

Dear Members of the House Human Services Committee,

We are writing to offer some brief thoughts on DAIL's proposed reinvestments in the Budget Adjustment Act. We strongly support the majority of the Administration's suggestions. We do have one concern regarding the reinvestment of \$1,121,721.04 in upgrades to the APS IT system. To be clear, it's not that we don't support this funding and upgrade to the APS IT system. As you know COVE has long supported a more effective APS system and we think updating the IT system would be a helpful part of that. However, we are concerned that the use of CFC savings for this purpose doesn't effectuate the statutory prioritization of the use of savings for reinvestment in "home-and community-based services." 33 VSA 7602(b). Given the amount of federal dollars available for a variety of purposes, we would encourage the committee to utilize those dollars for APS IT upgrades and reinvest this money to address the many acute needs that currently exist for HCBS providers and participants.

Thank you,

Ruby Baker (she/her)
Executive Director
Community of Vermont Elders
www.vermontelders.org

"Teeny tiny fires do result in change; it all depends on proper placement."
~Linda Deliduka

