Fund (21575) established by 24 V.S.A. § 2796 to be used by the Vermont Downtown Development Board for the purposes of the Fund: \$4,023,966.

(9) From the Transportation Infrastructure Bond Fund established by 19 V.S.A. § 11f to the Transportation Infrastructure Bonds Debt Service Fund established by 32 V.S.A. § 951a for funding fiscal year 2023 transportation infrastructure bonds debt service: \$2,502,363.

(b) Notwithstanding any provisions of law to the contrary, in fiscal year 2022:

(1) The following amounts shall be transferred to the General Fund from the funds indicated:

<u>22005</u>	<u>AHS Central Office earned federal receipts</u>	<u>\$4,641,961.14</u>
<u>50300</u>	<u>Liquor Control Fund</u>	<u>\$22,750,000.00</u>

<u>Caledonia Fair</u>	<u>\$5,000.00</u>
<u>North Country Hospital Loan</u>	<u>\$24,047.00</u>

(2) The following estimated amounts, which may be all or a portion of unencumbered fund balances, shall be transferred from the following funds to the General Fund. The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall report to the Joint Fiscal Committee at its July meeting the final amounts transferred from each fund and certify that such transfers will not impair the agency, office, or department reliant upon each fund from meeting its statutory requirements.

<u>21638</u>	<u>AG-Fees & reimbursement – Court order</u>	<u>\$2,000,000.00</u>
<u>21928</u>	<u>Secretary of State Services Funds</u>	<u>\$2,467,898.00</u>
<u>62100</u>	<u>Unclaimed Property Fund</u>	<u>\$3,027,750.00</u>

(3) Notwithstanding 2016 Acts and Resolves No. 172, Sec. E. 228, \$46,078,618 of the unencumbered balances in the Insurance Regulatory and Supervision Fund (21075), the Captive Insurance Regulatory and Supervision Fund (21085), and the Securities Regulatory and Supervision Fund (21080) shall be transferred to the General Fund.

(c) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 308, in fiscal year 2022, an estimated amount of \$6,259,724 shall be reserved in the General Fund Budget Stabilization Reserve.

(d) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, in fiscal year 2022, the following amounts shall revert to the General Fund from the accounts indicated:

<u>2150010000</u>	<u>Military – administration</u>	<u>\$200,000.00</u>
<u>1210002000</u>	<u>Legislature</u>	<u>\$140,000.00</u>
<u>1215001000</u>	<u>Legislative Counsel</u>	<u>\$50,000.00</u>
<u>1220000000</u>	<u>Joint Fiscal Office</u>	<u>\$50,000.00</u>
<u>1225001000</u>	<u>Legislative IT</u>	<u>\$120,000.00</u>
<u>1230001000</u>	<u>Sergeant at Arms</u>	<u>\$60,000.00</u>

Sec. D.102 27/53 RESERVE; TRANSFER AND USE

(a) \$3,740,000 from the General Fund shall be reserved in the 27/53 reserve in fiscal year 2022. This action is the fiscal year 2022 contribution to the reserve for the 53rd week of Medicaid as required by 32 V.S.A. § 308e and the 27th payroll reserve as required by 32 V.S.A. § 308e(b).

(b) \$24,030,000 shall be unreserved from the 27/53 Reserve in in fiscal

year 2022 to provide for the appropriations described in Secs. B.1106(a)(1)(A) and B.1106(a)(1)(B) of this act.

Sec. D.103 [Deleted.]

Sec. D.104 FISCAL YEAR 2022 GLOBAL COMMITMENT PROGRAM
GENERAL FUND REVERSION

(a) In fiscal year 2022, the amount of \$66,000,000 shall be reverted to the General Fund from the general funds appropriated in Sec. B.301 of this act for the Global Commitment Program.

Sec. D.105 [Deleted.]

* * * General Government * * *

Sec. E.100 EXECUTIVE BRANCH POSITIONS

(a) The establishment of the following new positions is authorized in fiscal year 2022 shall be transferred and converted from existing vacant positions in the Executive Branch and shall not increase the total number of authorized State positions, as defined in Sec. A.107 of this act that pertains to subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection:

(1) Permanent classified positions:

(A) Department of Public Safety – one (1) Paralegal to assist with public records requests.

(B) Agency of Administration – one (1) Policy and Research Analyst and one (1) Outreach and Education Coordinator.

(C) Secretary of State – one (1) State Elections Assistant Director.

(D) Criminal Justice Council – one (1) Professional Regulatory Investigator.

(2) Permanent exempt position:

(A) Criminal Justice Council – one (1) Staff Attorney.

(b) The conversion of one limited service position to classified permanent status is authorized in fiscal year 2022 as follows:

(1) The Secretary of State – one (1) Administrative Services Director.

(c) Five-year limited service classified positions are authorized in fiscal year 2022:

(1) Department of Environmental Conservation – one (1) Environmental Analyst.

(2) Department of Health – one (1) Senior Environmental Health Risk

Assessor.

Sec. E.100.1 2014 Acts and Resolves No. 179, Sec. E100(d); as amended by 2015 Acts and Resolves No. 4, Sec. 74; 2016 Acts and Resolves No. 172, Sec. E.100.2; 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 85, Sec. E.100.1; 2018 (Sp. Sess.) Acts and Resolves No. 11, Sec. E.100.1; 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 120; and by 2020 Act and Resolves No. 154, Sec. A.7; is further amended to read:

(d) Position Pilot Program. A Position Pilot is hereby created to assist participating departments in more effectively managing costs of overtime, compensatory time, temporary employees, and contractual work by removing the position cap with the goal of maximizing resources to the greatest benefit of Vermont taxpayers.

* * *

(7) This Pilot shall sunset on ~~July 1, 2021~~ July 1, 2023, unless extended or modified by the General Assembly.

Sec. E.103 12 V.S.A. § 5601(f) is amended to read:

(f) The limitations in subsection (e) of this section do not apply to claims against the State of Vermont to the extent that there exists coverage under a policy of liability insurance purchased by the ~~Commissioner of Buildings and General Services~~ Secretary of Administration.

Sec. E.103.1 12 V.S.A. § 5603 is amended to read:

§ 5603 SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS

(a) The Attorney General may consider, adjust, determine, and settle any claim for damages against the State of Vermont resulting from the acts or omissions of an employee as provided under 3 V.S.A. § 159. If the State elects to self-insure the liability as defined in 12 V.S.A. § 5601, the Attorney General shall consult with the ~~Commissioner of Buildings and General Services~~ Secretary of Administration prior to exercising his or her authority under this subsection.

* * *

Sec. E.103.2 REPEAL

29 V.S.A. § 152(a)(5) is repealed.

Sec. E.103.3 3 V.S.A. § 2222 is amended to read:

§ 2222. POWERS AND DUTIES; BUDGET AND REPORT

(a) In addition to the duties expressly set forth elsewhere by law, the Secretary shall:

* * *

(11) Inspect, appraise, and maintain a current appraisal schedule of all State-owned buildings, appendages, and appurtenances thereto based upon replacement value in the first instance and upon depreciated value in the second instance. Appraisals shall be furnished upon request to the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services, departments and agencies concerned, and appropriate committees of the General Assembly.

* * *

Sec. E.105 3 V.S.A. § 3303 is amended to read:

§ 3303 REPORTING, RECORDS, AND REVIEW REQUIREMENTS

* * *

(c) Strategic plan. The Secretary shall prepare and submit a strategic plan for information technology and cybersecurity, concurrent with the Governor's annual budget request required under 32 V.S.A. § 306. The strategic plan shall include:

* * *

Sec. E.106 SELECT EXECUTIVE BRANCH FEES; PROPOSED INCREASES; REPORT

(a) The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall identify the existing statutory Executive Branch fees in the areas of public health, natural resources, and transportation that currently generate receipts in excess of \$1,000,000 per fiscal year and that have not been changed or reauthorized in two or more years.

(b) For the fees described in subsection (a) of this section, the Commissioner of Finance and Management shall prepare a report that shows what each fee would be if the fee was changed to reflect the level of inflation between the date the fee was last changed and July 2021, as well as the difference between current revenue and new revenue if the fee were to change.

(c) On or before January 15, 2022, the Commissioner of Finance and Management shall submit a copy of the report described in subsection (b) of this section to the House Committees on Government Operations and on Ways and Means, and the Senate Committees on Finance and on Government Operations. The report shall include a proposal to increase any fee identified in subsection (b) which the revenue raised by the fee does not account for the cost of providing the service, product, or regulatory function supported by that fee.

Sec. E.107 CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND APPROPRIATIONS;
REVERSION AND REALLOCATION; REPORTS

(a) The Commissioner of Finance and Management is authorized to revert all unobligated Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) appropriations prior to December 31, 2021. The total amount of CRF monies reverted in accordance with this subsection shall be allocated pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 511 to any agency or department for CRF-eligible costs incurred from July 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

(b) If previously obligated CRF monies become unobligated after December 31, 2021, the Commissioner of Finance and Management is authorized to revert the unobligated CRF appropriations and allocate the monies for expenditure pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 511 to any agency or department for CRF-eligible costs incurred from July 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

(c) The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations with the Governor's recommended fiscal year 2022 budget adjustment proposal the total amount of reversions and allocations executed to date pursuant to subsection (a) of this section and the total amount of reversions and allocations executed to date pursuant to subsection (b) of this section. On April 1, 2022, the Commissioner shall provide an update on these amounts to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations along with any recommendation for language needed in the fiscal year 2023 budget bill to continue to close out the State's CRF.

(d) The authority granted to the Commissioner of Finance and Management in this section is in addition to the authority granted to the Commissioner by 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 3, Sec. 2.

Sec. E.108 – Human resources – operations

(a) The Department of Human Resources, as the replacement of the current position classification system is designed and implemented, shall request input from State employees who are members of the classified system and their union or collective bargaining unit representatives. On January 15 of each year, the Department shall provide annual status reports to the Committees on Appropriations and Government Operations until project completion.

Sec. E.111 Tax – administration/collection

(a) Of the appropriation in Sec. B.111 of this act, \$15,000 is from the Current Use Administration Special Fund established by 32 V.S.A. § 9610(c) and shall be appropriated for programming changes to the CAPTAP software used by municipalities for establishing property values and administering their grand lists.

Sec. E.112 STATE ENERGY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

(a) The Buildings and General Services State Energy Management Program may charge for technical assistance it provides to municipalities at an amount equal to time and cost.

Sec. E.125 OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL POSITIONS

(a) One permanent exempt position, Paralegal, is authorized for establishment in fiscal year 2022.

(b) One exempt limited service position, Legislative Counsel, is authorized for establishment in fiscal year 2022.

Sec. E.126 TRANSFER OF FUNDS WITHIN LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

(a) Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 706, in fiscal year 2022, appropriations within the Legislative Branch may be transferred between respective offices to ensure a balanced close-out in the fiscal year.

Sec. E.126a LEGISLATIVE – HUMAN RESOURCE ASSOCIATE POSITION

(a) One limited service position, Human Resources Associate, is authorized for establishment in fiscal year 2022.

Sec. E.126b TASK FORCE ON AFFORDABLE, ACCESSIBLE HEALTH CARE; REPORT

(a) Creation. There is created the Task Force on Affordable, Accessible Health Care to explore opportunities to make health care more affordable for Vermont residents and employers.

(b) Membership. The Task Force may be composed of the following six members:

(1) three current members of the House of Representatives, not all from the same political party, who shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House; and

(2) three current members of the Senate, not all from the same political party, who shall be appointed by the Committee on Committees.

(c) Powers and duties. The Task Force shall explore opportunities to make health care, including prescription drugs, more affordable for Vermont residents and employers, including identifying potential opportunities to leverage federal flexibility and financing and to expand existing public health care programs. In completing its work, the Task Force shall:

(1) keep in mind the principles for health care reform enacted in 2011 Acts and Resolves No. 48 and codified at 18 V.S.A. § 9371:

(2) identify the primary drivers of health insurance premium increases in Vermont;

(3) review the findings and recommendations from previous studies and analyses relating to the affordability of health care coverage in Vermont;

(4) determine actions the State can take without federal assistance to address the unmet health care needs of Vermont residents and employers;

(5) analyze the long-term trends in out-of-pocket costs in Vermont in individual and small group health insurance plans and in large group health insurance plans; and

(6) identify opportunities to decrease health care disparities, especially those highlighted by the COVID-19 pandemic and those attributable to a lack of access to affordable health care services.

(d) Assistance.

(1) To the extent that applicable funds are appropriated in Sec. B.1106 of this act, the Joint Fiscal Office shall contract with a consultant to provide the Task Force with technical and research assistance in carrying out the duties set forth in subsection (c) of this section. The consultant's primary focus shall be on monitoring and reviewing opportunities made available by the Biden Administration to expand access to affordable health care through existing public health care programs or through emerging opportunities to address the unmet health care needs of Vermont residents and employers. The consultant shall remain available to assist the committees of jurisdiction as needed throughout the 2022 legislative session.

(2) In addition, the Task Force shall have the administrative, technical, and legal assistance of the Office of Legislative Operations, the Office of Legislative Counsel, and the Joint Fiscal Office.

(f) Reports.

(1) On or before December 1, 2021, the Task Force and the consultant shall brief the leadership of the House Committee on Health Care and of the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare on their preliminary findings.

(2) On or before January 15, 2022, the Task Force and the consultant shall present to the House Committee on Health Care and the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Finance their findings and recommendations regarding the most cost-effective ways to expand access to affordable health care for Vermonters without health insurance and those facing high health care costs and the various options available to implement these recommendations.

(g) Meetings.

(1) The first meeting of the Task Force shall occur on or before August 15, 2021.

(2) The Task Force shall select House and Senate co-chairs from among its members at its first meeting. The Co-Chairs shall alternate acting as Chair at Task Force meetings.

(3) A majority of the Task Force membership shall constitute a quorum.

(4) The Task Force shall cease to exist on January 15, 2022.

(h) Compensation and reimbursement. For attendance at meetings during adjournment of the General Assembly, the members of the Task Force shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to 2 V.S.A. § 23 for not more than five meetings. These payments shall be made from monies appropriated to the General Assembly.

Sec. E.126.1 LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – WEB DEVELOPER POSITION

(a) One permanent exempt position, Web Developer, is authorized for establishment in fiscal year 2022.

Sec. E.127 JOINT FISCAL OFFICE – FISCAL ANALYST POSITION

(a) One permanent exempt position, Fiscal Analyst, is authorized for establishment in fiscal year 2022.

Sec. E.127.1 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY REVIEW

(a) The Executive Branch shall transfer, upon request, one vacant position for use in the Legislative Joint Fiscal Office (JFO) for a staff position, or the JFO may hire a consultant, to provide support to the General Assembly to conduct independent reviews of State information technology projects and operations.

(b) The Secretary of Administration and the Chief Information Officer shall:

(1) provide to the JFO access to the reviews conducted by Independent Verification and Validation (IVV) firms hired to evaluate the State's current and planned information technology project, as requested;

(2) ensure that IVV firms' contracts allow the JFO to make requests for information related to the projects that it is reviewing and that such requests are provided to the JFO in a confidential manner; and

(3) provide to the JFO access to all other documentation related to current and planned information technology projects and operations, as

requested.

(c) The JFO shall maintain a memorandum of understanding with the Executive Branch relating to any documentation provided under subsection (b) of this section that shall protect security and confidentiality.

(d) To fund this work for fiscal year 2022 and fiscal year 2023, notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 706, at the close of fiscal year 2021, \$250,000.00 in carryforward from the legislative budget shall be transferred to the JFO.

Sec. E.127.2 ISSUE BRIEF – PROGRAMS FUNDED AND TRENDS
RELATED TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE FINES, FEES,
PENALTIES AND SURCHARGES

(a) The Joint Fiscal Office shall prepare an issue brief to present to the Joint Justice Oversight Committee on criminal justice fines, fees, penalties and surcharges at their November or December 2021 meeting. Specifically, the issue brief shall provide:

(1) the revenues generated by these items over the past five fiscal years, and the projected revenue from these source for the next five fiscal years;

(2) an inventory of the programs supported by these revenues, and the projected funding needs of these programs over the next five years.

(3) options for alternative funding sources for these programs for consideration in the 2023 legislation session.

(b) The Joint Fiscal Office shall consult with program stakeholders and shall have the assistance of Executive Branch agencies and departments as needed in preparing this issue brief.

Sec. E.127.3 USE OF FEDERAL EXCESS RECEIPTS DURING 2021
LEGISLATIVE ADJOURNMENT

(a)(1) Notwithstanding Sec. A.106 of this act and 32 V.S.A. § 511, if federal legislation, such as a federal infrastructure bill, is enacted that provides Vermont with additional federal resources received following the adjournment of the 2021 legislative session and prior to the convening of the 2022 legislative session, the Secretary of Administration shall seek the approval of the Joint Fiscal Committee as set forth in this section prior to obligating or expending federal monies in any specific receipt greater than \$5,000,000.

(2) Nothing in subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be construed to authorize the Secretary to obligate or expend State funds in excess of the amounts of State funds appropriated in the fiscal year 2022 budget.

(b) The Secretary of Administration shall inform the Joint Fiscal Committee, through the Joint Fiscal Office, of any changes in the availability

to the State of federal funds in a previously accepted grant following the adjournment of the 2021 legislative session and prior to the convening of the 2022 legislative session, and shall request approval from the Joint Fiscal Committee, by notifying the Joint Fiscal Office, of any proposed obligation or expenditure of a receipt of federal funds greater than \$5,000,000.

(1) The Joint Fiscal Committee may approve the proposed obligation or expenditure of newly available federal funds if the Committee determines that the proposal meets one or more of the following criteria:

(A) The proposed use of funds is consistent with the intent of legislation enacted during the 2021 legislative session.

(B) The proposed use of funds is necessary to meet needs associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

(C) The proposed use of funds requires prompt action that should not be delayed to allow for consideration by the General Assembly during the 2022 legislative session.

(2) If the Joint Fiscal Committee disapproves the proposed obligation or expenditure of newly available federal funds in whole or in part, the Committee shall inform the Secretary of the disapproval and the basis for the disapproval within 30 calendar days following receipt by the Joint Fiscal Office of the proposed obligation or expenditure. The Secretary may revise and resubmit a disapproved proposal for further consideration.

(3) If the Joint Fiscal Committee does not take action on the proposed obligation or expenditure of newly available federal funds within 30 calendar days following receipt by the Joint Fiscal Office of the Secretary's proposal or resubmitted proposal, the proposed obligation or expenditure shall be deemed approved.

(c) The Secretary of Administration may obligate and expend federal receipts of up to \$5,000,000 that become available as the result of federal legislation enacted following the adjournment of the 2021 legislative session and prior to the convening of the 2022 legislative session pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 511 without seeking approval from the Joint Fiscal Committee.

(d) The authority of the Secretary of Administration and the Joint Fiscal Committee as set forth in this section shall remain in effect until February 1, 2022.

Sec. E.128 SERGEANT AT ARMS – CAPITOL POLICE OFFICER
POSITION

(a) One permanent exempt position, Capitol Police Officer, is authorized for establishment in fiscal year 2022.

Sec. E.128.1 SERGEANT AT ARMS – LEGISLATIVE FACILITY
COORDINATOR POSITION

(a) One limited service position, facility coordinator, is authorized for establishment in fiscal year 2021. The Sergeant at Arms is authorized to fill this position or to hire a consultant to provide facility coordination and management expertise to the legislature starting in fiscal year 2021.

Sec. E.130 32 V.S.A. § 168 is amended to read:

§ 168. SINGLE AUDIT REVOLVING FUND

(a)(1) The Single Audit Revolving Fund is established within the State Treasury, to be administered by the Auditor of Accounts, from which payments may be made for the costs of audits performed pursuant to subdivisions 163(1) ~~and, 163(2), and 5404a(1)~~ of this ~~subchapter~~ title and 24 V.S.A. § 290b.

(2) All monies received from charges made for audit services under the provisions of subsection (b) of this section and sums that may be appropriated to the Fund shall be deposited in the Fund.

(3) Any balance remaining in the Fund at the end of any fiscal year shall be carried forward and remain a part of the Fund.

(b)(1) The Auditor of Accounts shall charge the State department, agency, commission, instrumentality, political subdivision, or State-created authority audited for the direct and indirect costs of an audit performed pursuant to subdivisions 163(1) ~~and, 163(2), and 5404a(1)~~ of this ~~subchapter~~ title and 24 V.S.A. § 290b.

(2) Costs shall be determined by the Auditor of Accounts and costs associated with subdivisions 163(1) and (2) of this ~~subchapter~~ title shall be approved by the Secretary of Administration.

Sec. E.130.1 32 V.S.A. § 5404a is amended to read:

§ 5404a. TAX STABILIZATION AGREEMENTS; TAX INCREMENT
FINANCING DISTRICTS

* * *

(l) The State Auditor of Accounts shall conduct performance audits of all tax increment financing districts ~~according to a schedule, which will be arrived at in consultation with the Vermont Economic Progress Council.~~ The cost of conducting each audit shall be considered a “related cost” as defined in 24 V.S.A. § 1891(6) and shall be billed back to the municipality pursuant to subsection 168(b) of this title. Audits conducted pursuant to this subsection shall include a review of a municipality’s adherence to relevant statutes and

rules adopted by the Vermont Economic Progress Council pursuant to subsection (j) of this section, an assessment of record keeping related to revenues and expenditures, and a validation of the portion of the tax increment retained by the municipality and used for debt repayment and the portion directed to the Education Fund.

* * *

Sec. E.133 VERMONT STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM

(a) Notwithstanding 3 V.S.A. § 473(d), in fiscal year 2022, investment fees shall be paid from the corpus of the Fund.

Sec. E.139 GRAND LIST LITIGATION ASSISTANCE

(a) Of the appropriation in Sec. B.139 of this act, \$9,000 shall be transferred to the Attorney General and \$70,000 shall be transferred to the Department of Taxes, Division of Property Valuation and Review and reserved and used with any remaining funds from the amount previously transferred for final payment of expenses incurred by the Department or towns in defense of grand list appeals regarding the reappraisals of the hydroelectric plants and other property owned by TransCanada Hydro Northeast, Inc. and its successor Great River Hydro, LLC in the State of Vermont. Expenditures for this purpose shall be considered qualified expenditures under 16 V.S.A. § 4025(c).

Sec. E.142 PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES

(a) The appropriation in Sec. B.142 is for State payments in lieu of property taxes under 32 V.S.A. chapter 123, subchapter 4, and the payments shall be calculated in addition to and without regard to the appropriations for PILOT for Montpelier and for correctional facilities elsewhere in this act. Payments in lieu of taxes under this section shall be paid from the PILOT Special Fund under 32 V.S.A. § 3709.

Sec. E.143 PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES – MONTPELIER

(a) Payments in lieu of taxes under Sec. B.143 shall be paid from the PILOT Special Fund under 32 V.S.A. § 3709.

Sec. E.144 PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES – CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

(a) Payments in lieu of taxes under Sec. B.144 shall be paid from the PILOT Special Fund under 32 V.S.A. § 3709.

* * * Protection to Persons and Property * * *

Sec. E.200 ATTORNEY GENERAL

(a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the Office of the Attorney

General, Medicaid Fraud and Residential Abuse Unit, is authorized to retain, subject to appropriation, one-half of the State share of any recoveries from Medicaid fraud settlements, excluding interest, that exceed the State share of restitution to the Medicaid Program. All such designated additional recoveries retained shall be used to finance Medicaid Fraud and Residential Abuse Unit activities.

(b) Of the revenue available to the Attorney General under 9 V.S.A. § 2458(b)(4), \$1,390,500 is appropriated in Sec. B.200 of this act.

Sec. E.207 JOINT LEGISLATIVE JUSTICE OVERSIGHT
COMMITTEE; TRANSPORTS; STUDY; REPORT

(a) The Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee shall examine the current system for transporting prisoners and persons with a mental condition or psychiatric disability who are in the custody of the State, including transports provided by deputy sheriffs who are paid by the State pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 290(b) and transports provided pursuant to contracts that certain State agencies have entered into with county sheriff's departments. The Committee may recommend changes to the existing system and shall identify any benefits and adverse consequences related to those recommended changes. Any recommended changes shall comply with the Agency of Human Services' policies on the use of restraints in accordance with 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 85 § E.314.

(b) On or before November 15, 2021, the Committee shall submit a report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, on Government Operations, and on Judiciary regarding its findings and any recommendations for legislative action.

(c) In conducting its review pursuant to this section, the Committee shall review audits prepared by the Auditor of Accounts regarding the use of deputies who are paid by the State pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 290(b) during the state of emergency declared pursuant to Executive Order 01-20, as amended, and the Inmate Transportation Study Report prepared pursuant to 2018 (Sp. Sess.) Acts and Resolves No. 11, Sec. E.207.

Sec. E.208 PUBLIC SAFETY – ADMINISTRATION

(a) The Commissioner of Public Safety is authorized to enter into a performance-based contract with the Essex County Sheriff's Department to provide law enforcement service activities agreed upon by both the Commissioner of Public Safety and the Sheriff.

Sec. E.209 PUBLIC SAFETY – STATE POLICE

(a) Of the appropriation in Sec. B.209 of this act, \$35,000 in special funds

shall be available for snowmobile law enforcement activities and \$35,000 in general funds shall be available to the Southern Vermont Wilderness Search and Rescue Team, which comprises State Police, the Department of Fish and Wildlife, county sheriffs, and local law enforcement personnel in Bennington, Windham, and Windsor Counties, for snowmobile enforcement.

(b) Of the appropriation in Sec. B.209 of this act, \$405,000 is allocated for grants in support of the Drug Task Force. Of this amount, \$190,000 shall be used by the Vermont Drug Task Force to fund three town task force officers. These town task force officers shall be dedicated to enforcement efforts with respect to both regulated drugs as defined in 18 V.S.A. § 4201(29) and the diversion of legal prescription drugs. Any unobligated funds may be allocated by the Commissioner to fund the work of the Drug Task Force or carried forward.

Sec. E.212 PUBLIC SAFETY – FIRE SAFETY

(a) Of the General Fund appropriation in Sec. B.212 of this act, \$55,000 shall be granted to the Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force for the purpose of designing dry hydrants.

Sec. E.215 MILITARY – ADMINISTRATION

(a) The amount of \$1,119,834 shall be disbursed to the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation for the National Guard Tuition Benefit Program established in 16 V.S.A. § 2857.

Sec. E.219 MILITARY – VETERANS' AFFAIRS

(a) Of the appropriation in Sec. B.219 of this act, \$1,000 shall be used for continuation of the Vermont Medal Program; \$4,800 shall be used for the expenses of the Governor's Veterans' Advisory Council; \$7,500 shall be used for the Veterans' Day parade; \$5,000 shall be used for the Military, Family, and Community Network; and \$10,000 shall be granted to the American Legion for the Boys' State and Girls' State programs.

Sec. E.220 CENTER FOR CRIME VICTIMS SERVICES

(a) Notwithstanding 20 V.S.A. § 2365(c), the Vermont Center for Crime Victims Services shall transfer \$52,624 from the Domestic and Sexual Violence Special Fund established in 13 V.S.A. § 5360 to the Criminal Justice Training Council for the purpose of funding one-half the costs of the Domestic Violence Trainer position. The other half of the position will be funded with an appropriation to the Criminal Justice Training Council.

Sec. E.220.1 [Deleted.]

Sec. E.222 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 83, Sec. 3, as amended by 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 129, Sec. 24, is further amended to read:

Sec. 3. PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES AND SOIL
HEALTH WORKING GROUP

* * *

(4) The Working Group shall cease to exist on February 1, ~~2022~~ 2023.

(d) On or before January 15, ~~2022~~ 2023, the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets shall submit to the Senate Committee on Agriculture and the House Committee on Agriculture and Forestry a report that shall include:

* * *

Sec. E.224 AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND MARKETS – AGRICULTURAL
DEVELOPMENT

(a) Of the funds appropriated in Sec. B.224 of this act, the amount of \$594,000 in general funds is appropriated for expenditure by the Working Lands Enterprise Board established in 6 V.S.A. § 4606 for investments in food and forest system businesses and services providers pursuant to 6 V.S.A. § 4607 and consistent with the funding priorities in 2012 Acts and Resolves No. 142, Sec. 5, as amended by 2014 Acts and Resolves No. 179, Sec. E.224.1.

Sec.E.227 DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL REGULATION; ESSENTIAL
HEALTH BENEFITS; BENCHMARK PLAN REVIEW

(a) The Department of Financial Regulation, in consultation with the Department of Vermont Health Access; the Director of Health Care Reform in the Agency of Human Services; the Green Mountain Care Board; representatives of health care consumers, health care providers, and health insurers; and other interested stakeholders, shall review Vermont's benchmark plan establishing the State's essential health benefits to assess whether the benchmark plan is appropriately aligned with Vermont's health care reform goals regarding population health and prevention, as set forth in the Vermont All-Payer Accountable Care Organization (ACO) Model agreement and the Department of Health's State Health Improvement Plan: 2019–2023, and to determine whether to recommend requesting approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to modify the benchmark plan. As part of its review, the Department shall:

(1) determine the potential impacts of modifying the benchmark plan to include coverage of each of the following:

(A) hearing aids;

- (B) dentures;
- (C) vision care;
- (D) durable medical equipment; and
- (E) fertility services; and

(2) analyze the likely impact on qualified health plan designs, actuarial values, and premium rates of requiring individual and small group health insurance plans to provide each insured with at least two primary care visits per year with no cost-sharing requirement.

(b) On or before January 15, 2022, the Department of Financial Regulation shall provide the results of its benchmark plan review, including the extent of the plan's alignment with the All-Payer ACO Model agreement and the State Health Improvement Plan and any necessary revisions to maximize that alignment, the impacts of adding coverage for each of the items listed in subdivisions (a)(1)(A)–(E) of this section, the likely impacts of requiring plans to provide at least two primary care visits annually without cost-sharing, and any recommendations for modifications to Vermont's benchmark plan, to the House Committees on Health Care and on Human Services and the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Finance.

Sec. E.227.1 18 V.S.A. § 9473 is amended to read:

§ 9473. PHARMACY BENEFIT MANAGERS; REQUIRED PRACTICES
WITH RESPECT TO PHARMACIES

* * *

(d) A pharmacy benefit manager shall not:

(1) require a claim for a drug to include a modifier or supplemental transmission, or both, to indicate that the drug is a 340B drug unless the claim is for payment, directly or indirectly, by Medicaid; or

(2) restrict access to a pharmacy network or adjust reimbursement rates based on a pharmacy's participation in a 340B contract pharmacy arrangement.

Sec. E.227.2 REPEAL

18 V.S.A. § 9473(d) (pharmacy benefit managers; 340B entities) is repealed on January 1, 2023.

Sec. E.227.3 DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL REGULATION; 340B
DRUG PRICING PROGRAM; REPORT

On or before January 15, 2022, the Department of Financial Regulation, in consultation with the Office of the Attorney General, shall report to the House

Committee on Health Care and the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Finance regarding national activity affecting participation in the 340B Drug Pricing Program, including:

(1) recent changes to the manner in which prescription drug manufacturers pay rebates to pharmacy benefit managers for prescriptions filled through 340B pharmacies;

(2) the potential impacts of these changes on Vermont stakeholders, including individual Vermonters; and

(3) possible State responses to prescription drug manufacturer and pharmacy benefit manager actions related to participation in the 340B Drug Pricing Program.

Sec. E.234 [Deleted.]

Sec. E.234.1 [Deleted.]

Sec. E.234.2 [Deleted.]

Sec. E.234.3 DEVELOPMENT OF WEATHERIZATION WORKFORCE
AND COUNSELING SERVICES; REPORTS

(a) Weatherization Workforce report.

(1) On or before June 15, 2021, the Chairs of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy and the House Committee on Energy and Technology, or their designees, shall meet with the Department of Labor, the Agency of Education, Efficiency Vermont, representatives of the community action agencies, NeighborWorks of Western Vermont, the Vermont Fuel Dealers Association, and other parties currently delivering programming to train workers to perform services related to thermal energy savings and weatherization.

(2) Thereafter, Efficiency Vermont shall lead the Weatherization Workforce Group that shall develop plans for the coordinated delivery of a standardized statewide Building Sciences curriculum that includes weatherization. The curriculum shall be designed to establish a career pathway in energy efficiency construction and shall include a certification that is broadly recognized, transparent, and portable.

(3) On or before October 1, 2021, Efficiency Vermont shall report to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy and the House Committee on Energy and Technology a plan for enhancing the coordinated delivery of the standardized Building Sciences training program in order to support the goals of 10 V.S.A. § 581.

(b) Energy Savings Counseling report.

(1) On or before June 30, 2021, the Chairs of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy and the House Committee on Energy and Technology, or their designees shall meet with the Office of Economic Opportunity, the directors of the community action agencies, Efficiency Vermont, NeighborWorks of Western Vermont, and other parties currently providing outreach and counseling services to Vermonters with low and moderate income for the State's energy savings programs, including thermal and transportation energy efficiency programs.

(2) Thereafter, the Office of Economic Opportunity shall lead the Energy Savings Counseling Group that shall develop a plan for the coordinated and effective delivery of counseling services designed to enroll and deliver energy savings programs to their target service populations.

(3) On or before October 15, 2021, the Office of Economic Opportunity shall report to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy and the House Committee on Energy and Technology a plan for coordinating and enhancing their counseling services to Vermonters with low and moderate-income who could benefit from the State's energy savings programs, including thermal and transportation energy efficiency programs.

Sec. E.234.4 [Deleted.]

Sec. E.235 STUDY; E-911 SPECIAL FUND

(a) The Agency of Administration shall review the existing statutory funding streams for the Enhanced 911 Special Fund and shall propose changes or additions as necessary to ensure the long-term sustainability of the E-911 Board's operations. On or before January 15, 2022, the Secretary of Administration shall report his or her findings and recommendations to the House Committees on Energy and Technology, on Government Operations, on Ways and Means, and on Appropriations and the Senate Committees on Finance and on Appropriations. As a part of this review and report, the Secretary shall specifically provide comment or recommendation on the proposals related to capacity of the Universal Service Fund contained in the report issued pursuant to 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 137, Sec. 19 (PEG study), and recommendations regarding the structure or governance of the E-911 program.

* * * Human Services * * *

Sec. E.300 FUNDING FOR THE OFFICE OF THE HEALTH CARE ADVOCATE

(a) Of the funds appropriated in Sec. B.300 of this act, \$1,457,406 shall be used for the contract with the Office of the Health Care Advocate.

Sec. E.300.1 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 155, Sec. 2 is amended to read:

Sec. 2. HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE STRATEGIC PLAN; REPORT

(a) The Director of Health Care Reform, in connection with the advisory group established pursuant to 18 V.S.A. § 9491(b) in Sec. 1 of this act, shall update the health care workforce strategic plan as set forth in 18 V.S.A. § 9491 and shall submit a draft of the plan to the Green Mountain Care Board for its review and approval on or before ~~July 1~~ October 15, 2021. The Board shall review and approve the plan within 30 days following receipt.

(b) On or before ~~August 15~~ December 1, 2021, the Director shall provide the updated health care workforce strategic plan to the House Committees on Appropriations, on Health Care, and on Commerce and Economic Development and the Senate Committees on Appropriations, on Health and Welfare, and on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

Sec. E.300.2 [Deleted.]

Sec. E.301 SECRETARY'S OFFICE – GLOBAL COMMITMENT:

(a) The Agency of Human Services shall use the funds appropriated in Sec. B.301 of this act for payment of the actuarially certified premium required under the intergovernmental agreement between the Agency of Human Services and the managed care entity, the Department of Vermont Health Access, as provided for in the Global Commitment for Health Waiver (Global Commitment) approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services under Section 1115 of the Social Security Act.

(b) In addition to the State funds appropriated in this section, a total estimated sum of \$24,993,731 is anticipated to be certified as State matching funds under the Global Commitment as follows:

(1) \$22,220,000 certified State match available from local education agencies for eligible special education school-based Medicaid services under the Global Commitment. This amount, combined with \$28,280,000 of federal funds appropriated in Sec. B.301 of this act, equals a total estimated expenditure of \$50,500,000. An amount equal to the amount of the federal matching funds for eligible special education school-based Medicaid services under Global Commitment shall be transferred from the Global Commitment Fund to the Medicaid Reimbursement Special Fund created in 16 V.S.A. § 2959a.

(2) \$2,773,731 certified State match available from local designated mental health and developmental services agencies for eligible mental health services provided under Global Commitment.

(c) Up to \$4,618,437 is transferred from the AHS Federal Receipts

Holding Account to the Interdepartmental Transfer Fund consistent with the amount appropriated in Sec. B.301 of this act – Secretary’s Office – Global Commitment.

Sec. E.301.1 GLOBAL COMMITMENT WAIVER AMENDMENT

(a) The Secretary of Human Services is authorized to seek to extend or renew Vermont’s Global Commitment to Health Section 1115 Demonstration Waiver, which is currently set to expire on December 31, 2021. The Agency of Human Services shall strive to maintain or increase the State’s flexibility to use Global Commitment investment dollars to increase access to care and coverage, improve health outcomes, strengthen health care delivery, and promote transformation to value-based and integrated models of care.

Sec. E.301.2 GLOBAL COMMITMENT APPROPRIATIONS; TRANSFER;
REPORT

(a) In order to facilitate the end-of-year closeout for fiscal year 2022, the Secretary of Human Services, with approval from the Secretary of Administration, may make transfers among the appropriations authorized for Medicaid and Medicaid-waiver program expenses, including Global Commitment appropriations outside the Agency of Human Services. At least three business days prior to any transfer, the Agency shall submit to the Joint Fiscal Office a proposal of transfers to be made pursuant to this section. A final report on all transfers made under this section shall be made to the Joint Fiscal Committee for review at the September 2022 meeting. The purpose of this section is to provide the Agency with limited authority to modify the appropriations to comply with the terms and conditions of the Global Commitment for Health waiver approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services under Section 1115 of the Social Security Act.

Sec. E.301.3 [Deleted.]

Sec. E.306 VERMONT HEALTH BENEFIT EXCHANGE RULES

(a) The Agency of Human Services may adopt rules pursuant to 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 to conform Vermont’s rules regarding health care eligibility and enrollment and the operation of the Vermont Health Benefit Exchange to State and federal law and guidance. The Agency may use the emergency rules process pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 844 prior to June 30, 2022, but only in the event that new State or federal law or guidance requires Vermont to amend or adopt its rules in a time frame that cannot be accomplished under the traditional rulemaking process. An emergency rule adopted under these exigent circumstances shall be deemed to meet the standard for the adoption of emergency rules required pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 844(a).

Sec. E.306.1 33 V.S.A. § 1805 is amended to read:

§ 1805 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Vermont Health Benefit Exchange shall have the following duties and responsibilities consistent with the Affordable Care Act:

* * *

~~(C) collecting premium payments made for qualified health benefit plans from employers and individuals on a pretax basis, including collecting premium payments from multiple employers of one individual for a single plan covering that individual; and~~

~~(D)~~(C) creating a simplified and uniform system for the administration of health benefits.

* * *

(6) Determining enrollee premiums and subsidies as required by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Treasury or of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and informing consumers of eligibility for premiums and subsidies, including by providing an electronic calculator to determine the actual cost of coverage after application of any premium tax credit under Section 36B of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and any cost-sharing reduction under Section 1402 of the Affordable Care Act.

* * *

Sec. E.311 AGENCY OF HUMAN SERVICES; DESIGNATED AND
SPECIALIZED SERVICE AGENCIES; WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT

(a) The Agency of Human Services shall distribute the remaining \$1,500,000 appropriated to the Agency to make strategic investments in order to expand the supply of high-quality mental health and substance use disorder treatment professionals in 2018 (Sp. Sess.) Acts and Resolves No. 11, Sec. 106.1 to the designated and specialized service agencies equitably based on each agency's proportion of full-time equivalent (FTE) mental health and substance use disorder treatment staff to the total number of FTE mental health and substance use disorder treatment staff across all designated and specialized service agencies statewide. The designated and specialized service agencies shall use these funds for loan repayment and tuition assistance to promote the recruitment and retention of high-quality mental health and substance use disorder treatment professionals available to Vermont residents in need of their services, as set forth in subsection (b) of this section.

(b)(1) Each designated and specialized service agency shall make the funds

received pursuant to subsection (a) of this section available to its current and prospective employees as set forth in subdivisions (A) and (B) of this subdivision (1) on a rolling basis in exchange for a one-year service obligation to provide mental health services or substance use disorder treatment services, or both, at a designated or specialized service agency in this State. The funds may be used for the following purposes:

(A) loan repayment for master's-level clinicians, bachelor's-level direct service staff, and nurses; and

(B) tuition assistance for individuals pursuing degrees to become master's-level clinicians, bachelor's-level direct service staff, and nurses.

(2) Loan repayment and tuition assistance funds shall be available to the current and prospective employees of designated and specialized service agencies in the form of forgivable loans, with the debt forgiven upon the employee's completion of the required service obligation.

(c) Until the funds have been fully expended, the Agency of Human Services shall provide quarterly reports to the House Committees on Appropriations, on Health Care, and on Human Services; the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Health and Welfare; and the Health Reform Oversight Committee with information on the following:

(1) the specific designated and specialized service agencies that have received funds to date and the programs within each of those agencies in which the financial assistance recipients will deliver services;

(2) the amount of financial assistance funding provided to each recipient;

(3) the specific degrees or certificates toward which the tuition assistance recipients are working and those earned by loan repayment recipients; and

(4) the number of new employees attracted to the designated and specialized service agencies as a result of the financial assistance, their fields of study, and the programs in which they deliver services.

Sec. E.311.1 18 V.S.A. § 33 is amended to read:

§ 33. UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT COLLEGE OF MEDICINE; MEDICAL STUDENTS; ~~PRIMARY CARE~~ STUDENT INCENTIVE SCHOLARSHIP

(a) The Department of Health, in collaboration with the Office of Primary Care and Area Health Education Centers Program (AHEC) at the University of Vermont College of Medicine (AHEC) and the Vermont Student Assistance

~~Corporation (VSAC), shall establish a primary care physician scholarship program~~ Medical Student Incentive Scholarship Program at the University of Vermont College of Medicine. The purpose of the Program is to strengthen the primary care workforce pipeline and increase the number of new physicians practicing in Vermont to meet the health care needs of Vermonters, with a focus on rural areas and undersupplied medical specialties. The scholarships shall cover the medical school tuition for up to five third-year and up to five fourth-year medical students annually who commit to practicing primary care in a rural area of this State or in a Vermont federally qualified health center's service area, in a setting or practice not owned by an academic medical center. For each academic year of tuition covered by the scholarship, the recipient shall incur an obligation of two years of full-time service or four years of half-time service. Students receiving a scholarship for their third year of medical school shall be eligible to receive another scholarship for their fourth year of medical school. The amount of each scholarship shall be set at the in-state tuition rate less any other State or federal educational grant assistance the student receives for the same academic year.

(b)(1) Scholarships shall be awarded to up to 10 students annually who commit to practicing in a medical specialty priority area, as set forth in subdivision (c)(2) of this section, in a region of Vermont other than Chittenden County, in a practice site that is not owned by an academic medical center and that accepts patients who are covered by Medicaid, Medicare, or other publicly funded health benefit programs.

(2) Students shall be eligible to participate in the Medical Student Incentive Scholarship Program in their third and fourth year of medical school. A student who receives an incentive scholarship for the third year of medical school shall be eligible to receive another incentive scholarship for the fourth year of medical school.

(3) Each incentive scholarship award shall be for an amount not less than the in-state tuition rate for the University of Vermont College of Medicine.

(c)(1) For each academic year of incentive scholarship received, the recipient shall incur a full-time service obligation of not less than one year in a medical specialty priority area and in a setting that meets the requirements of subdivision (b)(1) of this section.

(2) The medical specialty priority area shall be primary care; ~~Approved~~ approved specialties shall be all of the specialties recognized by the National Health Service Corps at the time of the scholarship award, which may include family medicine, internal medicine, adult primary care, pediatrics primary care, obstetrics-gynecology, and psychiatry.

(e)(3) A An incentive scholarship recipient who does not fulfill the service obligation commitment to practice primary care in Vermont in accordance with the terms of the award shall be liable for repayment of the full amount of the scholarship, plus interest calculated in accordance with the formula determined by the National Health Service Corps for failure to complete a service obligation under that program and penalty.

(d)(1) The Medical Student Incentive Scholarship Program shall be administered in compliance with federal financial aid regulations and the Internal Revenue Code.

(2) Payments shall be made directly to the recipient's University of Vermont student financial services account.

(3) The full terms and conditions of the award shall be described in the award contract or promissory note and shall be binding once the contract or note is fully executed.

(4) AHEC and VSAC shall enter into a memorandum of understanding establishing their respective responsibilities for administering the Medical Student Incentive Scholarship Program. The memorandum of understanding shall be subject to the approval of the Department of Health.

(e)(1) The Commissioner of Health, in consultation with AHEC and VSAC, may establish additional recipient eligibility criteria, selection criteria, award terms and conditions, and evidence-based best practices to meet the purposes of the Medical Student Incentive Scholarship Program on an annual basis to best respond to Vermont's needs for physician workforce and access to health care.

(2) The Commissioner of Health may adopt rules in accordance with 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 in order to plan, implement, maintain, and evaluate the Medical Student Incentive Scholarship Program established in this section.

Sec. E.311.2 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 155, Sec. 7a is amended to read:

Sec. 7a. SUNSET

18 V.S.A. § 33 (medical students; primary care) is repealed on July 1, 2022 2027.

Sec. E.311.3 EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE; MEDICAL STUDENT INCENTIVE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM; APPROPRIATION

(a) Of the Global Commitment funds appropriated in Sec. B.311 of this act to the Department of Health, the sum of \$2,272,727 shall be transferred to Vermont Student Assistance Corporation in fiscal year 2022 for use as follows:

(1) \$1,035,957 in Global Commitment funds for scholarships for

nursing students in accordance with the provisions set forth in 2020 Acts and Resolves No.155, Sec. 5; and

(2) \$1,236,770 in Global Commitment funds for scholarships for medical students who commit to practicing primary care in this State in accordance with 18 V.S.A. § 33, as amended by this act. The Medical Student Incentive funds shall be available for distribution following approval of the initial memorandum of understanding between the Office of Primary Care and Area Health Education Centers Program at the University of Vermont College of Medicine (AHEC) and the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation (VSAC).

Sec. E.312 HEALTH – PUBLIC HEALTH

(a) AIDS/HIV funding.

(1) In fiscal year 2022, and as provided in this section, the Department of Health shall provide grants in the amount of \$475,000 in AIDS Medication Rebates special funds to the Vermont AIDS service and peer-support organizations for client-based support services. The Department of Health AIDS Program shall meet at least quarterly with the Community Advisory Group (CAG) with current information and data relating to service initiatives. The funds shall be allocated according to an RFP process.

(2) Ryan White Title II funds for AIDS services and the Vermont Medication Assistance Program (VMAP) shall be distributed in accordance with federal guidelines. The federal guidelines shall not apply to programs or services funded solely by State general funds.

(3)(A) The Secretary of Human Services shall immediately notify the Joint Fiscal Committee if at any time there are insufficient funds in VMAP to assist all eligible individuals. The Secretary shall work in collaboration with persons living with HIV/AIDS to develop a plan to continue access to VMAP medications until such time as the General Assembly can take action.

(B) As provided in this section, the Secretary of Human Services shall work in collaboration with the VMAP Advisory Committee, which shall be composed of not less than 50 percent of members who are living with HIV/AIDS. If a modification to the program's eligibility requirements or benefit coverage is considered, the Committee shall make recommendations regarding the program's formulary of approved medication, related laboratory testing, nutritional supplements, and eligibility for the program.

(4) In fiscal year 2022, the Department of Health shall provide grants in the amount of \$100,000 in general funds to Vermont AIDS service organizations and other Vermont HIV/AIDS prevention providers for community-based HIV prevention programs and services. These funds shall

be used for HIV/AIDS prevention purposes, including syringe exchange programs; improving the availability of confidential and anonymous HIV testing; prevention work with at-risk groups such as women, intravenous drug users, and people of color; and anti-stigma campaigns. Not more than 15 percent of the funds may be used for the administration of such services by the recipients of these funds. The method by which these prevention funds are distributed shall be determined by mutual agreement of the Department of Health and the Vermont AIDS service organizations and other Vermont HIV/AIDS prevention providers.

(5) In fiscal year 2022, the Department of Health shall provide grants in the amount of \$150,000 in general funds to Vermont AIDS service organizations and other Vermont HIV/AIDS prevention providers for syringe exchange programs. The method by which these prevention funds are distributed shall be determined by mutual agreement of the Department of Health, the Vermont AIDS service organizations, and other Vermont HIV/AIDS prevention providers. The performance period for these grants will be State fiscal year 2022. Grant reporting shall include outcomes and results.

(6) In fiscal year 2022, the Department of Health shall not reduce any grants to the Vermont AIDS service and peer-support organizations from funds appropriated for AIDS/HIV services to levels below those in fiscal year 2020 without receiving prior approval from the Joint Fiscal Committee.

Sec. E.318 EDUCATIONAL AND EXPERIENTIAL VARIANCE

(a) For individuals operating or employed in a registered family child care home or as a director or teacher associate in a center-based program for 10 or more years prior to September 1, 2016, the Commissioner for Children and Families or designee may issue a variance to the Child Development Division's rule regarding educational and experiential requirements to allow an individual to maintain employment in that same role regardless of whether the family child care provider, family child care assistant, director, or teacher associate intends to attain the otherwise necessary educational requirements. To be eligible for a variance, the family child care provider, family child care assistant, director, or teacher associate shall:

(1) work continuously in a regulated program with a full license in good standing; and

(2) meet the Division's educational and experiential requirements in place prior to the adoption of the new rule, which was effective beginning on September 1, 2016.

(b) The Commissioner or designee shall review any violation occurring in a regulated program where a family childcare provider, family child care

assistant, director, or teacher associate is under variance and may revoke the variance granted by this section depending upon the seriousness and circumstances of the violation.

(c) Any variance granted under this section shall be terminated on July 1, 2024, and extensions shall not be granted beyond that date.

Sec. E.318.1 DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES;
SPECIALIZED CHILD CARE TRANSPORTATION

(a) It is the intent of the General Assembly that there be no reduction in specialized childcare transportation services provided by the Department for Children and Families resulting from a statewide transportation contract. Should a more cost-effective, coordinated system of specialized child care transportation not be attainable by the move to a statewide contract in fiscal year 2022, the program shall revert to a commensurate base funding level and program parameters that were in place during fiscal year 2021. Any changes to transportation services shall not decrease the expeditious authorization of services to families.

(b) On or before November 1, 2021, the Department for Children and Families shall submit a written report to the House Committees on Appropriations and on Human Services; and the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Health and Welfare outlining the outcome of the statewide transportation Request for Proposal regarding transportation services. The report shall identify the average number of children served under the Specialized Transportation Services program by region in fiscal year 2021 and the average number of number of children served under the Specialized Transportation Services program by region in July, August, and September 2021.

Sec. E.318.2 CHILD CARE PROVIDER STABILIZATION GRANTS

(a) Of the funds provided in fiscal year 2022 in Sec. B.318 of this act, \$800,000 is allocated for the purpose of expanding infant and toddler child care capacity.

(b) The Division shall award grants to eligible applicants. An eligible applicant shall:

(1) be a new or existing regulated, privately operated center-based childcare program or family child care home in good regulatory standing;

(2) participate in the Child Care Financial Assistance Program (CCFAP);

(3) provide year-round, full day child care and early learning services;

(4) provide childcare and early learning services for infants and toddlers; and

(5) participate in the Step Ahead Recognition System (STARS).

(c) Center-based childcare program or family child care homes receiving a grant pursuant to this section shall remain in compliance with the Division's rules, continue participation in STARS, and maintain enrollment of children supported by CCFAP.

Sec. E.318.3 AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021; CHILD CARE
STABILIZATION GRANTS: APPROPRIATION

(a) Of the \$2,600,000 appropriated in Sec. B.318 of this act to the Department for Children and Families Division of Child Development from the federal funds available under the Child Care Development Block Grant funding received by the State pursuant to the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Pub. L. No. 117-2, funds shall be allocated as follows:

(1) \$700,000 shall be allocated for current and prospective early childhood provider scholarships programs;

(2) \$1,800,000 shall be allocated for early childhood student loan repayment; and

(3) \$100,000 shall be transferred to Vermont Department of Labor for the pre-apprenticeship program in Early Childhood Education provided by Vermont Career and Technical Education centers.

(b) Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 5, funds from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Child Care Stabilization Grants Fund shall be deposited into the State Treasury and are hereby accepted and shall be spent subject to appropriation. Excess receipts authority may be granted only in the event that the appropriation in subsection (a) of this section is not sufficient to support childcare providers prior to the fiscal year 2022 budget adjustment process and the funds are used consistent with an approved plan required to be presented to the Joint Fiscal Committee on or before September 1, 2021 in legislation enacted during the 2021 legislative session.

(c) The Department for Children and Families shall consider statewide child care system capacity needs in its use of the Child Care Development Block Grant funds to expand statewide capacity. The Department shall report in January 2022 to the General Assembly on capacity grants issued to expand existing programs or establish new programs, or both.

Sec. E.321 GENERAL/EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE HOUSING

(a) Funds appropriated to the Department for Children and Families in the

General/Emergency Assistance program in fiscal year 2022 shall be used to provide emergency housing in accordance with program rules waived or varied under 2021 Acts and Resolves No, 6, Sec. 1. The purpose of emergency housing is to ensure short-term housing for vulnerable segments of the population experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity to the extent that such housing does not exceed hotel room and motel room capacity within the State and expenditures for such housing do not exceed available State and federal funds. The assistance provided under this section is not an entitlement and may be discontinued upon the expenditure of the appropriated funds.

(b) During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Department for Children and Families temporarily expanded eligibility for emergency housing through the General/Emergency Assistance program in response to the public health emergency. The General Assembly and the Administration acknowledge that this approach is neither financially nor programmatically sustainable. The Commissioner for Children and Families, in consultation with the emergency housing working group established by the House Appropriations Committee, has identified and shall implement new emergency housing eligibility criteria. The new eligibility criteria shall remain in effect for the duration of fiscal year 2022 unless there is a need to expand eligibility in response to a public health emergency or other emergency.

(c) The Commissioner for Children and Families may, by policy, provide emergency housing for a limited duration in adverse weather conditions when appropriate shelter space is not available.

Sec. E.321.1 HOUSING ASSISTANCE BENEFITS FLEXIBILITY
PROGRAM; COMMUNITY BASED ALTERNATIVES TO
GENERAL ASSISTANCE EMERGENCY HOUSING

(a) For fiscal year 2022, the Department for Children and Families may continue to fund housing assistance programs within the General Assistance program to create flexibility to provide General Assistance benefits, as well as grants to support the establishment of community-based alternatives for temporary housing as part of the effort to reduce the number of individuals temporarily housed by the General Assistance program. The purpose of these housing assistance programs and community-based alternatives is to mitigate poverty and serve applicants more effectively than they are currently being served with General Assistance funds. Eligible activities shall include, among other things, the provision of shelter, overflow shelter, case management, transitional housing, deposits, down payments, rental assistance, upstream prevention, and related services that ensure that all Vermonters have access to shelter, housing, and the services they need to become safely housed. The Department may award grants to homeless and housing service providers for

eligible activities. Where such housing assistance programs and grants are provided and community-based programs are established, the General Assistance rules shall not apply. The assistance provided under this section is not an entitlement and may be discontinued should there not be sufficient funds.

Sec. E.321.2 EMERGENCY HOUSING WORKGROUP

(a) The Department for Children and Families shall continue to use the General Assistance Emergency Housing Workgroup, convened in March 2021, to make recommendations to the Commissioner for Children and Families on the design and implementation of a sustainable, long-term plan for providing emergency housing for fiscal year 2023 that reduces or ends reliance, or both, on the General/Emergency Assistance Motel Voucher Program. This workgroup shall consider investments needed to build local capacity to support emergency housing needs, which may include funding, training, technical assistance, and planning support. The Department for Children and Families and Workgroup shall also consider the Governor's proposed permanent housing initiative when developing its recommendations.

(b) On or before November 1, 2021, the Department for Children and Families shall submit a written report to the House Committees on Appropriations, on General, Housing, and Military Affairs, and on Human Services and the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Health and Welfare with recommendations on the development of a sustainable, long-term plan for emergency housing.

(c) The Department shall continue to engage interested local and statewide parties, including the Continua of Care, service providers, people with lived experience, and representatives of Vermont's health care system, in the design, implementation, and evaluation of housing assistance programs and community-based alternatives to General/Emergency Assistance emergency housing.

Sec. E.321.3 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REPORT

(a) The Department for Children and Families shall implement the identified sustainable housing plan on July 1, 2022 in line with recommendations made in the November 1, 2021 written report. The Department for Children and Families shall take into consideration steps necessary to ensure an effective and efficient transition that reduces or ends reliance, or both on the General/Emergency Assistance Motel Voucher Program effective June 30, 2022.

Sec. E.323 REACH UP – FISCAL YEAR 2022 ONE-TIME USE OF UNDERUTILIZED FUNDS

(a) To the extent that funds appropriated to the Reach Up program in fiscal year 2022 are not encumbered or expended, or both, in fiscal year 2022, funds shall carry forward and be used for a one-time payment to participating families in fiscal year 2023. The Department for Children and Families shall report to the Joint Fiscal Committee at its September 2022 meeting on the status of funds available and timing of one-time payments to participating families.

E.323.1 33 V.S.A. § 1103 is amended to read:

§ 1103. ELIGIBILITY AND BENEFIT LEVELS

* * *

(c) The Commissioner shall adopt rules for the determination of eligibility for the Reach Up program and benefit levels for all participating families that include the following provisions:

* * *

~~(9) The amount of \$77.00 of the Supplemental Security Income payment received by a parent excluding payments received on behalf of a child shall count toward the determination of the amount of the family's financial assistance grant. [Repealed.]~~

* * *

Sec. E.324 EXPEDITED CRISIS FUEL ASSISTANCE

(a) The Commissioner for Children and Families or designee may authorize crisis fuel assistance to those income-eligible households that have applied for an expedited seasonal fuel benefit but have not yet received it if the benefit cannot be executed in time to prevent them from running out of fuel. The crisis fuel grants authorized pursuant to this section count toward the one crisis fuel grant allowed per household for the winter heating season pursuant to 33 V.S.A. § 2609(b).

Sec. E.324.1 INTENT; AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT; LOW
INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
FUNDS

(a) It is the intent of the General Assembly that 15 percent of the funds received by the Department for Children and Families pursuant to the American Rescue Plan Act for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program be used to support the Home Weatherization Program and that \$5,000,000 be used for heating system or tank replacement initiatives. Cold climate heat pumps, where appropriate, shall be included as a fundable item in the weatherization allocation.

Sec. E.325 DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES – OFFICE
OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

(a) Of the General Fund appropriation in Sec. B.325 of this act, \$6,699,440 shall be granted to community agencies for homeless assistance by preserving existing services, increasing services, or increasing resources available statewide. These funds may be granted alone or in conjunction with federal Emergency Solutions Grants funds. Funds shall be administered in consultation with the Vermont Coalition to End Homelessness.

Sec. E.326 DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES – OFFICE
OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY – WEATHERIZATION
ASSISTANCE

(a) Of the Special Fund appropriation in Sec. B.326 of this act, \$750,000 is for the replacement and repair of home heating equipment.

Sec. E.327 REPEAL

33 V.S.A. chapter 58 (Woodside Juvenile Rehabilitation Center) is repealed.

Sec. E.335 CORRECTIONS APPROPRIATIONS; UNEXPENDED FUNDS
TRANSFER; JUSTICE REINVESTMENT; REPORT

(a) In fiscal year 2022, the Secretary of Administration may, upon recommendation of the Secretary of Human Services, transfer unexpended funds between the respective appropriations for correctional services; provided, however, that no transfer shall be made from correctional services out-of-state beds. At least three days prior to any such transfer being made, the Secretary of Administration shall report the intended transfer to the Joint Fiscal Office and shall report any completed transfers to the Joint Fiscal Committee at its next scheduled meeting.

(b) In fiscal year 2022, any unexpended funds for correctional services out-of-state beds shall be carried forward to fiscal year 2023, and the amount reported to the Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee in September 2022, to support community-based service programs. Funds may only be expended on community-based service programs upon approval of the Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee. Prior to approval, the House Committees on Appropriations and on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Judiciary shall be notified of any proposed expenditures on community based service programs.

Sec. E.335.1 CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS; BODY-WORN CAMERA
POLICY AND DEPLOYMENT

(a) Deployment. The Department of Corrections shall not deploy body-worn cameras until it adopts a policy on their use, including the storage and

retention of records, and trains its staff in accordance with the policy.

(b) Policy development. In developing the policy as required by this section, the Department shall:

(1) consider the implications of:

(A) the offender programming it provides; and

(B) the collective bargaining agreement it operates under; and

(2) consult with the Vermont Criminal Justice Council, the America Civil Liberties Union, the Prisoner's Rights Office, the Human Rights Commission, the Vermont State Employees' Association, statewide groups representing individuals with lived experience of incarceration, and any other stakeholder group as determined by the Department.

(c) Reports.

(1) The Department shall provide a progress report to the Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee on or before September 15, 2021 on the status of the policy development.

(2) On or before January 15, 2022, the Department shall present to the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions, the Senate Committee on Judiciary, and the House and Senate Committees on Government Operations its policy regarding the use of body-worn cameras for correctional officers.

(d) Funding. The Department shall identify the ongoing cost and funding source for the use of body-worn cameras, including training, data storage, and redaction, and report these findings to the Joint Fiscal and the Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committees on or before September 15, 2021. The Department shall provide a report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on or before February 15, 2022 on the status of its deployment of body-worn cameras for correctional officers.

Sec. E.337 [Deleted]

Sec. E.338 CORRECTIONS - CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

(a) Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 3709(a), the special funds appropriation in Sec. B.338 in the amount of \$152,000 for the supplemental facility payments to Newport and Springfield shall be paid from the PILOT Special Fund under 32 V.S.A. § 3709.

* * * K-12 Education * * *

Sec. E.500 Education – finance and administration

(a) The Global Commitment funds appropriated in Sec. B.500 of this act shall be used for physician claims for determining medical necessity of

Individualized Education Programs (IEPs). These services are intended to increase access to quality health care for uninsured persons, underinsured persons, and Medicaid beneficiaries.

Sec. E.501 AGENCY OF EDUCATION; PANDEMIC RESPONSE AND RECOVERY; APPROPRIATION OF ESSER I, II, AND III FUNDS

(a) Purpose. The purpose of Secs. E 501.1 – 501.3 of this act is to appropriate or allocate federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds, to the extent permitted by federal law and guidance, to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and strategically plan to support Vermont’s learning communities as the State moves into a recovery phase.

Sec. E.501.1 RETROCATIVE AUTHORIZATION AND APPROPRIATION OF ESSER I FUNDS

(a) ESSER I funds. The following sums are appropriated to the Agency of Education in fiscal year 2021 from the ESSER funds provided to the State pursuant to Section 18003 of Division B of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, Pub. L. No. 116–136 (CARES Act); a portion of the funds may be expended in fiscal year 2020 consistent with the terms of the grant acceptance, and any unexpended amounts may be carried forward to fiscal years 2022 and after:

(1) \$953,021 for software tools to assist with the response to the COVID-19 pandemic;

(2) \$2,006,074 for learning management assistance, including remote learning supports and materials; and

(3) \$155,741 for administrative and personnel costs.

Sec. E.501.2 ALLOCATION OF ESSER II AND ESSER III FUNDS

(a) ESSER II funds. Of the federal funds appropriated in Sec. B.501 of this act, \$5,197,336 is from the ESSER funds provided to the State pursuant to Section 313 of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021, Pub. L. No. 116–260 and shall be allocated as follows:

(1) \$4,434,969 for grants to summer and afterschool programs; and

(2) \$634,867 for administrative and personnel costs.

(b) ESSER III funds. The federal funds appropriated in Sec. B.501 of this act, shall be allocated as follows:

(1) \$1,000,000 from the ESSER funds provided to the State pursuant to

Sec. 2001(f) of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Pub. L. No. 117-2 to address emerging State-level needs; and

(2) \$1,425,821 from the ESSER funds provided to the State pursuant to Sec. 2001(f)(4) of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Pub. L. No. 117-2 for administrative and personnel costs.

(c) ESSER funds appropriated in Sec. B.501 of this act may be carried forward to future fiscal years if unexpended in fiscal year 2022.

Sec. E.501.3 AGENCY OF EDUCATION; ESSER III FUND PLAN;
CONTINGENT APPROPRIATIONS

(a) The Agency of Education shall develop a plan for the expenditure of the ESSER funds made available to the State pursuant to Section 2001 of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), as required by the U.S. Department of Education's interim final rule published April 22, 2021. On or before July 31, 2021, the Secretary of Education shall submit the proposed plan to the House and Senate Committees on Education for their review prior to submitting the plan to the U.S. Department of Education.

(b)(1) The following sums are appropriated from the ESSER III funds to the Agency of Education in fiscal year 2022, from which the Agency may make expenditures subject to the approval of each proposed expenditure by the Joint Fiscal Committee and the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees on Education at one or more meetings of the Joint Fiscal Committee held prior to January 5, 2022:

(A) \$3,000,000 for regional capacity grants to address students' social, emotional, and mental health needs;

(B) \$3,000,000 to address academic needs related to remote learning and supports, including addressing student loss, supporting student engagement, and providing learning enrichment opportunities; and

(C) \$1,000,000 for educator workforce development.

(2) To the extent that the funds appropriated in this subsection are not fully obligated or expended by January 5, 2022, the remainder shall be held for appropriation during the 2022 legislative session.

Sec. E.502 Education – special education; formula grants

(a) Of the appropriation authorized in Sec. B.502 of this act and notwithstanding any other provision of law, an amount not to exceed \$3,966,265 shall be used by the Agency of Education in fiscal year 2022 as funding for 16 V.S.A. § 2967(b)(2)–(6). In distributing such funds, the Secretary shall not be limited by the restrictions contained within 16 V.S.A. §

2969(c) and (d).

Sec. E.503 Education – State-placed students

(a) The Independence Place Program of the Lund Family Center shall be considered a 24-hour residential program for the purposes of reimbursement of education costs.

Sec. E.504.1 Education – flexible pathways

(a) Of the appropriation in Sec. B.504 of this act, \$2,100,000 from the Education Fund shall be distributed to school districts for reimbursement of high school completion services pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 943(c).

(b) Notwithstanding 16 V.S.A. § 4025(b), of this Education Fund appropriation, the amount of:

(1) \$921,500 is available for dual enrollment programs, notwithstanding 16 V.S.A. § 944(f)(2);

(2) \$1,800,000 is available to support the Vermont Virtual High School;

(3) \$400,000 is available for secondary school reform grants;

(4) \$500,000 is available for the Vermont Academy of Science and Technology; and

(5) \$2,500,000 is available for Early College pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 4011(e).

(c) Of the appropriation in Sec. B.504.1, \$921,500 from the General Fund is available for dual enrollment programs.

Sec. E.514 State teachers' retirement system

(a) In accordance with 16 V.S.A. § 1944(g)(2), the annual contribution to the State Teachers' Retirement System (STRS) shall be \$196,206,504 of which \$189,646,629 shall be the State's contribution and \$6,559,875 shall be contributed from local school systems or educational entities pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 1944c.

(b) In accordance with 16 V.S.A. § 1944(c)(2), of the annual contribution, \$38,901,533 is the "normal contribution," and \$157,304,971 is the "accrued liability contribution."

Sec. E.515 RETIRED TEACHERS' HEALTH CARE AND MEDICAL BENEFITS

(a) In accordance with 16 V.S.A. § 1944b(b)(2), \$35,093,844 shall be contributed to the Retired Teachers' Health and Medical Benefits plan.

Sec. E.515.1 [Deleted.]

Sec. E.515.2 [Deleted.]

Sec. E.515.3 REPORT ON NORMAL COSTS AND OTHER
CHARGES TO BE PART OF SCHOOL BUDGETS.

(a) On or before January 15, 2022, the Treasurer shall submit a report to the General Assembly on the following:

(1) the feasibility of moving the normal costs expenses from the Education Fund to local education agencies.

(2) assessing federal grants for the normal costs of these benefits in a manner currently charged for teacher pensions whose funding is provided from federal grants or through federal reimbursement pursuant to § 1944c.

(3) reimbursement for employer health care benefits through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund.

* * * Higher Education * * *

Sec. E.600 University of Vermont

(a) The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall issue warrants to pay 1/12 of the appropriation in Sec. B.600 of this act to the University of Vermont on or about the 15th day of each calendar month of the year.

(b) Of this appropriation, \$380,326 shall be transferred to EPSCoR (Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research) for the purpose of complying with State matching fund requirements necessary for the receipt of available federal or private funds, or both.

Sec. E.602 Vermont State Colleges

(a) The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall issue warrants to pay 1/12 of the appropriation in Sec. B.602 of this act to the Vermont State Colleges on or about the 15th day of each calendar month of the year.

(b) Of this appropriation, \$427,898 shall be transferred to the Vermont Manufacturing Extension Center for the purpose of complying with State matching fund requirements necessary for the receipt of available federal or private funds, or both.

Sec. E.602.1. 16 V.S.A. § 2187 is added to read:

§ 2187 PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

Any sale, lease, demolition, or disposal of property by the Vermont State Colleges Corporation shall comply with the requirements of 32 V.S.A. § 962.

Sec. E.602.2 VERMONT STATE COLLEGES

(a) The Vermont State College (VSC) system shall transform itself into a

fully integrated system that achieves financial stability in a responsible and sustainable way in order to meet each of these strategic priorities:

(1) Affordability. Ensure that student costs and debt obligations are not barriers to student access.

(2) Accessibility. Ensure that each VSC student, regardless of where the student's home campus is located, has increased access to academic opportunities, majors and courses across the statewide system.

(3) Relevance.

(A) Ensure that each VSC student is prepared for a lifelong career and personal success in the globally-competitive 21st century.

(B) Ensure that VSC offers educational programs that are:

(i) aligned with State workforce needs;

(ii) offered in a fiscally responsible manner; and

(iii) delivered in a manner that is relevant to current student and employer needs.

(b) VSC shall meet the following requirements during the transformation of its system required under subsection (a) of this section and shall accommodate the oversight of the General Assembly in so doing.

(1) VSC shall reduce its structural deficit by \$5,000,000 per year for five years through a combination of annual operating expense reductions and increased enrollment revenues, for a total of \$25,000,000 by the end of fiscal year 2026. These reductions shall be structural in nature and shall not be met by use of one-time funds. The VSC Board of Trustees, through the Chancellor or designee, shall report the results of these structural reductions to the House and Senate Committees on Education and on Appropriations annually during the Chancellor's budget presentation.

(2) The VSC Board of Trustees shall develop and implement a 10-year strategic plan for managing its physical assets that is fiscally sustainable, maintains reasonable net asset value, and meets the needs of Vermont learners. On or before March 1, 2022, the Chancellor shall present this Board approved plan to the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committee on Institutions.

(3) VSC shall maintain its present campus locations as educational and student-support centers, recognizing that overall campus size, governance and operational structures as well as program and service offerings may change as circumstances require.

(4) Beginning in fiscal year 2022 and through 2031, the VSC Board of Trustees, acting through the Chancellor or designee, shall brief, as part of the Chancellor's annual budget proposal, the House and Senate Committees on Education and Committees Appropriations:

(A) enrollment levels in courses offered by VSC, reported on the basis of courses with fewer than five students, courses with five to nine students, courses with 10 to 14 students, and courses with 15 or more students, along with relevant information about these enrollment data;

(B) in order to demonstrate accessibility, the percentage of courses and programs offered by VSC on a statewide basis and on the formats in which they are offered;

(C) an assessment of affordability and accessibility within VSC and recommendations on how to improve them;

(D) retention statistics with corresponding trend lines and benchmarks;

(E) enrollment statistics with methods of comparison using readily available metrics that pertain to the student enrollment efforts authorized by the fiscal year 2022 Vermont budget bill with the net student revenue generated and discount rate applied in order to enroll the students, aggregated by cohort; and

(F) demographics of student enrollments aggregated by full-time and part-time students.

(5) To help optimize student opportunities, VSC shall complete implementation of seamless general education credit transfer between all of its constituent institutions by the end of fiscal year 2023.

(6) To ensure that VSC is meeting its responsibilities to Vermont businesses and communities, beginning in fiscal year 2022, the VSC Board of Trustees, through the Chancellor or designee, shall report to the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development and the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs, as part of the Chancellor's annual budget presentation, on advances in workforce readiness and meeting employer needs, including:

(A) employer and institutional partnerships with VSC;

(B) progress in meeting critical employer needs; and

(C) the number of degrees and credentials of value awarded.

(7) The VSC Board of Trustees, through the Chancellor or designee, shall provide, in a summary form, to the House and Senate Committees on

Education and the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, as part of the Chancellor's annual budget presentation, VSC's profit and loss statement based upon its annual October financial statement.

(8) The Chancellor shall ensure all VSC Board of Trustees policies are adhered to unless a process for an exception to a Board policy is used to situationally and temporarily amend a specific Board policy. The Chancellor shall establish policies and procedures to implement the Board approved transformation plan as developed by the Select Committee on Higher Education. The Chancellor shall report the status or progress of these Board policies, as part of the Chancellor's annual budget presentation, to the House and Senate Committees on Education.

(9) The Chancellor shall report by institution the overall net student revenue and institutional discounting of tuition metrics with relevant trends.

(10) Regarding the deficit reduction plan, the Chancellor shall report the activities that have generated expense cuts, and activities that will result in enhanced revenues, as well as future plans that will continue both efforts. The Chancellor, on behalf of the Vermont State College System, shall offer methods of comparison using readily available metrics in order to provide relevant information to help the General Assembly carry out its oversight role.

Sec. E.603 Vermont State Colleges – Allied Health

(a) If Global Commitment fund monies are unavailable, the total grant funding for the Vermont State Colleges shall be maintained through the General Fund or other State funding sources.

(b) The Vermont State Colleges shall use the Global Commitment funds appropriated in Sec. B.603 of this act to support the dental hygiene, respiratory therapy, and nursing programs that graduate approximately 315 health care providers annually. These graduates deliver direct, high-quality health care services to Medicaid beneficiaries or uninsured or underinsured persons.

Sec. E.605 Vermont student assistance corporation

(a) Of the appropriation in B.605 of this act, \$25,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation (VSAC) to be deposited into the Trust Fund established in 16 V.S.A. § 2845.

(b) Of the appropriated amount remaining after accounting for subsection (a) of this section, not less than 93 percent of this appropriation shall be used for direct student aid.

(c) Of the total one-time funds appropriated in this act to VSAC, an amount up to six percent, but not to exceed \$100,000 in a fiscal year, may be used for staff expenses associated with administering the funds. Funds shall

not be used for indirect costs.

Sec. E.605.1 NEED-BASED STIPEND FOR DUAL ENROLLMENT AND
EARLY COLLEGE STUDENTS

(a) Notwithstanding 16 V.S.A. § 4025(b), the sum of \$41,225 in education funds and \$41,225 in general funds is appropriated to the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation (VSAC) for dual enrollment and need-based stipend purposes to fund a flat-rate, need-based stipend or voucher program for financially needy students enrolled in a dual enrollment course pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 944 or in early college pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 946 to be used for the purchase of books, cost of transportation, and payment of fees. VSAC shall establish the criteria for program eligibility. Funds shall be granted to eligible students on a first-come, first-served basis until funds are depleted.

(b) VSAC shall report on the program to the House Committees on Appropriations and on Commerce and Economic Development and to the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs on or before January 15, 2022.

Sec. E.709 10 V.S.A. § 1283 is amended to read:

§ 1283. CONTINGENCY FUND

* * *

(b) Disbursements under this subsection may be made for emergency purposes or to respond to other than emergency situations; provided, however, that disbursements in response to an individual situation that is not an emergency situation shall not exceed ~~\$100,000.00 for costs attributable to each of the subdivisions of this subsection~~ \$350,000.00 for a response to a release of a hazardous material, unless the Secretary has received the approval of the General Assembly, or the Joint Fiscal Committee, in case the General Assembly is not in session. Furthermore, the balance in the Fund shall not be drawn below the amount of \$100,000.00, except in emergency situations. If the balance of the Fund becomes insufficient to allow a proper response to one or more emergencies that have occurred, the Secretary shall appear before the Emergency Board, as soon as possible, and shall request that necessary funds be provided. Within these limitations, disbursements from the Fund may be made:

* * *

Sec. E.709.1 ENVIRONMENTAL CONTINGENCY FUND;
POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYLS (PCBs) TESTING IN
SCHOOLS

(a) Notwithstanding 10 V.S.A. § 1283, of the funds transferred in

Sec. D.101(a) of this act to the Environmental Contingency Fund, the Department of Environmental Conservation, in consultation with the Department of Health and the Agency of Education, shall use up to \$4,500,000 to complete air indoor quality testing for Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) in public schools and approved and recognized independent schools that were constructed or renovated before 1980. All schools subject to this subsection shall test for PCBs on or before July 1, 2024. It is the intent of the General Assembly to develop additional guidance during the 2022 legislative session.

Sec. E.709.2 10 V.S.A. § 1283(g)(3) is amended to read:

(3) “Release” means any intentional or unintentional action or omission resulting in the spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, dumping, or disposing of hazardous materials into the surface or groundwaters, or onto the lands in the State, or into waters outside the jurisdiction of the State when damage may result to the public health, lands, waters, or natural resources within the jurisdiction of the State. “Release” also means the intentional or unintentional action or omission resulting in the spilling, leaking, emission, or disposal of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) from building materials in a building or structure.

Sec. E.709.3 10 V.S.A. § 6602(17) is amended to read:

(17) “Release” means any intentional or unintentional action or omission resulting in the spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, dumping, or disposing of hazardous materials into the surface or groundwaters, or onto the lands in the State, or into waters outside the jurisdiction of the State when damage may result to the public health, lands, waters, or natural resources within the jurisdiction of the State. “Release” also means the intentional or unintentional action or omission resulting in the spilling, leaking, emission, or disposal of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) from building materials in a building or structure.

* * * Vermont Housing Finance Agency; Weatherization * * *

Sec. E.802 10 V.S.A. § 621 is amended to read:

§ 621. GENERAL POWERS AND DUTIES

The Agency shall have all of the powers necessary and convenient to carry out and effectuate the purposes and provisions of this chapter, including those general powers provided a business corporation by 11A V.S.A. § 3.02 and those general powers provided a nonprofit corporation by 11B V.S.A. § 3.02 and including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the power to:

* * *

(22) issue bonds, notes, and other obligations secured by the property

transfer tax revenues transferred to the Agency pursuant to 32 V.S.A. §9610(d)-; and

(23) develop a program to finance and promote housing weatherization using funds appropriated by the State, funds generated through issuing bonds, notes and other obligations of the Agency, and funds from other sources obtained through grants or other arrangements, giving priority to programs benefiting persons and families at or below 120 percent of median income with high energy burdens and to programs to expand the pool of qualified weatherization contractors in the State.

* * * Transportation * * *

Sec. E.900 NOTIFICATION OF USE OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) FUNDS BY THE VERMONT AGENCY OF TRANSPORTATION

(a) The Secretary of the Agency of Transportation shall provide a written report to the Joint Fiscal Committee prior to utilizing ARPA funds in place of funds appropriated in the fiscal year 2022 budget. The written report is for informational purposes and will not require Joint Fiscal Committee approval. If the substitutions are included in the Administration's recommended fiscal year 2022 Budget Adjustment bill, a separate written report of these substitutions shall be submitted to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations as part of the testimony on the budget adjustment.

Sec. E.915 TRANSPORTATION – TOWN HIGHWAY AID PROGRAM

(a) The total appropriation in Secs. B.915 and B.1104(a)(1)(B) of this act is authorized, notwithstanding the provisions of 19 V.S.A § 306(a).

* * * Collective Bargaining Agreements; Fiscal Year 2022 * * *

Sec. F.100 COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS; FISCAL YEAR 2022

(a) This act fully funds the collective bargaining agreements between the State and the Vermont State Employees' Association and the State and the Vermont Troopers' Association for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. These collective bargaining agreements provide in fiscal year 2022 an average 1.9 percent step increase and 2.25 percent across-the-board increase for a total of 4.15 percent increase.

* * * Executive Branch; Exempt Employees; Fiscal Year 2022 * * *

Sec. F.101 EXECUTIVE BRANCH; EXEMPT EMPLOYEES; PERMITTED SALARY INCREASES; FISCAL YEAR 2022

(a) Exempt employees in the Executive Branch may receive salary

increases not to exceed the average rate of adjustment available to classified employees, which is 4.15 percent, in fiscal year 2022 beginning on July 4, 2021.

(b) The permitted increases set forth in subsection (a) of this section are consistent with the collective bargaining agreement between the State and the Vermont State Employees' Association for classified employees in the Executive Branch for fiscal year 2022.

Sec. F.102 EXECUTIVE BRANCH; EXEMPT AGENCY AND
DEPARTMENT HEADS, DEPUTIES, AND EXECUTIVE
ASSISTANTS; ANNUAL SALARY ADJUSTMENT AND
SPECIAL SALARY INCREASE OR BONUS

(a) For purposes of determining annual salary adjustments, special salary increases, and bonuses under 32 V.S.A. §§ 1003(b) and 1020(b), "the average rate of adjustment available to classified employees under the collective bargaining agreement" shall be, in fiscal year 2022, 4.15 percent.

Sec. F.103 32 V.S.A. § 1020 is amended to read:

§ 1020. SALARY ADJUSTMENT; APPROVAL OF GOVERNOR

(a) Compensation to be paid any officer or employee within the Executive Branch of State government shall be determined at the time the officer or employee is hired by the Governor or such person as the Governor shall designate, subject to any applicable statutory limits, other than:

(1) an employee in the classified service;

(2) a member of the uniformed State Police within the Department of Public Safety; or

(3) an officer or employee whose compensation is specifically fixed by statute, ~~shall be determined at the time the officer or employee is hired by the Governor or such person as the Governor shall designate subject to any applicable statutory limits.~~

(b)(1) Annually, subject to any applicable statutory salary limits, the Governor may grant annual salary adjustments to exempt employees who are deputies or executive assistants to department heads or are deputies or executive assistants to agency secretaries. The annual salary adjustment granted to any officer under this subsection shall not exceed the average ~~of the total~~ rate of adjustment available to classified employees under the collective bargaining agreement then in effect.

(2) In addition to the annual salary adjustment specified in this subsection, the Governor may grant a special salary increase or a bonus to any

such officer whose job duties have significantly increased, or whose contributions to the State in the preceding year are deemed especially significant. Special salary increases or bonuses granted to any individual shall not exceed the average of the total rate of adjustment available to classified employees under the collective bargaining agreement then in effect.

(c)(1) The Governor may establish one or more compensation plans for other exempt employees ~~which that~~ provide for adjustments in salary based on changes in the duties performed, seniority, or other objective factors ~~which that~~ the ~~governor~~ Governor finds to be appropriate.

(2) The Governor may extend to such employees any adjustments to compensation not to exceed those available to classified employees provided under the collective bargaining agreement then in effect.

* * * Executive Branch; Miscellaneous Statutory Salaries;
Fiscal Year 2022 * * *

Sec. F.104 32 V.S.A. § 1003 is amended to read:

§ 1003. STATE OFFICERS

(a) Each elective officer of the Executive Department is entitled to an annual salary as follows:

	<u>Annual Salary as of July 7, 2019</u>	<u>Annual Salary as of January 5, 2020</u>	<u>Annual Salary as of July 4, 2021</u>
Governor	\$181,661	\$184,113	<u>\$191,754</u>
Lieutenant Governor	77,112	78,153	<u>81,396</u>
Secretary of State	115,190	116,745	<u>121,590</u>
State Treasurer	115,190	116,745	<u>121,590</u>
Auditor of Accounts	115,190	116,745	<u>121,590</u>
Attorney General	137,898	139,790	<u>145,591</u>

(b) The Governor may appoint each officer of the Executive Branch listed in this subsection at a starting salary ranging from the base salary stated for that position to a salary that does not exceed the maximum salary unless otherwise authorized by this subsection. The maximum salary for each appointive officer shall be 50 percent above the base salary. Annually, the Governor may grant to each of those officers an annual salary adjustment subject to the maximum salary. The annual salary adjustment granted to

officers under this subsection shall not exceed the average of the total rate of adjustment available to classified employees under the collective bargaining agreement then in effect. In addition to the annual salary adjustment specified in this subsection, the Governor may grant a special salary increase subject to the maximum salary, or a bonus, to any officer listed in this subsection whose job duties have significantly increased, or whose contributions to the State in the preceding year are deemed especially significant. Special salary increases or bonuses granted to any individual shall not exceed the average of the total rate of adjustment available to classified employees under the collective bargaining agreement then in effect.

(1) Heads of the following Departments and Agencies:

	<u>Base Salary as of July 7, 2019</u>	<u>Base Salary as of January 5, 2020</u>	<u>Base Salary as of July 4, 2021</u>
(A) Administration	\$109,849	\$111,332	<u>\$115,952</u>
(B) Agriculture, Food and Markets	109,849	111,332	<u>115,952</u>
(C) Financial Regulation	102,693	104,079	<u>108,398</u>
(D) Buildings and General Services	102,693	104,079	<u>108,398</u>
(E) Children and Families	102,693	104,079	<u>108,398</u>
(F) Commerce and Community Development	109,849	111,332	<u>115,952</u>
(G) Corrections	102,693	104,079	<u>108,398</u>
(H) Defender General	102,693	104,079	<u>108,398</u>
(I) Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living	102,693	104,079	<u>108,398</u>
(J) Economic Development	93,155	94,413	<u>98,331</u>
(K) Education	109,849	111,332	<u>115,952</u>
(L) Environmental Conservation	102,693	104,079	<u>108,398</u>
(M) Finance and Management	102,693	104,079	<u>108,398</u>
(N) Fish and Wildlife	93,155	94,413	<u>98,331</u>
(O) Forests, Parks and Recreation	93,155	94,413	<u>98,331</u>
(P) Health	102,693	104,079	<u>108,398</u>

(Q) Housing and Community Development	93,155	94,413	<u>98,331</u>
(R) Human Resources	102,693	104,079	<u>108,398</u>
(S) Human Services	109,849	111,332	<u>115,952</u>
(T) Digital Services	109,849	111,332	<u>115,952</u>
(U) Labor	102,693	104,079	<u>108,398</u>
(V) Libraries	93,155	94,413	<u>98,331</u>
(W) Liquor and Lottery	93,155	94,413	<u>98,331</u>
(X) [Repealed.]			
(Y) Mental Health	102,693	104,079	<u>108,398</u>
(Z) Military	102,693	104,079	<u>108,398</u>
(AA) Motor Vehicles	93,155	94,413	<u>98,331</u>
(BB) Natural Resources	109,849	111,332	<u>115,952</u>
(CC) Natural Resources Board Chair	93,155	94,413	<u>98,331</u>
(DD) Public Safety	102,693	104,079	<u>108,398</u>
(EE) Public Service	102,693	104,079	<u>108,398</u>
(FF) Taxes	102,693	104,079	<u>108,398</u>
(GG) Tourism and Marketing	93,155	94,413	<u>98,331</u>
(HH) Transportation	109,849	111,332	<u>115,952</u>
(II) Vermont Health Access	102,693	104,079	<u>108,398</u>
(JJ) Veterans' Home	102,693	104,079	<u>108,398</u>

(2) The Secretary of Administration may include the Director of the Office of Professional Regulation in any pay plans that may be established under the authority of subsection 1020(c) of this title, provided the minimum hiring rate does not fall below a base salary, as of ~~July 7, 2019 of \$78,975.00~~ and as of January 5, 2020 of \$80,041.00 and as of July 4, 2021 of \$83,363.00.

(3) If the Chair of the Natural Resources Board is employed on less than a full-time basis, the hiring and salary maximums for that position shall be reduced proportionately.

(4) When a permanent employee is appointed to an exempt position, the Governor may authorize such employee to retain the present salary even though it is in excess of any salary maximum provided in statute.

* * *

(d) Notwithstanding the maximum salary established in subsection (b) of this section, the Defender General shall not receive compensation in excess of the compensation established for the Attorney General in this section.

(e) Notwithstanding the maximum salary established in subsection (b) of this section, the maximum salary for the Commissioner of Health ~~may~~ shall not exceed \$150,000.00.

* * * Judicial Branch; Statutory Salaries; Fiscal Year 2022 * * *

Sec. F.105 32 V.S.A. § 1003(c) is amended to read:

(c) The officers of the Judicial Branch named below shall be entitled to annual salaries as follows:

	<u>Annual</u> <u>Salary</u> <u>as of</u> <u>July 7,</u> <u>2019</u>	<u>Annual</u> <u>Salary</u> <u>as of</u> <u>January 5,</u> <u>2020</u>	<u>Annual</u> <u>Salary</u> <u>as of</u> <u>July 4,</u> <u>2021</u>
(1) Chief Justice of Supreme Court	\$174,843	\$177,203	<u>\$184,557</u>
(2) Each Associate Justice	66,868	169,121	<u>176,140</u>
(3) Administrative judge <u>Judge</u>	166,868	169,121	<u>176,140</u>
(4) Each Superior judge	158,635	160,777	<u>167,449</u>
(5) [Repealed.]			
(6) Each magistrate	119,609	121,224	<u>126,255</u>
(7) Each Judicial Bureau hearing Officer	119,609	121,224	<u>126,255</u>

Sec. F.106 32 V.S.A. § 1141 is amended to read:

§ 1141. ASSISTANT JUDGES

(a)(1) Each assistant judge of the Superior Court shall be entitled to receive compensation in the amount of ~~\$183.38 a day as of July 7, 2019~~ and \$185.86 a day as of January 5, 2020 and \$193.57 a day as of July 4, 2021 for time spent in the performance of official duties and necessary expenses as allowed to classified State employees. Compensation under this section shall be based on a two-hour minimum and hourly thereafter.

(2)(A) The compensation paid to an assistant judge pursuant to this

section shall be paid by the State except as provided in subdivision (B) of this subdivision (2).

(B) The compensation paid to an assistant judge pursuant to this section shall be paid by the county at the State rate established in subdivision (a)(1) of this section when an assistant judge is sitting with a presiding Superior judge in the Civil or Family Division of the Superior Court.

(b) Assistant judges of the Superior Court shall be entitled to receive pay for such days as they attend court when it is in actual session, or during a court recess when engaged in the special performance of official duties.

Sec. F.107 32 V.S.A. § 1142 is amended to read:

§ 1142. PROBATE JUDGES

(a) The Probate judges in the several Probate Districts shall be entitled to receive the following annual salaries, which shall be paid by the State in lieu of all fees or other compensation:

	Annual Salary as of July 7, 2019	Annual Salary as of January 5, 2020	<u>Annual Salary</u> as of <u>July 4, 2021</u>
(1) Addison	\$62,540	\$63,384	<u>\$66,014</u>
(2) Bennington	79,060	80,127	<u>83,452</u>
(3) Caledonia	55,461	56,210	<u>58,543</u>
(4) Chittenden	131,939	133,720	<u>139,269</u>
(5) Essex	15,494	15,703	<u>16,355</u>
(6) Franklin	62,540	63,384	<u>66,014</u>
(7) Grand Isle	15,494	15,703	<u>16,355</u>
(8) Lamoille	43,660	44,249	<u>46,085</u>
(9) Orange	51,919	52,620	<u>54,804</u>
(10) Orleans	50,740	51,425	<u>53,559</u>
(11) Rutland	112,100	113,613	<u>118,328</u>
(12) Washington	86,138	87,301	<u>90,924</u>
(13) Windham	69,620	70,560	<u>73,488</u>
(14) Windsor	94,400	95,674	<u>99,644</u>

(b) Probate judges shall be entitled to be paid by the State for their actual and necessary expenses under the rules and regulations pertaining to classified

State employees. The compensation for the Probate judge of the Chittenden District shall be for full-time service.

(c) All Probate judges, regardless of the number of hours worked annually, shall be eligible to participate in all employee benefits that are available to exempt employees of the Judicial Department.

* * * Sheriffs; Statutory Salaries; Fiscal Year 2022 * * *

Sec. F.108 32 V.S.A. § 1182 is amended to read:

§ 1182. SHERIFFS

(a) The sheriffs of all counties except Chittenden shall be entitled to receive salaries in the amount of ~~\$84,969.00 as of July 7, 2019~~ and \$86,116.00 as of January 5, 2020 and \$89,690.00 as of July 4, 2021. The Sheriff of Chittenden County shall be entitled to an annual salary in the amount of ~~\$89,919.00 as of July 7, 2019~~ and \$91,133.00 as of January 5, 2020 and \$94,915.00 as of July 4, 2021.

(b) Compensation under subsection (a) of this section shall be reduced by 10 percent for any sheriff who has not obtained Level III law enforcement officer certification under 20 V.S.A. § 2358.

* * * State's Attorneys; Statutory Salaries; Fiscal Year 2022 * * *

Sec. F.109 32 V.S.A. § 1183 is amended to read:

§ 1183. STATE'S ATTORNEYS

(a) The State's Attorneys shall be entitled to receive annual salaries as follows:

	<u>Annual Salary as of July 7, 2019</u>	<u>Annual Salary as of January 5, 2020</u>	<u>Annual Salary as of July 4, 2021</u>
(1) Addison County	\$114,934	\$116,486	<u>\$121,320</u>
(2) Bennington County	\$114,934	\$116,486	<u>\$121,320</u>
(3) Caledonia County	\$114,934	\$116,486	<u>\$121,320</u>
(4) Chittenden County	\$120,160	\$121,782	<u>\$126,836</u>
(5) Essex County	\$86,202	\$87,366	<u>\$90,992</u>
(6) Franklin County	\$114,934	\$116,486	<u>\$121,320</u>
(7) Grand Isle County	\$86,202	\$87,366	<u>\$90,992</u>

(8) Lamoille County	\$114,934	\$116,486	<u>\$121,320</u>
(9) Orange County	\$114,934	\$116,486	<u>\$121,320</u>
(10) Orleans County	\$114,934	\$116,486	<u>\$121,320</u>
(11) Rutland County	\$114,934	\$116,486	<u>\$121,320</u>
(12) Washington County	\$114,934	\$116,486	<u>\$121,320</u>
(13) Windham County	\$114,934	\$116,486	<u>\$121,320</u>
(14) Windsor County	\$114,934	\$116,486	<u>\$121,320</u>

* * *

* * * Appropriations * * *

Sec. F.111 PAY ACT APPROPRIATIONS; FISCAL YEAR 2022

(a) Executive Branch. The second year of the two-year agreements between the State of Vermont and the Vermont State Employees' Association for the Defender General, Non-Management, Supervisory, and Corrections bargaining units, and, for the purpose of appropriation, the State's Attorneys' offices bargaining unit, for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022; the collective bargaining agreement with the Vermont Troopers' Association for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022; and salary increases for employees in the Executive Branch not covered by the bargaining agreements shall be funded as follows:

(1) Fiscal year 2022.

(A) General Fund. The amount of \$10,033,806 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Secretary of Administration for distribution to departments to fund the fiscal year 2022 collective bargaining agreements and the requirements of this act.

(B) Transportation Fund. The amount of \$4,250,000 is appropriated from the Transportation Fund to the Secretary of Administration for distribution to the Agency of Transportation and the Department of Public Safety to fund the fiscal year 2022 collective bargaining agreements and the requirements of this act.

(C) Other funds. The Administration shall provide additional spending authority to departments through the existing process of excess receipts to fund the fiscal year 2022 collective bargaining agreements and the requirements of this act. The estimated amounts are \$15,775,278 from a special fund, federal funds, and other sources.

(D) Transfers. With due regard to the possible availability of other funds, for fiscal year 2022, the Secretary of Administration may transfer from

the various appropriations and various funds and from the receipts of the Liquor Control Board such sums as the Secretary may determine to be necessary to carry out the purposes of this act to the various agencies supported by State funds.

(2) This section shall include sufficient funding to ensure administration of exempt pay plans authorized by 32 V.S.A. § 1020(c).

(b) Judicial Branch.

(1) The Chief Justice of the Vermont Supreme Court may extend the provisions of the Judiciary's collective bargaining agreement to Judiciary employees who are not covered by the bargaining agreement.

(2) The second year of the two-year agreements between the State of Vermont and the Vermont State Employees' Association for the judicial bargaining unit for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 and salary increases for employees in the Judicial Branch not covered by the bargaining agreements shall be funded as follows: the amount of \$978,648 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Judiciary to fund the fiscal year 2022 collective bargaining agreement and the requirements of this act.

(c) Legislative Branch. For the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, the General Assembly shall be funded as follows: the amount of \$399,630 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Legislative Branch.

* * * Fiscal Year 2021; One-Time Payments * * *

Sec. F.112 FISCAL YEAR 2021; ONE-TIME PAYMENTS AUTHORIZED

(a) The Executive Branch is authorized to provide elected State officials whose salaries are set pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 1003 (State officers), who did not otherwise receive a salary increase in fiscal year 2021, a one-time cash payment equivalent to the value of a 1.9 percent increase on their fiscal year 2020 salary.

(b) The Judicial Branch is authorized to provide judicial officers whose salaries are set pursuant to 32 V.S.A. §§ 1003 and 1141–1142, who did not otherwise receive a salary increase in fiscal year 2021, a one-time cash payment equivalent to the value of a 1.9 percent increase on their fiscal year 2020 salary.

* * * American Rescue Plan Act Appropriations * * *

* * * Intent and Other Funding * * *

Sec. G.100 MULTIYEAR FUNDING PRIORITIES FOR THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) AND OTHER STATE AND FEDERAL FUNDS FOR ALL VERMONTERS: INTENT

(a)(1) ARPA was enacted on March 11, 2021 and includes a \$1.05 billion grant of flexible aid for Vermont to be spent over the next four years. With these funds, and other federal or State funds, the General Assembly recognizes an unprecedented opportunity to invest in Vermont's recovery and long-term future by supporting Vermonters' health and well-being and by strengthening Vermont's communities, businesses, environment, and climate. Between ARPA funds and other federal and State funds, the General Assembly anticipates spending the following amounts over the next three years:

(A) \$250,000,000 for the health, well-being, and recovery of Vermonters; for workforce development; and for business supports;

(B) \$250,000,000 for development of a wide array of housing;

(C) \$250,000,000 for broadband development;

(D) \$250,000,000 for climate change mitigation; and

(E) \$225,000,000 for clean water initiatives.

(2) Through the appropriations in Secs. G.300–G.700 of this act, it is the intent of the General Assembly to enable foundational investments that will support all Vermonters and transform and strengthen Vermont's economy and communities.

(b) The appropriations of ARPA – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds in fiscal year 2022 are made in Secs. G.300–G.700 of this act by categorical areas. In some cases, one-time State General Fund monies or other ARPA funding sources are included for specific programs or projects providing comprehensive funding by category. All appropriations of ARPA funds in this act are made only to the extent permitted by federal law and guidance. Appropriations not expended in fiscal year 2022 shall carry forward.

Sec. G.200 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: LEGISLATURE

(a) In light of the unprecedented opportunity to transform the health and well-being of Vermonters, their communities, and businesses, the Speaker of the House and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall undertake a statewide, community-based engagement process to solicit Vermonters' specific priorities for investing federal funds for the long-term future of Vermont. Up to \$40,000 may be allocated from the legislative budget for administrative support and expenses. The community engagement process shall maximize public engagement, especially of marginalized communities, using nontraditional public input processes that do not rely exclusively on public hearings or online options, with the goal of removing barriers to participation. A report of the engagement process, including Vermonters'

recommendations for investments in the future of this State, shall be provided to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and to other relevant committees in preparation for budget or policy development.

* * * Economy, Workforce, and Communities * * *

Sec. G.300 INVESTMENTS IN VERMONT'S ECONOMY, WORKFORCE,
AND COMMUNITIES

(a) \$109,200,000 in fiscal year 2022 is appropriated from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds as follows:

(1) \$5,000,000 to the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living (DAIL) to be used for grants to currently existing adult day service providers to support operating costs, program infrastructure, and COVID-19 related costs. On or before the first day of each quarter of fiscal year 2022 (July 1, 2021, October 1, 2021, January 1, 2022, and April 1, 2022), the Vermont Association of Adult Day Services shall provide a spreadsheet to the Department detailing the amount of grant funding needed by each program for each quarter. Any amount of this appropriation remaining at the end of fiscal year 2022 shall be carried forward and shall be used to support operating costs, program infrastructure, and COVID-19 related expenses. DAIL shall work with community partners to seek organizations interested in opening an adult day center in the underserved regions where adult day centers closed during the COVID-19 pandemic and shall request funding in the fiscal year 2022 budget adjustment process to provide restart grants.

(2) \$600,000 to the Department of Mental Health to fund a pilot mobile crisis intervention program in Rutland. It is the intent of the General Assembly that any continuation of this pilot program or expansion of the program to other areas of the State be designed and implemented in a manner that meets the requirements necessary to draw federal Medicaid funding for these services as specified in ARPA.

(3) \$9,000,000 to the Judiciary for pandemic recovery response and justice system reopening in fiscal years 2022 and 2023. It is the intent of the General Assembly that portions of the appropriation made to the Judiciary under this subdivision be spent:

(A) for the use of six-person juries in civil cases as authorized by the Court in the exercise of its emergency powers during a state of emergency; and

(B) to reduce the backlog in child support cases, particularly in Bennington, Chittenden, and Rutland and counties; and

(C) to address evictions backlog resulting from the pandemic related

moratorium.

(D) to address fiscal issues related to the expungement caseload.

(4) \$3,300,000 to the Department of State's Attorneys and Sheriffs for pandemic recovery response and justice system reopening in fiscal years 2022 and 2023.

(5) \$2,700,000 to the Office of the Defender General for pandemic recovery response and justice system reopening in fiscal years 2022 and 2023.

(6) \$2,000,000 in fiscal year 2022 to the Department of Labor for apprenticeship programs.

(7) \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2022 to the University of Vermont for matching funds for research grant opportunities related to COVID-19.

(8) \$10,000,000 in fiscal year 2022 to the Vermont State Colleges for the following programs:

(A) \$2,000,000 to provide funding for up to six credits or two courses in the 2022 – 2023 academic year, including wraparound services for Vermonters whose employment was impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency since March 13, 2020. The wraparound services may also be provided to students who enroll in six credit hours or two courses in the summer or fall of 2021 and spring of 2022 pursuant to 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 9, Sec. 18.

(B) \$3,000,000 to provide degree completion scholarships for up to 30 credits towards a credential of value for adult learners who have earned at least 40 credits towards an undergraduate degree and have a gap in attendance of at least two years.

(C) \$5,000,000 to provide free last dollar tuition for one year of undergraduate studies for critical occupation careers, including bookkeeping certificate, IT service desk specialist certificate, certified production technician, graphic design certificate, software and web development program, electrical and plumbing apprenticeships, dental hygiene, certificate in accounting, small business management, radiologic science, and respiratory therapy. \$540,000 of these funds shall be allocated for paramedic/EMS programs and any unexpended amount of this allocation shall be available for the broader purpose in this subdivision (C). Funds may be used for practical nursing, childcare, nursing, and mental health counseling programs only after available federal and State financial aid is applied to ensure no cost to the student. If demand from undergraduates is met, then funds may be used to pay for tuition for the following graduate programs:

(i) Master in Education (all programs);

- (ii) Master in Educational Leadership;
 - (iii) Master of Arts and Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies in School Psychology;
 - (iv) Masters in Counseling; and
 - (v) Masters in Clinical Mental Health Counseling.
- (9) \$21,000,000 to the Vermont State Colleges for pandemic related deficits from revenue loss and increased operating expenses.
- (10) \$2,200,000 to the University of Vermont to offset the impact from level room and board fees.
- (11) \$11,000,000 to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development to be used in the same manner as the Brownfields Revitalization Fund established by 10 V.S.A. § 6654, except notwithstanding the grant limitations in 10 V.S.A. § 6654, projects supported by this appropriation shall not be limited to \$200,000 grants per parcel. The Agency of Commerce and Community Development shall award the amount of \$1,000,000.00 in fiscal year 2022 to regional planning commissions for the purposes of brownfields assessment. In awarding funds under this section, the Secretary, in consultation with VAPDA, shall select one regional planning commission to administer these funds. To ensure statewide availability, the selected regional planning commission shall subgrant to regional planning commissions with brownfield programs, with not more than 10 percent of the funds being used for administrative purposes.
- (12) \$10,580,000 to the Department of Economic Development to fund priority capital projects as specified in Sec. H.18 of this Act.
- (13) \$20,000,000 to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development for Economic Recovery grants as specified in H.19 of this act.
- (14) \$2,000,000 to the Department for Children and Families, Office of Economic Opportunity, to be granted to the community action agencies for the Statewide Community Action Network's Economic Micro Business Recovery Assistance for the COVID-19 Epidemic (EMBRACE) as specified in Sec. H.13(b)(2) of this act.
- (15) \$1,000,000 to the University of Vermont to complete the startup of the Office of Engagement as specified in Sec. H.2(b) of this act.
- (16) \$800,000 to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development for technology-related grants as specified in Sec. H.2(a) of this act.
- (17) \$1,500,000 to the Agency of Commerce and Community

Development for a Better Places grant program as specified in Sec.H.7 and H.8 of this act.

(18) \$150,000 to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development to provide outreach and technical for BIPOC owned businesses as specified in Sec. H.14 of this act.

(19) \$2,000,000 to the Department of Tourism and Marketing as specified in Sec. H.1 of this act.

(20) \$650,000 to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development to award grants for new and remote worker programs and program analysis consistent with legislation enacted in the 2021 legislative session.

(21) \$400,000 for career and technical education to be allocated as follows, consistent with legislation enacted in the 2021 legislation session.

(A) \$100,000 to the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation for CTE Adult Training Scholarships, and

(B) \$300,000 to the Agency of Education for grants to Adult Career and Technical Education Centers for equipment and to provide CTE coordinators resources to access to curriculum development experts.

(22) \$2,320,000 to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development for Working Community Challenge grants.

(b) \$49,500,000 in fiscal year 2022 is appropriated from the General Fund as follows:

(1) \$300,000 to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development for a two-year contract with a foreign trade representative.

(2) \$900,000 to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development to fund the Entrepreneurs' Seed Capital Fund to provide risk stage seed capital to Vermont businesses that have experienced economic disruption either through reduced business, new business formation, or through an unmanageable increase in new business due to the COVID-19 crisis.

(3) \$20,000,000 to the Vermont State Colleges for system transformation over the next four years, \$8,000,000 of which shall be utilized in fiscal year 2022.

(4) \$2,000,000 to the Vermont State Colleges to provide welcome home scholarships of \$5,000 per year or \$2,500 per semester for full-time students enrolled for 12 or more credits, or \$3,000 per year or \$1,500 per semester for part-time students, to Vermonters transferring from out-of-state institutions or returning to school after exiting in 2020–2021. This program's mission is to

incentivize students to come home to Vermont by transferring to Vermont State College System institutions and to complete their degree if they left school without finishing in 2020–2021.

(5) \$400,000 to the Vermont State Colleges for start-up cost for the Dental Therapy program.

(6) \$5,750,000 to the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation for the following programs:

(A) \$1,000,000 for advancement grants in fiscal years 2022 and 2023;

(B) \$600,000 for aspiration grants in fiscal years 2022 and 2023;

(C) \$3,800,000 for 802Opportunity grants in fiscal years 2022 and 2023; and

(D) \$350,000 for a one-time investment in the Advance Vermont program to assist Vermonters seeking credentialing information and opportunities.

(7) \$15,000,000 to the Secretary of Administration for equitable distribution, to be determined in consultation with the Association of Vermont Independent Colleges, among the 12 independent colleges. Distribution factors to be considered shall include ARPA funding guidelines and creating a floor to protect smaller schools. In order to qualify for funding from this appropriation, institutions must be accredited or certified in Vermont and chartered in Vermont.

(8) \$1,500,000 to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development to be used in the same manner as the Downtown Transportation and Related Capital Improvement fund established by 24 V.S.A. § 2796, pursuant to the conditions outlined in Sec. B.1103(a).

(9) \$2,000,000 to the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets for grants through the Working Lands Program.

(10) \$500,000 to the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets for grants to State fairs and field days organizations.

(11) \$1,150,000 to the Vermont Council on the Arts for technical assistance for cultural and arts organizations to enhance their digital presence.

* * * Addressing Homelessness, Housing Insecurity and
Increasing the Stock of Low- and Moderate-Income Housing * * *

Sec. G.400 HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS INVESTMENTS

(a) \$99,000,000 in fiscal year 2022 is appropriated from the American

Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds as follows:

(1) \$94,000,000 to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB) to provide housing and increase shelter capacity, with priority given to populations who may be displaced from the hotel/motel voucher problem or are currently without housing, including by providing permanent homes in mixed-income settings. VHCB shall distribute the funds in consultation with the Secretary of Human Services and may subgrant a portion to other entities, including the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Vermont Housing Finance Agency, and regional nonprofit housing organizations, for one or more of the following purposes:

(A) if necessary, to help ensure that households and areas impacted by the pandemic are served;

(B) to undertake additional housing initiatives, such as home ownership, to the extent permitted by ARPA and related regulations and guidance; or

(C) to provide for the efficient use of the funds.

(2) \$5,000,000 to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development for the Vermont Housing Incentive Program (VHIP).

(b) \$91,000,000 is appropriated from other funds as follows:

(1) \$40,000,000 in fiscal year 2021 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB) for affordable housing initiatives. These funds shall carryforward into fiscal year 2022 and are in addition to funding provided to VHCB in 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 9.

(2) \$36,000,000 of funds reserved by motion passed on February 11, 2021 by the Joint Fiscal Committee accepting the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Pub. L. No. 116-260) Emergency Rental Assistance Program grant is appropriated in fiscal year 2022 to the Department for Children and Families to implement the Emergency Housing Assistance Program in fiscal year 2022.

(3) \$15,000,000 in fiscal year 2022 is appropriated from funds received from the American Rescue Plan Act, 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) Emergency Rental Assistance Program to the Department for Children and Families to supplement, continue, or extend, or any combination of the three, the Rental Assistance Program for Reach Up families as permissible by the Emergency Rental Assistance Program.

* * * Broadband Connectivity and Technology
Modernization Investments * * *

Sec. G.500 BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY INVESTMENTS

(a) \$150,000,000 is appropriated in fiscal year 2022 to the Department of Public Service from the American Rescue Plan Act - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund consistent with legislation enacted in the 2021 legislative session in order to support and accelerate the State's goal of achieving universal access to reliable, high-quality, affordable broadband. This appropriation may be transferred to the Vermont Community Broadband Fund.

Sec. G.501 STATE TECHNOLOGY MODERNIZATION INVESTMENTS

(a) \$52,000,000 is appropriated in fiscal year 2022 from American Rescue Plan Act - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds as follows:

(1) \$24,500,000 to the Department of Motor Vehicles to complete the first phase of the DMV IT system replacement of the 40-year-old mainframe applications.

(2) \$1,100,000 to the Department of Environmental Conservation for the second phase of the permit navigator - citizen facing permit portal.

(3) \$500,000 to the Natural Resources Board for the Act 250 scanning project – digitize land use records.

(4) \$12,800,000 to the Agency of Administration for a Human Capital Management ERP upgrade - replacement of the HR system that tracks employee information, timesheets, and contracts, including a VANTAGE budget system upgrade and interface with the new HR system.

(5) \$1,500,000 to the Agency of Digital Services cybersecurity – core infrastructure replacement and router replacements for public safety connections to the municipalities.

(6) \$1,000,000 to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development for the Salesforce grant management system – transitioning ACCD from a centralized grants system.

(7) \$1,700,000 to the States' Attorneys and Sheriffs to upgrade its case management system software;

(8) \$140,000 to the Office of the the Defender General to complete a case management system upgrade.

(9) \$250,000 to the Secretary of State for completion of the Vermont Business Portal to provide digital access for Vermont-based businesses to at least four State agencies.

(10) \$4,500,000 to the Vermont Department of Labor, of which \$3,500,000 is allocated for phase one of the UI modernization to begin replacement of mainframe applications for unemployment insurance and \$1,000,000 is allocated for the Joblink replacement to coordinate activities between the Department and the Agency of Commerce and Community Development to better serve Vermonters. These funds shall be released only after approval of the Joint Information Technology Oversight Committee. The Committee is requested to review the breadth of scope, appropriateness of the proposed technology, experience record of the proposed vendor, reliability of the cost estimate, availability of dedicated department personnel for implementation and operation, and the proposed schedule and scope of future phases, where appropriate. The Committee evaluation shall consider information provided by the Agency of Digital Services and any outside technical review or resource.

(11) \$4,010,000 to the Agency of Education for data systems related to licensing management, dual enrollment vouchers, and adult education and literacy programs. These funds shall be released only after approval of the Joint Information Technology Oversight Committee.

(b) \$14,000,000 is appropriated from the General Fund in fiscal year 2022 as follows:

(1) \$4,500,000 to the Department for Children and Families for Bright Futures Information System replacement, and

(2) \$9,500,000 to the Agency of Human Services for the IE project - Integrated Eligibility replaces Access.

* * * Weatherization and Other Climate Change Mitigation Investments * * *

Sec. G.600 CLIMATE ACTION INVESTMENTS

(a) \$50,000,000 in fiscal year 2022 is appropriated from the American Rescue Plan Act - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds as follows:

(1) \$4,000,000 to the Department for Children and Families, Office of Economic Opportunity, Home Weatherization Assistance Program to be used in fiscal years 2022 and 2023. Up to \$150,000 of these funds may be used for vermiculite remediation and home repair as part of home weatherization. These funds are in addition to the funds that are provided in Sec. B.324 of this act and the federal ARPA LIHEAP funding provided, as set forth in Sec. E.324.1 of this act.

(2) \$9,000,000 to the Agency of Administration to grant to the Vermont Housing Finance Agency for financial support of housing weatherization statewide. On or before January 31, 2022 and thereafter upon request from a

legislative committee, the Vermont Housing Finance Agency shall issue a report to the General Assembly detailing the programs to which funds appropriated under this subdivision were provided. The report shall include the results of its investigations into on-bill to-the-meter billing and other methods to provide weatherization financing.

(3) \$5,000,000 to the Department of Public Service to grant to the Efficiency Vermont for the purpose of weatherization incentives. These funds shall be deposited in Electric Efficiency Fund established under 30 V.S.A. § 209(d)(3) and shall be available for use by Efficiency Vermont through December 31, 2023.

(4) \$2,000,000 to the Department of Public Service to grant to Efficiency Vermont for the purpose of workforce development initiatives and to support the expansion of Neighborworks of Western Vermont's Heat Squad program. These funds shall be deposited in the Electric Efficiency Fund established under 30 V.S.A. § 209(d)(3) and shall be available for use by Efficiency Vermont through December 31, 2023.

(5) \$20,000,000 to the Department of Public Service of which \$10,000,000 is to be used on the Affordable Community-Scale Renewable Energy Program, consistent with parameters of the Clean Energy Development Fund, to support the creation of renewable energy projects for Vermonters with low-income. In fiscal year 2022, \$5,000,000 may be allocated by the Clean Energy Development Board. The Department shall submit a plan for use of the remaining \$5,000,000 funds for approval by the General Assembly during the 2022 legislative session.

(6) \$10,000,000 to the Vermont Housing Conservation Board, which may be used for conservation projects and Farm and Forest Viability Program activities that support the rural economy. Up to \$100,000 shall be used to expand the Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI).

(b) \$4,500,000 in fiscal year 2022 is appropriated from the General Fund as follows:

(1) \$2,500,000 to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development, of which:

(A) \$650,000 shall be used by the Agency to provide technical assistance to municipalities on accessory dwelling and small lot development as well as bylaw modernization consistent with any specifications enacted in the 2021 legislative session. This allocation may include grants to regional planning commissions

(B) \$850,000 shall be used provide grants of \$75,000 to each regional planning commission for increased workload from the pandemic.

(C) \$1,000,000 shall be granted to regional planning commissions to provide energy planning services to municipalities. Distribution of these funds shall be made based on an allocation plan that is developed by the regional planning commissions.

(2) \$1,500,000 to the Department for Children and Families to grant to the community action agencies, to be used through December 31, 2024, to support at least five Financial and Clean Energy Coaches to assist Vermonters with low and moderate income in comprehensive financial coaching, including budgeting, debt reduction, credit building, and asset development, with an emphasis on reducing their reliance on carbon fuel-based technologies, and to support one statewide coordinator based at a community action agency.

(3) \$500,000 to the Agency of Transportation to grant to the Community Action Agencies to support the MileageSmart Program, established in 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 59, Sec. 34, as amended.

* * * Clean Water Investments * * *

Sec. G.700 WATER AND SEWER INVESTMENTS

(a) \$115,000,000 in fiscal year 2022 is appropriated from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds as follows:

(1) \$10,000,000 for Stormwater Retrofit Projects as follows:

(A) \$5,500,000 to the Department of Environmental Conservation to provide three-acre stormwater permitting design and construction support for entities subject to the Vermont 3- 9050 Stormwater General Permit and to provide design and construction for practices necessary to restore impaired waters subject to flow restoration plans.

(B) \$1,000,000 to the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation to support compliance with the 3-acre stormwater rule.

(C) \$3,500,000 to the Agency of Transportation for the implementation of three-acre and flow restoration protection and clean water compliance expenditures for transportation infrastructure and to fund the municipal grants in aid program to address stormwater runoff from municipal roads.

(2) \$10,000,000 to the Department of Environmental Conservation to support wastewater projects and pretreatment activities as follows:

(A) \$8,000,000 to support the design and construction of up to 10 community-scale water or decentralized wastewater projects, or both, to support underserved designated centers.

(B) \$2,000,000 to provide financial assistance to municipalities, Vermont businesses, and nonprofit entities to install or enhance pretreatment processes to address high strength or toxic wastes that otherwise require treatment at municipal expense by publicly owned treatment facilities.

(3) \$10,000,000 to the Department of Environmental Conservation to assist municipalities to design and construct projects to reduce or eliminate wet weather sewer overflows.

(4) \$5,000,000 to make repairs or improvements to water and wastewater systems in Vermont homes to be allocated as follows:

(A) \$750,000 to the Department of Housing and Community Development to provide financial assistance or incentives for water system and water efficiency improvements as part of housing rehabilitation projects.

(B) \$4,250,000 to the Department of Environmental Conservation as follows:

(i) \$1,000,000 to increase the funds available for loan forgiveness to replace failed residential on-site wastewater and water supply systems.

(ii) \$3,250,000 to provide financial assistance or loan forgiveness to mobile home parks to improve drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, and drainage systems.

(5) \$10,000,000 to the Department of Environmental Conservation for allocation by the Clean Water Board established under 10 V.S.A § 1389, as part of their budget process in fiscal year 2022.

(6) \$50,000,000 to the Agency of Natural Resources shall carry forward to be used as follows:

(A) \$20,000,000 for allocation by the Clean Water Board established under 10 V.S.A § 1389 as part of their budget process in fiscal year 2023 and 2024;

(B) \$30,000,000 for allocation in fiscal year 2023 and 2024 by the Department of Environmental Conservation for drinking water, sewer, and stormwater infrastructure projects, including dam safety improvements and CSO abatement. The Department shall provide the General Assembly a list of the projects allocated for funding during the annual budget development process for fiscal years 2023 and 2024.

(7) \$5,000,000 to improve overall landscape resilience and mitigate flood hazards to be allocated as follows:

(A) \$4,880,000 to the Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management to establish a statewide hazard mitigation program

that includes funding hazard mitigation matching funds and a State-level buyout program for parcels ineligible for FEMA-related programs.

(B) \$120,000 to the Department of Environmental Conservation to provide technical assistance to the statewide hazard mitigation program.

(b) \$5,000,000 in fiscal year 2021 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Environmental Conservation to reduce risk to public safety and the environment associated with State-owned dams.

(c) \$15,000,000 to be used to the extent capital funds have been appropriated to projects supporting water and sewer infrastructure in fiscal year 2022 and capital appropriations can be offset for reuse for future capital construction projects in the fiscal years 2022 – 2023 capital budget adjustment process. On or before December 15, 2021, the Commissioner of Finance and Management shall review and recommend water and sewer infrastructure projects funded in fiscal year 2022 that could be funded with ARPA funds to the Chairs of the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committee on Institutions and to the Governor for the fiscal years 2022–2023 capital budget adjustment report.

Sec. G.701 [Deleted.]

* * * Tax Conformity, Administration and Positions * * *

Sec. G.800 FEDERAL TAX CONFORMITY: AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) CONTINGENT OFFSET TRANSFER

(a) To the extent that the July 2021 Emergency Board fiscal year 2022 available General Fund forecast is below \$1,673,600,000, the first \$17,500,000 of any amount below this level shall be offset by a transfer of the ARPA - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds into the General Fund.

Sec. G.801 APPROPRIATION FOR ADMINISTRATION COSTS

(a) \$6,500,000 in fiscal year 2022 is appropriated from the American Rescue Plan Act - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds to the Agency of Administration to be transferred as need to address the statewide costs of administering these funds, including the costs of related limited service positions.

Sec. G.802 AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT RELATED LIMITED SERVICE POSITIONS

(a) The establishment of the following 57 new limited positions is authorized in fiscal year 2022. To the extent that vacant positions are available; these positions may be transferred and converted from existing vacant positions in the Executive Branch. Departments shall report on the

recruitment status of the positions created by this section in the fiscal year 2022 budget adjustment process.

(1) The Department for Children and Families – seventeen (17) limited service positions to process applications for emergency housing and comply with federal funding requirements, and six (6) limited service positions to process applications for child care stabilization fund grants and federal funding requirements in State fiscal year 2022 for the duration of the child care stabilization funds.

(2) The Department of Buildings and General Services - three (3) State Purchasing Agents, one (1) State Assistant Purchasing Agent, one (1) Design and Construction Division Program Chief, and three (3) Design and Construction Project Managers.

(3) The Department of Economic Development - two (2) Economic Development Specialists, two (2) Grants Management Specialists, and two (2) Administrative Services Coordinators.

(4) The Department of Housing and Community Development - one (1) Grants Management Specialist, one (1) Senior Grants Management Specialist, one (1) Housing Program Coordinator, one (1) Community Development Specialist, one (1) Financial Administrator, and one (1) Administrative Assistant.

(5) The Agency of Natural Resources - one (1) Environmental Conservation Financial Manager, one (1) Environmental Conservation Financial Administrator, two (2) Environmental Conservation Grants Management Specialists, one (1) Environmental Conservation Analyst, three (3) Central Office Regulatory Policy Analysts, and two (2) Fish and Wildlife Scientists.

(6) The Department of Public Safety – two (2) State Hazard Mitigation Planners, and one (1) Financial Administrator.

(7) The Agency of Administration, Secretary’s Office – one (1) Financial Manager.

(8) Department of the State’s Attorneys – one (1) two year limited service classified position, Victims Advocate Coordinator.

Sec. G.803 AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) FUNDS;
POTENTIAL COUNTY ALLOCATIONS;
APPROVAL REQUIRED FOR USE OF FUNDS

(a) The use of ARPA funds is subject to strict limitations and use beyond the specifications of federal law and guidance will likely require the State to reimburse the federal government for the amount of the improperly spent

funds. In the event that the U.S. Department of the Treasury determines that Vermont's counties are eligible to receive funds made available to counties from the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund in Section 603(b)(3) of the Social Security Act, as added by Section 9901 of ARPA:

(1) no Vermont county shall use any of the funds in its allocation until the Secretary of Administration has reviewed and approved each proposed expenditure as an eligible use in accordance with federal law and related guidance; and

(2) if a Vermont county transfers any or all of its allocation to the State in accordance with Section 603(c)(4) of the Social Security Act, as added by Section 9901 of ARPA, the funds shall be held for appropriation by the General Assembly in the fiscal year 2022 budget adjustment process.

* * * Tourism and Marketing * * *

Sec. H.1 TOURISM AND MARKETING; APPROPRIATION

(a) The tourism and hospitality sector has suffered widespread disruption from the COVID-19 pandemic, with restaurant, lodging, entertainment, specialty retail and related businesses, as well as cultural attractions, suffering job losses and an uncertain ability to remain operational due to the travel restrictions imposed and the revenue losses that have been experienced.

(b) When travel is safe again, Vermont will have a strategic opportunity coming out of the pandemic to encourage visitation due our abundance of open space, strong cultural and outdoor recreation assets, and careful management of the virus.

(c) Of the \$2,000,000.00 appropriated in Sec. G.300(a)(19) of this act to the Department of Tourism and Marketing, the Department shall allocate funding as follows:

(1) \$1,400,000.00 to promote Vermont's travel, recreation, culinary, arts, culture, agritourism, and heritage experiences to attract visitors and stimulate visitor spending with local attractions and small businesses in rural communities and throughout the State; and

(2) \$600,000.00 to develop a grant program to enable local, regional, or statewide organizations to implement campaigns and initiatives that increase consumer spending, support local businesses, and advance community recovery efforts to support businesses in Vermont that have suffered economic harm due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

(d) The Department shall ensure that funds appropriated in this section are distributed equitably to reach a broad audience, including underrepresented communities and new and diverse communities of visitors.

(e) On or before February 15, 2022, the Department shall submit to the Senate Committee on Housing, Economic Development and General Affairs and the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development a report on the use and outcomes of funding allocated in this section.

* * * Technology-Based Economic Development * * *

Sec. H.2 TECHNOLOGY-BASED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAM; APPROPRIATION

(a) Of the \$800,000.00 appropriated in Sec. G.300(a)(16) of this act to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development, the Agency shall allocate funds to design and implement a technology-based economic development program that promotes technology-based businesses consistent with the following:

(1) Small business innovation research; small business technical transfer; technical assistance. A total of \$200,000.00 to provide technical assistance to first-time applicants pursuing a federal SBIR or STTR grant.

(2) SBIR; STTR; Phase I and Phase II matching grants. A total of \$400,000.00 to provide a 50 percent State matching grant, up to \$50,000.00, to businesses that receive a federal SBIR/STTR Phase I or Phase II grant.

(3) Industry research partnership program. A total of \$200,000.00 to provide a 100 percent matching grant to Vermont small businesses:

(A) to purchase services and technical assistance from universities and research institutions, including research and development assistance, technology assessments, product prototyping, lab validation, and overcoming development hurdles; and

(B) to establish better relationships among Vermont businesses and higher education researchers, speed time-to-market for new technologies, and help keep Vermont companies relevant in the marketplace.

(b) The University of Vermont Office of Engagement shall use the \$1,000,000.00 appropriated in Sec. G.300(a)(15) of this act over a two-year period to leverage the research services and data science capabilities of the University in order to promote technology-based businesses.

(c)(1) On or before January 15, 2022, the Agency of Commerce and Community Development shall report to the General Assembly concerning the implementation of subsection (a) of this section, including the provision of grants and technical assistance, the number of businesses assisted, how many SBIR/STTR Phase I and II matching grants awarded, how many businesses received the maximum grant, and how many matching grants and the amounts awarded through the industry research partnership program.

(2) On or before January 15, 2022, the University of Vermont shall report to the General Assembly on the implementation of subsection (b) of this section concerning the nature and scope of assistance provided through the Office of Engagement.

* * * Postsecondary CTE System * * *

Sec. H.3 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 80, Sec. 6 is amended to read:

Sec. 6. ~~POSTSECONDARY CAREER AND TECHNICAL ADULT~~ EDUCATION AND TRAINING SYSTEM

(a) Findings; purpose.

(1) Findings. The General Assembly finds:

(A) Like many rural states, Vermont faces demographic realities that have resulted in an historically low unemployment rate and created obstacles for employers that seek to hire and retain enough fully trained employees.

(B) Notwithstanding this high employer demand, due to rapidly changing technology and evolving business needs, potential employees may lack the particular skills and training necessary to qualify for available jobs.

(C) In order to assist employers and employees in matching demand to requisite skills, Vermont has a broad diversity of postsecondary workforce education and training programs offered by multiple providers, including programs administered or funded by State government, educational institutions, and business-lead groups ~~such as the Vermont Talent Pipeline Management Project~~. The State should continue to work closely with these providers to identify and meet the needs of employers and employees.

* * *

~~(b) Postsecondary~~ Adult basic education, adult secondary education, and postsecondary CTE System.

~~(1) The Department of Labor, in collaboration with the Agency of Education, in consultation with the Department of Labor, the Vermont State Colleges, and the Vermont Adult Technical Education Association, and any two representatives from entities who serve adult basic and adult secondary populations shall:~~

~~(A) consultant the Department hires for that purpose, issue a request for proposals and hire a contracted consultant on or before September 1, 2022; and~~

~~(B) shall consider and report to the General Assembly on the design, implementation, and costs of an integrated and coherent adult basic education,~~

adult secondary education, and postsecondary career and technical education system that achieves the results specified in subdivision (a)(2) of this section.

(2) In performing their work, the ~~Department, stakeholders~~ Agency, partners, and ~~any the~~ consultant shall conduct a broad-based stakeholder engagement process to solicit input from interested parties, and State agencies and departments shall provide necessary information and assistance within their relative areas of expertise.

(c) ~~Report Reporting.~~ The Department of Labor shall report to the House Committees on Commerce and Economic Development and on Education and to the Senate Committees on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs and on Education concerning the implementation of this section as follows:

(1) on or before April 15, 2022, a status update addressing the progress on designing the request for proposals and the stakeholder engagement process;

(2) ~~On~~ on or before January 15, ~~2020~~ 2023, the ~~Department of Labor shall submit~~ a preliminary report on the status of its work as of that date; and

(3) on or before December 15, 2023, a final report with any recommendations for legislative action to the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development and the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

(d) In performing its work to create an integrated adult basic education, adult secondary education, and postsecondary career and technical education system, the ~~Department~~ Agency shall recognize issues faced by persons who would benefit from adult basic education or adult secondary education and persons with other historical barriers to employment or who are underrepresented in the workforce, including persons who have faced discrimination based on race, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, refugee status, and national origin; persons in recovery; persons with a history of incarceration; and persons with disabilities.

Sec. H.4 ALLOCATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

(a) The Department of Labor shall allocate not more than \$75,000 from the amounts available in the Workforce Expansion Fund to implement Sec. H.3 of this act.

(b) The Agency of Education shall allocate not more than \$25,000.00 from the amounts available in the General Fund for Tech Ed Adult Formula to supplement funds from the Department of Labor to implement Sec. H.3 of this act.

* * * Better Places Program * * *

Sec. H.5 FINDINGS; INTENT AND PURPOSE

(a) The General Assembly finds:

(1) The COVID-19 pandemic has devastated our economy through business closures and job losses, and physical distancing requirements have exacerbated social isolation and impacted Vermonters' quality of life and sense of community.

(2) Public spaces are essential for supporting economic activity and health and well-being throughout the pandemic and for building engaged, equitable, and resilient communities in the future.

(3) Vermont's downtowns and villages increasingly depend on inviting public spaces that are robustly programmed to restore our distinct sense of place; strengthen community pride and identity; and attract businesses, jobs, and talent.

(4) Placemaking projects intentionally leverage the power of the arts and cultural assets to strengthen the economic and social fabric of communities and allow for growth and transformation that builds upon local and regional character, culture, and quality of place.

(5) Research shows that community-driven placemaking projects increase economic and civic vitality and create spaces where commerce thrives, social connections flourish, civic participation increases, and residents are empowered to take ownership of their future to build healthier and equitable local economies.

(b) It is the intent of the General Assembly to:

(1) enhance the livability and unique sense of place in Vermont's downtowns and villages by providing funding, training, and resources to support investments in public spaces and local placemaking projects that build prosperous, equitable, healthy, and resilient communities;

(2) promote healthy, safe, equitable, and vibrant downtowns, villages, and neighborhoods for people of all ages, abilities, backgrounds, and incomes by increasing public space and placemaking investments in local communities;

(3) strategically coordinate and simplify the funding process from multiple community development funders, streamline the grantmaking and distribution process, democratize community access to grant funds, and provide communities a nimble, flexible source to quickly fund and launch community-driven placemaking projects to make positive and enduring change locally; and

(4) help local leaders identify, develop, and implement placemaking projects by creating the Better Places Program to advance local recovery efforts, rebuild local economies, boost local capacity, and reconnect Vermonters to one another—critical elements that help communities recover quickly and build prosperous and resilient communities in the future.

Sec. H.6 24 V.S.A. § 2799 is added to read:

§ 2799. BETTER PLACES PROGRAM; CROWD GRANTING

(a)(1) There is created the Better Places Program within the Department of Housing and Community Development, and the Better Places Fund, which the Department shall manage pursuant to 32 V.S.A. chapter 7, subchapter 5.

(2) The purpose of the Program is to utilize crowdfunding to spark community revitalization through collaborative grantmaking for projects that create, activate, or revitalize public spaces.

(3) The Department may administer the Program in coordination with and support from other State agencies and nonprofit and philanthropic partners.

(b) The Fund is composed of the following:

(1) State or federal funds appropriated by the General Assembly;

(2) gifts, grants, or other contributions to the Fund; and

(3) any interest earned by the Fund.

(c) As used in this section, “public space” means an area or place that is open and accessible to all people with no charge for admission and includes village greens, squares, parks, community centers, town halls, libraries, and other publicly accessible buildings and connecting spaces such as sidewalks, streets, alleys, and trails.

(d)(1) The Department of Housing and Community Development shall establish an application process, eligibility criteria, and criteria for prioritizing assistance for awarding grants through the Program.

(2) The Department may award a grant to a municipality, a nonprofit organization, or a community group with a fiscal sponsor for a project that is located in or serves a designated downtown, village center, new town center, or neighborhood development area that will create a new public space or revitalize or activate an existing public space.

(3) The Department may award a grant to not more than one project per calendar year within a municipality.

(4) The minimum amount of a grant award is \$5,000.00 and the

maximum amount of a grant award is \$40,000.00.

(5) The Department shall develop matching grant eligibility requirements to ensure a broad base of community and financial support for the project, subject to the following:

(A) A project shall include in-kind support and matching funds raised through a crowdfunding approach that includes multiple donors.

(B) An applicant may not donate to its own crowdfunding campaign.

(C) A donor may not contribute more than \$10,000.00 or 35 percent of the campaign goal, whichever is less.

(D) An applicant shall provide matching funds raised through crowdfunding of not less than 33 percent of the grant award.

(e) The Department of Housing and Community Development, with the assistance of a fiscal agent, shall distribute funds under this section in a manner that provides funding for projects of various sizes in as many geographical areas of the State as possible.

(f) The Department of Housing and Community Development may use up to 15 percent of any appropriation to the Fund from the General Fund to assist with crowdfunding, administration, training, and technological needs of the Program.

Sec. H.7 APPROPRIATION

The Agency of Commerce and Community Development shall transfer the amount of \$1,500,000.00 appropriated to it in Sec. G.300(a)(17) for a Better Places grant program to the Better Places Fund to provide grants in 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024.

Sec. H.8 BETTER PLACES PROGRAM; REPEAL; EFFECTIVE DATE

24 V.S.A. § 2799 (Better Places Program and Fund) is repealed on July 1, 2024.

Sec. H.9 BETTER PLACES PROGRAM; REPORT

(a) The Department of Housing and Community Development shall submit to the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs and the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development annual reports on or before April 15 of 2022, 2023, and 2024 regarding the activities of the Better Places Program:

(b) The reports shall:

(1) summarize the Program activities in the preceding year and report on the number of awarded grants and the total grant funds allocated;

(2) report on partner resources and contributions to the Program; and

(3) report on any measurable economic activity, which may include the number of jobs created, the number of visitors, the approximate number of square feet to be activated or redeveloped, and the number of volunteers engaged in the project.

* * * International Business Attraction and Investment Program * * *

Sec. H.10 FINDINGS

(a) The General Assembly finds:

(1) Business investment by Canada-based businesses provides the opportunity to generate increased employment, increase the range of job opportunities for Vermonters, and increase the dynamism of our communities.

(2) From the past work of the Department of Economic Development, we know that small- and mid-sized businesses in Quebec, Ontario, and other provinces in the region have a natural inclination to explore Vermont as the site for expansion in the U.S. market.

(3) Developing a program to attract businesses and investment from Canada-based businesses and engaging the services of a foreign trade representative to provide local recruitment support can allow the State and its businesses to tap resources of institutions, enterprises, and people to a greater degree and to develop lead generation services, expansion monitoring, in-market representation, market intelligence, and the ability to engage and nurture high-growth companies primed for expansion.

(4) It is the intent of the General Assembly to fund the services of a foreign trade representative for two years in order to begin the work of cultivating relationships with Canada-based partners and developing prospects for attracting business relocation and investment in Vermont.

Sec. H.11 APPROPRIATION; REPORT

(a) The Agency of Commerce and Community Development shall use the \$300,000.00 appropriated from the General Fund in Sec. G.300(b)(1) of this act to provide funding for up to two years for a contract with a foreign trade representative consistent with this act.

(b) On or before January 15, 2022, the Agency of Commerce and Community Development shall report to the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development and the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs concerning:

(1) the terms of the contract; and

(2) metrics to evaluate success of the contract and the representative.

(b) On or before January 15, 2023, the Agency of Commerce and Community Development shall report to the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development and the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs concerning:

(1) the type and number of business contacts and engagement;

(2) the type of businesses, jobs, and wages brought to the State; and

(3) recommendations concerning the continuation or expansion of the program.

* * * Workforce Development and Education * * *

Sec. H.12 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION

(a) Findings.

(1) Due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, the Vermont State Colleges have experienced a significant decrease in applications, and the board of directors has voted to freeze tuition for the 2021–2022 academic year both to keep students' costs low and to mitigate the economic impact of COVID-19 on enrollment.

(2) Deposit activity, a signal of anticipated enrollment for the fall 2021 semester, has declined between five and 20 percent at two of the four VSC institutions, and FAFSA filing for Vermont is down seven percent year over year.

(3) While the enrollment gap is narrowing from earlier in the fall, it is still significantly wider than normal due to the complexities of how the pandemic is affecting Vermont's high schools and high school students, for example, due to remote learning and the necessity for guidance counselors to broaden the reach of their services to struggling students.

(4)(A) The federal Pell Grant eligibility for first-time, full-time Vermont students is high, signifying that families are financially distressed.

(B) In the fall of 2019, the percentage of first-time, full-time students who were Pell eligible were as follows: CCV (57 percent), CU (39 percent), NVU (49 percent), and VTC (41 percent).

(C) These students, already economically disadvantaged, are disproportionately impacted by the pandemic and related economic crisis.

(5) In addition to increasing the needs of Vermont's secondary and postsecondary students, the COVID-19 pandemic has also placed significant burden on the Vermont workforce, which can benefit from expanded

opportunities available at the Vermont State Colleges.

(b) Purpose. In light of these findings, it is the intent of the General Assembly to provide funding to expand opportunities for education at the Vermont State Colleges for Vermonters:

(A) who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic through layoffs, furloughs, or reduced hours or due to being employed in an industry that has been severely affected; and

(B) who are pursuing education and training and require educational assistance and other support due to economic harm and lost opportunities arising from the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Sec. H.13 MICROBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM; EMBRACE

(a) The General Assembly finds that the Microbusiness Development Program has demonstrated the capability to help individuals lift themselves out of poverty by providing the technical support and financial assistance necessary to start and sustain entrepreneurial enterprises.

(b) To continue the success of the Microbusiness Development Program, in fiscal year 2022, the General Assembly has appropriated the following amounts in this act:

(1) the amount of \$200,000.00 in additional base funding from the General Fund to the Department for Children and Families, Office of Economic Opportunity, for pass-through grants to the Community Action Agencies to provide funding for the regional Microbusiness Development Programs pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 3722; and

(2) the amount of \$2,000,000.00 from the funds available to the State under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to the Department for Children and Families, Office of Economic Opportunity, to be granted to the Community Action Agencies for the Statewide Community Action Network's Economic Micro Business Recovery Assistance for the COVID-19 Epidemic (EMBRACE) to assist the Vermont microbusiness owners impacted by COVID-19 and for new businesses started by individuals who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic through layoffs, furloughs, or reduced hours or due to being employed in an industry that has been severely affected.

Sec. H.14 STATE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT; BLACK, INDIGENOUS,
AND PERSONS OF COLOR

(a) Intent.

(1) Racial wealth disparities are a function of not only access to income but also the ability to start and sustain a business, access land, and own

property.

(2) Vermont embraces its responsibility to course correct the historical impact of economic exploitation and exclusion from opportunity due to race and ethnicity for American descendants of slavery and the broader Black, Indigenous, and Persons of Color community.

(3) In order to rectify this history of inequity, it is the intent of this General Assembly to acknowledge and address wealth disparity and cultural disempowerment by creating economic opportunity and cultural empowerment, using new systems that empower Vermonters who have historically suffered from discrimination and lacked equal access to public or private economic benefits due to race, ethnicity, geography, language preference, and immigrant or citizen status.

(b) Findings.

(1) The Vermont Partnership for Fairness and Diversity conducted a survey of BIPOC businesses after the Emergency Recovery Grant programs closed. The survey analysis included three core recommendations: form a state BIPOC Commission, create a BIPOC business association, and improve data collection and the State's understanding of BIPOC business needs.

(2) The Committee sought information from over a dozen BIPOC business and community and State leaders to learn what BIPOC businesses need to be economically successful in Vermont. Core findings included:

(A) allow BIPOC businesses to lead and define how to strengthen economic development for BIPOC-owned businesses and what organizational structures would best support the Vermont BIPOC business community;

(B) offer more support to BIPOC businesses by assisting them in procuring State contracts, securing capital investment and customer cultivation, and finding technical support;

(C) improve language access and cultural competency practices within State economic development programs and strengthen connections to BIPOC businesses; and

(D) improve State data collection to better serve the variety of identities represented within the BIPOC community.

(3)(A) The Secretary of State, in cooperation with the Agency of Digital Services, is leading the development project for the creation of a business portal to deliver a single point of entry for Vermont businesses to interact with the State across multiple agencies and departments.

(B) When the portal becomes active, which is projected to occur in

2022, the Secretary of State will collect data on race, ethnicity, and gender for individuals registering businesses.

(c) BIPOC business development project.

(1)(A) The Agency of Commerce and Community Development shall use the \$150,000.00 appropriated in Sec. G.300(a)(18) to provide funding for one or more contractors to convene BIPOC businesses, organizations, and community leaders; other business organizations; and representatives from the Agency of Commerce and Community Development and other State agencies and departments as necessary, to create a set of recommendations on how to support BIPOC business development, which may include the creation of a BIPOC business network, the creation of minority business development center or authority, or one or more other similar entities or organizations.

(B) Not more than five percent of the amount appropriated in this section may be used for administrative purposes, including translation services.

(2) The Executive Director of Racial Equity and the Racial Equity Advisory Panel, with the collaboration and support of the Agency of Commerce and Community Development, shall:

(A) issue a request for proposals on or before August 15, 2021; and

(B) finalize hiring and ensure that work under any contracts issued begins on or before October 15, 2021.

(3)(A) The request for proposals shall include the following requirements for a qualified contractor:

(i) demonstrated experience working with BIPOC businesses or populations, or both;

(ii) knowledge of the Vermont business industries and concentrations of BIPOC-owned businesses;

(iii) proposal on how to convene stakeholders, provide information, and conduct outreach that includes language access for limited English-proficient individuals;

(iv) economic and business development expertise; and

(v) experience in organizational structures.

(B) In making their selection, the Panel, Executive Director, and Agency shall give priority to a contractor with experience working with BIPOC-owned businesses and knowledge of the Vermont business community.

(C) The Agency shall cause the request for proposals to be translated upon request of a potential applicant.

(4)(A) On or before February 15, 2022, each contractor shall deliver to the Panel, the Director, the Agency, and the legislative committees of jurisdiction a preliminary report on financial resources and policy changes needed to support BIPOC business development.

(B) On or before July 1, 2022, each contractor shall submit a final report summarizing the process and deliberations and a final set of recommendations on what entities, organizations, or other measures will best support BIPOC business development.

(d) Collection of data.

(1)(A) The Secretary of State shall collect race, ethnicity, and gender data for individuals registering businesses in the State of Vermont as part of its business portal and for individuals seeking licensure, certification, or registration through the Office of Professional Regulation.

(B) The Secretary shall ensure that data collection pursuant to this subsection is achieved through voluntary procedures and the collection of data does not affect, and does not create the perception that the information provided affects, any action of the Secretary or the Office of Professional Regulation.

(2) The Secretary shall provide data from the portal and from the Office of Professional Regulation to the Secretary of Administration, who shall make the data available to relevant agencies and departments within State government to inform economic development policy priorities and strategies as it relates to BIPOC-, women-, and gender non-binary-owned businesses and their needs as businesses and employers.

(3) Once completed, the Secretary of State shall incorporate recommendations related to data collection from the BIPOC business development project created in this section.

Sec. H.15 ENTREPRENEURS' SEED CAPITAL FUND

(a) Entrepreneurs' Seed Capital Fund. The Entrepreneurs' Seed Capital Fund, created by the Vermont Economic Development Authority pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 291, is a \$5.1 million revolving "evergreen" capital fund in operation since 2010 serving Vermont's entrepreneurs and early-stage technology-enabled companies for job growth, income potential, and wealth creation. Since inception, the Fund's portfolio companies have now raised in excess of \$182 million. The Fund is professionally managed by the Vermont Center for Emerging Technologies (VCET).

(b) Appropriation. The General Assembly has appropriated the amount of \$900,000.00 from the General Fund to the Entrepreneurs' Seed Capital Fund

in Sec. G.300(b)(2) of this act to provide risk stage seed capital to Vermont businesses that have experienced economic disruption either through reduced business, new business formation, or through an unmanageable increase in new business.

(c) Investment; categories. Notwithstanding any provision of 10 V.S.A. § 290 to the contrary, the Fund shall invest in businesses consistent with the following:

(1) The Fund shall invest in rapid seed and early growth stage employers that have a viable plan for recovery and growth.

(2) The Fund shall make expedited investments using simplified investment terms and instruments, including stock, convertible notes, forgivable loans, royalty financing, or grants with equity warrants.

(3) The expected range per new investment is \$20,000.00 to \$100,000.00 from this appropriation.

(4) The Fund shall prioritize sourcing and funding on BIPOC-, veteran-, and women-owned businesses.

(5) In continuing to serve the Vermont innovation ecosystem and notwithstanding the expedited program timeline, the Fund shall pursue co-investment participation from local and regional investors, including Vermont venture funds, family offices, community foundations, accredited individual “angel” investors, lending institutions, and other relevant sources.

(6) Prior to providing seed capital, the Fund may ensure that an applicant has consulted with, and has accessed any available funding from, the Vermont Economic Development Authority.

(d) Eligibility. For-profit Vermont businesses are eligible except where other significant State appropriated Coronavirus Relief Fund program resources have been directed. These excluded sectors include:

(1) traditional in-person retail operations;

(2) lodging, hospitality, and real estate operations; and

(3) restaurants and food service operations.

Sec. H.16 10 V.S.A. § 291(b)(3) is amended to read:

(3)(A) Before the Fund makes any investments, the Fund shall have and maintain a board of five advisors who shall be appointed as follows: two shall be appointed by the Authority, two shall be appointed by the Fund manager, and one shall be appointed jointly by the Authority and the Fund manager.

(B) The appointing authorities shall coordinate their appointments to

ensure that the Board comprises advisors with diverse professional and personal backgrounds and experiences.

(C) The Board of Advisors shall represent solely the economic interest of the State with respect to the management of the Fund and shall have no civil liability for the financial performance of the Fund.

(D) The Board of Advisors shall be advised of investments made by the Fund and shall have access to all information held by the Fund with respect to investments made by the Fund.

Sec. H.17 SEED CAPITAL FUND; REPORT

On or before January 15, 2022 the Seed Capital Fund shall report to the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs and to the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development concerning:

(1) whether and how the Fund and the Vermont Economic Development Authority can integrate preferential treatment and provide continuing investment through its lending programs for businesses that have received capital investment from the Fund; and

(2) the Fund's efforts and outcomes to prioritize sourcing and providing funding to BIPOC-, veteran-, and women-owned businesses pursuant to Sec. H.16 of this act.

* * * Capital Investment Grants * * *

Sec. H.18 CAPITAL INVESTMENT GRANT PROGRAM

(a) Creation; purpose; regional outreach.

(1) The Agency of Commerce and Community Development shall use the \$10,580,000 appropriated to the Department of Economic Development in Sec. G.300(a)(12) of this act to design and implement a capital investment grant program consistent with this section.

(2) The purpose of the program is to make funding available for transformational projects that will provide each region of the State with the opportunity to attract businesses, retain existing businesses, create jobs, and invest in their communities by encouraging capital investments and economic growth.

(3) The Agency shall collaborate with other State agencies, regional development corporations, regional planning commissions, and other community partners to identify potential regional applicants and projects to ensure the distribution of grants throughout the regions of the State.

(b) Eligible applicants.

(1) To be eligible for a grant, an applicant shall meet the following criteria:

(A) The applicant is located within this State.

(B) The applicant is:

(i)(I) a for-profit entity with not less than a 10 percent equity interest in the project; or

(II) a nonprofit entity; and

(ii) grant funding from the Program represents not more than 50 percent of the total project cost.

(C) The applicant demonstrates:

(i) community and regional support for the project;

(ii) that grant funding is needed to complete the project;

(iii) leveraging of additional sources of funding from local, State, or federal economic development programs; and

(iv) an ability to manage the project, with requisite experience and a plan for fiscal viability.

(2) The following are ineligible to apply for a grant:

(A) a State or local government-operated business;

(B) a municipality;

(C) a business that, together with any affiliated business, owns or operates more than 20 locations, regardless of whether those locations do business under the same name or within the same industry; and

(D) a publicly-traded company.

(c) Awards; amount; eligible uses.

(1) An award shall not exceed the lesser of \$1,500,000.00 or the estimated net State fiscal impact of the project based on Agency modeling.

(2) A recipient may use grant funds for the acquisition of property and equipment, construction, renovation, and related capital expenses.

(3) A recipient may combine grant funds with funding from other sources but shall not use grant funds from multiple sources for the same costs within the same project.

(4) The Agency shall release grant funds upon determining that the

applicant has met all Program conditions and requirements.

(5) Nothing in this section is intended to prevent a grant recipient from applying for additional grant funds if future amounts are appropriated for the program.

(d) Data model; approval.

(1) The Agency shall collaborate with the Legislative Economist to design a data model and related methodology to assess the fiscal, economic, and societal impacts of proposals and prioritize them based on the results.

(2) The Agency shall present the model and related methodology to the Joint Fiscal Committee for its approval not later than September 1, 2021.

(e) Application process; decisions; awards.

(1)(A) The Agency shall accept applications on a rolling basis for three-month periods and shall review and consider for approval the group of applications it has received as of the conclusion of each three-month period.

(B) The Agency shall make application information available to the Legislative Economist and the Executive Economist in a timely manner.

(2) Using the data model and methodology approved by the Joint Fiscal Committee, the Agency shall analyze the information provided in an application to estimate the net State fiscal impact of a project, including the following factors:

(A) increase to grand list value;

(B) improvements to supply chain;

(C) jobs impact, including the number and quality of jobs; and

(D) increase to State GDP.

(3) The Secretary of Commerce and Community Development shall appoint an interagency team, which may include members from among the Department of Economic Development, the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, the Department of Public Service, the Agency of Natural Resources, or other State agencies and departments, which team shall review, analyze, and recommend projects for funding based on the estimated net State fiscal impact of a project and on other contributing factors, including:

(A) transformational nature of the project for the region;

(B) project readiness, quality, and demonstrated collaboration with stakeholders and other funding sources;

(C) alignment and consistency with regional plans and priorities;
and

(D) creation and retention of workforce opportunities.

(4) The Secretary of Commerce and Community Development shall consider the recommendations of the interagency team and shall give final approval to projects.

(f) Grant agreements; post award monitoring. If selected by the Secretary, the applicant and the Agency shall execute a grant agreement that includes audit provisions and minimum requirements for the maintenance and accessibility of records that ensures that the Agency and the Auditor of Accounts have access and authority to monitor awards.

(g) Report. On or before December 15, 2021 the Agency shall submit a report to the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development and the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs concerning the implementation of this section, including:

(1) a description of the implementation of the program;

(2) the promotion and marketing of the program;

(3) an analysis of the utilization and performance of the program, including the projected revenue impacts and other qualitative and quantitative returns on investment in the program based on available data and modeling.

* * * Economic Recovery Grants * * *

Sec. H.19 ECONOMIC RECOVERY GRANTS

(a) The Agency of Commerce and Community Development shall use the \$20,000,000.00 appropriated to it in Sec. G.300(a)(13) of this act for Economic Recovery grants and the amounts appropriated to it in 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 9, Sec. 3 to provide grants to businesses consistent with the requirements of that Sec. 3 and further subject to the following:

(1) The value of a grant shall not exceed the lesser of a business's net adjusted loss, three months of fixed expenses, or \$150,000.00.

(2) The Agency shall defer final calculation and payment of grant awards for a reasonable period of time to determine the availability of COVID-19-related financial assistance from other State and federal sources.

(3) The Agency may adjust the calculation of tax loss for non-COVID-19-related items, including carryforward losses and depreciation.

(b) The Agency of Commerce and Community Development shall provide grants to businesses subject to the provisions and guidance controlling

economic relief funds that are available through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, as follows:

(1) Program to respond to economic harm.

(A) The Agency shall design and implement the economic recovery grant program to ensure that grants provided to businesses respond to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) or its negative economic impacts.

(B) In assessing whether a program or service “responds to” the COVID-19 public health emergency, the Agency shall, first, identify a need or negative impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency and, second, identify how the program addresses the identified need or impact.

(2) Program response is related and proportional to harm.

(A) The Agency shall ensure that its program response is related and reasonably proportional to the extent and type of harm experienced.

(B) Uses that bear no relation or are grossly disproportionate to the type or extent of harm experienced are not eligible uses.

(3) Economic harm resulting from or exacerbated by COVID-19.

(A) The Agency shall design and implement the economic recovery grant program to address economic harms resulting from or exacerbated by the public health emergency.

(B) The Agency shall assess the connection between the negative economic harm and the COVID-19 public health emergency, the nature and extent of that harm, and how the use of this funding would address such harm.

(C) While recognizing that economic impacts may either be immediate or delayed, the Agency shall not provide assistance to a business that did not experience a negative economic impact from the public health emergency and that therefore would not be an eligible recipient of funds.

(4) Recognizing harm to certain industries.

(A) The Agency shall recognize that certain industries, such as tourism, travel, and hospitality, were disproportionately and negatively impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency. Aid provided to tourism, travel, and hospitality industries should respond to the negative economic impacts of the pandemic on those and similarly impacted industries.

(B) Aid may be considered responsive to the negative economic impacts of the pandemic if it supports businesses, attractions, business districts, and Tribal development districts operating prior to the pandemic and

affected by required closures and other efforts to contain the pandemic.

(C) When considering providing aid to industries other than tourism, travel, and hospitality, the Agency shall consider the extent of the economic impact as compared to tourism, travel, and hospitality.

(D) The Agency shall also consider whether impacts were due to the COVID-19 pandemic, as opposed to longer-term economic or industrial trends unrelated to the pandemic.

(c) On or before December 15, 2021, the Agency shall submit a report to the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development and the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs concerning the implementation of this section, including detailed information concerning business grant recipients and recommendations for any necessary legislative action to adjust program criteria and benefits.

* * * Apprenticeships * * *

Sec. H.20 APPRENTICESHIPS

(a) The Department shall use the \$2,000,000.00 appropriated to it in Sec. G.300(a)(6) of this act for the expansion of registered apprenticeship enrollment in current or new programs as described below:

(1) The Department shall use not more than \$100,000.00 to conduct a comprehensive outreach and recruitment effort to enroll new workers into a federally recognized registered apprenticeship program.

(2) The Department shall use not more than \$1,525,000.00 for related instruction or on-the-job training costs for new apprentices and shall develop a standard system of for application for reimbursement not later than August 1, 2021.

(3) The Department shall use not more than \$375,000.00 to provide vouchers of not more than \$750.00 for new apprentices or their sponsors to pay for equipment, tools, supplies, or textbooks needed during their first year.

(b) The Department may use not more than eight percent of the amounts appropriated in this section to administer the grants and activities described above.

(c) The Department shall provide funding pursuant to this section consistent with the following priorities:

(1) expanding new apprenticeship opportunities rather than supplanting existing employer-funded opportunities;

(2) supporting vocations that otherwise lack, or are unlikely to have

sufficient, sources of funding for apprenticeships;

(3) prioritizing apprenticeship enrollment in building or trades programs;

(4) identifying and accessing other sources of funds for apprenticeships specifically available to certain vocations;

(5) targeting where apprenticeship training can leverage other funds; and

(6) prioritizing readily expandable building trade apprenticeships.

* * * Effective Dates * * *

Sec. I.100 EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) This section and Secs C.100 through C.116 (fiscal year 2021 one-time appropriations, adjustment and amendments), Sec. E.128.1 (legislative facility coordinator), Sec. F.112 (one-time salary payments authorized), Sec. G.400(b)(1) (affordable housing initiatives), and Sec. G.700(b) (State-owned dams) shall take effect upon passage.

(b) Notwithstanding 1 V.S.A. § 214, Sec. E.306.1 (Vermont Health Benefit Exchange) shall take effect on October 1, 2021.

(c) Notwithstanding 1 V.S.A. § 214, Sec. E.501.1(a) shall take effect retroactively on July 1, 2020.

(d) All remaining sections shall take effect on July 1, 2021.

And by renumbering all of the sections of the bill to be numerically correct (including internal references) and adjusting all of the totals to be arithmetically correct.

*M. JANE KITCHEL
RICHARD W. SEARS, JR.
RICHARD A. WESTMAN*

Committee on the part of the Senate

*MARY S. HOOPER
PETER J. FAGAN
KIMBERLY JESSUP*

Committee on the part of the House

Thereupon, the question, Shall the Senate accept and adopt the report of the Committee of Conference?, was decided in the affirmative on a roll call Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Senator Sears having demanded the yeas and nays, they were taken and are as follows:

Roll Call

Those Senators who voted in the affirmative were: Balint, Baruth, Benning, Bray, Brock, Campion, Chittenden, Clarkson, Collamore, Cummings, Hardy, Hooker, Ingalls, Kitchel, Lyons, MacDonald, Mazza, McCormack, Nitka, Parent, Pearson, Perchlik, Pollina, Ram, Sears, Sirotkin, Starr, Terenzini, Westman, White.

Those Senators who voted in the negative were: None.

Recess

On motion of Senator Balint the Senate recessed until the fall of the gavel.

Called to Order

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Joint Senate Resolution Adopted on the Part of the Senate

J.R.S. 29.

Joint Senate resolution of the following title was offered, read and adopted on the part of the Senate, and is as follows:

By Senator Balint,

J.R.S. 29. Joint resolution relating to final adjournment of the General Assembly 2021.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That when the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives adjourn their respective houses on the twenty-first or twenty-second day of May, 2021 they shall do so to reconvene on the twenty-third day of June, 2021, at ten o'clock in the forenoon as the Governor has failed to sign S. 107 and returned it to the house of origin with his objections in writing, then to reconvene on the nineteenth day of October, 2021, at ten o'clock in the forenoon on the joint call of the President *pro tempore* of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, or on the fourth day of January, 2022, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, if not so jointly called.

Rules Suspended; Bill Messaged

On motion of Senator Balint, the rules were suspended, and the following bill was ordered messaged to the House forthwith:

H. 439.

Rules Suspended; House Proposal of Amendment Concurred In**J.R.S. 24.**

Appearing on the Calendar for notice, on motion of Senator Balint, the rules were suspended and House proposal of amendment to joint Senate resolution entitled:

Joint resolution relating to amending temporary Joint Rule 22A.

Was taken up for immediate consideration.

The House proposes to the Senate that the resolution be amended by striking out all after the title and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That Temporary Joint Rule 22A is amended to read as follows:

Rule 22A Emergency Rule Regarding Joint Committee Meetings

(a) The Joint Rules Committee is vested with the authority to permit any joint committees of the Vermont Legislature (including itself and Conference Committees) to meet and vote electronically as the Joint Rules Committee determines appropriate. If necessary, the Joint Rules Committee may make this authorization remotely in conformity with this Rule.

(b) The authority of the Joint Rules Committee under this Rule 22A terminates upon the expiration of the Executive's Declared Emergency shall only be in effect through the 30 days following the date on which the Governor rescinds all remaining capacity restrictions at gatherings and events and mask and physical distancing requirements issued under the Governor's Declaration of a State of Emergency in Response to COVID-19 as determined by the Joint Rules Committee.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b) of this rule, if the Governor thereafter reissues capacity restrictions at gatherings and events or requires masks and physical distancing in response to COVID-19, the Joint Rules Committee is again authorized to meet remotely and to permit any joint committees of the Legislature to meet and vote electronically as the Joint Rules Committee determines appropriate., and be it further

Resolved: If the Joint Rules Committee determines that there should be conditions on the public entering the State House or other legislative meeting spaces, or limitations on access to legislative meeting spaces, due to air quality or construction, the inability to comply with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines, or other similar reasons, the Joint Rules Committee is authorized to issue orders to the Sgt at Arms that condition or limit that public access.

And that after passage the title of the resolution be amended to read:

Joint resolution relating to amending temporary Joint Rule 22A and to public access to the State House or other legislative meeting spaces.

Thereupon, the question, Shall the Senate concur in the House proposal of amendment?, was decided in the affirmative.

Senate Concurrent Resolutions

The following joint concurrent resolutions, having been placed on the consent calendar on the preceding legislative day, and no Senator having requested floor consideration as provided by the Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives, were severally adopted on the part of the Senate:

By Senator Mazza,

S.C.R. 6.

Senate concurrent resolution honoring WCAX weather director and anchor Sharon Meyer for her outstanding achievements as a broadcast meteorologist.

By Senators Parent and Chittenden,

S.C.R. 7.

Senate concurrent resolution congratulating the Hickok & Boardman Insurance Group on its bicentennial.

By Senators Clarkson, McCormack and Nitka,

S.C.R. 8.

Senate concurrent resolution commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Billings Farm.

By Senator Champion,

By Reps. Corcoran and others,

S.C.R. 9.

Senate concurrent resolution commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Seall community juvenile offender residency program.

House Concurrent Resolutions

The following joint concurrent resolutions having been placed on the consent calendar on the preceding legislative day, and no Senator having requested floor consideration as provided by the Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives, were severally adopted in concurrence:

By Rep. Jessup,

H.C.R. 69.

House concurrent resolution recognizing May 2021 as EDS and HSD Awareness Month in Vermont.

By Reps. Till and Squirrell,

H.C.R. 70.

House concurrent resolution remembering the life achievements of former Representative Robert Willard Cochran of Jericho and his wife, Willadine (Orton) Cochran.

By Reps. Burditt and others,

By Senators Collamore, Hooker and Terenzini,

H.C.R. 71.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2021 Proctor High School Phantoms on winning a second consecutive Division IV boys' basketball championship.

By All Members of the House,

H.C.R. 72.

House concurrent resolution honoring the Vermont Department of Health for its exemplary public service during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

By Reps. Hooper and Ode,

H.C.R. 73.

House concurrent resolution honoring the Living Well Group's staff and volunteers for their superb elder-care services during the COVID-19 pandemic.

By Reps. Brumsted and Webb,

H.C.R. 74.

House concurrent resolution in memory of former Representative George Anthony Schiavone of Shelburne.

By Reps. Burditt and others,

By Senators Collamore, Hooker and Terenzini,

H.C.R. 75.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Proctor High School Lady Phantoms on their second consecutive designation as the Division IV girls' basketball championship team.

Message from the House No. 83

A message was received from the House of Representatives by Ms. Alona Tate, its Second Assistant Clerk, as follows:

Madam President:

I am directed to inform the Senate that:

The House has considered joint resolution originating in the Senate of the following title:

J.R.S. 29. Joint resolution relating to final adjournment of the General Assembly 2021.

And has adopted the same in concurrence.

The House has considered the report of the Committee of Conference upon the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on House bill of the following title:

H. 439. An act relating to making appropriations for the support of government.

And has adopted the same on its part.

Secretary Directed to Inform the House of Completion of Business

On motion of Senator Balint, the Secretary was directed to inform the House that the Senate has completed the business of the session and is ready on its part to adjourn, pursuant to the provisions of J.R.S. 29.

Committee Appointed to Inform Governor of Completion of Business

On motion of Senator Balint, the President appointed the following three Senators as members of a Committee to wait upon His Excellency, Philip B. Scott, the Governor, and inform him that the Senate has completed the business of the session and is ready on its part to adjourn, pursuant to the provisions of J.R.S. 29:

Senator Clarkson
Senator Brock
Senator Pollina

Report of Committee

The Committee appointed to wait upon His Excellency, the Governor, to inform him that the Senate had, on its part, completed the business of the session and was ready to adjourn, pursuant to the provisions of J.R.S. 29, performed the duties assigned to it and escorted the Governor to the virtual rostrum where he delivered his remarks in person.

Remarks of Governor

The Honorable Philip B. Scott, Governor of the State of Vermont, was escorted to the virtual rostrum and briefly addressed the Senate.

Departure of Governor

The Governor, having completed the delivery of his message virtually.

Final Adjournment

On motion of Senator Balint, at three o'clock and twenty-five minutes in the afternoon (3:25 P.M.), the Senate adjourned, pursuant to the provisions of J.R.S. 29.

Messages Received After Final Adjournment

After final adjournment, the following messages were received by the Secretary:

Message from the House No. 84

A message was received from the House of Representatives by Ms. Alona Tate, its Second Assistant Clerk, as follows:

Madam President:

I am directed to inform the Senate that the House has on its part completed the business of the first half of the Biennial session and is ready to adjourn pursuant to the provisions of J.R.S. 29.

Message from the House No. 85

A message was received from the House of Representatives by Ms. Melissa Kucserik, its First Assistant Clerk, as follows:

Madam President:

I am directed to inform the Senate that:

The House has considered Senate proposals of amendment to the following House bills:

H. 106. An act relating to equitable access to a high-quality education through community schools.

H. 289. An act relating to professions and occupations regulated by the Office of Professional Regulation.

H. 431. An act relating to miscellaneous energy subjects.

And has severally concurred therein.

The House has adopted House concurrent resolutions of the following titles:

H.C.R. 69. House concurrent resolution recognizing May 2021 as EDS and HSD Awareness Month in Vermont.

H.C.R. 70. House concurrent resolution remembering the life achievements of former Representative Robert Willard Cochran of Jericho and his wife, Willadine (Orton) Cochran.

H.C.R. 71. House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2021 Proctor High School Phantoms on winning a second consecutive Division IV boys' basketball championship.

H.C.R. 72. House concurrent resolution honoring the Vermont Department of Health for its exemplary public service during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

H.C.R. 73. House concurrent resolution honoring the Living Well Group's staff and volunteers for their superb elder-care services during the COVID-19 pandemic.

H.C.R. 74. House concurrent resolution in memory of former Representative George Anthony Schiavone of Shelburne.

H.C.R. 75. House concurrent resolution congratulating the Proctor High School Lady Phantoms on their second consecutive designation as the Division IV girls' basketball championship team.

In the adoption of which the concurrence of the Senate is requested.

The House has considered concurrent resolutions originating in the Senate of the following titles:

S.C.R. 6. Senate concurrent resolution honoring WCAX weather director and anchor Sharon Meyer for her outstanding achievements as a broadcast meteorologist.

S.C.R. 7. Senate concurrent resolution congratulating the Hickok & Boardman Insurance Group on its bicentennial.

S.C.R. 8. Senate concurrent resolution commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Billings Farm.

S.C.R. 9. Senate concurrent resolution commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Seall community juvenile offender residency program.

And has adopted the same in concurrence.

The Governor has informed the House that on May 20, 2021, he approved and signed a bill originating in the House of the following title:

H. 421. An act relating to animal cruelty investigation response and training.

Message from the Governor

A message was received from His Excellency, the Governor, by Ms. Brittney L. Wilson, Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs, as follows:

Madam President:

I am directed by the Governor to inform the Senate that on the first day of June, 2021 he approved and signed a bill originating in the Senate of the following title:

S. 62. An act relating to employee incentives, technical education, and unemployment insurance.

Message from the Governor

A message was received from His Excellency, the Governor, by Ms. Brittney L. Wilson, Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs, as follows:

Madam President:

I am directed by the Governor to inform the Senate that on the seventh day of June, 2021 he approved and signed bills originating in the Senate of the following titles:

S. 3. An act relating to competency to stand trial and insanity as a defense.

S. 7. An act relating to expanding access to expungement and sealing of criminal history records.

S. 13. An act relating to Pupil Weighting Factors Report.

S. 15. An act relating to mailing out ballots, correcting defective ballots, and miscellaneous changes to State election laws.

S. 22. An act relating to health care practitioners administering stem cell products not approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

S. 25. An act relating to miscellaneous cannabis regulation procedures.

S. 47. An act relating to motor vehicle manufacturers, dealers, and warranty or service facilities.

S. 48. An act relating to Vermont's adoption of the interstate Nurse Licensure Compact.

S. 97. An act relating to miscellaneous judiciary procedures.

S. 115. An act relating to making miscellaneous changes in education laws.

Message from the Governor

A message was received from His Excellency, the Governor, by Ms. Brittney L. Wilson, Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs, as follows:

Madam President:

I am directed by the Governor to inform the Senate that on the fourteenth day of June, 2021 he approved and signed a bill originating in the Senate of the following title:

S. 86. An act relating to miscellaneous changes to laws related to vehicles and vessels.

Message from the House No. 86

A message was received from the House of Representatives by Ms. Melissa Kucserik, its First Assistant Clerk, as follows:

Madam President:

I am directed to inform the Senate that:

The Governor has informed the House that on June 1, 2021, he returned without signature and vetoed bills originating in the House of the following titles:

H. 177. An act relating to approval of an amendment to the charter of the City of Montpelier.

H. 227. An act relating to approval of amendments to the charter of the City of Winooski.

Text of Communication from Governor

The text of the communication from His Excellency, the Governor, whereby he vetoed and returned unsigned **House Bill No. 177** to the House is as follows:

“June 1, 2021

The Honorable BetsyAnn Wrask
Clerk of the Vermont House of Representatives
115 State St.
Montpelier, VT 05633

Dear Ms. Wrask:

Pursuant to Chapter II, Section 11 of the Vermont Constitution, I am returning H.177, *An Act Relating to Approval of an Amendment to the Charter of the City of Montpelier* without my signature.

This is an important policy discussion that deserves further consideration and debate. Allowing a highly variable town-by-town approach to municipal voting creates inconsistency in election policy, as well as separate and unequal classes of residents potentially eligible to vote on local issues. I believe it is the role of the Legislature to establish clarity and consistency on this matter. This should include defining how municipalities determine which legal residents may vote on local issues, as well as specifying the local matters they may vote on. Returning these bills provides the opportunity to do this important work.

For these reasons I am returning this legislation without my signature pursuant to Chapter II, Section 11 of the Vermont Constitution. I understand these charter changes are well-intentioned, but I ask the Legislature to revisit the issue of non-citizen voting in a more comprehensive manner and develop a statewide policy or a uniform template and process for those municipalities wishing to grant the right of voting in local elections to *all* legal residents.

Sincerely,

/s/Philip B. Scott
Governor

PBS/kp”

Text of Communication from Governor

The text of the communication from His Excellency, the Governor, whereby he vetoed and returned unsigned **House Bill No. 227** to the House is as follows:

“June 1, 2021

The Honorable BetsyAnn Wrask
Clerk of the Vermont House of Representatives
115 State St.
Montpelier, VT 05633

Dear Ms. Wrask:

Pursuant to Chapter II, Section 11 of the Vermont Constitution, I am returning H.227, *An Act Relating to Approval of Amendments to the Charter of the City of Winooski* without my signature.

This is an important policy discussion that deserves further consideration and debate. Allowing a highly variable town-by-town approach to municipal voting creates inconsistency in election policy, as well as separate and unequal classes of residents potentially eligible to vote on local

issues. I believe it is the role of the Legislature to establish clarity and consistency on this matter. This should include defining how municipalities determine which legal residents may vote on local issues, as well as specifying the local matters they may vote on. Returning these bills provides the opportunity to do this important work.

For these reasons I am returning this legislation without my signature pursuant to Chapter II, Section 11 of the Vermont Constitution. I understand these charter changes are well-intentioned, but I ask the Legislature to revisit the issue of non-citizen voting in a more comprehensive manner and develop a statewide policy or a uniform template and process for those municipalities wishing to grant the right of voting in local elections to *all* legal residents.

Sincerely,

/s/Philip B. Scott

Governor

PBS/kp”

The Governor has informed the House that on June 1, 2021, he approved and signed bills originating in the House of the following titles:

H. 88. An act relating to the use value appraisal program..

H. 135. An act relating to the State Ethics Commission.

H. 140. An act relating to approval of amendments to the charter of the Town of Williston.

H. 171. An act relating to the governance and financing of Vermont’s child care system.

H. 225. An act relating to possession of a therapeutic dosage of buprenorphine.

H. 420. An act relating to miscellaneous agricultural subjects.

H. 430. An act relating to eligibility for Dr. Dynasaur-like coverage for all income-eligible children and pregnant individuals regardless of immigration status..

H. 434. An act relating to establishing the Agricultural Innovation Board.

H. 438. An act relating to capital construction and State bonding.

H. 445. An act relating to approval of an amendment to the charter of the Town of Underhill.

The Governor has informed the House that on June 3, 2021, he approved and signed bills originating in the House of the following titles:

H. 122. An act relating to boards and commissions.

H. 337. An act relating to the printing and distribution of State publications.

H. 431. An act relating to miscellaneous energy subjects.

H. 433. An act relating to the Transportation Program and miscellaneous changes to laws related to transportation.

H. 435. An act relating to miscellaneous Department of Corrections-related amendments.

H. 443. An act relating to approval of the merger of the Wilmington Water District with the Town of Wilmington.

The Governor has informed the House that on June 8, 2021, he approved and signed bills originating in the House of the following titles:

H. 106. An act relating to equitable access to a high-quality education through community schools.

H. 183. An act relating to sexual violence.

H. 289. An act relating to professions and occupations regulated by the Office of Professional Regulation.

H. 313. An act relating to miscellaneous amendments to alcoholic beverage laws.

H. 360. An act relating to accelerated community broadband deployment.

H. 426. An act relating to addressing the needs and conditions of public school facilities in the State.

H. 436. An act relating to miscellaneous changes to Vermont's tax laws.

H. 439. An act relating to making appropriations for the support of government.

H. 449. An act relating to the membership and duties of the Vermont Pension Investment Commission and the creation of the Pension Benefits, Design, and Funding Task Force.