

1 **[PROVIDE A DIFFERENT FUNDING STRUCTURE FOR CERTAIN ON-**
2 **SYSTEM BRIDGES – DIFFERENCES FROM THE**
3 **ADMINISTRATION’S PROPOSAL HIGHLIGHTED]**

4 * * * Bridge Formula Program * * *

5 Sec. 4a. BRIDGE FORMULA PROGRAM; OFF-SYSTEM BRIDGES

6 (a) Findings. The General Assembly finds that:

7 (1) the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Pub. L. No. 117-58
8 (IIJA) provides Vermont with \$225,000,000.00 in Bridge Formula Program
9 funding for federal fiscal years 2022 through 2026;

10 (2) the Bridge Formula Program funds are to be used for the
11 preservation and replacement of bridges;

12 (3) as part of the Bridge Formula Program, states are required to allocate
13 a minimum of 15 percent of the funding to address off-system bridge needs,
14 where off-system bridges are those that are located along roadways off the
15 federal aid system;

16 (4) in Vermont, roadways off the federal aid system are primarily owned
17 and maintained by municipalities; and

18 (5) under the IIJA, the federal share of funding for municipally owned
19 off-system bridges is 100 percent.

1 (b) Priority implementation. In order to implement and allocate the Bridge
2 Formula Program funding, the Agency of Transportation is directed to
3 simultaneously:

4 (1)(A) Fund at 100 percent federal share the construction phase of all
5 off-system bridges in the Fiscal Year 2023 Transportation Program for Town
6 Highway Bridges that:

7 (i) were not authorized for federal funds for the construction phase
8 of the pending project prior to the Fiscal Year 2023 Transportation Program;
9 and

10 (ii) are either listed as a front-of-book project or development and
11 evaluation (D&E) project in the Fiscal Year 2023 Transportation Program.

12 (B) Fund at 80 percent federal, 15 percent State, and 5 percent
13 municipal share the construction phase of all federal aid bridges in the Fiscal
14 Year 2023 Transportation Program for Town Highway Bridges that:

15 (i) were not authorized for federal funds for the construction phase
16 of the pending project prior to the Fiscal Year 2023 Transportation Program;

17 (ii) are listed as a front-of-book project in the Fiscal Year 2023
18 Transportation Program; and

19 (iii) are in a municipality where the annual median household
20 income in 2019 dollars as reported by the U.S. Census Bureau is less than the

1 annual State median household income in 2019 dollars as reported by the U.S.
2 Census Bureau, which is \$61,973.00.

3 (C) The engineering (PE) and right-of-way (ROW) phases of projects
4 to be funded under subdivisions (A) and (B) of this subdivision (1) shall
5 continue to be funded at 80 percent federal, 10 percent State, and 10 percent
6 municipal.

7 (2)(A) In the Fiscal Year 2023 through 2029 Transportation Programs,
8 fund the construction phase of off-system covered bridges and off-system
9 historic truss bridges within the Transportation Programs for Town Highway
10 Bridges based on the prioritization of covered bridges and historic truss bridges
11 under the prioritization process outlined in 19 V.S.A. § 10g(l) at 100 percent
12 federal share.

13 (B) The engineering (PE) and right-of-way (ROW) phases of projects
14 to be funded at 100 percent federal share under subdivision (A) of this
15 subdivision (2) shall continue to be funded at 80 percent federal, 10 percent
16 State, and 10 percent municipal.

17 (c) Secondary implementation. Should funding through the federal Bridge
18 Formula Program remain available following the implementation delineated
19 under subsection (b) of this section, town highway bridges shall be advanced
20 based on the prioritization process outlined in 19 V.S.A. § 10g(l).

1 Sec. 4b. REPEAL

2 Sec. 4a (Bridge Formula Program; off-system bridges) of this act is
3 repealed on October 1, 2029, at the conclusion of the authorized
4 implementation period for the IIJA.

5 **[SEC. 4c WILL NEED TO CHANGE BASED ON INFORMATION ON**
6 **PROJECTS FROM VTRANS]**