

Appropriations	
Category	FY 2023 Amount
General Fund	\$10,200,000
ARPA SFR	\$90,700,000
Total	\$100,900,000

Per Diems	
Category	FY 2023 Amount
Total	\$14,000

Table 1. Appropriations

Section	Program	Appropriation Amount	Source	Fiscal Year	Notes
2	New Relocating Employee Incentives	\$6,000,000	General Fund	2023	This bill appropriates \$6 million to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development in FY 2023 for worker recruitment activities. This includes \$1 million to the Agency's base budget to the relocated and remote worker program and \$5 million in one-time funding for the program in FY 2023. It also removes the criteria that relocating workers must work in an occupation on the Vermont Department of Labor's list of "Occupations with the Most Openings" in its "Short Term Employment Projections 2020-2022".
3	Think Vermont Regional Recruitment and Relocation Network	\$4,200,000	General Fund	2023	Appropriates \$4.2 million to the Department of Tourism and Marketing in FY 2023 to expend over the course of two years. Of the total \$1.2 million is to support a regional relocation network which will facilitate recruitment of relocation of individuals to Vermont. The remaining \$3 million is for marketing and promotion purposes to promote Vermont as a relocation destination to attract new residents and generate leads for the regional relocation network.
4	Capital Investment Grant Program	\$40,000,000	ARPA SFR	2022	Appropriates funds to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development to administer the Capital Investment Program. The Agency will reallocate any remaining funds appropriated to the Economic Recovery Grants program in Act 74 of the 2021 legislative session to the Capital Investment Program. Grantees must be able to comply with the Department of Treasury Final Rule and meet certain criteria to be deemed eligible. Grants cannot exceed the lesser of \$1 million or 20 percent of the total project cost. This bill removes the net fiscal impact data model from the previous version of this program and replaces it with the requirement that the Agency of Commerce and Community Development develop guidelines in coordination with the Joint Fiscal Office and approved by the Joint Fiscal Committee. The Agency may also designate one or more sectors for priority consideration in the application process including arts and culture, travel, lodging, tourism, agriculture, and child care.
5	VEDA Short-Term Forgivable Loan Program	\$20,000,000	ARPA SFR	2022	Appropriates funds to VEDA in FY 2022 to operate the Short-Term Forgivable Loan Program. Eligible borrowers must have fewer than 500 employees located in Vermont and must identify economic harm caused by the pandemic. Economic harm will be measured by a material decline in annual adjusted net operating income from before and after the COVID-19 pandemic. The Agency will consider previous state or federal assistance in connection with the pandemic, reasonable owner's compensation, noncash expenses and other adjustments deemed appropriate. Loaned amounts are to be used for eligible fixed or operating expenses, and the loan is not to exceed the lesser of \$150,000 or three months of eligible costs and will not consider employer's compensation in excess of \$100,000. VEDA will consult with the Joint Fiscal Office to establish guidelines.

Table 1. Appropriations

Section	Program	Appropriation Amount	Source	Fiscal Year	Notes
14a	COVID-19-Related Paid Leave Grant Program	\$16,500,000	ARPA SFR	2023	Appropriates funds to the Agency of Administration in FY 2023 to provide grants to reimburse employers for costs associated with providing COVID-19-related sick leave. The program period begins on January 1, 2022 and ends December 31, 2022. These grants may include retroactive reimbursement for past paid leave costs for COVID-19-related reasons. Grants will be determined based on the number of hours missed due to COVID-19-related leave multiplied by the greater of either 67 percent of the minimum wage or 67 percent of the employee's regular hourly wage. The maximum amount an employer may receive for each employee cannot exceed \$27.50 per hour of leave and not exceed \$2,200 per employee during the program period. No more than 5 percent of the appropriation may be used for administrative costs.
14c	Paid Family and Medical Leave; Task Force; Report	\$200,000	ARPA SFR	2023	Appropriates funds to the General Assembly in FY 2023 to create the Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Task Force to reexamine the work and report of the Study Committee on Employee Funded Paid Leave and to investigate proven and tested paid family and medical leave programs nationally in order to identify best practices for the potential enactment of a paid family and medical leave insurance program in Vermont, including both universal and voluntary models. Includes consulting support and per diems and expenses for Task Force members for up to six meetings.
14d-j	Unemployment Insurance Supplemental Benefits	\$8,000,000	ARPA SFR	2023	Establishes and appropriates funds in FY 2023 to the Unemployment Insurance COVID-19 Supplemental Benefit Special Fund to cover 24 months. Not more than 5 percent of these funds may be used for administrative costs. The special fund will provide to qualifying individuals beginning on July 1, 2022 a supplemental \$25.00 per week. This temporary supplement will add \$25.00 per week to unemployment benefits after their regular benefit has been determined under the current Unemployment Insurance program. The supplemental benefit will not count towards the maximum allowable benefit of 57 percent of the State annual average weekly wage. The program is repealed on July 1, 2024.
15	Brownfields	\$6,000,000	ARPA SFR	2022	Appropriates funds to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development to use in the same manner as the Brownfields Revitalization Fund without the limitation that projects supported are limited to \$200,000 in grants per parcel.
15	Downtown Development	\$485,000	Reallocation	2023	Stipulated that of the funds already appropriated to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development that up to \$485,000 may be used through the Better Places Program, Think Vermont Initiative or other programs that promote downtown development to provide funding to nonprofit organizations that sponsor downtown designation.
Total Appropriations		\$101,385,000			
Total General Fund Appropriations		\$10,200,000			
Total ARPA SFR Appropriations		\$90,700,000			
Total Reallocations		\$485,000			

Table 2. Per Diems and Expenses for Task Forces and Study Committee

Task Forces and Study Committee	Number of Members	Number of Meetings	Per Diem Amount	Per Diem Subtotal	Total Per Diem Expenditure	Notes
Paid Family Leave Task Force	6	6	\$224.75	\$8,100	\$8,100	6 members of the legislature
Film Commission Task Force	2	4	\$224.75	\$1,800	\$2,300	2 members of the legislature
	1	4	\$126.25	\$500		1 member of the Vermont Arts Council
Sports Betting Study Committee	4	4	\$224.75	\$3,600	\$3,600	4 members of the legislature
Total					\$14,000	