

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Appropriations to which was referred House Bill No.  
3 703 entitled “An act relating to promoting workforce development”  
4 respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the  
5 bill as amended by the Committee on Ways and Means be further amended as  
6 follows:

7 First: By striking out Sec. 1 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a  
8 new Sec. 1 to read:

9 Sec. 1. IMMEDIATE STRATEGIES AND FUNDING FOR EXPANDING  
10 THE LABOR FORCE; INCREASING THE NUMBER OF  
11 PARTICIPANTS AND PARTICIPATION RATES;  
12 APPROPRIATIONS

13 (a) In fiscal year 2023, the following amounts are appropriated from the  
14 General Fund to the following recipients for the purposes specified:

15 (1) \$2,500,000.00 to the University of Vermont Office of Engagement,  
16 in consultation with the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation, to  
17 administer a statewide forgivable loan program of \$5,000.00 per graduate for  
18 recent college graduates across all Vermont higher education institutions who  
19 commit to work in Vermont for two years after graduation.

20 (2) \$387,000.00 to Vermont Technical College to develop a skilled meat  
21 cutter training and apprenticeship facility.

1       (b) In fiscal year 2023, the amount of \$500,000.00 is appropriated from the  
2 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery  
3 Funds to the Agency of Human Services to provide grants, which may be  
4 administered through a performance-based contract, to refugee- or New  
5 American-focused programs working in Vermont to support increased in-  
6 migration or retention of recent arrivals.

7       Second: In Sec. 4 (Investment in the Up-skilling of Private Sector  
8 Employers) by striking out “\$500,000.00” and inserting in lieu thereof  
9 “\$250,000.00”

10       Third: By striking out Sec. 5 (Regional Workforce Expansion System) in  
11 its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof “[Reserved.]”

12       Fourth: By inserting a new Sec. 7a to read:  
13 Sec. 7a. WORK-BASED LEARNING AND TRAINING PROGRAM;

14                   APPROPRIATION

15       In fiscal year 2023 the amount of \$1,500,000.00 is appropriated from the  
16 General Fund to the Department of Labor to implement the Vermont Work-  
17 Based Learning and Training Program created in Sec. 8 of this act.

18       Fifth: In Sec. 8a (Internship Cost Offset Initiative) by striking out  
19 “\$3,000,000” and inserting in lieu thereof “\$1,500,000.00”

20       Sixth: By striking out Sec. 12 (Early Childhood Educator Recruitment) in  
21 its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof “[Reserved.]”



1 Board's Health Resource Allocation Plan responsibilities pursuant to 18  
2 V.S.A. § 9405.

3 (b) The Center shall use existing statewide information to the extent  
4 practicable to avoid imposing administrative burdens on health care providers  
5 and to avoid duplication of efforts underway elsewhere in Vermont. The  
6 Center shall expand its data collection practices over two years to include all  
7 levels of the health care workforce, beginning with the highest-level licensed  
8 health care professionals.

9 (c) In order to ensure the Center has access to accurate and timely health  
10 care workforce data, the Center:

11 (1) shall have the cooperation of other State agencies and departments in  
12 responding to the Center's requests for information;

13 (2) may enter into data use agreements with institutions of higher  
14 education and other public and private entities, to the extent permitted under  
15 State and federal law; and

16 (3) may collect vacancy and turnover information from health care  
17 employers.

18 (d) One classified, full-time Health Care Workforce Data Center Manager  
19 position is created in the Agency of Human Services, Office of Health Care  
20 Reform in fiscal year 2023 to manage the Health Care Workforce Data Center  
21 created pursuant to this section.

1       (e) The Agency of Human Services may include proposals for additional  
2       funding or data access, or both, for the Center as part of the Agency’s fiscal  
3       year 2024 budget request.

4       Eleventh: In Sec. 36 (Advance Vermont Public-Private Partnership), in  
5       subsection (d), by striking out “\$350,000.00” and inserting in lieu thereof  
6       “150,000.00”

7       Twelfth: In Sec. 37 (Vermont Serve, Learn, and Earn Program) by striking  
8       out “\$3,200,000.00” and inserting in lieu thereof “2,000,000.00”

9       Thirteenth: By redesignating Sec. 39 (Effective Dates) as Sec. 41 and  
10       inserting new Secs. 39 and 40 to read:

11       Sec. 39. VERMONT FOREST FUTURE STRATEGIC ROADMAP;

12                    APPROPRIATIONS

13       In addition to any other funds appropriated to the Department of Forests,  
14       Parks and Recreation, in fiscal year 2023 the amount of \$250,000.00 is  
15       appropriated from the General Fund to the Department to enter a two-year  
16       contract in fiscal year 2023 for the purpose of contracting for the development  
17       of the Vermont Forest Future Strategic Roadmap required by 10 V.S.A.  
18       § 2531.

19       Sec. 40. ECONOMIC RECOVERY GRANT PROGRAM; REVERSION

20       Any amounts remaining in the Economic Recovery Grant Program within  
21       the Agency of Commerce and Community Development shall revert to the

- 1 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery
- 2 Funds.
- 3 Fourteenth: In Secs. 4, 8a, 9, 14, 15, 16, 21, 23, and 35 by striking out
- 4 “General Fund” and inserting in lieu thereof “American Rescue Plan Act
- 5 (ARPA) – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds”