



**STATE OF VERMONT**  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CORRECTIONS  
AND INSTITUTIONS

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**MEMORANDUM**

To: Members, House Committee on Appropriations  
From: Members, House Committee on Corrections and Institutions  
Date: January 11, 2022  
Subject: Provisions in the Governor's Recommended FY 2022 Budget Adjustment

The House Committee on Corrections and Institutions (Committee) thanks the House Committee on Appropriations for the opportunity to comment on the following provisions in the Governor's FY 2022 Budget Adjustment proposal:

**1. Transfer of Unexpended Funds from Out-of-State Beds**

The Committee recommends that in FY 2023, transfers of unexpended funds from out-of-state beds made to other correctional services are prohibited. The Committee supports that at the end of FY 2022, any unexpended funds from out-of-state beds are carried forward to FY 2023 and used for community-based service programs, as approved by the Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee. The Committee further recommends that the House Committee on Appropriations investigate how to specifically target the carry forward funds to Justice Reinvestment II initiatives in the FY 2023 Budget.

The Committee has provided draft language below.

**2. Transfer of Funds to the Correctional Industries Internal Services Fund**

The Committee supports addressing the deficit balance of \$1,877,092 in the Correctional Industries Internal Services Fund but recommends addressing it in FY 2023 and not FY 2022. The Committee also recommends a broader study to conduct a systemic evaluation of the operations of the Vermont Correctional Industries.

**3. Ongoing Operations and Maintenance Cost for the Green River Dam**

The Committee supports evaluating and providing an analysis of the capital and ongoing operations and maintenance costs of the Green River Dam but recommends that this evaluation occur in FY 2023.

**4. Recruiting and Retention of Corrections Officers**

The Committee supports the \$4,934,590.00 appropriation to the Department of Corrections for recruiting and retention of corrections officers but recommends language to develop a long-term comprehensive plan for recruitment and retention of corrections officers.

## **5. State House Expansion**

The Committee recommends appropriating \$1,500,000.00 to the Department of Buildings and General Services for a request for proposal (RFP) for programming and schematic design development for the expansion of the State House, including the infrastructure needs for any future phases of expansion. The Committee also recommends that this RFP be issued by the Department of Buildings and General Services, but that the development and any related work on the RFP be done in coordination with the Office of the Sergeant at Arms.

## **6. Transfer to the Property Management Fund**

The Committee supports appropriating \$10,000,000 to pay down the deficit in the Fund but recommends that this is addressed in the FY 2023 Budget.

## **7. Redemption of General Obligation Bonds**

The Committee supports authorizing the State Treasurer to redeem, prior to maturity, \$20,000,000 in the State's general obligation bonds that are eligible for redemption, provided that the redemption occurs in FY 2023.

## **Proposed Language**

Sec. E.335 CORRECTIONS APPROPRIATIONS; UNEXPENDED FUNDS

TRANSFER; JUSTICE REINVESTMENT; REPORT

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

(b) In fiscal year 2022, any unexpended funds for correctional services out-of-state beds shall be carried forward to fiscal year 2023, and the amount reported to the Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee in September 2022, to provide additional funding to community-based service programs in support of Justice Reinvestment II initiatives. Funds may only be expended on community-based service programs upon

approval of the Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee. Prior to approval, the House Committees on Appropriations and on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Judiciary shall be notified of any proposed expenditures on community-based service programs.