

Journal of the Senate

TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 2022

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Devotional Exercises

A moment of silence was observed in lieu of devotions.

Pledge of Allegiance

The President then led the members of the Senate in the pledge of allegiance.

Bills Referred to Committee on Appropriations

House bills of the following titles, appearing on the Calendar for notice, and carrying an appropriation or requiring the expenditure of funds, under the rule were severally referred to the Committee Appropriations:

H. 553. An act relating to eligibility of domestic partners for reimbursement from the Victims Compensation Program.

H. 736. An act relating to the Transportation Program and miscellaneous changes to laws related to transportation.

Joint Senate Resolution Adopted on the Part of the Senate

J.R.S. 51.

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. 51. Joint resolution relating to weekend adjournment.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That when the two Houses adjourn on Friday, April 22, 2022, it be to meet again no later than Tuesday, April 26, 2022.

Bill Passed in Concurrence with Proposal of Amendment

H. 635.

House bill of the following title was read the third time and passed in concurrence with proposal of amendment:

An act relating to secondary enforcement of minor traffic offenses.

Adjournment

On motion of Senator Mazza, the Senate adjourned until four o'clock in the afternoon.

Called to Order

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Message from the House No. 51

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. 163. An act relating to State court petitions for vulnerable noncitizen youth.

And has passed the same in concurrence.

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

S. 254. An act relating to recovering damages for Article 11 violations by law enforcement and a report on qualified immunity.

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

**Message from the Governor
Appointments Referred**

A message was received from the Governor, by Brittney L. Wilson, Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs, submitting the following appointments, which were referred to committees as indicated:

The nomination of

Walsh, Thomas of Colchester - Member, Green Mountain Care Board - from December 17, 2021 to February 28, 2027.

To the Committee on Health and Welfare.

The nomination of

Samuelson, Jennifer of Shelburne - Secretary, Agency of Human Services - from March 28, 2022 to February 28, 2023.

To the Committee on Health and Welfare.

Rules Suspended; Proposal of Amendment; Third Reading Ordered**H. 740.**

Appearing on the Calendar for notice, on motion of Senator Balint, the rules were suspended and 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 on Appropriations, to which the bill was referred, 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. A.100 SHORT TITLE

This bill may be referred to as the BIG BILL – Fiscal Year 2023 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 2023. 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, 2022. Agency and department heads are directed to implement staffing and service levels at the beginning of fiscal year 2023 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 2023.

(b) The sums herein 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, 2023.

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 2023, 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 herein 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 2023, federal funds available to the State of Vermont and designated as federal in this and other acts of the 2022 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 2023 except for new positions authorized by the 2022 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 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 appropriations, and 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.

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

Personal services	1,652,252
Operating expenses	111,750
Grants	<u>25,000</u>
Total	1,789,002
Source of funds	
General fund	1,092,614
Special funds	25,000
Internal service funds	440,610
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>230,778</u>
Total	1,789,002

Sec. B.101 Secretary of administration - finance

Personal services	1,256,805
Operating expenses	<u>113,453</u>
Total	1,370,258
Source of funds	
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,370,258</u>
Total	1,370,258

Sec. B.102 Secretary of administration - workers' compensation insurance

Personal services	831,338
Operating expenses	<u>115,218</u>
Total	946,556
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>946,556</u>
Total	946,556

Sec. B.103 Secretary of administration - general liability insurance

Personal services	507,371
Operating expenses	<u>38,155</u>
Total	545,526
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>545,526</u>
Total	545,526

 Sec. B.104 Secretary of administration - all other insurance

Personal services	192,702
Operating expenses	<u>17,643</u>
Total	210,345
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>210,345</u>
Total	210,345

Sec. B.105 Agency of digital services - communications and information technology

Personal services	99,364,395
Operating expenses	<u>34,833,539</u>
Total	134,197,934
Source of funds	
General fund	179,572
Special funds	17,159,341
Internal service funds	<u>116,859,021</u>
Total	134,197,934

Sec. B.106 Finance and management - budget and management

Personal services	1,560,869
Operating expenses	<u>328,431</u>
Total	1,889,300
Source of funds	
General fund	1,287,210
Internal service funds	<u>602,090</u>
Total	1,889,300

Sec. B.107 Finance and management - financial operations

Personal services	2,258,652
Operating expenses	<u>729,477</u>
Total	2,988,129
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>2,988,129</u>
Total	2,988,129

Sec. B.108 Human resources - operations

Personal services	9,623,786
Operating expenses	<u>1,337,649</u>
Total	10,961,435
Source of funds	
General fund	1,645,579

Special funds	263,589
Internal service funds	8,582,668
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>469,599</u>
Total	10,961,435
Sec. B.108.1 Human resources - VTHR operations	
Personal services	1,795,870
Operating expenses	<u>712,551</u>
Total	2,508,421
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>2,508,421</u>
Total	2,508,421
Sec. B.109 Human resources - employee benefits & wellness	
Personal services	1,109,145
Operating expenses	<u>601,415</u>
Total	1,710,560
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>1,710,560</u>
Total	1,710,560
Sec. B.110 Libraries	
Personal services	2,362,959
Operating expenses	892,587
Grants	<u>201,900</u>
Total	3,457,446
Source of funds	
General fund	2,004,119
Special funds	35,276
Federal funds	1,308,858
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>109,193</u>
Total	3,457,446
Sec. B.111 Tax - administration/collection	
Personal services	17,831,398
Operating expenses	<u>5,790,925</u>
Total	23,622,323
Source of funds	
General fund	21,409,826
Special funds	2,178,388
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>34,109</u>
Total	23,622,323

Sec. B.112 Buildings and general services - administration	
Personal services	1,080,924
Operating expenses	<u>153,965</u>
Total	1,234,889
Source of funds	
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,234,889</u>
Total	1,234,889
Sec. B.113 Buildings and general services - engineering	
Personal services	96,274
Operating expenses	<u>1,535,829</u>
Total	1,632,103
Source of funds	
General fund	1,132,103
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>500,000</u>
Total	1,632,103
Sec. B.113.1 Buildings and General Services Engineering - Capital Projects	
Personal services	<u>2,756,153</u>
Total	2,756,153
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>2,756,153</u>
Total	2,756,153
Sec. B.114 Buildings and general services - information centers	
Personal services	3,320,126
Operating expenses	<u>1,821,549</u>
Total	5,141,675
Source of funds	
General fund	649,572
Transportation fund	4,059,343
Special funds	<u>432,760</u>
Total	5,141,675
Sec. B.115 Buildings and general services - purchasing	
Personal services	1,134,262
Operating expenses	<u>222,957</u>
Total	1,357,219
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>1,357,219</u>
Total	1,357,219

Sec. B.116 Buildings and general services - postal services	
Personal services	757,054
Operating expenses	<u>249,683</u>
Total	1,006,737
Source of funds	
General fund	84,986
Internal service funds	<u>921,751</u>
Total	1,006,737
Sec. B.117 Buildings and general services - copy center	
Personal services	853,534
Operating expenses	<u>171,957</u>
Total	1,025,491
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>1,025,491</u>
Total	1,025,491
Sec. B.118 Buildings and general services - fleet management services	
Personal services	777,083
Operating expenses	<u>250,909</u>
Total	1,027,992
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>1,027,992</u>
Total	1,027,992
Sec. B.119 Buildings and general services - federal surplus property	
Operating expenses	<u>6,979</u>
Total	6,979
Source of funds	
Enterprise funds	<u>6,979</u>
Total	6,979
Sec. B.120 Buildings and general services - state surplus property	
Personal services	343,550
Operating expenses	<u>125,259</u>
Total	468,809
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>468,809</u>
Total	468,809
Sec. B.121 Buildings and general services - property management	
Personal services	1,467,576

Operating expenses	<u>508,707</u>
Total	1,976,283
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>1,976,283</u>
Total	1,976,283
Sec. B.122 Buildings and general services - fee for space	
Personal services	18,711,733
Operating expenses	<u>14,636,007</u>
Total	33,347,740
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>33,347,740</u>
Total	33,347,740
Sec. B.124 Executive office - governor's office	
Personal services	1,487,507
Operating expenses	<u>459,623</u>
Total	1,947,130
Source of funds	
General fund	1,716,379
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>230,751</u>
Total	1,947,130
Sec. B.125 Legislative counsel	
Personal services	3,401,294
Operating expenses	<u>255,108</u>
Total	3,656,402
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>3,656,402</u>
Total	3,656,402
Sec. B.126 Legislature	
Personal services	5,790,208
Operating expenses	<u>4,510,892</u>
Total	10,301,100
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>10,301,100</u>
Total	10,301,100
Sec. B.126.1 Legislative information technology	
Personal services	1,141,119
Operating expenses	<u>564,119</u>
Total	1,705,238

Source of funds	
General fund	<u>1,705,238</u>
Total	1,705,238
Sec. B.127 Joint fiscal committee	
Personal services	2,551,475
Operating expenses	<u>170,638</u>
Total	2,722,113
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>2,722,113</u>
Total	2,722,113
Sec. B.128 Sergeant at arms	
Personal services	1,063,777
Operating expenses	<u>109,829</u>
Total	1,173,606
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>1,173,606</u>
Total	1,173,606
Sec. B.129 Lieutenant governor	
Personal services	206,253
Operating expenses	<u>42,999</u>
Total	249,252
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>249,252</u>
Total	249,252
Sec. B.130 Auditor of accounts	
Personal services	3,985,879
Operating expenses	<u>179,191</u>
Total	4,165,070
Source of funds	
General fund	357,074
Special funds	53,145
Internal service funds	<u>3,754,851</u>
Total	4,165,070
Sec. B.131 State treasurer	
Personal services	4,215,443
Operating expenses	<u>214,594</u>
Total	4,430,037
Source of funds	

General fund	1,409,658
Special funds	2,803,034
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>217,345</u>
Total	4,430,037
Sec. B.132 State treasurer - unclaimed property	
Personal services	829,638
Operating expenses	<u>326,937</u>
Total	1,156,575
Source of funds	
Private purpose trust funds	<u>1,156,575</u>
Total	1,156,575
Sec. B.133 Vermont state retirement system	
Personal services	180,911
Operating expenses	<u>1,399,555</u>
Total	1,580,466
Source of funds	
Pension trust funds	<u>1,580,466</u>
Total	1,580,466
Sec. B.134 Municipal employees' retirement system	
Personal services	198,399
Operating expenses	<u>890,207</u>
Total	1,088,606
Source of funds	
Pension trust funds	<u>1,088,606</u>
Total	1,088,606
Sec. B.134.1 Vermont Pension Investment Commission	
Personal services	1,909,994
Operating expenses	<u>226,691</u>
Total	2,136,685
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>2,136,685</u>
Total	2,136,685
Sec. B.135 State labor relations board	
Personal services	236,763
Operating expenses	<u>58,324</u>
Total	295,087
Source of funds	
General fund	285,511

Special funds	6,788
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>2,788</u>
Total	295,087
Sec. B.136 VOSHA review board	
Personal services	81,139
Operating expenses	<u>14,783</u>
Total	95,922
Source of funds	
General fund	47,961
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>47,961</u>
Total	95,922
Sec. B.136.1 Ethics Commission	
Personal services	89,979
Operating expenses	<u>26,596</u>
Total	116,575
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>116,575</u>
Total	116,575
Sec. B.137 Homeowner rebate	
Grants	<u>16,500,000</u>
Total	16,500,000
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>16,500,000</u>
Total	16,500,000
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>4,238,000</u>
Total	4,238,000
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>4,238,000</u>
Total	4,238,000

Sec. B.140 Municipal current use

Grants	<u>17,800,000</u>
Total	17,800,000
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>17,800,000</u>
Total	17,800,000

Sec. B.142 Payments in lieu of taxes

Grants	<u>10,575,000</u>
Total	10,575,000
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>10,575,000</u>
Total	10,575,000

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	105,261,247
Transportation fund	4,059,343
Special funds	35,893,006
Federal funds	1,308,858
Internal service funds	178,033,418
Interdepartmental transfers	4,447,671
Enterprise funds	6,979
Pension trust funds	2,669,072
Private purpose trust funds	<u>1,156,575</u>
Total	332,836,169

Sec. B.200 Attorney general	
Personal services	12,222,872
Operating expenses	1,615,595
Grants	<u>20,000</u>
Total	13,858,467
Source of funds	
General fund	6,533,053
Special funds	2,030,838
Tobacco fund	348,000
Federal funds	1,490,970
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>3,455,606</u>
Total	13,858,467
Sec. B.201 Vermont court diversion	
Personal services	1,250
Grants	<u>3,006,479</u>
Total	3,007,729
Source of funds	
General fund	2,749,732
Special funds	<u>257,997</u>
Total	3,007,729
Sec. B.202 Defender general - public defense	
Personal services	13,536,180
Operating expenses	<u>1,168,458</u>
Total	14,704,638
Source of funds	
General fund	14,114,985
Special funds	<u>589,653</u>
Total	14,704,638
Sec. B.203 Defender general - assigned counsel	
Personal services	6,337,191
Operating expenses	<u>49,500</u>
Total	6,386,691
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>6,386,691</u>
Total	6,386,691
Sec. B.204 Judiciary	
Personal services	47,987,874
Operating expenses	11,198,662

Grants	<u>121,030</u>
Total	59,307,566
Source of funds	
General fund	52,997,805
Special funds	3,260,434
Federal funds	953,928
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>2,095,399</u>
Total	59,307,566
Sec. B.205 State's attorneys	
Personal services	12,905,446
Operating expenses	<u>1,980,473</u>
Total	14,885,919
Source of funds	
General fund	14,358,352
Special funds	101,442
Federal funds	224,319
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>201,806</u>
Total	14,885,919
Sec. B.206 Special investigative unit	
Personal services	86,487
Grants	<u>2,077,230</u>
Total	2,163,717
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>2,163,717</u>
Total	2,163,717
Sec. B.206.1 Crime Victims Advocates	
Personal services	<u>2,562,572</u>
Total	2,562,572
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>2,562,572</u>
Total	2,562,572
Sec. B.207 Sheriffs	
Personal services	4,440,864
Operating expenses	<u>415,366</u>
Total	4,856,230
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>4,856,230</u>
Total	4,856,230

Sec. B.208 Public safety - administration

Personal services	4,517,183
Operating expenses	<u>5,076,934</u>
Total	9,594,117
Source of funds	
General fund	5,743,935
Special funds	4,105
Federal funds	536,792
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>3,309,285</u>
Total	9,594,117

Sec. B.209 Public safety - state police

Personal services	62,598,426
Operating expenses	12,660,950
Grants	<u>1,467,153</u>
Total	76,726,529
Source of funds	
General fund	46,676,421
Transportation fund	20,250,000
Special funds	3,116,711
Federal funds	4,820,645
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,862,752</u>
Total	76,726,529

Sec. B.210 Public safety - criminal justice services

Personal services	5,055,792
Operating expenses	<u>1,448,367</u>
Total	6,504,159
Source of funds	
General fund	1,423,477
Special funds	4,646,634
Federal funds	<u>434,048</u>
Total	6,504,159

Sec. B.211 Public safety - emergency management

Personal services	3,778,940
Operating expenses	1,213,431
Grants	<u>35,889,332</u>
Total	40,881,703
Source of funds	
General fund	627,088
Special funds	710,000

Federal funds	39,537,389
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>7,226</u>
Total	40,881,703
Sec. B.212 Public safety - fire safety	
Personal services	7,549,948
Operating expenses	2,677,499
Grants	<u>107,000</u>
Total	10,334,447
Source of funds	
General fund	740,787
Special funds	8,998,928
Federal funds	549,732
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>45,000</u>
Total	10,334,447
Sec. B.213 Public safety - Forensic Laboratory	
Personal services	3,219,911
Operating expenses	<u>938,253</u>
Total	4,158,164
Source of funds	
General fund	3,407,657
Special funds	62,782
Federal funds	320,000
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>367,725</u>
Total	4,158,164
Sec. B.215 Military - administration	
Personal services	887,895
Operating expenses	656,621
Grants	<u>1,319,834</u>
Total	2,864,350
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>2,864,350</u>
Total	2,864,350
Sec. B.216 Military - air service contract	
Personal services	7,981,247
Operating expenses	<u>1,200,811</u>
Total	9,182,058
Source of funds	
General fund	636,623

Federal funds	<u>8,545,435</u>
Total	9,182,058
Sec. B.217 Military - army service contract	
Personal services	40,946,121
Operating expenses	<u>7,301,437</u>
Total	48,247,558
Source of funds	
Federal funds	<u>48,247,558</u>
Total	48,247,558
Sec. B.218 Military - building maintenance	
Personal services	779,881
Operating expenses	<u>869,698</u>
Total	1,649,579
Source of funds	
General fund	1,587,079
Special funds	<u>62,500</u>
Total	1,649,579
Sec. B.219 Military - veterans' affairs	
Personal services	1,023,293
Operating expenses	154,362
Grants	<u>41,300</u>
Total	1,218,955
Source of funds	
General fund	956,280
Special funds	162,675
Federal funds	<u>100,000</u>
Total	1,218,955
Sec. B.220 Center for crime victim services	
Personal services	1,644,629
Operating expenses	386,431
Grants	<u>7,819,312</u>
Total	9,850,372
Source of funds	
General fund	1,382,712
Special funds	3,461,971
Federal funds	<u>5,005,689</u>
Total	9,850,372

 Sec. B.221 Criminal justice council

Personal services	1,980,066
Operating expenses	<u>1,480,716</u>
Total	3,460,782
Source of funds	
General fund	3,130,282
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>330,500</u>
Total	3,460,782

Sec. B.222 Agriculture, food and markets - administration

Personal services	1,979,598
Operating expenses	537,899
Grants	<u>227,972</u>
Total	2,745,469
Source of funds	
General fund	1,234,172
Special funds	988,397
Federal funds	<u>522,900</u>
Total	2,745,469

Sec. B.223 Agriculture, food and markets - food safety and consumer protection

Personal services	4,459,775
Operating expenses	844,913
Grants	<u>2,780,000</u>
Total	8,084,688
Source of funds	
General fund	2,945,168
Special funds	3,765,425
Federal funds	1,362,095
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>12,000</u>
Total	8,084,688

Sec. B.224 Agriculture, food and markets - agricultural development

Personal services	5,521,540
Operating expenses	586,011
Grants	<u>5,042,425</u>
Total	11,149,976
Source of funds	
General fund	3,034,777
Special funds	545,738

Federal funds	<u>7,569,461</u>
Total	11,149,976
Sec. B.225 Agriculture, food and markets - agricultural resource management and environmental stewardship	
Personal services	2,830,318
Operating expenses	950,906
Grants	<u>295,334</u>
Total	4,076,558
Source of funds	
General fund	941,645
Special funds	2,325,153
Federal funds	472,695
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>337,065</u>
Total	4,076,558
Sec. B.225.1 Agriculture, food and markets - Vermont Agriculture and Environmental Lab	
Personal services	1,622,126
Operating expenses	<u>1,237,280</u>
Total	2,859,406
Source of funds	
General fund	1,051,709
Special funds	1,732,793
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>74,904</u>
Total	2,859,406
Sec. B.225.2 Agriculture, Food and Markets - Clean Water	
Personal services	3,351,394
Operating expenses	518,202
Grants	<u>5,253,111</u>
Total	9,122,707
Source of funds	
General fund	1,100,802
Special funds	7,266,122
Federal funds	441,907
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>313,876</u>
Total	9,122,707
Sec. B.226 Financial regulation - administration	
Personal services	2,395,168
Operating expenses	<u>159,635</u>
Total	2,554,803

Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>2,554,803</u>
Total	2,554,803
Sec. B.227 Financial regulation - banking	
Personal services	2,099,711
Operating expenses	<u>481,536</u>
Total	2,581,247
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>2,581,247</u>
Total	2,581,247
Sec. B.228 Financial regulation - insurance	
Personal services	4,586,782
Operating expenses	<u>678,282</u>
Total	5,265,064
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>5,265,064</u>
Total	5,265,064
Sec. B.229 Financial regulation - captive insurance	
Personal services	4,748,621
Operating expenses	<u>693,529</u>
Total	5,442,150
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>5,442,150</u>
Total	5,442,150
Sec. B.230 Financial regulation - securities	
Personal services	1,177,808
Operating expenses	<u>274,059</u>
Total	1,451,867
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>1,451,867</u>
Total	1,451,867
Sec. B.232 Secretary of state	
Personal services	13,335,882
Operating expenses	<u>4,364,977</u>
Total	17,700,859
Source of funds	
Special funds	13,042,272

Federal funds	<u>4,658,587</u>
Total	17,700,859
Sec. B.233 Public service - regulation and energy	
Personal services	10,741,089
Operating expenses	1,153,898
Grants	<u>1,346,948</u>
Total	13,241,935
Source of funds	
Special funds	11,632,917
Federal funds	1,056,721
ARRA funds	510,535
Enterprise funds	<u>41,762</u>
Total	13,241,935
Sec. B.234 Public utility commission	
Personal services	3,597,784
Operating expenses	<u>501,906</u>
Total	4,099,690
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>4,099,690</u>
Total	4,099,690
Sec. B.235 Enhanced 9-1-1 Board	
Personal services	4,144,834
Operating expenses	<u>443,064</u>
Total	4,587,898
Source of funds	
General fund	0
Special funds	<u>4,587,898</u>
Total	4,587,898
Sec. B.236 Human rights commission	
Personal services	691,710
Operating expenses	<u>88,837</u>
Total	780,547
Source of funds	
General fund	700,290
Federal funds	<u>80,257</u>
Total	780,547
Sec. B.236.1 Liquor & Lottery Comm. Office	
Personal services	452,118

Operating expenses	<u>20,306</u>
Total	472,424
Source of funds	
Enterprise funds	<u>472,424</u>
Total	472,424
Sec. B.236.2 Lottery Operations	
Personal services	2,325,309
Operating expenses	1,625,023
Grants	<u>250,000</u>
Total	4,200,332
Source of funds	
Enterprise funds	<u>4,200,332</u>
Total	4,200,332
Sec. B.237 Liquor control - administration	
Personal services	3,894,882
Operating expenses	<u>1,386,666</u>
Total	5,281,548
Source of funds	
Tobacco fund	213,843
Enterprise funds	<u>5,067,705</u>
Total	5,281,548
Sec. B.238 Liquor control - enforcement and licensing	
Personal services	2,031,174
Operating expenses	<u>415,495</u>
Total	2,446,669
Source of funds	
Federal funds	184,484
Enterprise funds	<u>2,262,185</u>
Total	2,446,669
Sec. B.239 Liquor control - warehousing and distribution	
Personal services	1,076,103
Operating expenses	<u>498,696</u>
Total	1,574,799
Source of funds	
Enterprise funds	<u>1,574,799</u>
Total	1,574,799
Sec. B.240 Cannabis Control Board	
Personal services	3,211,914

Operating expenses	<u>278,608</u>
Total	3,490,522
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>3,490,522</u>
Total	3,490,522
Sec. B.241 Total protection to persons and property	
Source of funds	
General fund	186,908,391
Transportation fund	20,250,000
Special funds	98,238,728
Tobacco fund	561,843
Federal funds	127,115,612
ARRA funds	510,535
Interdepartmental transfers	12,413,144
Enterprise funds	<u>13,619,207</u>
Total	459,617,460
Sec. B.300 Human services - agency of human services - secretary's office	
Personal services	12,157,314
Operating expenses	5,340,825
Grants	<u>2,895,202</u>
Total	20,393,341
Source of funds	
General fund	9,242,962
Special funds	135,517
Federal funds	10,233,551
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>781,311</u>
Total	20,393,341
Sec. B.301 Secretary's office - global commitment	
Grants	<u>1,833,499,853</u>
Total	1,833,499,853
Source of funds	
General fund	607,504,996
Special funds	33,384,536
Tobacco fund	21,049,373
State health care resources fund	17,078,501
Federal funds	1,150,448,277
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>4,034,170</u>
Total	1,833,499,853

 Sec. B.303 Developmental disabilities council

Personal services	424,008
Operating expenses	95,289
Grants	<u>191,595</u>
Total	710,892
Source of funds	
Special funds	12,000
Federal funds	<u>698,892</u>
Total	710,892

Sec. B.304 Human services board

Personal services	766,312
Operating expenses	<u>89,396</u>
Total	855,708
Source of funds	
General fund	490,779
Federal funds	<u>364,929</u>
Total	855,708

Sec. B.305 AHS - administrative fund

Personal services	330,000
Operating expenses	<u>13,170,000</u>
Total	13,500,000
Source of funds	
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>13,500,000</u>
Total	13,500,000

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

Personal services	133,258,216
Operating expenses	27,050,784
Grants	<u>2,912,301</u>
Total	163,221,301
Source of funds	
General fund	34,666,169
Special funds	4,738,197
Federal funds	114,997,590
Global Commitment fund	3,986,316
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>4,833,029</u>
Total	163,221,301

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

Personal services	547,983
Grants	<u>836,525,567</u>
Total	837,073,550
Source of funds	
Global Commitment fund	<u>837,073,550</u>
Total	837,073,550

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

Grants	<u>54,104,191</u>
Total	54,104,191
Source of funds	
General fund	44,533,864
Global Commitment fund	<u>9,570,327</u>
Total	54,104,191

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

Grants	<u>35,125,592</u>
Total	35,125,592
Source of funds	
General fund	12,736,699
Federal funds	<u>22,388,893</u>
Total	35,125,592

Sec. B.311 Health - administration and support

Personal services	7,880,051
Operating expenses	7,161,896
Grants	<u>15,313,608</u>
Total	30,355,555
Source of funds	
General fund	3,017,738
Special funds	2,123,150
Federal funds	19,371,027
Global Commitment fund	5,779,334
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>64,306</u>
Total	30,355,555

Sec. B.312 Health - public health

Personal services	58,557,637
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Operating expenses	10,504,324
Grants	<u>45,239,861</u>
Total	114,301,822
Source of funds	
General fund	12,220,271
Special funds	22,422,908
Tobacco fund	1,088,918
Federal funds	61,398,428
Global Commitment fund	16,159,672
Interdepartmental transfers	986,625
Permanent trust funds	<u>25,000</u>
Total	114,301,822
Sec. B.313 Health - alcohol and drug abuse programs	
Personal services	5,533,379
Operating expenses	511,500
Grants	<u>55,313,374</u>
Total	61,358,253
Source of funds	
General fund	5,686,142
Special funds	1,392,101
Tobacco fund	949,917
Federal funds	21,131,903
Global Commitment fund	<u>32,198,190</u>
Total	61,358,253
Sec. B.314 Mental health - mental health	
Personal services	37,550,464
Operating expenses	5,023,808
Grants	<u>251,958,650</u>
Total	294,532,922
Source of funds	
General fund	12,966,387
Special funds	1,690,187
Federal funds	10,279,911
Global Commitment fund	269,471,344
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>125,093</u>
Total	294,532,922
Sec. B.316 Department for children and families - administration & support services	
Personal services	41,932,610

Operating expenses	17,284,575
Grants	<u>3,819,106</u>
Total	63,036,291
Source of funds	
General fund	36,020,845
Special funds	2,789,842
Federal funds	22,463,191
Global Commitment fund	1,409,481
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>352,932</u>
Total	63,036,291
Sec. B.317 Department for children and families - family services	
Personal services	41,455,253
Operating expenses	5,392,584
Grants	<u>88,614,318</u>
Total	135,462,155
Source of funds	
General fund	55,778,109
Special funds	729,587
Federal funds	32,206,285
Global Commitment fund	46,710,437
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>37,737</u>
Total	135,462,155
Sec. B.318 Department for children and families - child development	
Personal services	5,487,235
Operating expenses	860,622
Grants	<u>106,205,300</u>
Total	112,553,157
Source of funds	
General fund	33,449,566
Special funds	16,820,011
Federal funds	50,849,478
Global Commitment fund	11,434,061
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>41</u>
Total	112,553,157
Sec. B.319 Department for children and families - office of child support	
Personal services	11,906,476
Operating expenses	<u>3,745,167</u>
Total	15,651,643
Source of funds	

General fund	4,718,623
Special funds	455,719
Federal funds	10,089,701
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>387,600</u>
Total	15,651,643
Sec. B.320 Department for children and families - aid to aged, blind and disabled	
Personal services	2,252,206
Grants	<u>10,494,118</u>
Total	12,746,324
Source of funds	
General fund	7,596,333
Global Commitment fund	<u>5,149,991</u>
Total	12,746,324
Sec. B.321 Department for children and families - general assistance	
Personal services	15,000
Grants	<u>2,823,574</u>
Total	2,838,574
Source of funds	
General fund	2,541,239
Federal funds	11,320
Global Commitment fund	<u>286,015</u>
Total	2,838,574
Sec. B.322 Department for children and families - 3SquaresVT	
Grants	<u>44,377,812</u>
Total	44,377,812
Source of funds	
Federal funds	<u>44,377,812</u>
Total	44,377,812
Sec. B.323 Department for children and families - reach up	
Operating expenses	30,633
Grants	<u>27,235,606</u>
Total	27,266,239
Source of funds	
General fund	15,097,457
Special funds	5,955,834
Federal funds	3,531,330
Global Commitment fund	<u>2,681,618</u>
Total	27,266,239

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

Grants	<u>16,019,953</u>
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	707,738
Operating expenses	80,979
Grants	<u>19,896,892</u>
Total	20,685,609
Source of funds	
General fund	14,328,930
Special funds	58,135
Federal funds	4,942,559
Global Commitment fund	<u>1,355,985</u>
Total	20,685,609

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

Personal services	376,286
Operating expenses	47,090
Grants	<u>12,038,018</u>
Total	12,461,394
Source of funds	
Special funds	7,643,920
Federal funds	<u>4,817,474</u>
Total	12,461,394

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

Personal services	258,100
Operating expenses	441,999
Grants	<u>3,476,862</u>
Total	4,176,961
Source of funds	
General fund	4,146,961
Global Commitment fund	<u>30,000</u>

Total	4,176,961
Sec. B.328 Department for children and families - disability determination services	
Personal services	7,271,721
Operating expenses	<u>472,446</u>
Total	7,744,167
Source of funds	
General fund	115,885
Federal funds	<u>7,628,282</u>
Total	7,744,167
Sec. B.329 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - administration & support	
Personal services	37,398,355
Operating expenses	<u>6,178,888</u>
Total	43,577,243
Source of funds	
General fund	19,725,270
Special funds	1,390,457
Federal funds	21,360,232
Global Commitment fund	35,000
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,066,284</u>
Total	43,577,243
Sec. B.330 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - advocacy and independent living grants	
Grants	<u>19,709,925</u>
Total	19,709,925
Source of funds	
General fund	7,754,865
Federal funds	7,148,466
Global Commitment fund	<u>4,806,594</u>
Total	19,709,925
Sec. B.331 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - blind and visually impaired	
Grants	<u>1,761,457</u>
Total	1,761,457
Source of funds	
General fund	489,154
Special funds	223,450
Federal funds	743,853

Global Commitment fund	<u>305,000</u>
Total	1,761,457
Sec. B.332 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - vocational rehabilitation	
Grants	<u>7,024,368</u>
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	<u>282,169,830</u>
Total	282,169,830
Source of funds	
General fund	155,125
Special funds	15,463
Federal funds	359,857
Global Commitment fund	281,589,385
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>50,000</u>
Total	282,169,830
Sec. B.334 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - Brain injury home and community based waiver	
Grants	<u>6,163,669</u>
Total	6,163,669
Source of funds	
Global Commitment fund	<u>6,163,669</u>
Total	6,163,669
Sec. B.334.1 Disabilities, aging and independent living - Long Term Care	
Grants	<u>247,099,548</u>
Total	247,099,548
Source of funds	
General fund	498,579
Federal funds	2,083,333
Global Commitment fund	<u>244,517,636</u>
Total	247,099,548
Sec. B.335 Corrections - administration	
Personal services	3,370,381

Operating expenses	<u>238,644</u>
Total	3,609,025
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>3,609,025</u>
Total	3,609,025
Sec. B.336 Corrections - parole board	
Personal services	385,959
Operating expenses	<u>59,216</u>
Total	445,175
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>445,175</u>
Total	445,175
Sec. B.337 Corrections - correctional education	
Personal services	3,504,641
Operating expenses	<u>244,932</u>
Total	3,749,573
Source of funds	
General fund	3,600,789
Education fund	0
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>148,784</u>
Total	3,749,573
Sec. B.338 Corrections - correctional services	
Personal services	125,443,984
Operating expenses	24,337,405
Grants	<u>9,558,427</u>
Total	159,339,816
Source of funds	
General fund	152,223,219
Special funds	935,963
Federal funds	473,523
Global Commitment fund	5,310,796
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>396,315</u>
Total	159,339,816
Sec. B.339 Corrections - Correctional services-out of state beds	
Personal services	<u>4,490,518</u>
Total	4,490,518
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>4,490,518</u>
Total	4,490,518

Sec. B.340 Corrections - correctional facilities - recreation	
Personal services	549,029
Operating expenses	<u>455,845</u>
Total	1,004,874
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>1,004,874</u>
Total	1,004,874
Sec. B.341 Corrections - Vermont offender work program	
Personal services	1,173,281
Operating expenses	<u>525,784</u>
Total	1,699,065
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>1,699,065</u>
Total	1,699,065
Sec. B.342 Vermont veterans' home - care and support services	
Personal services	18,693,897
Operating expenses	<u>4,698,211</u>
Total	23,392,108
Source of funds	
General fund	4,068,733
Special funds	11,892,624
Federal funds	<u>7,430,751</u>
Total	23,392,108
Sec. B.343 Commission on women	
Personal services	364,225
Operating expenses	<u>70,416</u>
Total	434,641
Source of funds	
General fund	430,793
Special funds	<u>3,848</u>
Total	434,641
Sec. B.344 Retired senior volunteer program	
Grants	<u>150,961</u>
Total	150,961
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>150,961</u>
Total	150,961

 Sec. B.345 Green Mountain Care Board

Personal services	7,816,704
Operating expenses	<u>395,026</u>
Total	8,211,730
Source of funds	
General fund	3,261,362
Special funds	<u>4,950,368</u>
Total	8,211,730

Sec. B.346 Total human services

Source of funds	
General fund	1,119,135,368
Special funds	122,249,086
Tobacco fund	23,088,208
State health care resources fund	17,078,501
Education fund	0
Federal funds	1,650,772,929
Global Commitment fund	1,786,024,401
Internal service funds	1,699,065
Interdepartmental transfers	28,014,227
Permanent trust funds	<u>25,000</u>
Total	4,748,086,785

Sec. B.400 Labor - programs

Personal services	40,893,754
Operating expenses	5,784,394
Grants	<u>15,432,900</u>
Total	62,111,048
Source of funds	
General fund	10,449,258
Special funds	10,772,259
Federal funds	40,639,531
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>250,000</u>
Total	62,111,048

Sec. B.401 Total labor

Source of funds	
General fund	10,449,258
Special funds	10,772,259
Federal funds	40,639,531
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>250,000</u>
Total	62,111,048

Sec. B.500 Education - finance and administration

Personal services	16,916,498
Operating expenses	4,121,123
Grants	<u>14,770,700</u>
Total	35,808,321
Source of funds	
General fund	6,044,058
Special funds	16,441,181
Education fund	3,444,471
Federal funds	9,253,287
Global Commitment fund	260,000
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>365,324</u>
Total	35,808,321

Sec. B.501 Education - education services

Personal services	28,826,010
Operating expenses	1,073,385
Grants	<u>481,143,571</u>
Total	511,042,966
Source of funds	
General fund	4,880,340
Special funds	3,009,310
Tobacco fund	750,388
Federal funds	<u>502,402,928</u>
Total	511,042,966

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

Grants	<u>208,073,400</u>
Total	208,073,400
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>208,073,400</u>
Total	208,073,400

Sec. B.503 Education - state-placed students

Grants	<u>17,500,000</u>
Total	17,500,000
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>17,500,000</u>
Total	17,500,000

Sec. B.504 Education - adult education and literacy

Grants	<u>4,412,900</u>
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Total	4,412,900
Source of funds	
General fund	3,496,850
Federal funds	<u>916,050</u>
Total	4,412,900
Sec. B.504.1 Education - Flexible Pathways	
Grants	<u>9,293,000</u>
Total	9,293,000
Source of funds	
General fund	996,500
Education fund	<u>8,296,500</u>
Total	9,293,000
Sec. B.505 Education - adjusted education payment	
Grants	<u>1,561,661,000</u>
Total	1,561,661,000
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>1,561,661,000</u>
Total	1,561,661,000
Sec. B.506 Education - transportation	
Grants	<u>21,786,000</u>
Total	21,786,000
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>21,786,000</u>
Total	21,786,000
Sec. B.507 Education - small school grants	
Grants	<u>8,200,000</u>
Total	8,200,000
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>8,200,000</u>
Total	8,200,000
Sec. B.510 Education - essential early education grant	
Grants	<u>7,511,638</u>
Total	7,511,638
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>7,511,638</u>
Total	7,511,638

Sec. B.511 Education - technical education	
Grants	<u>16,253,900</u>
Total	16,253,900
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>16,253,900</u>
Total	16,253,900
Sec. B.511.1 State Board of Education	
Personal services	38,905
Operating expenses	<u>31,803</u>
Total	70,708
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>70,708</u>
Total	70,708
Sec. B.514 State teachers' retirement system	
Grants	<u>187,273,782</u>
Total	187,273,782
Source of funds	
General fund	154,345,678
Education fund	<u>32,928,104</u>
Total	187,273,782
Sec. B.514.1 State teachers' retirement system administration	
Personal services	236,503
Operating expenses	<u>1,609,560</u>
Total	1,846,063
Source of funds	
Pension trust funds	<u>1,846,063</u>
Total	1,846,063
Sec. B.515 Retired teachers' health care and medical benefits	
Grants	<u>44,706,128</u>
Total	44,706,128
Source of funds	
General fund	29,606,128
Education fund	<u>15,100,000</u>
Total	44,706,128
Sec. B.516 Total general education	
Source of funds	
General fund	199,440,262

Special funds	19,450,491
Tobacco fund	750,388
Education fund	1,900,755,013
Federal funds	512,572,265
Global Commitment fund	260,000
Interdepartmental transfers	365,324
Pension trust funds	<u>1,846,063</u>
Total	2,635,439,806
Sec. B.600 University of Vermont	
Grants	<u>52,509,093</u>
Total	52,509,093
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>52,509,093</u>
Total	52,509,093
Sec. B.602 Vermont state colleges	
Grants	<u>30,500,464</u>
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	<u>15,000,000</u>
Total	15,000,000
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>15,000,000</u>
Total	15,000,000
Sec. B.603 Vermont state colleges - allied health	
Grants	<u>1,157,775</u>
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	<u>20,978,588</u>
Total	20,978,588
Source of funds	

General fund	<u>20,978,588</u>
Total	20,978,588
Sec. B.605.1 VSAC - Flexible Pathways Stipend	
Grants	<u>82,450</u>
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	<u>84,000</u>
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	<u>1</u>
Total	1
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>1</u>
Total	1
Sec. B.608 Total higher education	
Source of funds	
General fund	119,861,685
Education fund	41,225
Global Commitment fund	<u>409,461</u>
Total	120,312,371
Sec. B.700 Natural resources - agency of natural resources - administration	
Personal services	4,896,594
Operating expenses	<u>1,329,284</u>
Total	6,225,878
Source of funds	
General fund	4,188,563
Special funds	680,985
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,356,330</u>
Total	6,225,878

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

Operating expenses	<u>2,661,618</u>
Total	2,661,618
Source of funds	
General fund	2,240,118
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>421,500</u>
Total	2,661,618

Sec. B.702 Fish and wildlife - support and field services

Personal services	20,034,378
Operating expenses	8,439,670
Grants	<u>923,524</u>
Total	29,397,572
Source of funds	
General fund	6,883,540
Special funds	701,314
Fish and wildlife fund	10,600,911
Federal funds	9,667,795
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,544,012</u>
Total	29,397,572

Sec. B.703 Forests, parks and recreation - administration

Personal services	923,670
Operating expenses	<u>1,544,702</u>
Total	2,468,372
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>2,468,372</u>
Total	2,468,372

Sec. B.704 Forests, parks and recreation - forestry

Personal services	6,710,849
Operating expenses	872,648
Grants	<u>1,160,000</u>
Total	8,743,497
Source of funds	
General fund	5,624,772
Special funds	511,000
Federal funds	2,280,669
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>327,056</u>
Total	8,743,497

Sec. B.705 Forests, parks and recreation - state parks

Personal services	10,725,136
Operating expenses	3,273,814
Grants	<u>120,000</u>
Total	14,118,950
Source of funds	
General fund	641,157
Special funds	<u>13,477,793</u>
Total	14,118,950

Sec. B.706 Forests, parks and recreation - lands administration and recreation

Personal services	2,284,177
Operating expenses	1,408,591
Grants	<u>2,827,589</u>
Total	6,520,357
Source of funds	
General fund	1,025,494
Special funds	2,190,151
Federal funds	3,082,575
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>222,137</u>
Total	6,520,357

Sec. B.708 Forests, parks and recreation - forest and parks access roads

Personal services	130,000
Operating expenses	<u>99,925</u>
Total	229,925
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>229,925</u>
Total	229,925

Sec. B.709 Environmental conservation - management and support services

Personal services	7,618,171
Operating expenses	4,543,203
Grants	<u>158,279</u>
Total	12,319,653
Source of funds	
General fund	2,248,161
Special funds	597,172
Federal funds	1,444,364
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>8,029,956</u>
Total	12,319,653

 Sec. B.710 Environmental conservation - air and waste management

Personal services	16,109,934
Operating expenses	10,203,296
Grants	<u>7,163,707</u>
Total	33,476,937
Source of funds	
General fund	301,826
Special funds	28,941,896
Federal funds	4,047,690
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>185,525</u>
Total	33,476,937

Sec. B.711 Environmental conservation - office of water programs

Personal services	28,912,366
Operating expenses	7,706,054
Grants	<u>34,868,553</u>
Total	71,486,973
Source of funds	
General fund	8,429,243
Special funds	26,283,274
Federal funds	36,032,470
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>741,986</u>
Total	71,486,973

Sec. B.713 Natural resources board

Personal services	2,929,837
Operating expenses	<u>352,482</u>
Total	3,282,319
Source of funds	
General fund	673,554
Special funds	<u>2,608,765</u>
Total	3,282,319

Sec. B.714 Total natural resources

Source of funds	
General fund	34,954,725
Special funds	75,992,350
Fish and wildlife fund	10,600,911
Federal funds	56,555,563
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>12,828,502</u>
Total	190,932,051

Sec. B.800 Commerce and community development - agency of commerce
and community development - administration

Personal services	2,392,723
Operating expenses	939,863
Grants	<u>539,820</u>
Total	3,872,406
Source of funds	
General fund	3,406,417
Federal funds	351,000
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>114,989</u>
Total	3,872,406

Sec. B.801 Economic development

Personal services	4,678,628
Operating expenses	1,055,724
Grants	<u>8,638,149</u>
Total	14,372,501
Source of funds	
General fund	5,065,846
Special funds	2,905,350
Federal funds	3,932,132
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>2,469,173</u>
Total	14,372,501

Sec. B.802 Housing and community development

Personal services	5,321,306
Operating expenses	673,807
Grants	<u>76,513,512</u>
Total	82,508,625
Source of funds	
General fund	4,065,708
Special funds	7,204,966
Federal funds	68,364,457
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>2,873,494</u>
Total	82,508,625

Sec. B.806 Tourism and marketing

Personal services	2,097,922
Operating expenses	11,900,488
Grants	<u>50,000</u>
Total	14,048,410
Source of funds	

General fund	3,490,357
Federal funds	10,483,053
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>75,000</u>
Total	14,048,410
Sec. B.808 Vermont council on the arts	
Grants	<u>859,445</u>
Total	859,445
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>859,445</u>
Total	859,445
Sec. B.809 Vermont symphony orchestra	
Grants	<u>141,087</u>
Total	141,087
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>141,087</u>
Total	141,087
Sec. B.810 Vermont historical society	
Grants	<u>1,015,470</u>
Total	1,015,470
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>1,015,470</u>
Total	1,015,470
Sec. B.811 Vermont housing and conservation board	
Grants	<u>99,461,424</u>
Total	99,461,424
Source of funds	
Special funds	22,473,849
Federal funds	<u>76,987,575</u>
Total	99,461,424
Sec. B.812 Vermont humanities council	
Grants	<u>234,829</u>
Total	234,829
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>234,829</u>
Total	234,829
Sec. B.813 Total commerce and community development	
Source of funds	

General fund	18,279,159
Special funds	32,584,165
Federal funds	160,118,217
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>5,532,656</u>
Total	216,514,197
Sec. B.900 Transportation - finance and administration	
Personal services	14,996,787
Operating expenses	4,843,354
Grants	<u>50,000</u>
Total	19,890,141
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	18,569,701
Federal funds	<u>1,320,440</u>
Total	19,890,141
Sec. B.901 Transportation - aviation	
Personal services	3,795,770
Operating expenses	5,346,224
Grants	<u>222,000</u>
Total	9,363,994
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	5,693,133
Federal funds	<u>3,670,861</u>
Total	9,363,994
Sec. B.902 Transportation - buildings	
Operating expenses	<u>2,050,000</u>
Total	2,050,000
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	850,000
TIB fund	<u>1,200,000</u>
Total	2,050,000
Sec. B.903 Transportation - program development	
Personal services	67,084,877
Operating expenses	317,718,748
Grants	<u>28,106,566</u>
Total	412,910,191
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	63,006,826
TIB fund	16,199,908
Federal funds	330,355,267

Interdepartmental transfers	75,000
Local match	<u>3,273,190</u>
Total	412,910,191
Sec. B.904 Transportation - rest areas construction	
Personal services	150,000
Operating expenses	<u>268,416</u>
Total	418,416
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	41,842
Federal funds	<u>376,574</u>
Total	418,416
Sec. B.905 Transportation - maintenance state system	
Personal services	44,709,478
Operating expenses	<u>61,554,303</u>
Total	106,263,781
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	105,517,966
Federal funds	645,815
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>100,000</u>
Total	106,263,781
Sec. B.906 Transportation - policy and planning	
Personal services	4,767,663
Operating expenses	1,035,700
Grants	<u>10,784,247</u>
Total	16,587,610
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	3,217,573
Federal funds	13,314,762
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>55,275</u>
Total	16,587,610
Sec. B.907 Transportation - rail	
Personal services	4,662,380
Operating expenses	30,650,803
Grants	<u>50,000</u>
Total	35,363,183
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	14,201,368
Federal funds	18,015,401
Interdepartmental transfers	2,985,206

Local match	<u>161,208</u>
Total	35,363,183
Sec. B.908 Transportation - public transit	
Personal services	5,369,937
Operating expenses	103,704
Grants	<u>39,065,637</u>
Total	44,539,278
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	4,108,577
Federal funds	40,390,701
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>40,000</u>
Total	44,539,278
Sec. B.909 Transportation - central garage	
Personal services	4,847,286
Operating expenses	<u>17,906,809</u>
Total	22,754,095
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>22,754,095</u>
Total	22,754,095
Sec. B.910 Department of motor vehicles	
Personal services	27,635,785
Operating expenses	<u>12,106,049</u>
Total	39,741,834
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	37,942,872
Federal funds	1,657,266
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>141,696</u>
Total	39,741,834
Sec. B.911 Transportation - town highway structures	
Grants	<u>6,333,500</u>
Total	6,333,500
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	<u>6,333,500</u>
Total	6,333,500
Sec. B.912 Transportation - town highway local technical assistance program	
Personal services	371,731
Operating expenses	<u>42,750</u>
Total	414,481

Source of funds	
Transportation fund	114,481
Federal funds	<u>300,000</u>
Total	414,481
Sec. B.913 Transportation - town highway class 2 roadway	
Grants	<u>7,648,750</u>
Total	7,648,750
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	<u>7,648,750</u>
Total	7,648,750
Sec. B.914 Transportation - town highway bridges	
Personal services	15,948,483
Operating expenses	<u>14,365,704</u>
Total	30,314,187
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	1,230,817
TIB fund	2,402,455
Federal funds	25,529,514
Local match	<u>1,151,401</u>
Total	30,314,187
Sec. B.915 Transportation - town highway aid program	
Grants	<u>27,837,624</u>
Total	27,837,624
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	<u>27,837,624</u>
Total	27,837,624
Sec. B.916 Transportation - town highway class 1 supplemental grants	
Grants	<u>128,750</u>
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	<u>1,150,000</u>
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	<u>180,000</u>
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	<u>6,185,498</u>
Total	6,450,498
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	705,000
Special funds	4,317,498
Federal funds	<u>1,428,000</u>
Total	6,450,498

Sec. B.920 Transportation - public assistance grant program

Operating expenses	200,000
Grants	<u>1,050,000</u>
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	169,595
Operating expenses	<u>21,367</u>
Total	190,962
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	<u>190,962</u>
Total	190,962

Sec. B.922 Total transportation

Source of funds	
Transportation fund	298,509,742
TIB fund	19,802,363
Special funds	4,367,498
Federal funds	438,164,601

Internal service funds	22,754,095
Interdepartmental transfers	3,597,177
Local match	<u>4,585,799</u>
Total	791,781,275
Sec. B.1000 Debt service	
Operating expenses	<u>76,877,244</u>
Total	76,877,244
Source of funds	
General fund	76,375,109
Transportation fund	502,135
TIB debt service fund	<u>0</u>
Total	76,877,244
Sec. B.1001 Total debt service	
Source of funds	
General fund	76,375,109
Transportation fund	502,135
TIB debt service fund	<u>0</u>
Total	76,877,244

Sec. B.1100 FISCAL YEAR 2023 ONE-TIME GENERAL FUND
APPROPRIATIONS

(a) In fiscal year 2023, funds are appropriated from the General Fund for new and ongoing initiatives as follows:

(1) \$220,000 to the Agency of Administration for the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Action, Leadership (IDEAL) VT initiative to support municipalities in promoting these values within their communities.

(2) \$37,000 to the Ethics Commission to support the cost of one half-time position.

(3) \$205,000 to the Sergeant at Arms to support the costs associated with transitioning positions in the Capitol Police Department.

(4) \$75,000 to the General Assembly to provide funding for the Pension Oversight Committee to assist the Vermont Pension Investment Committee (VPIC) analysis of the decarbonization of investments. Funds may be transferred to VPIC if the Pension Oversight Committee determines it necessary to accomplish the analysis.

(5) \$120,000 to the Judiciary for Sustaining Language Access Program improvements.

(6) \$1,283,400 to the Office of the Defender General to support costs associated with the reopening of the courts.

(7) \$700,000 to the Secretary of State as follows:

(A) \$450,000 for election support.

(B) \$250,000 to support operational expenditures not covered by revenue resulting from telehealth.

(8) \$1,910,000 to the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, as follows:

(A) \$1,000,000 for the development of an agricultural Payment for Ecosystems Services Program to support the work of the Payment for Ecosystem Services and Soil Health Working Group (PES WG) – as authorized by 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 83, amended by 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 129 and 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 47 – to enable Payment for Ecosystem Services Program development to retain facilitation services, contract identified research needs, fund pilot program development, and deliver payments to farmers for quantified ecosystem services.

(B) \$200,000 to fund programs to assist individuals with low-income to access local, fresh or whole food at farmers' markets and through Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) shares. This one-time appropriation will respond to the record demand in these fresh food access programs due to increased food insecurity experienced by Vermonters during the pandemic.

(C) \$420,000 for the purchase of laboratory equipment to test for per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) in drinking water to support public health testing requirements of the Agencies of Natural Resources, Transportation and Agriculture, Food and Markets.

(D) \$90,000 for grants to State fairs and field days organizations.

(E) \$200,000 to establish a grant program for organic milk farmers that are transitioning to a new buyer to assist with the costs of modifications needed to accommodate the new buyer.

(9) \$1,512,636 to the Center for Crime Victims Services as follows:

(A) \$660,000 to replace shortfall in special fund revenue relating to fines and fees from the courts and traffic tickets.

(B) \$519,600 to replace declining federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds.

(C) \$308,036 for a grant to the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence.

(D) \$25,000 for a grant to the Kurn Hattin Survivors Support Group.

(10) \$150,000 to the Criminal Justice Council for the following:

(A) \$100,000 for an incident simulator to enable de-escalation training.

(B) \$50,000 for the development of a new entrance exam.

(11) \$8,000,000 to the Department of Public Safety- Emergency Management to provide state match for FEMA funds to purchase properties identified for high flood risk.

(12) \$980,000 to the Department for Children and Families for the following:

(A) \$50,000 for a grant to the Vermont Donor Milk Center for statewide activities.

(B) \$750,000 to the Parent Child Centers for upgrades to facilities, systems, or new equipment.

(C) \$180,000 to be granted to the Vermont Food Bank for statewide provision of diapers to families in need.

(13) \$3,370,250 to the Department of Health, Office of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs for the following:

(A) \$3,000,000 for a grant to the Substance Misuse Prevention Coalitions. It is the intent of the General Assembly that this funding for the coalitions be continued with funds from cannabis revenues or opioid settlement funds, or both.

(B) \$100,000 for Mobile Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT).

(C) \$270,250 that shall be transferred to the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living – Vocational Rehabilitation, to establish one new employment center to provide services to clients of Recovery Centers. It is the intent of the General Assembly that funding for the new employment center be continued with funds from cannabis revenues or opioid settlement funds, or both.

(14) \$1,215,860 to the Agency of Education as follows:

(A) \$500,000 for Child Nutrition Grants to school districts to purchase local foods.

(B) \$15,860 to the Vermont Ethnic and Social Equity Standards Advisory Working Group to cover per diem and reimbursement of expenses.

(C) \$700,000 to Adult Education and Literacy to provide grants to the Adult Learning Centers.

(15) \$67,000 to the Attorney General for the Court Diversion program to replace special fund shortfall.

(16) \$573,000 to the Agency of Natural Resources for the following:

(A) \$75,000 to the Central Office for contractual support to complete work associated with implementing the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2020.

(B) \$250,000 to the Department of Environmental Conservation to complete statewide wetland mapping updates and to update the Vermont Significant Wetland Inventory maps.

(C) \$248,000 to the Department of Environmental Conservation for a grant to the Conservation Districts for equipment and capital improvements.

(17) \$130,000 to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development for a grant to the Vermont Adaptive Ski and Sport program.

(18) \$500,000 to the Agency of Human Services, Central Office for the Vermont Refugee Resettlement program to provide assistance to refugees from Afghanistan.

(19) \$1,500,000 to the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living (DAIL) to be used for grants to adult day service providers to support operating costs and program infrastructure. The funds shall be allocated on an equitable basis per a methodology developed by DAIL. On or before the first day of each quarter of fiscal year 2023 (July 1, 2022, October 1, 2022, January 1, 2023, and April 1, 2023), the Vermont Association of Adult Day Services shall provide a spreadsheet to the Department detailing quarterly expenditures versus the annual budget. 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. Up to \$50,000 of these funds may be used to support the start-up costs of a new adult day center. Any amount of this appropriation remaining at the end of fiscal year 2023 shall be carried forward and shall be used to support operating costs, and program infrastructure.

(20) \$250,000 to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development for a grant to the Vermont League of Cities and Towns to provide technical assistance to towns related to seeking or expending federal funds.

(21) \$267,364 to the Department of Taxes for appraisal and litigation costs associated with the Sheldon Springs Hydroelectric Dam.

(22) \$600,000 to the Department of Public Service for Public Access, Education, and Government Media to fund the 24 media centers.

(23) \$450,000 to the Vermont Historical Society for HVAC systems.

(b) \$11,000,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Public Safety. Up to \$6,500,000 of this appropriation may be used to provide grants for establishing four new regional dispatch facilities. The Commissioner of Public Safety shall report to the Joint Fiscal Committee in September and November 2022 on the status of grants made under this provision. The remaining amount shall be held in reserve until further approval by the General Assembly is provided subsequent to the report required by Sec. E.209.1 of this act.

(c) The following General Fund appropriations are to provide transition funding in fiscal year 2023 for changes to State Employees and Teachers Pensions systems and prefunding of other post-employment benefits.

(1) State Employees fiscal year 2023 transitional employer contribution. \$10,000,000 is appropriated to the Agency of Administration for distribution as needed to departments and agencies if approved by the Commissioner of Finance and Management to fund the fiscal year 2023 payroll assessment necessary to meet the State-employees' pension and other post-employment benefits resulting from any changes to these programs enacted in the 2022 legislative session. The Commissioner shall report to the Joint Fiscal Committee at its November 2022 meeting on the status of this appropriation.

(2) Teachers' other post-employment benefits. \$5,500,000 is appropriated to the Retired Teachers' Health and Medical Benefits Fund, established in 16 V.S.A. § 1944b to meet the fiscal year 2023 Actuarial Determined Employer Contribution (ADEC) consistent with system prefunding changes enacted in the 2022 legislative session.

* * * Fiscal Year 2022 Adjustments, Appropriations, and Amendments * * *

Sec. C.100 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec. D.101(b)(2) is amended to read:

(b)(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.

* * *

62100 Unclaimed Property Fund \$3,027,750.00 \$4,106,300.00

Sec. C.101 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec. E.602.2 is amended to read:

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) Equitability. Determine the extent to which gaps in educational access and success are being reduced for students from economically deprived backgrounds, first-generation students, students of color, and other marginalized groups.

~~(3)~~(4) 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 \$5,000,000.00 per year ~~for five years~~ through a combination of annual operating expense reductions and increased enrollment revenues, for a total of \$25,000,000.00 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~~ Updates to the plan and an annual report on its implementation shall be presented 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 on 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 current 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

* * *

Sec. C.102 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 83, Sec. 53(c) is added to read:

(c) After meeting the requirements of subsections (a) and (b) of this section, but prior to satisfying the requirements of 32 V.S.A. § 308c, the remaining unreserved and undesignated funds at the close of fiscal year 2022 shall remain in the General Fund and be carried forward to fiscal year 2023.

Sec. C.102.1 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 83, Sec. 53(b)(5) is amended to read:

(5) \$25,000,000 is reserved and carried forward into fiscal year 2023 to improve the debt position of the State. ~~This may include the redemption of general obligation bonds, reducing the amount of new debt to be issued or to address negative internal fund balances. To the extent funds are available they shall be applied and shall be allocated as follows:~~

(A) \$5,000,000 shall be transferred to the Property Management Fund (58700) established by 29 V.S.A. § 160.

(B) \$20,000,000 shall be appropriated to the State Treasurer's Office and used for redeeming State of Vermont general obligation bonds prior to maturity. In fiscal year 2024, to the extent bonds are redeemed, an amount equal to the reduction in payments for debt service required resulting from any redemption shall be reserved in the Capital Expenditure Cash Fund, as established in 32 V.S.A. § 1001b.

Sec. C.103 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec G.300(a)(8)(C) as amended by 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 83, Sec. 68 is further amended to read:

(C) \$14,700,000 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, ~~child care~~ child care, nursing, ~~and mental health counseling, and psychology and social work~~ programs only after available federal and State financial aid is applied to ensure no cost to the student. Of this amount, \$7,350,000 shall be carried forward for the 2022–2023 school year. If demand from undergraduates is met, then funds may be used to pay for tuition for the following graduate programs:

- (i) ~~Master~~ Master's in Education (all programs);
- (ii) ~~Master~~ Master's in Educational Leadership;
- (iii) ~~Master~~ Master's of Arts and ~~Certificate of~~ Advanced Graduate Studies in School Psychology;
- (iv) ~~Masters~~ Master's in Counseling; ~~and~~

(v) ~~Masters~~ Master's in Clinical Mental Health Counseling;
and

(vi) Master's in Clinical Social Work.

Sec. C.104 FISCAL YEAR 2022 AND FISCAL YEAR 2023; OUT-OF-STATE BEDS SAVINGS; APPROPRIATION

(a) In fiscal year 2022, \$360,140 of the amount appropriated in 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec. B.339 (correctional services for out-of-state beds) shall be allocated as follows:

(1) \$300,000 to the Department of Corrections to expand and eliminate participant fees for community-based domestic violence intervention programming and to create domestic violence intervention programming and curricula for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, or questioning (LGBTQ) individuals; and

(2) \$60,140 for Offender Management System/data system improvements.

(b) In fiscal year 2022, \$417,030 of the amount appropriated in 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec. B.338 (correctional services) shall be used for community justice centers.

Sec. C.105 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 83, Sec. 72a is amended to read:

Sec. 72a. MEDICAID HOME- AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES (HCBS) PLAN

(a) Pursuant to Sec. 9817 of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), in ~~October 2021~~ February 2022, the State submitted a home- and community-based services (HCBS) spending plan to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. This plan currently totals ~~\$146,600,000~~ \$149,550,122, consisting of the following major components:

(1) ~~\$77,800,000~~ \$77,839,612 allocated to improve services;

(2) ~~\$25,000,000~~ \$20,258,042 allocated to promote a high-performing and stable HCBS workforce; and

(3) ~~\$43,800,000~~ \$51,452,468 allocated to improve HCBS care through data systems, value-based payment models, and oversight.

* * *

(e) In fiscal year 2023, a total of \$71,239,891 is appropriated from the Global Commitment Fund to AHS to meet the objectives of the HCBS plan. This appropriation consists of \$17,136,654 as appropriated in 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74 for a three percent rate increase to HCBS providers, including

the assistive community care rates and children integrated services rates, and the following appropriations in distinct one-time departmental IDs:

(1) \$23,510,987 is appropriated to the Agency of Human Services – Secretary’s Office.

(2) \$10,500,000 is appropriated to the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living.

(3) \$1,500,000 is appropriated to the Department of Mental Health.

(4) \$17,000,000 is appropriated to the Department of Vermont Health Access.

(5) \$1,500,000 is appropriated to the Department of Health.

(6) \$92,250 is appropriated to the Department for Children and Families.

(f) The Global Commitment Fund appropriated in subsection (e) of this section may be obligated in fiscal year 2023 for the purposes of bringing HCBS plan spending authority forward into fiscal year 2024. The funds appropriated in subsections (b), (c), and (e) of this section may be transferred on a net-neutral basis in fiscal year 2023 in the same manner as the Global Commitment appropriations in Sec. E.301 of this act. The Agency shall report to the Joint Fiscal Committee in September 2023 on transfers of appropriations made and final amounts expended by each department in fiscal year 2023 and any obligated funds carried forward to be expended in fiscal year 2024.

Sec. C.106 CANNABIS CONTROL BOARD; PHASE I SYSTEM

(a) In fiscal year 2022, the amount of \$760,000 is transferred from the General Fund to the Cannabis Regulation Fund (21998) to support phase one of the online registration, licensing, and business application portal.

Sec. C.107 [Deleted.]

Sec. C.108 DEPARTMENT OF LABOR; TRADE APPRENTICESHIP
EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT; PROGRAM EXPANSION

(a) Up to \$1,000,000 of the funds appropriated in 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec. G.300(a)(6) may be carried forward by the Vermont Department of Labor and used to reimburse Vermont employers for costs incurred for work tools and personal protective equipment for new apprentices and for expansion of registered apprenticeship programs and participants. Employers may be reimbursed up to \$300 for tools per apprentice.

Sec. C.109 16 V.S.A. § 944 is amended to read:

§ 944. DUAL ENROLLMENT PROGRAM

* * *

(b) Students.

(1) A Vermont resident who has completed grade 10 but has not received a high school diploma is eligible to participate in the Program if:

(A) ~~the student:~~

(i) ~~is enrolled in:~~

~~(I) a Vermont public school, including a Vermont career technical center;~~

~~(II) a public school in another state or an approved independent school that is designated as the public secondary school for the student's district of residence; or~~

~~(III) an approved independent school in Vermont to which the student's district of residence pays publicly funded tuition on behalf of the student;~~

~~(ii) is assigned to a public school through the High School Completion Program; or~~

~~(iii) is a home study student; none of the payment to the accredited postsecondary institution will be used to support religious instruction, religious indoctrination (where "indoctrination" means to instruct in a body of doctrine or principles), as defined in section 820 of this title, religious worship, or the propagation of religious views, except for religious instruction that is designed to provide an overview of religious history and teachings and does not support religious instruction, religious indoctrination, religious worship, or the propagation of religious views of any one religion or theology over others; and~~

~~(B) the student is not enrolled in a recognized independent school or a school or program that is not recognized for attendance purposes under section 1121 of this title;~~

~~(B)(C) dual enrollment is an element included within the student's personalized learning plan; and~~

~~(C)(D) the secondary school and the postsecondary institution have determined that the student is sufficiently prepared to succeed in a dual enrollment course, which can be determined in part by the assessment tool or tools identified by the participating postsecondary institution.~~

Sec. C. 110 TOBACCO FUNDS; APPROPRIATION

(a) The amount of \$1,000,000 in tobacco funds are appropriated in fiscal year 2022 to the Department of Health, Public Health, and carried forward to fiscal year 2023 for tobacco prevention and cessation programs developed in coordination with the Chief Prevention Officer in the Agency of Administration.

Sec. C.111 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec. E.335 as amended by 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 83, Sec. 62, is further amended by adding a subsection (c) to read:

(c) Any funds expended on community-based service programs pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall be included in the subsequent year Department of Corrections budget for the same purpose at the same amount.

* * * Fiscal Year 2023 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 \$428,933 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 above \$428,933 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 \$21,128,985 is appropriated from the Vermont Housing and Conservation Trust Fund to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board. Notwithstanding 10 V.S.A. § 312, amounts above \$21,128,985 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 Vermont Housing and Conservation Board and \$1,000,000 from the surcharge established by 32 V.S.A. § 9602a. The fiscal year 2023 appropriation of \$21,128,985 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 \$5,882,597 is appropriated from the Municipal and Regional Planning Fund. Notwithstanding 24 V.S.A. § 4306(a), amounts above \$5,882,597 from the property transfer tax that are deposited into the Municipal and Regional Planning Fund shall be transferred into the General Fund. The \$5,882,597 shall be allocated as follows:

(A) \$4,574,417 for disbursement to regional planning commissions in a manner consistent with 24 V.S.A. § 4306(b);

(B) \$872,120 for disbursement to municipalities in a manner consistent with 24 V.S.A. § 4306(b); and

(C) \$436,060 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 All Other Insurance Fund (56300): \$1,000,000.

(2) From the General Fund to the Workers' Compensation Fund (56100): \$2,000,000.

(3) From the General Fund to the Enhanced 911 Special Fund (21711): \$1,300,000.

(4) From the General Fund to the Technology Modernization Special Fund created in Sec. E.105.1 of this act: \$16,760,000.

(5) 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: \$5,816,111.

(6) 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.

(7) 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: \$523,966.

(b) Notwithstanding any provisions of law to the contrary, in fiscal year 2023:

(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>\$4,641,960</u>
<u>50300</u>	<u>Liquor Control Fund</u>	<u>\$20,400,000</u>
	<u>Caledonia Fair</u>	<u>\$5,000</u>
	<u>North Country Hospital Loan</u>	<u>\$24,047</u>
	<u>Springfield Hospital promissory note repayment</u>	<u>\$121,416</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</u>
<u>21928</u>	<u>Secretary of State Services Funds</u>	<u>\$1,200,000</u>
<u>62100</u>	<u>Unclaimed Property Fund</u>	<u>\$1,773,425</u>
<u>21998</u>	<u>Cannabis Regulation Fund</u>	<u>\$3,059,478</u>

(3) Notwithstanding 2016 Acts and Resolves No. 172, Sec. E. 228, \$45,664,476 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.

(4) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, in fiscal year 2023, the following amounts shall revert to the General Fund from the accounts indicated:

<u>1210002000</u>	<u>Legislature</u>	<u>\$205,000</u>
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(c) Notwithstanding any provisions of law to the contrary, in fiscal year 2023 the following estimated General Fund reserves shall be made:

(1) Pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 308, an estimated amount of \$18,629,568 shall be reserved in the General Fund Budget Stabilization Reserve.

Sec. D.102 27/53 RESERVE

(a) \$3,020,000 from the General Fund shall be reserved in the 27/53 reserve in fiscal year 2022. This action is the fiscal year 2023 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.

Sec. D.103 [Deleted.]

* * * General Government * * *

Sec. E.100 EXECUTIVE BRANCH POSITIONS

(a) The establishment of the following new positions is authorized in fiscal year 2023:

(1) Permanent classified positions:

(A) Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets - Vermont Agriculture and Environmental Lab: one new VAEL Scientist IV; Chemistry.

(B) Department of Buildings and General Services – Fee for Space:

(i) one BGS Utility Mechanic;

(ii) three BGS Institutional Custodians; and

(iii) one BGS Maintenance Mechanic II.

(C) Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living’s Administration and Support division:

(i) one Survey and Certification Non-clinical Manager;

(ii) three Nurse Surveyors;

(iii) one Administrative Assistant; and

(iv) one Office of Public Guardian Community Financial Specialist.

(D) Department of Mental Health:

(i) one Suicide Prevention Director;

(ii) one Quality Control Specialist III;

(iii) one Staffing Office Manager;

(iv) five Mental Health Scheduling Coordinators;

(v) one DMH Psychologist;

(vi) one DMH Activity Therapist;

(vii) one Psychiatric Social Worker II;

(viii) two Food Service Workers;

(ix) two Cook Cs; and

(x) one Supervising Chef.

(E) Agency of Education:

(i) one School Facility Coordinator; and

(ii) one Communication Coordinator.

(F) Cannabis Control Board:

(i) two enforcement officers; and

(ii) one data analyst.

(G) State Treasurer: one Retirement Program Technician.

(H) Agency of Natural Resources Central Office:

(i) one Environmental Analyst VII; and

(ii) two Environmental Analyst V.

(2) Permanent Exempt Positions:

(A) Vermont Pension Investment Commission: one Principal Assistant.

(b) The conversion of the following limited-service positions to classified permanent status is authorized in fiscal year 2023 as follows:

(1) Department of Vermont Health Access:

(A) DVHA, Business Office Unit – one Financial Manager III;

(B) DVHA, Business Office Unit – one Grants Management Specialist;

(C) DVHA, Contracts & Grants Unit – two Contracts & Grants Administrators;

(D) DVHA, Contracts & Grants Unit – one Financial Manager I;

(E) DVHA, HAEEU – one Assister Program Manager;

(F) DVHA, HAEEU – seven Benefits Program Mentors;

(G) DVHA, HAEEU – two Business Analysts;

(H) DVHA, HAEEU – one Communications & Outreach Coordinator;

(I) DVHA, HAEEU – one Health Care Training/Community Manager;

(J) DVHA, HAEEU – seven Health Program Administrators;

-
- (K) DVHA, HAEEU – three Healthcare Assistant Admin Is;
 - (L) DVHA, HAEEU – five Healthcare Assistant Admin IIs;
 - (M) DVHA, HAEEU – one VHC Business Process Coordinator;
 - (N) DVHA, HAEEU – one VHC Education & Outreach Coordinator;
 - (O) DVHA, HAEEU – five VHC Support Services Specialists;
 - (P) DVHA, HAEEU – 16 VT Healthcare Service Specialist Is;
 - (Q) DVHA, HAEEU – 25 VT Healthcare Service Specialist IIs;
 - (R) DVHA, HAEEU – five VT Healthcare Service Specialist IIIs;
 - (S) DVHA, Health Care Appeals Unit – five Fair Hearing Specialists;
 - (T) DVHA, Health Care Appeals Unit – one Program Technician I;
 - (U) DVHA, Legal Unit – one Staff Attorney II; and
 - (V) DVHA, Long Term Care Unit – three Long Term Care Specialist Is.

(2) Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation – Forestry: one Forester III.

(3) State Treasurer: one Financial Manager.

(c) The establishment of the following new classified limited-service positions are authorized in fiscal year 2023 as follows:

(1) Department of Labor: three positions to assist with the UI Modernization project.

(2) Agency of Education:

(A) one Grants Manager; and

(B) three Monitoring Coordinators.

(3) Department of Environmental Conservation:

(A) one Environmental Analyst V.

(4) Department of Motor Vehicles – to support DMV Core Modernization Phase II:

(A) one Purchasing/Inventory & Facilities Specialist III,

(B) two Direct Client Service Specialist I,

(C) one Financial Specialist III, and

(D) one Direct Customer Service Specialist I.

(d) The establishment of the following new classified limited-service positions are authorized in fiscal year July 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024 as follows:

(1) Department of State's Attorneys and Sheriffs:

(A) ten Deputy State's Attorneys; and

(B) two Administrative Assistants.

(e) The transfer of the following exempt position is authorized in fiscal year 2023 as follows:

(1) From the Agency of Administration to the Office of the Attorney General:

(A) one Staff Attorney III.

Sec. E.100.1 2014 Acts and Resolves No. 179, Sec. E.100(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, Sec. A.7; 2020 Act and Resolves No. 154, Sec. E.100.2; and by 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec. E.100.1, 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.

(1) Notwithstanding Sec. A.107 of this act, the Agency of Transportation, the Department for Children and Families, the Agency of Natural Resources, the Department of Buildings and General Services, the Department of Labor, the Department of Corrections, and the Department of Public Safety, the Department of State's Attorneys and Sheriffs, and the Vermont Veterans' Home shall not be subject to the cap on positions for the duration of the Pilot.

(A) The Department of Corrections is authorized to add only Correctional Officer I and II positions.

(B) The Department of State's Attorneys and Sheriffs is authorized to add only State's Attorney positions.

(C) The Vermont Veterans' Home is authorized to add direct care positions, including part-time positions. Prior to authorizing positions under subdivision (d)(2) of this section, the Secretary of Administration shall be

provided the financial analysis from the Vermont Veterans' Home reviewed by the Commissioner of Finance and Management which demonstrates reduction in the cost of overtime expenses or other expenses equal to or greater than the projected cost of the positions for the current and successive fiscal year of operations.

* * *

(7) This Pilot shall sunset on ~~July 1, 2023~~ July 1, 2025, unless extended or modified by the General Assembly.

(8) ~~On or before January 15, 2019~~ Annually on or before January 15, the Commissioner of Human Resources, in coordination with the Vermont State Employees' Association (VSEA), shall provide a report on the total number of positions created under the authority of this section to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations. The report shall include a recommendation on whether this program should be expanded and continue and, if so, should it be extended but remain in session law or be made permanent by codification in statute.

Sec. E.100.2 CHIEF PREVENTION OFFICER

(a) The Office of the Chief Prevention Officer shall coordinate all budget and policy initiatives across the full spectrum of the prevention continuum.

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

§ 3303. REPORTING, RECORDS, AND REVIEW REQUIREMENTS

(a) Annual report and budget. The Secretary shall submit to the General Assembly, concurrent with the Governor's annual budget request required under 32 V.S.A. § 306, an annual report for information technology and cybersecurity. The report shall reflect the priorities of the Agency and shall include:

(1) performance metrics and trends, including baseline and annual measurements, for each division of the Agency;

(2) a financial report of revenues and expenditures to date for the current fiscal year;

(3) costs avoided or saved as a result of technology optimization for the previous fiscal year;

(4) an outline summary of information, including scope, schedule, budget, and status for information technology projects with total costs of \$500,000.00 or greater;

(5) an annual update to the strategic plan prepared pursuant to subsection (c) of this section;

(6) a summary of independent reviews as required by subsection (d) of this section; and

(7) the Agency budget submission; and

(8) a report on the expenditures of the Technology Modernization Special Fund, a list of projects receiving funding from the Fund in the prior fiscal year, and a list of prioritized recommendations for projects to be funded from the Fund in the next fiscal year.

* * *

Sec. E.105.1 3 V.S.A. § 3305 is added to read:

§ 3305. TECHNOLOGY MODERNIZATION SPECIAL FUND

(a) Creation. There is created the Technology Modernization Special Fund, to be administered by the Agency of Digital Services. Monies in the Fund shall be used to purchase, implement, and upgrade technology platforms, systems, and cybersecurity services used by State agencies and departments to carry out their statutory functions.

(b) Funds. The Fund shall consist of:

(1) any amounts transferred or appropriated to it by the General Assembly; and

(2) any interest earned by the Fund.

(c) Fund balance. Any balance remaining at the end of the fiscal year shall remain in the Fund.

(d) Receipts. The Commissioner of Finance and Management may anticipate receipts to this Fund and issue warrants based thereon.

(e) Priorities. The General Assembly shall prioritize projects to receive monies from the Fund based on recommendations from the Chief Information Officer submitted pursuant to subsection 3303(a) of this title.

Sec. E.105.2 FISCAL YEAR 2023; TECHNOLOGY MODERNIZATION SPECIAL FUND; AUTHORIZATIONS

(a) In fiscal 2023, the following expenditures are authorized from the Technology Modernization Special Fund to the projects described in this section:

(1) the sum of \$11,800,000 for Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system upgrade of core statewide financial accounting system and integration with the Vermont Department of Labor and the Agency of Transportation financial systems;

(2) the sum of \$1,800,000 for continued implementation of the Workplace Information Management System for property management at the Department of Buildings and General Services;

(3) the sum of \$960,000 for the Fire Safety System Modernization to replace the current technology with a modern platform to improve records management and public interaction functionalities related to permitting and licensing; and

(4) the sum of \$2,200,000 for a case management system at the Office of the Attorney General.

(b) The expenditures authorized in subdivision (a)(1) of this section shall only be released following approval by the Joint Information Technology Oversight Committee upon a review of the following documentation as provided by the Agency of Digital Services, the Agency of Administration, and the Joint Fiscal Office's IT consultant:

(1) adequacy of departmental readiness;

(2) the responsiveness of requests for proposals; and

(3) results of the independent review.

Sec. E.106 EXECUTIVE BRANCH FEES AND FUND DEFICITS;
PROPOSED INCREASES AND FOREGONE REVENUE;
REPORT

(a) According to the report submitted by the Commissioner of Finance and Management pursuant to 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec. E.106, \$22,000,000 in revenue was foregone in one fiscal year due to lack of inflationary increases in certain fees, including Agency of Transportation fees.

(b) On or before November 15, 2022, the Commissioner of Finance and Management shall submit an inventory of all existing fees within State government to the Joint Fiscal Committee in Excel format. This inventory shall include all fees collected by the Executive Branch, the Attorney General, and the State Treasurer, as well as fees collected by the Judicial Branch. For fees within the Judicial Branch, the Commissioner shall have the assistance of the State Court Administrator. The fee inventory shall contain the following information for each fee in existence on the preceding July 1:

(1) the statutory authorization and termination date if any;

(2) its current rate or amount and the date this was last set or adjusted by the General Assembly or by the Joint Fiscal Committee;

(3) the fund into which its revenues are deposited;

(4) the revenues derived from it in each of the two previous fiscal years and an estimate of what will be collected in the current fiscal year; and

(5) in the case of licensing and registration fees, whether the fee is collected annually, biennially, or on some other set time frame.

(c) On or before November 15, 2022, the Secretary of State shall submit an inventory of its existing fees to the Joint Fiscal Committee in Excel format. The fee inventory shall contain the following information for each fee in existence on the preceding July 1:

(1) the statutory authorization and termination date if any;

(2) its current rate or amount and the date this was last set or adjusted by the General Assembly or by the Joint Fiscal Committee;

(3) the fund into which its revenues are deposited;

(4) the revenues derived from it in each of the two previous fiscal years and an estimate of what will be collected in the current fiscal year; and

(5) in the case of licensing and registration fees, whether the fee is collected annually, biennially, or on some other set time frame.

(d) On or before November 15, 2022, the Commissioner of Finance and Management shall provide a list of all funds to the Joint Fiscal Committee for which one or both of the following conditions are true:

(A) the fund was in a deficit at the end of the most recent fiscal year or is expected to be in a deficit at the end of the current fiscal year; or

(B) general funds were needed in any of the last three years to address a fund deficit or to support the related operating costs of programs supported by the fund.

(e) On or before January 15, 2023, the Commissioner of Finance and Management shall submit a report to the General Assembly that provides a list of programs by department where the fees do not fully cover the cost of providing the service or regulatory function.

Sec. E.106.1 32 V.S.A. § 1001b is added to read:

§ 1001b. CAPITAL EXPENDITURE CASH FUND

(a) Creation. There is hereby created the Capital Expenditure Cash Fund to be administered by the Commissioner of Finance and Management, in consultation with the State Treasurer, for the purpose of using general funds to defray the costs of future capital expenditures that would otherwise be paid for using the State's general obligation bonding authority and debt service obligations.

(b) Fund. The Fund may consist of:

- (1) any appropriations or transfers made by the General Assembly; and
- (2) any interest earned by the Fund.

(c) Use of funds. Monies in the Fund shall only be used for:

(1) costs associated with a proposed capital project that occur prior to the construction phase of that project, including feasibility, planning, design, and engineering and architectural costs;

(2) projects with an anticipated lifespan of less than 20 years;

(3) costs associated with the early redemption of general obligation bonds; and

(4) other eligible capital projects receiving an appropriation from the General Assembly.

(d) Fund balance. All balances in the Fund at the end of any fiscal year shall be carried forward and remain part of the Fund.

(e) Early redemption transfer. If any expenditures are made from the Fund or the General Assembly appropriates general funds to pay for the early redemption of general obligation bonds pursuant to subdivision (c)(3) of this section, then an amount equal to the reduction in debt service required in any fiscal year resulting from that redemption shall be transferred to the Fund.

Sec. E.106.2 CAPITAL EXPENDITURE CASH FUND; ANALYSIS

(a) The Commissioner of Finance and Management, in consultation with the Joint Fiscal Office and the State Treasurer, shall analyze and make recommendations on:

(1) a dedicated revenue source or State fiscal capacity to fund the Capital Expenditure Cash Fund; and

(2) for any revenue source or State fiscal capacity identified in subdivision (1) of this subsection, an analysis of the benefits and costs of dedicating this revenue source to the Capital Expenditure Cash Fund in comparison to other identified unfunded State fiscal pressures.

(b) On or before January 15, 2023, the Commissioner of Finance and Management shall submit any recommendations to the House Committees on Appropriations and on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Institutions.

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

(a) From July 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022, the Commissioner of Finance and Management is authorized to revert all unobligated Coronavirus Relief Fund (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 March 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021.

(b) The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall report at the September meeting of the Joint Fiscal Committee on final CRF activity and if any monies will be returned to the federal government.

Sec. E.126 TRANSFER OF FUNDS WITHIN LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

(a) Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 706, in fiscal year 2023, appropriations within the Legislative Branch may be transferred between respective offices to ensure a balanced close-out in the fiscal year.

Sec. E.126.1 DECARBONIZATION OF PUBLIC PENSION FUNDS; JOINT
PUBLIC PENSION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE; REPORT

(a) Study. The Joint Public Pension Oversight Committee shall, in consultation with the State Treasurer, the Chair of the Vermont Pension Investment Commission, and any interested stakeholders with investment and environmental expertise, develop a strategy and timeline for the policies of the State to decarbonize the investments of the Vermont State Employees' Retirement System, the State Teachers' Retirement System, and the Municipal Employees' Retirement System. The strategy and timeline developed by the Committee shall be in accordance with sound investment criteria and consistent with the fiduciary obligations of the Retirement Board for the Vermont State Employees' Retirement System, the Board of Trustees for the Vermont Teachers' Retirement System, and the Retirement Board of the Municipal Employees' Retirement System. In developing the strategy and plan, the Committee shall consider the feasibility of different decarbonization strategies, including divestment to the fullest extent possible, and review models used in New York and in other states for decarbonization.

(b) Assistance. The Committee shall have the fiscal assistance of the Vermont Pension Investment Commission to conduct the work described in subsection (a) of this section.

(c) Report. On or before January 15, 2023, the Committee shall submit a report on the strategy and timeline described in subsection (a) of this section to the House and Senate Committees on Government Operations.

Sec. E.128 [Deleted.]

Sec. E.128.1 FARMERS' NIGHT CONCERT SERIES APPROPRIATION

(a) The Office of the Sergeant at Arms is authorized to use not more than \$10,000 from resources available within the General Assembly's budget to provide honoraria to speakers and performing groups who are invited to participate in the 2023 Farmers' Night Concert Series and who are not otherwise sponsored or compensated for their participation.

Sec. E.134 VERMONT MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM; FISCAL YEARS 2023–2026; RATES

(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of 24 V.S.A. § 5064(b), for the period from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023, contributions shall be made by:

(1) Group A members at the rate of 3.5 percent of earnable compensation;

(2) Group B members at the rate of 5.875 percent of earnable compensation;

(3) Group C members at the rate of 11 percent of earnable compensation; and

(4) Group D members at the rate of 12.35 percent of earnable compensation.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of 24 V.S.A. § 5064(b), for the period from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, contributions shall be made by:

(1) Group A members at the rate of 3.75 percent of earnable compensation;

(2) Group B members at the rate of 6.125 percent of earnable compensation;

(3) Group C members at the rate of 11.25 percent of earnable compensation; and

(4) Group D members at the rate of 12.6 percent of earnable compensation.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of 24 V.S.A. § 5064(b), for the period from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, contributions shall be made by:

(1) Group A members at the rate of 4 percent of earnable compensation;

(2) Group B members at the rate of 6.375 percent of earnable compensation;

(3) Group C members at the rate of 11.5 percent of earnable compensation; and

(4) Group D members at the rate of 12.85 percent of earnable compensation.

(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of 24 V.S.A. § 5064(b), for the period from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, contributions shall be made by:

(1) Group A members at the rate of 4.25 percent of earnable compensation;

(2) Group B members at the rate of 6.625 percent of earnable compensation;

(3) Group C members at the rate of 11.75 percent of earnable compensation; and

(4) Group D members at the rate of 13.1 percent of earnable compensation.

Sec. E.134.1 3 V.S.A. § 522 is amended to read:

§ 522. VERMONT PENSION INVESTMENT COMMISSION

* * *

(i) Assistance and expenses.

~~(1) The Commission shall have the administrative and technical support of the Office of the State Treasurer.~~

~~(2)~~ The Commission may collect proportionally from the funds of the three retirement systems and any individual municipalities that have been allowed to invest their retirement funds pursuant to subsection 523(a) of this title, any expenses incurred that are associated with carrying out its duties, and any expenses incurred by the Treasurer's office in support of the Commission.

~~(3)~~(2) The Attorney General shall serve as legal advisor to the Commission.

Sec. E. 134.2 3 V.S.A. § 524 is added to read:

§ 524. VERMONT PENSION INVESTMENT COMMISSION SPECIAL
FUND

(a) Creation. There is hereby created the Vermont Pension Investment Commission Special Fund, administered by the Vermont Pension Investment Commission, for the purpose of receiving funds transferred to the Commission pursuant to subsection 523(i) of this title. Monies in the Fund shall be used to pay expenses associated with carrying out the Commission's duties.

(b) Funds. The Fund shall consist of:

(1) any amounts collected and transferred by the three retirement systems and any individual municipalities that have been allowed to invest their retirement funds pursuant to subsection 523(a) of this title;

(2) any amounts transferred or appropriated to it by the General Assembly; and

(3) any interest earned by the Fund.

Sec. E.134.3 VERMONT PENSION INVESTMENT COMMISSION;
SOURCE OF FUNDS

(a) The funds appropriated in Sec. B.134.1 of this act are costs to the State's pension funds and have been considered in each pension systems' actuarial valuations but have not been included in the funds appropriated in Secs. B.133, B.134, and B.514.1 of this act.

(b) The funds appropriated from the pension systems for administrative costs in Secs. B.133, B.134, and B.514.1 of this act are intended to provide spending authority needed to transfer funds from the State's pension systems to the Treasurers Retirement Admin Costs fund (21520) to cover the portion of the Treasurer's budget attributable to the State's pension systems.

Sec. E.136.1 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 79, Sec. 13, as amended by 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 120, Sec. A.8, and 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 44, Sec. 2, is further amended to read:

Sec. 13. STATE ETHICS COMMISSION FUNDING SOURCE
SURCHARGE; REPEAL

(a) Surcharge.

(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of 3 V.S.A. § 2283(c) setting forth the purpose and rate of charges collected in the Human Resource Services Internal Service Fund, in fiscal year 2018 and thereafter, a surcharge of up to 2.3 percent, but no greater than the cost of the activities of the State Ethics Commission set forth in Sec. 7 of this act, on the per-position portion of the charges authorized in 3 V.S.A. § 2283(c)(2) shall be assessed to all Executive Branch agencies, departments, and offices and shall be paid by all assessed entities solely with State funds.

(2) The amount collected shall be accounted for within the Human Resource Services Internal Service Fund and used solely for the purposes of funding the activities of the State Ethics Commission set forth in Sec. 7 of this act.

(b) Repeal. This section shall be repealed on ~~July 1, 2022~~ July 1, 2025.

Sec. E.139 GRAND LIST LITIGATION ASSISTANCE

(a) Of the funds appropriated 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 expenses incurred to undertake complex commercial and utility property appraisals conducted by the Department to aid town valuations.

Sec. E.142 PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES

(a) This appropriation 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.

(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, the payments under this section shall be adjusted so that the total payments made under Secs. E.142, E.143, and E.144 do not exceed 100 percent of the assessed value of State buildings defined by 32 V.S.A. § 3701(2).

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

(a) Payments in lieu of taxes under this section 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 this section 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), \$1,545,393 is appropriated in Sec. B.200 of this act.

Sec. E.203 [Deleted.]

Sec. E.205 24 V.S.A. § 290 is amended to read:

§ 290. COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

* * *

(b) Full-time State deputy sheriffs whose primary responsibility is transportation of prisoners and persons with a mental condition or psychiatric disability shall be paid by the State of Vermont. The appointment of such deputies and their salary shall be approved by the Governor or his or her designee. The Executive Committee of the Vermont Sheriffs Association and the Executive Director of the Department of State's Attorneys and Sheriffs shall jointly have authority for the assignment of position locations in the counties of State-paid deputy sheriffs and shall review the county location assignments periodically for efficient use of resources. The positions and their funding shall be assigned to the Department of State's Attorneys and Sheriffs. The Executive Director shall have the authority to determine job duties for the position, assignment of positions to county, regular and temporary work locations, assistance to other State agencies and departments, timesheet systems, daily work logs, and to have final approval of personnel matters including, but not limited to, approval for hiring, paygrade assignment, hiring rate, discipline and termination. The Sheriffs shall have an Executive Committee of not more than five current Sheriffs, elected for a two-year term by a vote of the Sheriffs held not later than January 15, for a term starting February 1. The Executive Committee shall have a Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary-Treasurer, and two members at large. The Executive Committee shall meet at least quarterly to provide input to the Department of State's Attorneys and Sheriffs regarding budget, legislation, personnel and policies, and the assignment of positions, when vacancies arise, for efficient use of resources.

* * *

Sec. E.205.1 32 V.S.A. § 1591(2) is amended to read:

(2) For the transportation and care of prisoners, juveniles, and patients with a mental condition or psychiatric disability:

(A) For necessary assistance in arresting or transporting prisoners, juveniles, or persons with mental illness, the sum of \$18.00 per hour State's Attorneys and Sheriffs Executive Director shall annually set the per hour chargeable rate for each deputy sheriff or assistant so required if the to assist in

the transport. The Executive Director shall consult with the Sheriffs Association before setting the per hour chargeable rate. The sheriff or constable makes oath that the deputy sheriff, assistant, or assistants were required, giving the name of the assistant or assistants if there were more than one; provided, however, a full-time law enforcement officer shall provide the documentation required by the Department. The deputy sheriff or assistant shall not receive compensation under this subsection if otherwise compensated from any other funding source for the same hours during which such transportation is performed. In addition to the rate established the sheriffs' department shall be reimbursed for the costs of the employers' contribution to Social Security and workers' compensation insurance attributable to services provided under this section. Reimbursement shall be calculated on an hourly basis; the sheriff's department shall also be reimbursed for the costs of employer contributions for unemployment compensation, when a claim is filed and the percentage owed from the sheriff's department to the State can be accounted for under this section.

* * *

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 General Fund appropriation in Sec. B.209, \$35,000 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 General Fund appropriation in Sec. B.209, \$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.209.1 PUBLIC SAFETY – VERMONT STATE POLICE; DISPATCH WORKING GROUP; TRANSITION PROPOSAL; REPORT

(a) Creation. The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety shall

convene a working group on the new regional dispatch model. The task force shall provide a written report to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before December 1, 2022. The report shall include recommendations on:

(1) The long-term funding model for regional dispatch that fairly assesses costs statewide; and

(2) The estimated timeline and transition funding needed as new regional dispatch centers come on line and local dispatch services are transitioned away from state operated facilities.

(b) Membership. The working group shall be composed of the following members:

(1) one representative of the Vermont State Police, selected by the Commissioner of Public Safety;

(2) two representatives of local legislative bodies, selected by the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, one of which utilizes a State-dispatch center and one of which utilizes an existing regional or local dispatch center;

(3) one representative of an existing local or regional dispatch center, selected by the Vermont League of Cities and Towns;

(4) two police chiefs, selected by the Vermont Police Chiefs Association, one of whom utilizes a State-dispatch center and one of whom utilizes an existing regional or local dispatch center;

(5) one emergency medical responder, selected by the Vermont EMS Advisory Committee;

(6) one firefighter, selected by the Vermont State Firefighters Association;

(7) one sheriff, selected by the Vermont Sheriffs Association; and

(8) one representative of the Enhanced 911 Board, selected by the Board Chair.

(c) Powers and Duties. The working group shall:

(1) Consider and document how current dispatch services are provided statewide and the various methods of funding that exist to cover the cost of dispatch services. This shall include detail by town and or by emergency service provider. This analysis shall identify any funding inequities that exist in the current system between those entities paying for services using local funds and those entities receiving dispatch services provide by the State without cost. The analysis of current costs and payments flows for dispatch services shall be compared to the projected costs and payment flows under the

new regional dispatch model. This analysis shall also estimate how first responder entities dispatched through the new regional system may be financially impacted in the transition to the new regional system.

(2) Identify a transitional timeline and the tasks to be completed within that timeline for transitioning to the new regional dispatch model.

(3) Identify any State resources that may become available once the new dispatch system is fully operational and recommend if and how such resources should be distributed to equitably reduce local costs.

(4) Identify any other ongoing sources of statewide revenue to be dedicated to statewide emergency response communications to equitably reduce local costs.

(d) Meetings.

(1) The Commissioner of Public Safety or designee shall call the first meeting of the working group.

(2) The working group shall determine its chair from among the members of the working group.

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

(e) Assistance. The working group shall have the administrative, technical, and legal assistance of the Department of Public Safety.

Sec. E.212 PUBLIC SAFETY – FIRE SAFETY

(a) Of the funds appropriated 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 \$1,319,834 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 funds appropriated 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, and \$10,000 shall be granted to the American Legion for the Boys' State and Girls' State programs.

Sec. E.222 NEW FARMER PROGRAM COORDINATION

(a) The Secretary of Agriculture shall, in consultation with the Vermont Housing Conservation Board, inventory the programs available to assist new farmers beginning operations in the State. On or before January 15, 2023, the Secretary shall provide a report to the House and Senate Committees on Agriculture on the degree of coordination across these programs. This shall include recommendations for improvement or change in operations and coordination that would benefit new farmers experience in seeking assistance.

Sec. E.232 [Deleted.]

Sec. E.233 30 V.S.A. § 8083(b)(6) is amended to read:

(6) upon approval by the General Assembly, up to \$1,500,000.00 annually to fund the operational expenses of the Board and the Department to the extent the Department's expenses support the work of the Board.

Sec. E.233.1 VERMONT COMMUNITY BROADBAND BOARD;
OPERATIONAL EXPENSES; ANNUAL BUDGET

(a) On or before December 1, 2022, the Vermont Community Broadband Board shall submit to the Governor and the General Assembly a proposed budget for its operational expenses for fiscal year 2023 for inclusion in the fiscal year 2023 budget adjustment act.

(b) On or before January 15, 2023, the Vermont Community Broadband Board shall submit to the Governor and the General Assembly a proposed budget for its operational expenses in fiscal year 2024 for inclusion in the Governor's recommended fiscal year 2024 appropriations for the support of government.

(c) In preparing a proposed budget for its operational expenses, the Vermont Community Broadband Board shall maximize first the use of any federal funds in the Vermont Community Broadband Fund that are available for administrative costs, and then shall draw upon monies transferred to the Vermont Community Broadband Fund pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 7523(b).

Sec. E.233.2 VERMONT COMMUNITY BROADBAND BOARD

(a) In fiscal year 2023 there is appropriated to the Vermont Community Broadband Board a total of \$1,500,000 from special funds to operate the Board. The intent of this section is to provide the necessary spending authority to the Board to operate in fiscal year 2023 until a new line-item budget is included in the budget adjustment for fiscal year 2023 pursuant to Sec. 233.1. of this act.

Sec. E.233.3 MUNICIPAL FUNDS FOR BROADBAND

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a municipality may accept and finance broadband projects with funds received from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Pub. L. 117-2, including funds received as lost revenue.

Sec. E.240 CANNABIS CONTROL BOARD

(a) The funds appropriated for the Cannabis Control Board in Sec. B.240 of this act include one-time special funds of \$703,432 to support phase two of the license application and seed to sale tracking information technology system.

* * * Cannabis Regulation Fund;

Cannabis Excise Tax Revenue in Fiscal Years 2023–2025 * * *

Sec. E.240.1 7 V.S.A. § 845 is amended to read:

§ 845. CANNABIS REGULATION FUND

(a) There is established the Cannabis Regulation Fund, which shall be managed in accordance with 32 V.S.A. chapter 7, subchapter 5. The Fund shall be maintained by the Cannabis Control Board.

(b) The Fund shall be composed of:

(1) all State application fees, annual license fees, renewal fees, and civil penalties collected by the Board pursuant to chapters 33 (cannabis establishments) and 37 (medical cannabis dispensaries) of this title; ~~and~~

(2) all annual and renewal fees collected by the Board pursuant to chapter 35 (medical cannabis registry) of this title; and

(3) all cannabis excise tax revenue raised pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 7902.

(c) Monies from the Fund shall only be appropriated for the purposes of implementation, administration, and enforcement of this chapter and chapter 33 of this title.

(d) The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall do the following not later than July 31 each year:

(1) transfer the unexpended and unobligated balance of the Cannabis Regulation Fund to the General Fund at the close of the prior fiscal year; and

(2) report the amount of the transfer made pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection to the Joint Fiscal Committee.

Sec. E.240.2 32 V.S.A. § 7909 is amended to read:

§ 7909. SUBSTANCE MISUSE PREVENTION FUNDING

(a) ~~Thirty percent of the revenues raised by the cannabis excise tax imposed by section 7902 of this title~~ unexpended and unobligated balance of the Cannabis Regulation Fund that is transferred to the General Fund pursuant to 7 V.S.A. § 845(d)(1), not to exceed \$10,000,000.00 per fiscal year, shall be used to fund substance misuse prevention programming in the subsequent fiscal year.

* * *

Sec. E.240.3. REPEAL

(a) 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 164, Sec. 6c (contingent Cannabis Regulation Fund deficit offset) is repealed.

Sec. E.240.4 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 164, Sec. 33(h) is amended to read:

(h) ~~Sec. 6c (contingent Cannabis Regulation Fund deficit offset) shall take effect on July 1, 2024. [Repealed.]~~

* * * Cannabis Excise Tax Revenue Starting in Fiscal Year 2025 * * *

Sec. E.240.5. 7 V.S.A. § 845 is amended to read:

§ 845. CANNABIS REGULATION FUND

(a) There is established the Cannabis Regulation Fund, which shall be managed in accordance with 32 V.S.A. chapter 7, subchapter 5. The Fund shall be maintained by the Cannabis Control Board.

(b) The Fund shall be composed of:

(1) all State application fees, annual license fees, renewal fees, and civil penalties collected by the Board pursuant to chapters 33 (cannabis establishments) and 37 (medical cannabis dispensaries) of this title; and

(2) all annual and renewal fees collected by the Board pursuant to chapter 35 (medical cannabis registry) of this title; ~~and.~~

(3) ~~all cannabis excise tax revenue raised pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 7902. [Repealed.]~~

(c) Monies from the Fund shall only be appropriated for the purposes of implementation, administration, and enforcement of this chapter and chapter 33 of this title.

(d) ~~The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall do the following not later than July 31 each year:~~

~~(1) transfer the unexpended and unobligated balance of the Cannabis Regulation Fund to the General Fund at the close of the prior fiscal year; and~~

~~(2) report the amount of the transfer made pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection to the Joint Fiscal Committee. [Repealed.]~~

Sec. E.240.6. 32 V.S.A. § 7909(a) is amended to read:

(a) Thirty percent of the revenues raised by the cannabis excise tax imposed by section 7902 of this title unexpended and unobligated balance of the Cannabis Regulation Fund that is transferred to the General Fund pursuant to 7 V.S.A. § 845(d)(1), not to exceed \$10,000,000.00 per fiscal year, shall be used to fund substance misuse prevention programming in the subsequent fiscal year.

Sec. E.240.7 TRANSFER IN JULY 2025

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the Commissioner of Finance and Management shall do the following not later than July 31, 2025:

(1) transfer the unexpended and unobligated balance of the Cannabis Regulation Fund to the General Fund at the close of the 2024 fiscal year; and

(2) report the amount of the transfer made pursuant to subdivision (1) of this section to the Joint Fiscal Committee.

* * * 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, \$1,847,406 shall be used for the contract with the Office of the Health Care Advocate.

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

(a) The Agency of Human Services (AHS) shall use the funds appropriated in this section 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 \$25,231,644 is anticipated to be certified as State matching funds under the Global Commitment as follows:

(1) \$22,230,100 certified State match available from local education agencies for eligible special education school-based Medicaid services under the Global Commitment. This amount combined with \$28,269,900 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) \$3,001,544 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 \$4,034,170 is transferred from the AHS Federal Receipts Holding Account to the Interdepartmental Transfer Fund consistent with the amount appropriated in Sec. B.301 – Secretary’s Office – Global Commitment of this act.

Sec. E.301.1 GLOBAL COMMITMENT APPROPRIATIONS; TRANSFER;
REPORT

(a) In order to facilitate the end-of-year closeout for fiscal year 2023, 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 2023 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.301.2 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 June 30, 2022. 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.301.3 PROVIDER RATE INCREASES

(a) Recipients of any increased rates under Secs.B.314 and B.333 of this act shall be transparent in the use of these funds through timely and accurate reporting as defined by the State, including complying with specific performance measures using existing data collected by providers to assure accountability to the clients and the system of care.

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, 2023, but only in the event that new state or federal law or guidance require 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 [Deleted.]

Sec. E.312 HEALTH – PUBLIC HEALTH

(a) AIDS/HIV funding.

(1) In fiscal year 2023 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) In fiscal year 2023 and as provided in this section, the Department of Health shall provide grants in the amount of \$295,000 to the following organizations:

(A) Vermont CARES - \$140,000;

(B) AIDS Project of Southern Vermont - \$100,000; and

(C) HIV/HCV Resource Center - \$55,000.

(3) 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.

(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 2023, 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 2023, 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 2023. Grant reporting shall include outcomes and results.

(6) In fiscal year 2023, the Department of Health shall not reduce any grants to the Vermont AIDS service and peer-support organizations or syringe service programs without receiving prior approval from the Joint Fiscal Committee.

Sec. E.313 REPORT, PUBLIC INEBRIATE AND SOBER BED PROGRAMMING

(a) The new alcohol and drug abuse program beds funded through Sec. B.313 of this act shall be used to treat public inebriates instead of having these individuals held by the Department of Corrections. On or before January 15, 2023, the Department of Health, in consultation with the Chief Prevention Officer, Vermont Care Partners, the Vermont Association for Mental Health and Addiction Recovery, and the Vermont Alliance for Recovery Residences, shall submit a written report to the House Committees on Appropriations and on Human Services and to the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Health and Welfare examining whether there is excess bed capacity among those programs designated for use by public inebriates. If the Department determines that there is excess capacity, the report shall include a plan to make efficient use of the excess capacity, including possibly redesignating beds for alternative purposes.

Sec. E.314 DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH; MOBILE CRISIS OUTREACH SERVICES

(a) The Department of Mental Health shall build an urgent care model for mental health by expanding mobile outreach services based on the Department's analysis of statewide mobile crisis services and gaps pursuant to its State Planning Grant from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The urgent care model shall address geographic gaps and the regions of the State in which the lack of mobile outreach is most directly driving unnecessary emergency department visits or unnecessary law enforcement responses.

(b) The new mobile outreach services shall:

(1) be based on evidence-based and trauma-informed practices, including using peer support staff;

(2) be developed in conjunction with the continuum of urgent care response related to the new 9-8-8 suicide prevention line; and

(3) comply with federal requirements as needed to qualify for three years of federal financial participation at an enhanced 85 percent federal match rate.

(c) The Department, in coordination with the Agency of Human Services Secretary's Office, Department of Vermont Health Access and the Department of Financial Regulation, shall develop a sustainability plan to ensure that the services will continue to be available after expiration of the enhanced federal match rate.

(d) On or before January 15, 2023, the Department shall provide a status report on:

(1) the experience of the Rutland pilot project which includes the number of Vermonters served by this pilot through 2022, as well as a description of the evaluation of the operating model of the pilot since it was launched to date; and

(2) the status of expansion of the urgent care model for mental health by expanding mobile outreach services funded in fiscal year 2023, including grants issued to date, operating status of the programs provided funding, and number of Vermonters served in 2022.

Sec. E.314.1 DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH; EMERGENCY
DEPARTMENTS; PATIENT EXPERIENCE OF CARE;
REPORT

(a) On or before January 15, 2023, the Department of Mental Health shall report to the House Committee on Health Care and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare regarding the progress of the health care system in improving the patient experience of care for individuals encountering lengthy emergency departments waits for admission for inpatient psychiatric treatment. The report shall include an assessment of the services offered to these patients in emergency departments and the extent to which stakeholder input is included in decisions about services and patient care. The report shall include the most recent data pertaining to patient length of stay in emergency departments due to a lack of appropriate alternative mental health level 1 or step-down bed placements, and any changes anticipated in the inventory of level 1 or step-down beds system wide.

Sec. E.316 PARENT CHILD CENTER GRANT

(a) The Department for Children and Families shall, within the administration of the grant for parent child centers and in consultation with the parent child centers, seek to ensure that services are targeted to families most at risk of having young children come into State custody. The shared goal of preventing that outcome, and bringing Vermont's rate of young children coming into State custody down to a level more consistent with other states experience, shall be reflected in the grant agreement.

Sec. E.317 33 V.S.A. § 5126 is added to read:

§ 5126. PLACEMENT OF A CHILD INTO A QUALIFIED RESIDENTIAL
TREATMENT PROGRAM

(a) Within 60 days of the start of a placement of a child into a qualified residential treatment program by the Commissioner, the Family Division of the

Superior Court or the Judicial Master shall review the assessment, determination, and documentation provided by the qualified individual conducting the assessment required pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 675a. The court or Judicial Master shall determine whether the needs of the child can be met through placement with family members, in a foster family home, or in another approved setting designed to meet specialized needs. If placement in a setting described above is not appropriate, the court or Judicial Master shall consider whether placement of the child in a qualified residential treatment program provides the most effective and appropriate level of care for the child in the least restrictive environment, and whether such a placement is consistent with the short- and long-term goals for the child, as specified in the case plan for the child.

(b) The court or Judicial Master shall approve or disapprove the placement in a qualified residential treatment program based on the factors considered in subsection (a) of this section and make written findings as to the basis for the determination. The decision and findings shall be submitted to the parties.

(c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the Commissioner's authority to place a child who is in the Commissioner's legal custody in a family home or a treatment, rehabilitative, detention, or educational facility or institution as provided in subdivision 5106(4) of this title.

(d) This section shall not apply to children placed in a setting that is intended for the detention of minors.

Sec. E.318 REPEAL

2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. E.138.7 is repealed.

Sec. E.318.1 CHILD CARE CAPACITY-BUILDING GRANTS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(c) Center-based child care 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.318.2 PRE-APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM IN EARLY
CHILDHOOD EDUCATION: APPROPRIATION

(a) Of the federal funds appropriated in Sec. B.318 of this act to the Department for Children and Families Division of Child Development, \$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.

(2) \$125,000 shall be sugranted to the Vermont Association for the Education of Young Children to provide grants to students to pursue early childhood educator careers.

Sec. E. 318.3 CHILD DEVELOPMENT DIVISION; STEP AHEAD
RECOGNITION SYSTEM

As part of its fiscal year 2023 budget adjustment presentation to the General Assembly, the Department for Children and Families shall present its proposed policy changes to the Step Ahead Recognition System (STARS) to the House Committee on Human Services and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare. The Division's presentation shall summarize its proposed changes to STARS, including any anticipated impacts on child care providers and families. Any requested policy changes to STARS and related appropriations requests shall require legislative approval through the budget process pursuant to 32 V.S.A. chapter 7, subchapter 3.

Sec. E.318.4 BRIGHT FUTURES INFORMATION SYSTEM;
MODERNIZATION; CHILD CARE FINANCIAL
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

(a) On or before January 1, 2024, or six months after both the modernization of the Bright Futures Information System (BFIS) pursuant to 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 45, Sec. 5 and the implementation of the corresponding eligibility changes to the Child Care Financial Assistance Program (CCFAP) pursuant to 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 45, Sec. 2 have taken effect, whichever is first occurring, the Department for Children and Families shall submit a written report to the House Committees on Appropriations and on Human Services and to the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Health and Welfare evaluating the effectiveness of the BFIS modernization project and the CCFAP eligibility changes. The report

shall address how implementation of BFIS and CCFAP changes impact the availability and affordability of child care throughout Vermont.

Sec. E.321 [Deleted.]

Sec. E.321.1 [Deleted.]

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

(a) Of the funds appropriated in Sec. B.325 of this act, \$12,699,440 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.329 [Deleted.]

Sec. E.334 ADULT DAY PAYMENT REFORM – ALTERNATIVE PAYMENT METHODOLOGY – REPORT

(a) On or before January 15, 2023, the Commissioner for Vermont Health Access and the Commissioner of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living shall submit a report to the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Appropriations on the status of implementing an alternative payment model for the Adult Day providers. This new payment model should be designed to stabilize the financial well-being of the Adult Day providers.

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

(a) In fiscal year 2023, 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 2023, 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.

(c) Any funds expended on community-based service programs pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall be included in the subsequent year Department of Corrections budget for the same purpose at the same amount.

Sec. E.335.1 [Deleted]

Sec. E.335.2 28 V.S.A. § 125 is added to read:

§ 125. JUSTICE REINVESTMENT II INITIATIVES; REPORT

(a) On or before January 15 each year, the Commissioner of Corrections shall submit a report to the House Committees on Appropriations and on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Judiciary with:

(1) a breakdown and description of General Fund expenditures for the following Justice Reinvestment II initiatives to date:

(A) Department of Corrections funding for domestic violence intervention programming;

(B) Department of Corrections funding for transitional housing capacity;

(C) funding for the Department of Correction's data collection Offender Management System;

(D) any funding in the Department of Mental Health for community-based mental health and substance use services for individuals under Department of Corrections supervision; and

(E) any funding provided to court diversion and restorative justice programs, and any Justice Reinvestment II funding, shall be reported in context of other baseline funding sources provided to these programs.

(2) A description of any other General Fund expenditures for Justice Reinvestment II initiatives not described in subdivision (1) of this subsection to date.

(3) The annual budget shall include the total amount requested for any proposed expenditures by the Department of Corrections for Justice Reinvestment II initiatives supporting community-based programs.

(b) The provisions of 2 V.S.A. § 20(d) (expiration of required reports) shall not apply to the report to be made under this section.

Sec. E.338 CORRECTIONS – CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

(a) Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 3709(a), the special funds appropriation 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.

Sec. E.345 [Deleted.]

* * * Labor * * *

Sec. E.400 [Deleted.]

Sec. E.400.1 [Deleted.]

* * * K–12 Education * * *

Sec. E.500 EDUCATION – FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

(a) The Global Commitment funds appropriated in this section 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.500.1 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 66, Sec. 14 is amended to read:

Sec. 14. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE

(a) Sec. E.500.1 of 2018 (Sp. Sess.) Acts and Resolves No. 11, as amended, requires that not later than July 1, 2022 all Vermont supervisory unions, supervisory districts, school districts, and independent technical center districts utilize the same ~~shared school district data management system~~ Shared School District Data Management System (eFinancePlus) (SSDDMS), which shall be selected by the Agency of Education per State procurement guidelines.

(b) The purpose of Secs. 15–17 of this act is to:

(1) extend the deadline to December 31, ~~2022~~ 2024 for statewide adoption of ~~eFinancePlus~~ SSDDMS;

(2) pause until ~~January 1, 2022~~ July 1, 2023 the further implementation of ~~eFinancePlus~~ SSDDMS to provide time for further evaluation of the system, provided that:

(A) the Agency of Education and its contractor for implementation of the system shall continue to support users of the system; and

(B) a supervisory union, supervisory district, school district, or independent technical center district ~~that does not use the system~~ may ~~join an implementation round offered by the Agency of Education~~ implement or leave SSDDMS during the pause period after consultation with the Agency of Education and upon approval by its governing body; and

* * *

Sec. E.500.2 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 66, Sec. 15 is amended to read:

Sec. 15. 2018 (Sp. Sess.) Acts and Resolves No. 11, Sec. E.500.1, as amended by 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. E.500.5, is further amended to read:

Sec. E.500.1. SHARED SCHOOL DISTRICT FINANCIAL DATA
MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

(a) Not later than December 31, ~~2022~~ 2024, all Vermont supervisory unions, supervisory districts, school districts, and independent technical center districts shall utilize the same school finance and financial data management system. The system shall be selected by the Agency of Education per State procurement guidelines.

* * *

Sec. E.500.3 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 66, Sec. 16 is amended to read:

Sec. 16. PAUSE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF SHARED SCHOOL
DISTRICT FINANCIAL DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Notwithstanding Sec. E.500.1 of 2018 (Sp. Sess.) Acts and Resolves No. 11, as amended, the implementation of the Shared School District Data Management System (SSDDMS) shall be paused until ~~January 1, 2022~~ July 1, 2023, provided that:

(1) the Agency of Education and its contractor for implementation of the system shall continue to support users, as of the date of enactment of this act, of the system; and

(2) a supervisory union, supervisory district, school district, or independent technical center district ~~that does not use the system~~ may join an ~~implementation round offered by the Agency of Education~~ implement or leave SSDDMS during the pause period after consultation with the Agency of Education and upon approval by its governing body.

Sec. E.500.4 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 66, Sec. 17 is amended to read:

Sec. 17. AGENCY OF EDUCATION; REPORTS

(a) On or before June 30, 2021 and quarterly thereafter until March 31, ~~2023~~ 2025, the Agency of Education shall provide a written report to the General Assembly and the Vermont Association of School Business Officials on the status of improving and implementing the Shared School District Data Management System, including the status of:

* * *

Sec. E.500.5 AGENCIES OF EDUCATION AND OF DIGITAL SERVICES;
JOINT REPORT ON THE SHARED SCHOOL DISTRICT
DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

(a) On or before December 15, 2022, the Agencies of Education and of Digital Services shall jointly submit a report to the House and Senate Committees on Education on the status of improving and implementing the Shared School District Data Management System (SSDDMS) and a recommendation on whether to continue, discontinue, suspend, or delay implementation of SSDDMS and the reasons for their recommendation. In preparing their report, the Agencies of Education and of Digital Services shall solicit feedback from the Vermont Association of School Business Officials, school business managers and users and nonusers of SSDDMS around the State, the Vermont chapter of the American Association of School Personnel Administrators, and school human resources managers around the State.

Sec. E.500.6 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 1, Sec. 1, as amended by 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 66, Sec. 12, is further amended to read:

Sec. 1. ETHNIC AND SOCIAL EQUITY STANDARDS ADVISORY
WORKING GROUP

* * *

(d) Appointment and operation.

* * *

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

* * *

(g) Duties of the Working Group.

(1) The Working Group shall review standards for student performance adopted by the State Board of Education under 16 V.S.A. § 164(9) and, on or before December 31, ~~2021~~ 2022, recommend to the State Board updates and additional standards to recognize fully the history, contributions, and perspectives of ethnic groups and social groups. These recommended additional standards shall be designed to:

* * *

(h) Reports.

* * *

(3) The Working Group shall, on or before ~~December 31, 2022~~ June 30, 2023, submit a report to the General Assembly that includes:

* * *

(i) Duties of the State Board of Education. The Board of Education shall, on or before ~~December 31, 2022~~ June 30, 2023, consider adopting ethnic and social equity studies standards into standards for student performance adopted by the State Board under 16 V.S.A. § 164(9) for students in prekindergarten through grade 12, taking into account the report submitted by the Working Group under subdivision (g)(1) of this section.

Sec. E. 500.7 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 66, Sec. 13 is amended to read:

* * *

(c) Any unused portion of these appropriations shall, as of July 1, ~~2022~~ 2023, revert to the General Fund.

Sec. E.501 AGENCY OF EDUCATION; ESSER III FUND PLAN

(a) The following sums are appropriated from the ESSER III funds provided to the State pursuant to Sec. 2001(f) of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to the Agency of Education in fiscal year 2023:

(A) \$2,852,234 for Evidence-Based Summer Programming for the implementation of evidence-based summer enrichment programs and to ensure such programs respond to students' academic, social, and emotional needs and address the disproportionate impact of the coronavirus on the student populations described in section 1111(b)(2)(B)(xi) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311(b)(2)(B)(xi)), students experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care.

(B) \$2,852,234 for Evidence-Based Afterschool Programming for the implementation of evidence-based comprehensive afterschool programs, and to ensure such programs respond to students' academic, social, and emotional needs and address the disproportionate impact of the coronavirus on the student populations described in section 1111(b)(2)(B)(xi) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311(b)(2)(B)(xi)), students experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care.

(C) \$1,352,170 to address lost instructional time due to COVID-19 in accordance with 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 28 to support literacy with a specific prioritization for the implementation of 2018 Acts and Resolves No. 173.

(D) \$1,130,586 for meeting other needs as determined by the State educational agency (AOE) to address issues in responding to COVID-19. This may include the implementation of a facilities planning grant program per 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 72.

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 \$4,073,400 shall be used by the Agency of Education in fiscal year 2023 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.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) \$996,500 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; and

(4) \$3,000,000 is available for Early College pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 4011(e).

(c) Of the appropriation in Sec. B.504 of this act, \$996,500 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), and consistent with system changes enacted for fiscal year 2023 in the 2022 session, the annual contribution to the State Teachers' Retirement System (STRS) shall be \$194,161,651 of which \$187,273,782 shall be the State's contribution and \$6,887,869 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, \$34,342,965 is the "normal contribution," and \$159,818,686 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), and consistent with system changes enacted for fiscal year 2023 in the 2022 session, the annual contribution to the Retired Teachers' Health and Medical Benefits plan shall be \$50,206,128 consisting of the funds appropriated in Sec. B.515 and Sec. B.1100(c)(2) of this act.

(b) In accordance with 16 V.S.A. § 1944(c)(2), of the annual contribution, \$15,100,000 is the "normal contribution," and \$35,106,128 is the "accrued liability contribution."

* * * 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 the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) 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.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 Sec. 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, 2023.

Sec. E.700 10 V.S.A. § 1389(d)(3) is amended to read:

(3) The Clean Water Board shall:

* * *

(E) solicit, consult with, and accept public comment from organizations interested in improving water quality in Vermont regarding recommendations under this subsection (d) for the allocation of funds from the Clean Water Fund; ~~and~~

(F) recommend capital appropriations for the permanent protection of land and waters from future development through conservation and water quality projects; and

(G) recommend that at least \$1,000,000.00 is annually appropriated to the Vermont Natural Resources Conservation Council from the Clean Water Fund for distribution on an equitable basis to the Natural Resources Conservation Districts to conduct water quality programs or projects; annual outreach, education, monitoring and assessment; and technical assistance, planning and design, and implementation of local projects related to agricultural improvements and natural resources restoration and conservation.

Sec. E.702 23 V.S.A. § 3513 is amended to read:

§ 3513. LIABILITY INSURANCE; AUTHORITY TO CONTRACT FOR
LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

(a) The amount of 85 percent of the fees and penalties collected under this chapter, except interest, is allocated to the Agency of Natural Resources for use by the Vermont ATV Sportsman's Association (VASA) for development and maintenance of a Statewide ATV Trail Program, for trail liability insurance, and to contract for law enforcement services with any constable, sheriff's department, municipal police department, the Department of Public Safety, and the Department of Fish and Wildlife for purposes of trail compliance pursuant to this chapter. The Departments of Public Safety and of Fish and Wildlife are authorized to contract with VASA to provide these law enforcement services. The Agency of Natural Resources shall retain for its use up to \$7,000.00 during each fiscal year to be used for administration of this Program.

* * *

Sec. E.709 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~~ public schools and approved and recognized independent schools, as those terms are defined in 16 V.S.A. § 11, that were constructed or renovated before 1980.

Sec. E.709.1 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~~ public schools and approved and recognized independent schools, as those terms are defined in 16 V.S.A. § 11, that were constructed or renovated before 1980.

Sec. E.709.2 REPORT ON REGULATION OF PCB RELEASES FROM
BUILDING MATERIALS IN NONSCHOOL BUILDINGS

On or before January 15, 2023, the Secretary of Natural Resources shall submit to the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Natural Resources and Energy and the House Committees on Appropriations and on Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife a report regarding the indoor air quality testing of buildings for releases of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) from building materials. The report shall include:

(1) a proposal for the best method for regulating releases of PCBs from PCB-containing building materials in nonschool buildings;

(2) a proposal of who will be required to test for a release or potential release of PCBs from building materials, including whether and how testing will be required under the Brownfields Reuse and Environmental Liability Limitation Program or as part of an environmental assessment for a property transaction;

(3) a summary of when during a corrective action or property transaction testing would be required and why it would be required;

(4) the standard or standards that would be utilized to determine if a release occurred;

(5) the action or remediation that would be required if PCBs are identified in excess of the proposed standard;

(6) how responsive action or remediation would be funded, including potential federal or State sources of funding; and

(7) how the requirement to test may affect investment in the redevelopment of historic downtowns or similar areas.

* * * Transportation * * *

Sec. E.903 MULTI-AGENCY INVESTMENTS IN ELECTRIC VEHICLE
SUPPLY EQUIPMENT INFRASTRUCTURE

(a) Definitions. As used in this section:

(1) "Area median income" means the county or Metropolitan Statistical Area median income published by the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development.

(2) "Electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE)" has the same meaning as in 30 V.S.A. § 201.

(3) "Level 1 charger" or "level 1 EVSE" means EVSE that plugs directly into a standard 120-volt AC outlet and supplies an average output of 1.3 to 2.4 kilowatts.

(4) "Level 2 charger" or "level 2 EVSE" means galvanically connected EVSE with a single-phase input voltage range from 208 to 240 volts AC and a maximum output current less than or equal to 80 amperes AC.

(5) "Level 3 charger," "level 3 EVSE," or "direct-current fast charger (DCFC)," means EVSE that uses dedicated direct current (DC) to provide energy to a plug-in electric vehicle.

(6) "Multiunit affordable housing" means a multiunit dwelling where:

(A) at least 50 percent of the units are or will be occupied by households whose income does not exceed 100 percent of the greater of the State or area median income; or

(B) all units are affordable to households earning between 60 and 120 percent of area median income.

(7) "Multiunit dwelling" means a housing project, such as cooperatives, condominiums, dwellings, or mobile home parks, with three or more units constructed or maintained on a tract or tracts of land.

(8) "Workplace" means a place where an individual works.

(b) Housing, employers, and public venues and attractions.

(1) In fiscal year 2023, \$10,000,000 is appropriated in Sec. G.600 (b) of this act to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development to support

the following:

(A) one or more grant programs, which may build upon the existing EVSE Grant Program, to support the continued buildout of level 1 and 2 EVSE at multiunit dwellings, including multiunit affordable housing, with less than 20 units prioritized and not less than 30 percent of the total appropriation, less the administration expenses allowed under subsection (d c) of this section, allocated to this purpose;

(B) one or more grant programs, which may build upon the existing EVSE Grant Program, to support the continued buildout of level 1 and 2 EVSE at private workplaces, with the workplaces of employers with fewer than 100 employees prioritized;

(C) one or more grant programs, which may build upon the existing EVSE Grant Program, to support the continued buildout of level 1, 2, and 3 EVSE at public venues and attractions, such as parks, State parks and access areas, downtowns, museums, and ski mountains, that are available to any member of the public; and

(D) the purchase and installation of level 1 and 2 EVSE that is available to the public at State workplaces or to provide grants to persons for the purchase and installation of level 1 and 2 EVSE that is available to the public at State workplaces, or both.

(2) If the Agency of Commerce and Community Development, in consultation with the EVSE Interagency Workgroup, determines that programmatic funding remains available following the first round of grant awards made under subdivision (1) of this subsection, then the balance of the \$10,000,000 shall be awarded in grants that prioritize placing EVSE at multiunit affordable housing and workplaces of employers with fewer than 100 employees.

(c) Administration costs. The Agency of Commerce and Community Development may use up to 15 percent of the appropriation in subsection (b) of this section for administrative costs associated with installing EVSE at multiunit housing, workplaces, and public venues and attractions.

(d) Carryforward; deployment in fiscal year 2023.

(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law and subject to the approval of the Secretary of Administration, appropriations to support the expenditures under this section remaining unexpended on June 30, 2023 shall be carried forward and designated for the same expenditures in the subsequent fiscal year.

(2) Every reasonable effort shall be made to obligate and deploy the monies appropriated for expenditure under this section in fiscal year 2023 in order to achieve a pace of EVSE deployment necessary to meet the emissions reduction requirements of 10 V.S.A. § 578(a) and the recommendations of the Climate Action Plan (CAP) issued under 10 V.S.A. § 592.

(e) Outreach and marketing. The Agency of Commerce and Community Development shall ensure that there is sufficient outreach and marketing, including the use of translation and interpretation services, of the EVSE grant programs implemented pursuant to subsection (b) of this section and such costs shall be considered administrative costs for purposes of subsection (c) of this section.

* * * Pay Act * * *

Sec. F.100 APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2023 COMPENSATION
INCREASES

(a) Funding of fiscal year 2023 collective bargaining agreement provisions.

(1) This act funds in fiscal year 2023 the provisions of the collective bargaining agreements between the State and the Vermont State Employees' Association for the Defender General, Non-Management, Supervisory, and Corrections bargaining units; for the State's Attorneys' offices bargaining unit; and for the Judicial bargaining unit, and between the State and the Vermont Troopers' Association, that apply during the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

(2) These collective bargaining agreements provide during that fiscal year 2023 period a cost-of-living adjustment of three percent, an average 1.9 percent step increase, and a \$1,500 one-time payment to individuals employed as of January 1, 2023.

(b) Other permitted fiscal year 2023 increases. In fiscal year 2021, the Executive, Judicial, and Legislative Branches may extend the fiscal year 2023 provisions of the collective bargaining agreements that are funded by this act to employees not covered by the bargaining agreements as they determine to be appropriate and in accordance with the appropriations provided to each branch.

Sec. F.200 FISCAL YEAR 2023 PAY ACT APPROPRIATIONS

(a) Executive Branch. In fiscal year 2023, the fiscal year 2023 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, 2022 through June 30, 2023; the collective bargaining agreement with the Vermont Troopers' Association, for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023; 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 \$22,847,453 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Secretary of Administration for distribution to departments to fund the fiscal year 2023 compensation increases permitted by this act.

(2) Transportation Fund. The amount of \$1,502,420 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 2023 compensation increases permitted by this act.

(3) Other funds. The Administration shall provide additional spending authority to departments through the existing process of excess receipts to fund the fiscal year 2023 compensation increases permitted by this act. The estimated amounts are \$35,494,376 from special fund, federal, and other sources.

(4) Transfers. With due regard to the possible availability of other funds, for fiscal year 2023, 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.

(b) Judicial Branch. In fiscal year 2023, the amount of \$2,342,075 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Judiciary to fund the fiscal year 2021 provisions of the collective bargaining agreement between the State of Vermont and the Vermont State Employees' Association for the Judicial bargaining unit for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 and salary increases for employees in the Judicial Branch not covered by the bargaining agreement.

(c) Legislative Branch. In fiscal year 2023, the amount of \$985,111 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Legislative Branch for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

* * * American Rescue Plan Act Appropriations * * *

* * * Intent and Other Funding * * *

Sec. G.100 MULTIYEAR FUNDING PRIORITIES INTENT

(a) The appropriations of ARPA – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds in made in Secs. G.300–G.700 of this act by categorical areas are made consistent with the intent expressed in Sec. G.100 of 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74 (the Big Bill), and reiterated in 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 83, Sec. 67a. In some cases, other funding sources are included or are referenced 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 2023 shall carry forward.

Sec. G.200 AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) - CORONAVIRUS STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND (SFR) APPROPRIATIONS; REVERSION AND REALLOCATION; REPORTS

(a) On or before September 15, 2022 and annually thereafter until September 15, 2026, the Commissioner of Finance and Management shall submit a report to the Joint Fiscal Committee on the status of all appropriations made from the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFR) provided to the State from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Pub. L. No. 117-2 (ARPA). The report shall include updates on project eligibility, obligated funds, actual expenditures, and any compliance or reporting issues.

(b) On or before January 15, 2023, the Commissioner of Finance and Management shall provide an update to the September 15, 2022 ARPA report described in subsection (a) of this section to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, including recommendations, if any, for reallocation of ARPA SLFR funds in the fiscal year 2023 budget adjustment act.

* * * Economy, Workforce, and Communities * * *

Sec. G.300 INVESTMENTS IN VERMONT'S ECONOMY, WORKFORCE, AND COMMUNITIES

(a) \$28,251,052 in fiscal year 2023 is appropriated from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds as follows:

(1) \$1,050,000 to the Natural Resources Board, to be used as needed to prioritize and expedite permitting of ARPA-funded projects, including the costs of three exempt limited-service positions.

(2) \$9,601,052 to the Judiciary as follows:

(A) \$3,881,500 for the safe reopening of courts; and

(B) \$5,719,552 for HVAC systems at county courthouses.

(3) \$750,000 to the Secretary of State for expenses related to telehealth.

(4) \$14,900,000 to the Vermont State Colleges for bridge funding to transform the system. This includes offsets to continuing costs and impacts from COVID-19 pandemic.

(5) \$2,000,000 to the Department for Children and Families' Economic Services Division to grant to the Vermont Foodbank to support access to food for Vermonters with low income.

(b) General Fund Workforce Appropriations: In fiscal year 2023, \$1,500,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to Vermont Student Assistance Corp (VSAC) 802 Opportunity Program for increasing the household income eligibility limit from \$50,000 to \$75,000.

(1) It is the intent of the General Assembly to provide \$26,900,000 from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds and the State General Fund to be allocated for workforce investment initiatives to address critical needs in nursing and the skilled trades and to provide training opportunities for young adult Vermonters seeking to acquire skills. The specific programs to be funded shall be included in H.703 or other legislation passed in the 2022 legislative session.

(c) Community Economic Development. \$11,800,000 is appropriated in fiscal year 2023 from the General Fund for community base economic development initiatives as follows:

(1) \$5,000,000 to the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation for the Vermont Outdoor Recreation Economic Collaborative (VOREC) Community Grant Program.

(2) \$6,000,000 to the Department of Economic Development for the remediation and redevelopment of brownfield sites.

(3) \$800,000 to the Department of Motor Vehicles to grant to the Vermont Association of Snow Travelers (VAST) as follows:

(A) \$50,000 for the VAST for the Law Enforcement and Safety Program.

(B) \$750,000 for the VAST Equipment Grant-in-Aid Program.

(4) Other Economic Development initiatives are included in H.159, which provides funding from the General Fund and ARPA sources totaling \$84,500,000, and includes funding initiatives related to wage replacement for

COVID-impacted employers, supplemental unemployment funding, assistance programs for businesses and arts and culture organizations that demonstrate pandemic losses, and a time-limited increase in a downtown development tax credit.

(d) \$16,400,000 to the Department of Libraries from the Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund provided to the State from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Pub. L. No. 117-217 (ARPA), for the Libraries Capital Project for capital improvements to libraries, including Americans with Disabilities Act compliance, space renovations for improved Internet access for telehealth appointments and job interviews, and general building renovations.

* * * Addressing Homelessness, Housing Insecurity and Increasing the Stock of Low- and Moderate-Income Housing * * *

Sec. G.400 HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS INVESTMENTS

(a) \$40,000,000 to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB) in fiscal year 2023 is appropriated from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund to the to provide affordable mixed-income rental housing and homeownership units, improvements to manufactured homes and communities, recovery residences and, if determined eligible, housing available to farm workers and refugees. VHCB shall also use the funds for shelter and permanent homes for those experiencing homelessness in consultation with the Secretary of Human Services. These funds shall carry forward into fiscal year 2024.

(b) Additional funding of \$20,000,000 is included in S.226 through the Department of Housing and Community Development for affordable rental unit development and for program to reduce single-family housing costs for middle-income families.

* * * Broadband Connectivity and Technology
Modernization Investments * * *

Sec. G.500 BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY INVESTMENTS

(a) \$95,000,000 is appropriated in fiscal year 2023 to the Department of Public Service, Vermont Community Broadband Board from the American Rescue Plan Act - Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund in order to support the State's goal of achieving universal access to reliable, high-quality, affordable broadband. This appropriation shall be transferred to the Vermont Community Broadband Fund to make grants through the Broadband Construction Grant Program. To the greatest extent possible and for the purpose of maximizing the availability of federal funds for State broadband projects, the ARPA monies appropriated in this subsection shall be used first to fund any match requirements applicable to broadband grants funded by the Infrastructure

Investment and Jobs Act of 2021.

(b) \$1,600,000 to the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation from the Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund provided to the State from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Pub. L. No. 117-217 (ARPA), for the Parks Connectivity Project to improve reliability, performance, and support Internet connectivity services to all State parks.

Sec. G.501 STATE TECHNOLOGY MODERNIZATION INVESTMENTS

(a) \$25,250,000 is appropriated in fiscal year 2023 from American Rescue Plan Act - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds as follows:

(1) \$20,250,000 to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Core System Modernization Phase II.

(2) \$5,000,000 to the Department of Labor Unemployment Insurance modernization project.

(b) To the extent that American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds are available as a result of the provision specified in 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 83, Sec. 53(b)(6), \$25,000,000 shall be appropriated to the Department of Labor for the completion of the Department of Labor Unemployment Insurance modernization project.

* * * Weatherization and Other Climate Change Mitigation Investments * * *

Sec. G.600 CLIMATE ACTION INVESTMENTS

(a) In fiscal year 2023, \$129,760,000 is appropriated from the American Rescue Plan Act - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds for climate change mitigation initiatives as follows:

(1) \$45,000,000 to the Department for Children and Families, Office of Economic Opportunity, Home Weatherization Assistance Program to be used in fiscal years 2023 and 2024. Households approved for assistance in this section will also be offered services outlined in subdivision (4) of this subsection.

(2) \$35,000,000 to the Department of Public Service to grant to Efficiency Vermont for the purpose of weatherization incentives to Vermonters with a moderate income. 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, 2024. Households approved for assistance in this section will also be offered services outlined in subdivision (4) of this subsection.

(3) \$2,000,000 to the Agency of Transportation to support the continued build-out of public electric vehicle charging infrastructure along highway networks.

(4) \$25,000,000 to the Department of Public Service, of which \$20,000,000 is to provide financial and technical assistance for Vermonters with low- and moderate-income to upgrade home electrical systems to enable installation of energy saving technologies, and \$5,000,000 is to establish a “Switch and Save” program to provide financial and technical assistance for Vermonters with low and moderate income to install, at low-or no-cost, heat pump water heaters, with a focus on replacing water heaters near the end of their useful life and serving households participating in the electrical system upgrades described in this subsection.

(5) \$2,000,000 to the Department of Public Service for load management and storage efforts to assist Vermonters with low and moderate income customers to purchase electric equipment for heating, cooling, and vehicle charging. In addition, investments will be made in load control and management platforms to enable smaller municipal and cooperative utilities to capture and share benefits of load management and funding for municipal back-up electricity storage installations.

(6) \$15,000,000 to improve landscape resilience and mitigate flood hazards to be allocated as follows:

(A) \$14,750,000 to the Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management, for a State-level buyout program for flood-vulnerable parcels; and

(B) \$250,000 to the Department of Environmental Conservation to provide technical assistance to the statewide hazard mitigation program.

(7) \$4,760,000 to the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets to provide farms in Vermont with financial assistance for the implementation of soil-based practices that improve soil quality and nutrient retention, increase crop production, minimize erosion potential, and reduce agricultural waste discharges. Assistance may take the form of programs that provide education, training, or instruction to farmers.

(8) \$1,000,000 to the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation for the Urban and Community Forestry (UCF) Program to plant up to 5,000 trees to improve air quality and reduce heat island effects in urban areas in accordance with UCF program standards for design, planting, and maintenance.

(b) In fiscal year 2023, \$32,200,000 is appropriated from the General Fund and \$500,000 is appropriated from the Transportation Fund for electric vehicle

charging infrastructure, electrification incentives and public transportation investments as follows:

(1) \$10,000,000 to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development to dwellings, workplaces, community venues and attractions in accordance with Sec. E.903 of this act.

(2) \$12,000,000 to the Agency of Transportation for the Incentive Program for New PEVs, established in 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 59, Sec. 34, as amended.

(3) \$2,000,000 to the Agency of Transportation for the public-private partnership with Drive Electric Vermont to support the expansion of the plug-in electric vehicle market in the State.

(4) \$3,000,000 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.

(5) \$3,000,000 to the Agency of Transportation for the Replace Your Ride Program, established in 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 55, Sec. 27, as amended.

(6) \$2,200,000 general funds and \$500,000 Transportation funds to the Agency of Transportation for the following:

(A) \$1,200,000 general funds for transit agencies to, as practicable and in the sole discretion of the transit agencies, operate routes other than commuter and LINK Express on a zero-fare basis and provide service at pre-COVID-19 levels; and

(B) \$1,000,000 general funds and \$500,000 Transportation funds to continue administering the Mobility and Transportation Innovation (MTI) Grant program to support projects that improve both mobility and access to services for transit-dependent Vermonters, reduce the use of single-occupancy vehicles, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

(c) In fiscal year 2023, \$8,000,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Public Service to offer up to 70 percent reimbursement to municipal and cooperative electrical distribution utilities for the implementation of one or more systems of Advanced Metering Infrastructure that has been approved by the Public Utility Commission.

(d) Additional funding of \$35,000,000 is included H.518 from ARPA resources for a Municipal Energy Resilience Grant Program.

* * * Clean Water Investments * * *

Sec. G.700 WATER AND SEWER INVESTMENTS

(a) In fiscal year 2023, \$94,000,000 is appropriated from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds as follows:

(1) \$31,000,000 for Stormwater Retrofit Projects 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. These funds shall be allocated as follows:

(A) \$30,000,000 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 permitting, design, and construction services; and

(B) \$1,000,000 to the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation to support compliance with the three-acre stormwater rule.

(2) \$35,000,000 to the Department of Environmental Conservation to support water and wastewater projects and pretreatment activities, as follows:

(A) \$15,000,000 to support the design and construction of community-scale water or decentralized wastewater projects, or both, to support underserved designated centers;

(B) \$5,000,000 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; and

(C) \$15,000,000 to municipalities with small and primarily residential customer bases to upgrade or replace existing water or wastewater treatment systems that are at risk of failure.

(3) \$20,000,000 to the Department of Environmental Conservation to assist municipalities to design and construct projects to reduce or eliminate wet weather sewer overflows.

(4) \$13,000,000 to make repairs or improvements to water and wastewater systems in Vermont homes to be allocated as follows:

(A) \$6,500,000 to the Department of Environmental Conservation for improving water/wastewater systems at coop-owned or nonprofit mobile home parks (MHPs);

(B) \$5,000,000 to the Department of Environmental Conservation to replace failed on-site wastewater and water supplies for Vermonters with low income or who are unable to access or afford market rate loans; and

(C) \$1,500,000 to the Department of Housing and Community Development to update leaking service lines, old plumbing, and replacing outdated fixtures (sinks, toilets, dishwashers, laundry) with high-efficiency devices.

Sec. G.701 APPROPRIATIONS: OFFSET CAPITAL BILL FUNDED
PROJECTS BY SWAP TO ARPA

(a) Fiscal year 2022. \$500,000 in fiscal year 2022 is appropriated from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds to the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation for forestry access road water quality improvements.

(b) Fiscal year 2023. \$5,236,781 in fiscal year 2023 is appropriated from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds for projects authorized in the fiscal year 2023 Capital Budget Adjustment Act. as follows:

(1) \$600,000 to the Department of Buildings and General Services for three-acre parcel stormwater planning, design, and implementation;

(2) \$300,000 to the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation for State parks major maintenance;

(3) \$585,000 to the Department of Environmental Conservation for Municipal Pollution Control Grants;

(4) \$700,000 to the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation for forestry access road water quality improvements;

(5) \$2,451,781 to the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets for water quality grants; and

(6) \$600,000 to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board for agricultural water quality projects.

Sec. G.702 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec. G.700(c) is amended to read as follows:

~~(c) \$15,000,000 to be used to~~ 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~~ 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.

* * * Administration * * *

Sec. G.800 ARPA FUNDED LIMITED-SERVICE POSITIONS

(a) The establishment of the following 23 new classified limited-service positions is authorized in fiscal year 2023.

(1) Agency of Administration: one Grants Manager.

(2) Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets: two Water Quality Program Coordinators.

(3) Public Service Department:

(A) one Administrative Services Coordinator;

(B) one Outreach Coordinator;

(C) one Grants Manager;

(D) one Financial Manager; and

(E) one Program Coordinator.

(4) Vermont Community Broadband Board:

(A) one Fiscal and Federal Reporting Specialist;

(B) one Rural Broadband Technical Specialist;

(C) one Business Office Manager; and

(D) one Digital Equity Office Manager.

(E) Vermont Community Broadband Board: one Fiber Optics Engineer.

(5) Natural Resources Board:

(A) two District Coordinators; and

(B) one Executive Director.

(6) Agency of Human Services, Office of Economic Opportunity:

(A) one Senior Energy Services Program Officer; and

(B) two Energy Services Program Officers.

(7) Department of Labor: three Program Technicians.

(8) Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation: one Environmental Analyst III.

(9) Agency of Natural Resources, Central Office: one Environmental Analyst III.

(10) Agency of Transportation:

(A) one Grants Management Specialist; and

(B) one Grants Manager.

Sec. G.801 APPROPRIATION FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS

(a) \$10,500,000 in fiscal year 2023 is appropriated from the American Rescue Plan Act - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds to the Agency of Administration to be distributed as needed to address the statewide costs of administering these funds, including the costs of related limited-service positions, and contracting for programs and services.

* * * Effective Dates * * *

Sec. H.100 EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) This section and Secs C.100 through C.111 (fiscal year 2022 one-time appropriations, adjustments, and amendments), E.240.1 (7 V.S.A. § 845), E.240.2 (32 V.S.A. § 7909), E.240.3 (repeal of 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 164, Sec. 6(c), and E.240.4 (repeal of 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 164, Sec. 33(h)); G.701(a) (offset capital funds by swap to ARPA) and Sec. G.702 (amendment to 2021 Acts and Resolves No.74, Sec. G.700(c)) shall take effect upon passage.

(b) Notwithstanding 1 V.S.A. § 214, Sec. E.702 (Fish and Wildlife) shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

(c) Notwithstanding 1 V.S.A. § 214, Sec. E.240.5 (7 V.S.A. § 845) and E.240.6 (32 V.S.A. § 7909(a)) shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

(d) Notwithstanding 1 V.S.A. § 214, Secs. E.709 and E.709.1 (definition of release; PCBs) shall take effect retroactively on July 1, 2021.

(e) All remaining sections shall take effect on July 1, 2022.

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.

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

Thereupon, the bill was read the second time by title only pursuant to Rule 43, the proposal of amendment was agreed to on a roll call, Yeas 28, Nays 2.

Senator Brock 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, Pearson, Perchlik, Pollina, Ram Hinsdale, Sears, Sirotkin, Starr, Westman, White.

Those Senators who voted in the negative were: Parent, Terenzini.

*Senator Brock explained his vote as follows:

“My vote in favor of H.740 is made with mixed feelings. This budget contains many good things that I support. I am grateful to the Chair of the Appropriations Committee for successfully managing this gargantuan task. I think that much of this will strengthen our state and help our people and businesses recover from the Covid pandemic. But I am concerned that we have focused far too much on short-term government programs and far too little on making the transformational investments that we need to make lasting change. As the Governor has stated, we must not squander this once in a generation opportunity to use federal funds and state surpluses to give Vermonters relief from rising costs and create lasting transformative changes in our struggling rural communities.”

Thereupon, third reading of the bill was ordered.

House Proposals of Amendment Concurred In

S. 72.

House proposals of amendment to Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children.

Were taken up.

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

First: In Sec. 2, 33 V.S.A. chapter 59, in subdivision 5902(20), by striking out “he or she” and inserting in lieu thereof the person

Second: In Sec. 2, 33 V.S.A. chapter 59, in subdivision 5903(a)(3), by striking out “The” and inserting in lieu thereof the

Third: In Sec. 2, 33 V.S.A. chapter 59, in subdivision 5903(b)(4), by striking out “his or her” and inserting in lieu thereof the child’s

Fourth: In Sec. 2, 33 V.S.A. chapter 59, in subdivision 5903(b)(7), by striking out his or her

Fifth: In Sec. 2, 33 V.S.A. chapter 59, in subdivision 5904(d)(7), after the word “receiving”, by striking out the

Sixth: In Sec. 2, 33 V.S.A. chapter 59, in subdivision 5908(2)(D), by striking out “his or her” and inserting in lieu thereof the

Seventh: In Sec. 2, 33 V.S.A. chapter 59, in section 5924, by striking out “his or her” and inserting in lieu thereof the child’s

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

House Proposals of Amendment Concurred In

S. 171.

House proposals of amendment to Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to adoption of a State code of ethics.

Were taken up.

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

First: In Sec. 1, 3 V.S.A. chapter 31, subchapter 1, by striking out section 1205 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new section 1205 to read as follows:

§ 1205. MANDATORY CODE OF ETHICS EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Within the first 120 days of public service, a public servant shall engage in State Code of Ethics training, which may be in person or online. Completion of State Code of Ethics training shall be documented by the department where the public servant is employed. A public servant shall participate in continuing State Code of Ethics education, which may be in person or online, at least once every three years thereafter. Approved continuing State Code of Ethics education providers are the State Ethics Commission, the Department of Human Resources – Center for Achievement in Public Service (CAPS), the Vermont House of Representatives Ethics Panel for the House of Representatives, the Vermont Senate Ethics Panel for the Senate, the Vermont Supreme Court and the Court Administrator’s Office for the Vermont Judiciary, and any education providers approved by the State Ethics Commission. Copies of State Code of Ethics training materials by ethics

education providers shall be provided to the State Ethics Commission in advance of the training. On request, the State Ethics Commission may collaborate with or assist State Code of Ethics education providers.

Second: By adding a new section to be Sec. 2a to read as follows:

Sec. 2a. 3 V.S.A. § 1226 is amended to read:

§ 1226. COMMISSION REPORTS

Annually, on or before January 15, the Commission shall report to the General Assembly regarding the following issues:

(1) Complaints. The number and a summary of the complaints made to it, separating the complaints by topic, and the disposition of those complaints, including any prosecution, enforcement action, or dismissal. This summary of complaints shall not include any personal identifying information.

(2) Guidance and training.

(A) Guidance. The number of requests for and a summary of the guidance the Executive Director provided, separating the guidance by topic. This summary of guidance shall not include any personal identifying information.

(B) Training. An estimate of the number of Code of Ethics trainings conducted by each branch of government, a summary of the training activities undertaken by the Ethics Commission, and a summary of any recommendations the Commission or the Executive Director made to any branch of State government regarding additional training or more in-depth training for particular provisions of the Code of Ethics.

(3) Recommendations. Any recommendations for legislative action to address State governmental ethics or provisions of campaign finance law.

Third: In Sec. 1, 3 V.S.A. chapter 31, subchapter 1, in section 1203g, in subsection (a), by striking out subdivision (7) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subdivision (7) to read as follows:

(7) Admission fees and tickets. A public servant may accept free attendance to a widely attended charitable, cultural, political, or civic event at which a public servant participates in the public servant's official capacity, provided such tickets or admission is provided by the primary sponsoring entity. Free attendance may include all or part of the cost of admission; transportation to and from the event; and food, refreshments, entertainment, and instructional materials provided to all event attendees.

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

Senate Resolution Amended; Third Reading Ordered**S.R. 16.**

Senator White, for the Committee on Government Operations, to which was referred Senate resolution entitled:

Senate resolution urging the United States Postal Service to improve immediately the reliability and timeliness of its deliveries and requesting that Congress take any necessary legislative actions to effectuate this objective.

Reported recommending that the Senate resolution be amended by striking out all after the title and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Whereas, even in the digital age, the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) remains essential for Vermonters and Vermont's economy, and

Whereas, to improve USPS revenues, U.S. Postmaster General Louis DeJoy and the Postal Board of Governors adopted a 10-year USPS transformation plan entitled "Delivering for America," which focuses more on profitability and less on timely service, and

Whereas, the 10-year plan includes an intentional slowing, from three to six days, of the USPS delivery standard for first-class mail, and

Whereas, this standard is resulting in deteriorating postal service nationwide, as seen in the fact that approximately 92 percent of first-class mail was delivered on time in the first quarter of 2020 while, during the same period in 2021, that figure fell to 78 percent, and

Whereas, many Vermont communities, including Barre, Bennington, Marshfield, Montpelier, Pownal, Shaftsbury, Stowe, and Williston, have experienced extensive USPS delivery delays, and

Whereas, the late receipt of credit card and utility bills may result in damage to a person's credit rating or the suspension of a basic utility service, and

Whereas, the tardy arrival of critical medications sent via USPS could be life threatening, and

Whereas, the Bennington Post Office informed an individual that the delivery of packages would be delayed until the post office had the time or staff, or both, to deliver them, and yet, a full workweek after a stated delivery date had passed, the parcels remained undelivered, and

Whereas, the shortcomings of the USPS are also impacting businesses such as Vermont News & Media, which publishes the *Bennington Banner*, the *Brattleboro Reformer*, and the *Manchester Journal*, and

Whereas, the company attributes the cancellation of over 200 newspaper subscriptions in Bennington and Windham Counties and an anticipated revenue loss of at least \$45,000 to the USPS, and this is merely one example of the negative financial effects of USPS delivery delays on Vermont corporations, and

Whereas, the USPS's new "Delivering for America" plan is causing significant harm to the health and economic livelihoods of individuals and corporations in Vermont and nationally and should be immediately reassessed, and

Whereas, constraining directives from USPS headquarters limit the excellent customer service that dedicated employees have shown in the past, and

Whereas, the combination of climatic, road, and terrain conditions in Vermont necessitates that USPS vehicles be equipped to meet our State's challenging and, at times, unique travel circumstances, and

Whereas, the postal problems Vermonters are encountering are due to flawed national USPS policies and are not the fault of the hard-working USPS employees in Vermont, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate:

That the Senate of the State of Vermont urges the U.S. Postal Service to reassess its 10-year transformation plan with the goal of immediately restoring the reliability and timeliness of mail delivery to the standard that existed prior to the plan's implementation, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Senate of the State of Vermont urges USPS administrators to allow local USPS employees more autonomy in the provision of excellent customer service to local patrons, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Senate of the State of Vermont urges USPS to purchase vehicles that are equipped to meet our State's challenging and, at times, unique travel conditions, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to send a copy of this resolution to U.S. Postmaster General Louis DeJoy, the Postal Board of Governors, the Chair of the U.S. House Committee on Oversight and Reform's Subcommittee on Government Operations, the U.S. House and Senate Majority and Minority Leaders, and the Vermont Congressional Delegation.

And that when so amended the resolution ought to pass.

Thereupon, the Senate 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 resolution was ordered.

Rules Suspended; Bill Committed

Pending entry on the Calendar for notice, on motion of Senator Benning the rules were suspended and House bill entitled:

H. 739. An act relating to capital construction and State bonding budget adjustmentAn act relating to a universal, publicly financed primary care system.

was committed to the Committee on Appropriations pursuant to Rule 31 with the report of the Committee on Institutions *intact*,

Which was agreed to.

Rules Suspended; Bill Committed

H. 466.

Appearing on the Calendar for notice, on motion of Senator Bray, the rules were suspended and House bill entitled:

An act relating to surface water withdrawals and interbasin transfers.

Was taken up for immediate consideration.

Thereupon, pending the reading of the report of the Committee on Agriculture, Senator Bray moved that Senate Rule 49 be suspended in order to commit the bill to the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy with the report of the Committee on Agriculture *intact*,

Which was agreed to.

Adjournment

On motion of Senator Balint, the Senate adjourned until one o'clock in the afternoon on Wednesday, April 20, 2022.