



**STATE OF VERMONT**  
JOINT FISCAL OFFICE

**MEMORANDUM**

To: Senate Committee on Appropriations  
From: Daniel Dickerson, Senior Fiscal Analyst, Joint Fiscal Office  
Cc: House Committee on Appropriations  
Date: January 6, 2022  
Subject: Joint Fiscal Office FY22 one-time funding requests

This memo outlines FY22 budget adjustment act (BAA) requests from the Joint Fiscal Office that had not yet been settled prior to communications with the Joint Legislative Management Committee and the executive branch. These requests are not in the Governor's FY22 BAA proposal. The two one-time funding requests for JFO are outlined below.

1. In Act 45 of 2021, sec. 14, JFO was tasked with hiring an economist or independent consulting entity to evaluate potential changes to Vermont's childcare funding system. JFO was required to commence this work on or before July 1, 2022 with the final report from the consultant due on or before January 15, 2023.

Given the compressed timeframe and the need to put this work out to bid, JFO is requesting reimbursement transfer authority in the FY22 BAA, which will allow for a consultant to be secured over the next few months. Ideally, once the consultant is secured and the cost of the study is known, JFO will request a one-time appropriation in the FY23 big bill. The proposed language below would allow JFO to expend funds on the study and be reimbursed from the Legislature's budget.

The proposed language would be added on to sec. E.126 in Act 74 of 2021.

*(b) The Joint Fiscal Office shall be reimbursed by a transfer from the Legislative budget for any costs incurred in contracting with an economist or independent consulting entity for the study created in Act 45 of 2021, sec. 14.*

2. JFO has contracted with a consultant over the past few months on behalf of the Health Reform Oversight committee to explore ways of evolving the health care regulatory system in Vermont. This work is largely completed and JFO anticipates that the total cost for the work will be \$33,000. This expense was unbudgeted in FY22 and given some other unbudgeted expenses that have been incurred this fiscal year, JFO is requesting \$33,000 in the FY22 BAA to cover the full anticipated cost for this work, which would be funded from prior-year carry-forward from the Legislature's budget. The movement of funding could happen either through a transfer or a reversion/one-time appropriation.