No. 113
2024

No. 113. An act relating to making appropriations for the support of government.

(H.883)

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

* * * Purpose, Definitions, Legend * * *

Sec. A.100 SHORT TITLE

(a) This bill may be referred to as the “BIG BILL – Fiscal Year 2025 Appropriations Act.”

Sec. A.101 PURPOSE

(a) The purpose of this act is to provide appropriations for the operations of State government and for capital appropriations not funded with bond proceeds during fiscal year 2025. It is the express intent of the General Assembly that activities of the various agencies, departments, divisions, boards, and commissions be limited to those that can be supported by funds appropriated in this act or other acts passed prior to June 30, 2024. Agency and department heads are directed to implement staffing and service levels at the beginning of fiscal year 2025 so as to meet this condition unless otherwise directed by specific language in this act or other acts of the General Assembly.

Sec. A.102 APPROPRIATIONS

(a) It is the intent of the General Assembly that this act serves as the primary source and reference for appropriations for the operations of State government and for capital appropriations not funded with bond proceeds for fiscal year 2025.
(b) The sums herein stated are appropriated for the purposes specified in the following sections of this act. When no time is expressly stated during which any of the appropriations are to continue, the appropriations are single-year appropriations and only for the purpose indicated and shall be paid from funds shown as the source of funds. If in this act there is an error in either addition or subtraction, the totals shall be adjusted accordingly. Apparent errors in referring to section numbers of statutory titles within this act may be disregarded by the Commissioner of Finance and Management.

(c) Unless codified or otherwise specified, all narrative portions of this act apply only to the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2025.

Sec. A.103 DEFINITIONS

(a) As used in this act:

(1) “Capital appropriation” means an appropriation for tangible capital investments or expenses that are eligible to be funded from general obligation debt financing and are allowed under federal laws governing the use of State bond proceeds as described in 32 V.S.A. § 309.

(2) “Encumbrances” means a portion of an appropriation reserved for the subsequent payment of existing purchase orders or contracts. The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall make final decisions on the appropriateness of encumbrances.

(3) “Grants” means subsidies, aid, or payments to local governments, to community and quasi-public agencies for providing local services, and to
persons who are not wards of the State for services or supplies and means cash or other direct assistance, including pension contributions.

(4) “Operating expenses” means property management; repair and maintenance; rental expenses; insurance; postage; travel; energy and utilities; office and other supplies; equipment, including motor vehicles, highway materials, and construction; expenditures for the purchase of land and construction of new buildings and permanent improvements; and similar items.

(5) “Personal services” means wages and salaries, fringe benefits, per diems, and contracted third-party services, and similar items.

Sec. A.104 RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING LAWS

(a) Except as specifically provided, this act shall not be construed in any way to negate or impair the full force and effect of existing laws.

Sec. A.105 OFFSETTING APPROPRIATIONS

(a) In the absence of specific provisions to the contrary in this act, when total appropriations are offset by estimated receipts, the State appropriations shall control, notwithstanding receipts being greater or less than anticipated.

Sec. A.106 FEDERAL FUNDS

(a) In fiscal year 2025, the Governor, with the approval of the General Assembly or the Joint Fiscal Committee if the General Assembly is not in session, may accept federal funds available to the State of Vermont, including block grants in lieu of, or in addition to, funds herein designated as federal.

The Governor, with the approval of the General Assembly or the Joint Fiscal
Committee if the General Assembly is not in session, may allocate all or any portion of such federal funds for any purpose consistent with the purposes for which the basic appropriations in this act have been made.

(b) If, during fiscal year 2025, federal funds available to the State of Vermont and designated as federal in this and other acts of the 2024 session of the Vermont General Assembly are converted into block grants or are abolished under their current title in federal law and reestablished under a new title in federal law, the Governor may continue to accept such federal funds for any purpose consistent with the purposes for which the federal funds were appropriated. The Governor may spend such funds for such purposes for not more than 45 days prior to General Assembly or Joint Fiscal Committee approval. Notice shall be given to the Joint Fiscal Committee without delay if the Governor intends to use the authority granted by this section, and the Joint Fiscal Committee shall meet in an expedited manner to review the Governor’s request for approval.

Sec. A.107 NEW POSITIONS

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the total number of authorized State positions, both classified and exempt, excluding temporary positions as defined in 3 V.S.A. § 311(a)(11), shall not be increased during fiscal year 2025 except for new positions authorized by the 2024 session. Limited service positions approved pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 5 shall not be subject to this restriction.
Sec. A.108  LEGEND

(a) The bill is organized by functions of government. The sections between B.100 and B.9999 contain appropriations of funds for the upcoming budget year. The sections between E.100 and E.9999 contain language that relates to specific appropriations or government functions, or both. The function areas by section numbers are as follows:

- B.100–B.199 and E.100–E.199: General Government
- B.200–B.299 and E.200–E.299: Protection to Persons and Property
- B.300–B.399 and E.300–E.399: Human Services
- B.400–B.499 and E.400–E.499: Labor
- B.500–B.599 and E.500–E.599: General Education
- B.600–B.699 and E.600–E.699: Higher Education
- B.700–B.799 and E.700–E.799: Natural Resources
- B.800–B.899 and E.800–E.899: Commerce and Community Development
- B.900–B.999 and E.900–E.999: Transportation
- B.1000–B.1099 and E.1000–E.1099: Debt Service
- B.1100–B.1199 and E.1100–E.1199: One-time and other appropriation actions

(b) The C sections contain any amendments to the current fiscal year, the D sections contain fund transfers and reserve allocations for the upcoming budget.
year, the F sections contain adjustments to financial regulation fees, and the G sections contain the Pay Act. The H section includes effective dates.

*** Fiscal Year 2025 Base Appropriations ***

Sec. B.100 Secretary of administration - secretary’s office

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
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<td>Grants</td>
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Source of funds

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<tr>
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<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Internal service funds</td>
<td>437,265</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental transfers</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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Sec. B.101 Secretary of administration - finance

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Source of funds

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Sec. B.102 Secretary of administration - workers’ compensation insurance

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Source of funds

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Sec. B.103 Secretary of administration - general liability insurance

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Source of funds

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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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Sec. B.104 Secretary of administration - all other insurance

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Source of funds

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<td>323,692</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>323,692</td>
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Sec. B.105  Agency of digital services - communications and information technology  

- Personal services: 82,994,362  
- Operating expenses: 62,547,212  
- Total: 145,541,574  

Source of funds  

- General fund: 209,808  
- Special funds: 511,723  
- Internal service funds: 144,820,043  
- Total: 145,541,574  

Sec. B.106  Finance and management - budget and management  

- Personal services: 1,526,943  
- Operating expenses: 332,906  
- Total: 1,859,849  

Source of funds  

- General fund: 1,183,688  
- Internal service funds: 666,328  
- Interdepartmental transfers: 9,833  
- Total: 1,859,849  

Sec. B.107  Finance and management - financial operations  

- Personal services: 2,753,093  
- Operating expenses: 887,167
No. 113  
2024

Total 3,640,260

Source of funds

Internal service funds 3,499,357
Interdepartmental transfers 140,903
Total 3,640,260

Sec. B.108  Human resources - operations

Personal services 11,174,144
Operating expenses 1,533,893
Total 12,708,037

Source of funds

General fund 1,835,968
Special funds 242,235
Internal service funds 10,105,741
Interdepartmental transfers 524,093
Total 12,708,037

Sec. B.108.1  Human resources - VTHR operations

Personal services 2,001,756
Operating expenses 897,472
Total 2,899,228

Source of funds

Internal service funds 2,899,228
Total 2,899,228
Sec. B.109 Human resources - employee benefits & wellness

Personal services 1,219,976
Operating expenses 656,818
Total 1,876,794

Source of funds
Internal service funds 1,876,794
Total 1,876,794

Sec. B.110 Libraries

Personal services 2,608,231
Operating expenses 987,312
Grants 272,701
Total 3,868,244

Source of funds
General fund 2,151,812
Special funds 130,971
Federal funds 1,467,374
Interdepartmental transfers 118,087
Total 3,868,244

Sec. B.111 Tax - administration/collection

Personal services 28,375,591
Operating expenses 6,868,137
Total 35,243,728
Source of funds

General fund 23,248,019
Special funds 11,880,709
Interdepartmental transfers 115,000
Total 35,243,728

Sec. B.112 Buildings and general services - administration

Personal services 1,070,354
Operating expenses 229,587
Total 1,299,941

Source of funds

Interdepartmental transfers 1,299,941
Total 1,299,941

Sec. B.113 Buildings and general services - engineering

Personal services 18,881
Operating expenses 1,271,574
Total 1,290,455

Source of funds

General fund 1,290,455
Total 1,290,455

Sec. B.113.1 Buildings and General Services Engineering - Capital Projects

Personal services 2,973,306
Operating expenses 500,000
Sec. B.114 Buildings and general services - information centers

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Source of funds

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<td>Transportation fund</td>
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Sec. B.115 Buildings and general services - purchasing

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<td>Operating expenses</td>
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Source of funds

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<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General fund</td>
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<td>Interdepartmental transfers</td>
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<td>2,708,155</td>
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</table>
Sec. B.116 Buildings and general services - postal services

Personal services  826,840
Operating expenses  177,446
Total  1,004,286

Source of funds
General fund  90,941
Internal service funds  913,345
Total  1,004,286

Sec. B.117 Buildings and general services - copy center

Personal services  902,844
Operating expenses  237,416
Total  1,140,260

Source of funds
Internal service funds  1,140,260
Total  1,140,260

Sec. B.118 Buildings and general services - fleet management services

Personal services  915,232
Operating expenses  251,755
Total  1,166,987

Source of funds
Internal service funds  1,166,987
Total  1,166,987
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<tr>
<th>Section</th>
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<td>Buildings and general services - federal surplus property</td>
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<td>4,298</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Source of funds</td>
<td>Enterprise funds</td>
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<td>Sec. B.120</td>
<td>Buildings and general services - state surplus property</td>
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<td>Buildings and general services - property management</td>
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<td>Operating expenses</td>
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<td>Sec. B.122</td>
<td>Buildings and general services - fee for space</td>
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### Sec. B.124 Executive office - governor’s office

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<td>Operating expenses</td>
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**Source of funds**

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### Sec. B.125 Legislative counsel

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**Source of funds**

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<td>General fund</td>
<td>4,198,066</td>
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Sec. B.126  Legislature

Personal services  6,531,132
Operating expenses  4,934,310
Total  11,465,442

Source of funds
General fund  11,465,442
Total  11,465,442

Sec. B.126.1  Legislative information technology

Personal services  1,433,677
Operating expenses  807,537
Total  2,241,214

Source of funds
General fund  2,241,214
Total  2,241,214

Sec. B.127  Joint fiscal committee

Personal services  2,661,816
Operating expenses  197,363
Total  2,859,179

Source of funds
General fund  2,859,179
Total  2,859,179
Sec. B.128  Sergeant at arms

Personal services  1,501,807
Operating expenses  161,697
Total  1,663,504

Source of funds

General fund  1,663,504
Total  1,663,504

Sec. B.129  Lieutenant governor

Personal services  273,359
Operating expenses  48,050
Total  321,409

Source of funds

General fund  321,409
Total  321,409

Sec. B.130  Auditor of accounts

Personal services  4,397,652
Operating expenses  140,540
Total  4,538,192

Source of funds

General fund  383,992
Special funds  53,145
Internal service funds  4,101,055
Sec. B.131  State treasurer

Personal services  6,021,504
Operating expenses  305,404
Total  6,326,908

Source of funds

General fund  2,233,091
Special funds  3,783,849
Interdepartmental transfers  309,968
Total  6,326,908

Sec. B.132  State treasurer - unclaimed property

Personal services  814,215
Operating expenses  514,990
Total  1,329,205

Source of funds

Private purpose trust funds  1,329,205
Total  1,329,205

Sec. B.133  Vermont state retirement system

Personal services  213,238
Operating expenses  2,849,942
Total  3,063,180

Source of funds
Pension trust funds 3,063,180
Total 3,063,180

Sec. B.134 Municipal employees’ retirement system

Personal services 237,966
Operating expenses 1,499,159
Total 1,737,125

Source of funds
Pension trust funds 1,737,125
Total 1,737,125

Sec. B.134.1 Vermont Pension Investment Commission

Personal services 2,154,707
Operating expenses 294,507
Total 2,449,214

Source of funds
Special funds 2,449,214
Total 2,449,214

Sec. B.135 State labor relations board

Personal services 290,593
Operating expenses 48,629
Total 339,222

Source of funds
General fund 329,646
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**Sec. B.136  VOSHA review board**

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**Source of funds**

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**Sec. B.136.1  Ethics Commission**

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**Source of funds**

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<td>Total</td>
<td>210,353</td>
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**Sec. B.137  Homeowner rebate**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>19,100,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>19,100,000</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Source of funds**
No. 113
2024

General fund 19,100,000

Total 19,100,000

Sec. B.138  Renter rebate

Grants 9,500,000

Total 9,500,000

Source of funds

General fund 9,500,000

Total 9,500,000

Sec. B.139  Tax department - reappraisal and listing payments

Grants 3,400,000

Total 3,400,000

Source of funds

General fund 3,400,000

Total 3,400,000

Sec. B.140  Municipal current use

Grants 20,050,000

Total 20,050,000

Source of funds

General fund 20,050,000

Total 20,050,000

Sec. B.142  Payments in lieu of taxes

Grants 12,050,000
No. 113  
2024

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of funds</th>
<th>Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Special funds</td>
<td>12,050,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>12,050,000</td>
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</table>

Sec. B.143 Payments in lieu of taxes - Montpelier

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of funds</th>
<th>Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Special funds</td>
<td>184,000</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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Sec. B.144 Payments in lieu of taxes - correctional facilities

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Source of funds</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Special funds</td>
<td>40,000</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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Sec. B.145 Total general government

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General fund</td>
<td>117,405,610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation fund</td>
<td>4,292,149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special funds</td>
<td>31,882,209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal funds</td>
<td>1,467,374</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Internal service funds 214,635,950
Interdepartmental transfers 7,053,789
Enterprise funds 4,298
Pension trust funds 4,800,305
Private purpose trust funds 1,329,205

Total 382,870,889

Sec. B.200 Attorney general

Personal services 14,435,517
Operating expenses 2,015,028
Grants 20,000
Total 16,470,545

Source of funds

General fund 7,391,661
Special funds 2,355,424
Tobacco fund 422,000
Federal funds 1,743,215
Interdepartmental transfers 4,558,245
Total 16,470,545

Sec. B.201 Vermont court diversion

Personal services 1,250
Grants 3,526,258
Total 3,527,508
Source of funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General fund</td>
<td>3,269,511</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special funds</td>
<td>257,997</td>
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<td>3,527,508</td>
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Sec. B.202  Defender general - public defense

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personal services</td>
<td>17,745,612</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
<td>1,393,866</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>19,139,478</td>
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</table>

Source of funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General fund</td>
<td>18,399,825</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special funds</td>
<td>589,653</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental transfers</td>
<td>150,000</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>19,139,478</td>
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</table>

Sec. B.203  Defender general - assigned counsel

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personal services</td>
<td>7,654,274</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
<td>49,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>7,703,774</td>
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Source of funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>General fund</td>
<td>7,703,774</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>7,703,774</td>
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</table>

Sec. B.204  Judiciary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personal services</td>
<td>58,439,095</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Operating expenses | 12,479,384 |
---|---|
Grants | 121,030 |
Total | 71,039,509 |

Source of funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of funds</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General fund</td>
<td>63,414,698</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special funds</td>
<td>4,503,401</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal funds</td>
<td>953,928</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental transfers</td>
<td>2,167,482</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>71,039,509</td>
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</table>

Sec. B.205  State’s attorneys

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Personal services</th>
<th>17,309,679</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
<td>2,034,016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>19,343,695</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Source of funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of funds</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General fund</td>
<td>18,734,634</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal funds</td>
<td>31,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental transfers</td>
<td>578,061</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>19,343,695</td>
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Sec. B.206  Special investigative unit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Personal services</th>
<th>66,237</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
<td>24,295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>2,140,047</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Sec. B.206.1 Crime Victims Advocates

Personal services 3,016,156
Operating expenses 104,396
Total 3,120,552

Source of funds
General fund 3,120,552
Total 3,120,552

Sec. B.207 Sheriffs

Personal services 5,067,726
Operating expenses 405,868
Total 5,473,594

Source of funds
General fund 5,473,594
Total 5,473,594

Sec. B.208 Public safety - administration

Personal services 4,620,756
Operating expenses 6,022,923
Total 10,643,679
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of funds</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General fund</td>
<td>$6,179,193</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special funds</td>
<td>$4,105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal funds</td>
<td>$396,362</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental transfers</td>
<td>$4,064,019</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$10,643,679</strong></td>
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**Sec. B.209  Public safety - state police**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of funds</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personal services</td>
<td>$74,755,468</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
<td>$15,992,094</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>$1,137,841</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$91,885,403</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of funds</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General fund</td>
<td>$57,891,409</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transportation fund</td>
<td>$20,250,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special funds</td>
<td>$3,170,328</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal funds</td>
<td>$8,967,252</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental transfers</td>
<td>$1,606,414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$91,885,403</strong></td>
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</table>

**Sec. B.210  Public safety - criminal justice services**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of funds</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personal services</td>
<td>$5,387,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
<td>$2,152,467</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$7,539,567</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Source of funds

General fund 1,829,099
Special funds 4,975,847
Federal funds 734,621
Total 7,539,567

Sec. B.211 Public safety - emergency management

Personal services 5,420,245
Operating expenses 1,326,624
Grants 41,392,759
Total 48,139,628

Source of funds

General fund 940,339
Special funds 710,000
Federal funds 46,427,309
Interdepartmental transfers 61,980
Total 48,139,628

Sec. B.212 Public safety - fire safety

Personal services 9,384,147
Operating expenses 3,412,948
Grants 107,000
Total 12,904,095

Source of funds
No. 113  Page 29 of 238
2024

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of funds</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General fund</td>
<td>1,586,884</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special funds</td>
<td>10,093,736</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal funds</td>
<td>1,178,475</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental transfers</td>
<td>45,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>12,904,095</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Sec. B.213  Public safety - Forensic Laboratory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of funds</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personal services</td>
<td>3,842,354</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
<td>1,095,166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,937,520</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source of funds

| General fund             | 3,768,566    |
| Special funds            | 75,572       |
| Federal funds            | 557,339      |
| Interdepartmental transfers | 536,043   |
| **Total**                | **4,937,520**|

Sec. B.215  Military - administration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of funds</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personal services</td>
<td>1,056,147</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
<td>776,352</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>1,319,834</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,152,333</strong></td>
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</table>

Source of funds

<p>| General fund             | 3,152,333    |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Personal Services</th>
<th>Operating Expenses</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B.216</td>
<td>Military - air service contract</td>
<td>10,499,846</td>
<td>1,504,451</td>
<td>12,004,297</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Source of funds</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General fund</td>
<td>775,259</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Federal funds</td>
<td>11,229,038</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>12,004,297</td>
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<tr>
<td>B.217</td>
<td>Military - army service contract</td>
<td>45,473,792</td>
<td>8,181,836</td>
<td>53,655,628</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Source of funds</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Federal funds</td>
<td>53,655,628</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>53,655,628</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.218</td>
<td>Military - building maintenance</td>
<td>827,320</td>
<td>1,008,123</td>
<td>1,835,443</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Source of funds</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General fund</td>
<td>1,772,943</td>
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</table>
No. 113 2024

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Special funds</th>
<th>62,500</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,835,443</td>
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Sec. B.219  Military - veterans’ affairs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Personal services</th>
<th>1,211,819</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
<td>176,383</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>28,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,416,702</td>
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Source of funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General fund</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Special funds</td>
<td>209,092</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal funds</td>
<td>111,105</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,416,702</td>
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</table>

Sec. B.220  Center for crime victim services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Personal services</th>
<th>2,061,261</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
<td>391,491</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>9,908,464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>12,361,216</td>
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Source of funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General fund</th>
<th>1,601,998</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>4,015,490</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal funds</td>
<td>6,743,728</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>12,361,216</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sec. B.221  Criminal justice council

Personal services  2,356,811
Operating expenses  1,821,496
Total  4,178,307

Source of funds

General fund  3,835,126
Interdepartmental transfers  343,181
Total  4,178,307

Sec. B.222  Agriculture, food and markets - administration

Personal services  3,057,449
Operating expenses  346,294
Total  3,403,743

Source of funds

General fund  1,393,366
Special funds  1,432,323
Federal funds  578,054
Total  3,403,743

Sec. B.223  Agriculture, food and markets - food safety and consumer protection

Personal services  5,235,644
Operating expenses  1,113,830
Grants  2,780,000
No. 113  
2024  

Total  
9,129,474  

Source of funds  
General fund  3,400,278  
Special funds  4,020,618  
Federal funds  1,696,578  
Interdepartmental transfers  12,000  
Total  9,129,474  

Sec. B.224  Agriculture, food and markets - agricultural development  
Personal services  4,265,067  
Operating expenses  734,947  
Grants  15,307,498  
Total  20,307,512  

Source of funds  
General fund  3,077,928  
Special funds  644,363  
Federal funds  16,585,221  
Total  20,307,512  

Sec. B.225  Agriculture, food and markets - agricultural resource management and environmental stewardship  
Personal services  2,712,147  
Operating expenses  839,493  
Grants  212,000
No. 113 2024

Total 3,763,640

Source of funds

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Source of funds</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Special funds</td>
<td>2,242,158</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal funds</td>
<td>343,452</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental transfers</td>
<td>353,236</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3,763,640</td>
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Sec. B.225.1 Agriculture, food and markets - Vermont Agriculture and Environmental Lab

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personal services</td>
<td>1,822,983</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
<td>1,438,533</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3,261,516</td>
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</table>

Source of funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of funds</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General fund</td>
<td>1,602,665</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special funds</td>
<td>1,591,189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental transfers</td>
<td>67,662</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3,261,516</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Sec. B.225.2 Agriculture, Food and Markets - Clean Water

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personal services</td>
<td>3,815,695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
<td>745,519</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>11,147,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>15,708,214</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Source of funds

General fund 1,817,135
Special funds 10,528,782
Federal funds 2,169,174
Interdepartmental transfers 1,193,123
Total 15,708,214

Sec. B.226 Financial regulation - administration

Personal services 2,726,198
Operating expenses 159,635
Grants 100,000
Total 2,985,833

Source of funds

Special funds 2,985,833
Total 2,985,833

Sec. B.227 Financial regulation - banking

Personal services 2,400,645
Operating expenses 473,873
Total 2,874,518

Source of funds

Special funds 2,874,518
Total 2,874,518
Sec. B.228  Financial regulation - insurance

Personal services  5,028,218
Operating expenses  556,622
Total  5,584,840

Source of funds
Special funds  5,584,840
Total  5,584,840

Sec. B.229  Financial regulation - captive insurance

Personal services  5,723,322
Operating expenses  652,707
Total  6,376,029

Source of funds
Special funds  6,376,029
Total  6,376,029

Sec. B.230  Financial regulation - securities

Personal services  1,269,574
Operating expenses  241,157
Total  1,510,731

Source of funds
Special funds  1,510,731
Total  1,510,731
Sec. B.232 Secretary of state

Personal services 22,592,899
Operating expenses 4,345,999
Grants 1,000,000
Total 27,938,898

Source of funds

General fund 1,000,000
Special funds 19,922,486
Federal funds 7,016,412
Total 27,938,898

Sec. B.233 Public service - regulation and energy

Personal services 10,861,325
Operating expenses 1,405,907
Grants 28,300
Total 12,295,532

Source of funds

Special funds 11,060,542
Federal funds 992,781
Interdepartmental transfers 225,423
Enterprise funds 16,786
Total 12,295,532
Sec. B.233.1 VT Community Broadband Board

<table>
<thead>
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Source of funds

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Sec. B.234 Public utility commission

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Source of funds

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Sec. B.235 Enhanced 9-1-1 Board

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Source of funds

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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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Sec. B.236  Human rights commission

Personal services  927,697
Operating expenses  115,103
Total  1,042,800

Source of funds
General fund  953,800
Federal funds  89,000
Total  1,042,800

Sec. B.236.1  Liquor & Lottery Comm. Office

Personal services  9,831,453
Operating expenses  5,667,447
Total  15,498,900

Source of funds
Special funds  125,000
Tobacco fund  250,579
Interdepartmental transfers  70,000
Enterprise funds  15,053,321
Total  15,498,900

Sec. B.240  Cannabis Control Board

Personal services  4,242,224
Operating expenses  1,819,990
Sec. B.241  Total protection to persons and property

Source of funds

- General fund 228,238,448
- Transportation fund 20,250,000
- Special funds 119,824,272
- Tobacco fund 672,579
- Federal funds 162,959,452
- Interdepartmental transfers 16,031,869
- Enterprise funds 15,070,107

Total 563,046,727

Sec. B.300  Human services - agency of human services - secretary’s office

- Personal services 16,219,746
- Operating expenses 7,220,486
- Grants 3,795,202

Total 27,235,434

Source of funds

- General fund 12,913,202
- Special funds 135,517

Total 6,062,214
Federal funds 13,565,080
Interdepartmental transfers 621,635
Total 27,235,434

Sec. B.301 Secretary’s office - global commitment

Grants 2,039,512,911
Total 2,039,512,911

Source of funds
General fund 668,380,623
Special funds 32,047,905
Tobacco fund 21,049,373
State health care resources fund 28,053,557
Federal funds 1,285,494,243
Interdepartmental transfers 4,487,210
Total 2,039,512,911

Sec. B.303 Developmental disabilities council

Personal services 479,072
Operating expenses 95,765
Grants 191,595
Total 766,432

Source of funds
Special funds 12,000
Federal funds 754,432
Sec. B.304 Human services board

Personal services 703,548
Operating expenses 90,191
Total 793,739

Source of funds
General fund 486,165
Federal funds 307,574
Total 793,739

Sec. B.305 AHS - administrative fund

Personal services 330,000
Operating expenses 13,170,000
Total 13,500,000

Source of funds
Interdepartmental transfers 13,500,000
Total 13,500,000

Sec. B.306 Department of Vermont health access - administration

Personal services 134,929,148
Operating expenses 44,171,193
Grants 3,112,301
Total 182,212,642

Source of funds
General fund 39,872,315
Special funds 4,733,015
Federal funds 128,790,580
Global Commitment fund 4,308,574
Interdepartmental transfers 4,508,158
Total 182,212,642

Sec. B.307  Department of Vermont health access - Medicaid program - global commitment

Personal services 547,983
Grants 899,550,794
Total 900,098,777

Source of funds
Global Commitment fund 900,098,777
Total 900,098,777

Sec. B.309  Department of Vermont health access - Medicaid program - state only

Grants 63,033,948
Total 63,033,948

Source of funds
General fund 62,151,546
Global Commitment fund 882,402
Total 63,033,948
Sec. B.310  Department of Vermont health access - Medicaid non-waiver

<table>
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<tr>
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Source of funds

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Sec. B.311  Health - administration and support

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<td>7,519,722</td>
<td>7,985,727</td>
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Source of funds

<table>
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Sec. B.312  Health - public health

<table>
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<td>67,812,371</td>
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<td>Description</td>
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<td>Grants</td>
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**Sec. B.313 Health - substance use programs**

<table>
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No. 113  
2024

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<tbody>
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<td>Global Commitment fund</td>
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<td>14,140</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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</table>

Sec. B.314  Mental health - mental health

| Personal services                        | 50,191,086   |
| Operating expenses                       | 5,517,999    |
| Grants                                   | 270,625,138  |
| Total                                   | 326,334,223  |

Sec. B.316  Department for children and families - administration & support services

| Personal services                        | 46,644,080   |
| Operating expenses                       | 17,560,755   |
| Grants                                   | 5,627,175    |
| Total                                   | 69,832,010   |

Source of funds

| General fund                            | 39,722,724   |
No. 113  
2024

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Source of Funds</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>Interdepartmental transfers</td>
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Sec. B.317  Department for children and families - family services

<table>
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Source of funds

<table>
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Sec. B.318  Department for children and families - child development

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>230,050,695</strong></td>
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Source of funds

General fund 76,723,518
Special funds 96,312,000
Federal funds 43,511,414
Global Commitment fund 13,503,763
Total 230,050,695

Sec. B.319  Department for children and families - office of child support

Personal services 13,157,660
Operating expenses 3,759,992
Total 16,917,652

Source of funds

General fund 5,200,064
Special funds 455,719
Federal funds 10,874,269
Interdepartmental transfers 387,600
Total 16,917,652

Sec. B.320  Department for children and families - aid to aged, blind and disabled

Personal services 2,252,206
Grants 10,717,444
Total 12,969,650

Source of funds
Sec. B.321  Department for children and families - general assistance

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<th>Category</th>
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Source of funds

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Sec. B.322  Department for children and families - 3SquaresVT

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<tbody>
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Source of funds

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Source</th>
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<tr>
<td>Federal funds</td>
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Sec. B.323  Department for children and families - reach up

<table>
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<td>Grants</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>37,254,309</strong></td>
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Source of funds

General fund 24,733,042
Special funds 5,970,229
Federal funds 2,806,330
Global Commitment fund 3,744,708
Total 37,254,309

Sec. B.324 Department for children and families - home heating fuel assistance/LIHEAP

Grants 16,019,953
Total 16,019,953

Source of funds

Special funds 1,480,395
Federal funds 14,539,558
Total 16,019,953

Sec. B.325 Department for children and families - office of economic opportunity

Personal services 817,029
Operating expenses 100,407
Grants 35,466,283
Total 36,383,719

Source of funds

General fund 28,178,010
Special funds 83,135
Federal funds 4,935,273
Global Commitment fund 3,187,301
Total 36,383,719

Sec. B.326 Department for children and families - OEO - weatherization assistance

Personal services 465,709
Operating expenses 248,905
Grants 15,147,885
Total 15,862,499

Source of funds
Special funds 7,697,546
Federal funds 8,164,953
Total 15,862,499

Sec. B.327 Department for Children and Families - Secure Residential Treatment

Personal services 258,100
Operating expenses 42,225
Grants 3,476,862
Total 3,777,187

Source of funds
General fund 3,747,187
No. 113  
2024

<table>
<thead>
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Sec. B.328 Department for children and families - disability determination services

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Source of funds

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Sec. B.329 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - administration & support

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Source of funds

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Sec. B.330 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - advocacy and independent living grants

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Source of funds

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</table>

Sec. B.331 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - blind and visually impaired

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Source of funds

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<td>Global Commitment fund</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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</table>
Sec. B.332  Disabilities, aging, and independent living - vocational rehabilitation

Grants  10,179,845
Total  10,179,845

Source of funds

General fund  1,371,845
Federal funds  7,558,000
Interdepartmental transfers  1,250,000
Total  10,179,845

Sec. B.333  Disabilities, aging, and independent living - developmental services

Grants  329,299,344
Total  329,299,344

Source of funds

General fund  132,732
Special funds  15,463
Federal funds  403,573
Global Commitment fund  328,697,576
Interdepartmental transfers  50,000
Total  329,299,344
Sec. B.334  Disabilities, aging, and independent living - TBI home and community based waiver

Grants  6,845,005

Total  6,845,005

Source of funds

Global Commitment fund  6,845,005

Total  6,845,005

Sec. B.334.1  Disabilities, aging and independent living - Long Term Care

Grants  293,584,545

Total  293,584,545

Source of funds

General fund  498,579

Federal funds  2,450,000

Global Commitment fund  290,635,966

Total  293,584,545

Sec. B.335  Corrections - administration

Personal services  5,025,978

Operating expenses  266,783

Total  5,292,761

Source of funds

General fund  5,292,761

Total  5,292,761
Sec. B.336 Corrections - parole board

Personal services 475,099
Operating expenses 59,692
Total 534,791

Source of funds

General fund 534,791
Total 534,791

Sec. B.337 Corrections - correctional education

Personal services 3,979,310
Operating expenses 252,649
Total 4,231,959

Source of funds

General fund 4,082,899
Federal funds 276
Interdepartmental transfers 148,784
Total 4,231,959

Sec. B.338 Corrections - correctional services

Personal services 147,472,104
Operating expenses 24,914,205
Total 172,386,309

Source of funds

General fund 162,807,888
Special funds 935,963
ARPA State Fiscal 5,000,000
Federal funds 499,888
Global Commitment fund 2,746,255
Interdepartmental transfers 396,315
Total 172,386,309

Sec. B.338.1 Corrections - Justice Reinvestment II
Grants 11,055,849
Total 11,055,849
Source of funds
General fund 8,478,161
Federal funds 13,147
Global Commitment fund 2,564,541
Total 11,055,849

Sec. B.339 Corrections - Correctional services-out of state beds
Personal services 4,130,378
Total 4,130,378
Source of funds
General fund 4,130,378
Total 4,130,378

Sec. B.340 Corrections - correctional facilities - recreation
Personal services 634,972
Sec. B.341 Corrections - Vermont offender work program

Personal services 324,103
Operating expenses 166,750
Total 490,853

Source of funds
Internal service funds 490,853
Total 490,853

Sec. B.342 Vermont veterans’ home - care and support services

Personal services 17,631,222
Operating expenses 5,013,462
Total 22,644,684

Source of funds
General fund 4,320,687
Special funds 10,051,903
Federal funds 8,272,094
Total 22,644,684

Operating expenses 456,715
Total 1,091,687

Source of funds
Special funds 1,091,687
Total 1,091,687
Sec. B.343  Commission on women

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personal services</td>
<td>398,669</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
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Source of funds

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<tr>
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Sec. B.344  Retired senior volunteer program

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Source of funds

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Sec. B.345  Green Mountain Care Board

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<tr>
<td>Personal services</td>
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Source of funds

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<td>5,301,301</td>
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Sec. B.346  Office of the Child, Youth, and Family Advocate

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<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
<td>88,820</td>
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<td>431,786</td>
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Source of funds

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Sec. B.347  Total human services

Source of funds

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<td>Tobacco fund</td>
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<td>Federal funds</td>
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<td>Interdepartmental transfers</td>
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Sec. B.400  Labor - programs

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<td>Personal services</td>
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</table>
Operating expenses  5,708,836
Grants                  9,199,639
Total                  54,872,314

Source of funds

General fund          10,916,365
Special funds         9,407,107
Federal funds         34,261,616
Interdepartmental transfers  287,226
Total                  54,872,314

Sec. B.401  Total labor

Source of funds

General fund          10,916,365
Special funds         9,407,107
Federal funds         34,261,616
Interdepartmental transfers  287,226
Total                  54,872,314

Sec. B.500  Education - finance and administration

Personal services     22,086,664
Operating expenses    4,484,934
Grants                14,770,700
Total                  41,342,298

Source of funds
General fund 7,317,085
Special funds 16,618,543
Education fund 3,486,988
Federal funds 13,154,385
Global Commitment fund 260,000
Interdepartmental transfers 505,297
Total 41,342,298

Sec. B.501 Education - education services

Personal services 28,237,700
Operating expenses 1,134,912
Grants 322,345,763
Total 351,718,375

Source of funds

General fund 6,387,955
Special funds 3,033,144
Tobacco fund 750,388
Federal funds 340,584,414
Interdepartmental transfers 962,474
Total 351,718,375

Sec. B.502 Education - special education: formula grants

Grants 264,649,859
Total 264,649,859
### Source of funds

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<th>Source</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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**Sec. B.503 Education - state-placed students**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grants</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>20,000,000</strong></td>
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**Source of funds**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Source</th>
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**Sec. B.504 Education - adult education and literacy**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Grants</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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**Source of funds**

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**Sec. B.504.1 Education - Flexible Pathways**

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<th>Grants</th>
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**Source of funds**

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<th>Source</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>General fund</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Education fund</strong></td>
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Sec. B.505  Education - adjusted education payment

Grants  1,893,267,394

Total  1,893,267,394

Source of funds

Education fund  1,893,267,394

Total  1,893,267,394

Sec. B.506  Education - transportation

Grants  25,306,000

Total  25,306,000

Source of funds

Education fund  25,306,000

Total  25,306,000

Sec. B.507  Education - Merger Support Grants

Grants  1,800,000

Total  1,800,000

Source of funds

Education fund  1,800,000

Total  1,800,000

Sec. B.507.1  Education - EL Categorical Aid

Grants  2,250,000

Total  2,250,000
No. 113
2024

Source of funds

Education fund 2,250,000

Total 2,250,000

Sec. B.508  Education - nutrition

Grants 20,400,000

Total 20,400,000

Source of funds

Education fund 20,400,000

Total 20,400,000

Sec. B.509  Education - Afterschool Grant Program

Personal services 500,000

Grants 3,500,000

Total 4,000,000

Source of funds

Special funds 4,000,000

Total 4,000,000

Sec. B.510  Education - essential early education grant

Grants 8,725,587

Total 8,725,587

Source of funds

Education fund 8,725,587

Total 8,725,587
Sec. B.511  Education - technical education

Grants
17,881,950

Total
17,881,950

Source of funds

Education fund
17,881,950

Total
17,881,950

Sec. B.511.1  State Board of Education

Personal services
54,208

Operating expenses
16,500

Total
70,708

Source of funds

General fund
70,708

Total
70,708

Sec. B.513  Retired Teachers Pension Plus Funding

Grants
12,000,000

Total
12,000,000

Source of funds

General fund
12,000,000

Total
12,000,000

Sec. B.514  State teachers’ retirement system

Grants
191,382,703

Total
191,382,703
Source of funds

General fund 155,384,035
Education fund 35,998,668
Total 191,382,703

Sec. B.514.1 State teachers’ retirement system administration

Personal services 349,979
Operating expenses 3,222,801
Total 3,572,780

Source of funds

Pension trust funds 3,572,780
Total 3,572,780

Sec. B.515 Retired teachers’ health care and medical benefits

Grants 62,107,644
Total 62,107,644

Source of funds

General fund 43,031,103
Education fund 19,076,541
Total 62,107,644

Sec. B.516 Total general education

Source of funds

General fund 228,890,519
Special funds 23,651,687
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<th>Source of Funds</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Interdepartmental transfers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pension trust funds</td>
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Sec. B.600 University of Vermont

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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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Source of funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of Funds</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General fund</td>
<td>55,706,897</td>
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Sec. B.602 Vermont state colleges

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Source of funds

<table>
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<tr>
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Sec. B.603 Vermont state colleges - allied health

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<th>Source of Funds</th>
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Source of funds

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Sec. B.605  Vermont student assistance corporation

Grants

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<td>26,139,946</td>
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Sec. B.605.1  VSAC - Flexible Pathways Stipend

Grants

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<th>Amount</th>
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Sec. B.606  New England higher education compact

Grants

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<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>86,520</td>
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</table>
Sec. B.607  University of Vermont - Morgan Horse Farm

Grants

Total

1

Total

1

Source of funds

General fund

1

Total

1

Sec. B.608  Total higher education

Source of funds

General fund 133,203,501

Education fund 41,225

Global Commitment fund 1,500,000

Total 134,744,726

Sec. B.700  Natural resources - agency of natural resources - administration

Personal services 6,006,412

Operating expenses 1,475,166

Total 7,481,578

Source of funds

General fund 5,129,356

Special funds 775,079

Interdepartmental transfers 1,577,143

Total 7,481,578
Sec. B.701  Natural resources - state land local property tax assessment

Operating expenses  2,689,176

Total  2,689,176

Source of funds

General fund  2,267,676

Interdepartmental transfers  421,500

Total  2,689,176

Sec. B.702  Fish and wildlife - support and field services

Personal services  22,597,844

Operating expenses  6,843,095

Grants  853,066

Total  30,294,005

Source of funds

General fund  8,267,967

Special funds  365,427

Fish and wildlife fund  10,418,331

Federal funds  9,751,683

Interdepartmental transfers  1,490,597

Total  30,294,005

Sec. B.703  Forests, parks and recreation - administration

Personal services  1,347,215

Operating expenses  1,658,662
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<th>Amount</th>
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Sec. B.704  Forests, parks and recreation - forestry

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<th>Amount</th>
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Sec. B.705  Forests, parks and recreation - state parks

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<td>Source of Funds</td>
<td>Amount</td>
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<td>-------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>General fund</td>
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<td>Special funds</td>
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<td>Interdepartmental transfers</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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Sec. B.708  Forests, parks and recreation - forest and parks access roads

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Sec. B.709  Environmental conservation - management and support services

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Source of funds

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<td>Interdepartmental transfers</td>
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<td>14,136,569</td>
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Sec. B.710  Environmental conservation - air and waste management

<table>
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<tr>
<td>Personal services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
<td>10,788,954</td>
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<td>Grants</td>
<td>4,943,000</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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Source of funds

<table>
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<td>General fund</td>
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<td>18,800,064</td>
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<td>Interdepartmental transfers</td>
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Sec. B.711  Environmental conservation - office of water programs

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Source of funds

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Sec. B.713  Natural resources board

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Source of funds

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<td>Special funds</td>
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Sec. B.714  Total natural resources

Source of funds

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<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General fund</td>
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</table>
Special funds 81,275,829
Fish and wildlife fund 10,418,331
Federal funds 152,068,301
Interdepartmental transfers 14,131,324
Total 300,686,585

Sec. B.800  Commerce and community development - agency of commerce
and community development - administration

Personal services 2,368,443
Operating expenses 839,383
Grants 389,320
Total 3,597,146

Source of funds

General fund 3,597,146
Total 3,597,146

Sec. B.801  Economic development

Personal services 4,612,442
Operating expenses 1,215,603
Grants 6,539,044
Total 12,367,089

Source of funds

General fund 5,701,138
Special funds 820,850
Federal funds 4,021,428
Interdepartmental transfers 1,823,673
Total 12,367,089

Sec. B.802  Housing and community development

Personal services 7,645,042
Operating expenses 910,983
Grants 23,978,656
Total 32,534,681

Source of funds

General fund 5,365,841
Special funds 8,702,439
Federal funds 14,615,349
Interdepartmental transfers 3,851,052
Total 32,534,681

Sec. B.806  Tourism and marketing

Personal services 5,332,723
Operating expenses 6,090,577
Grants 3,920,000
Total 15,343,300

Source of funds

General fund 4,785,247
Federal funds 10,483,053
No. 113  
2024

Interdepartmental transfers  75,000

Total  15,343,300

Sec. B.808 Vermont council on the arts

Grants  973,848

Total  973,848

Source of funds

General fund  973,848

Total  973,848

Sec. B.809 Vermont symphony orchestra

Grants  149,680

Total  149,680

Source of funds

General fund  149,680

Total  149,680

Sec. B.810 Vermont historical society

Grants  1,135,640

Total  1,135,640

Source of funds

General fund  1,135,640

Total  1,135,640

Sec. B.811 Vermont housing and conservation board

Grants  82,283,351

VT LEG #377528 v.1
Sec. B.812 Vermont humanities council

Grants 309,000
Total 309,000

Source of funds
General fund 309,000
Total 309,000

Sec. B.813 Total commerce and community development

Source of funds
General fund 22,017,540
Special funds 35,130,444
Federal funds 85,796,026
Interdepartmental transfers 5,749,725
Total 148,693,735

Sec. B.900 Transportation - finance and administration

Personal services 18,099,986
Operating expenses 6,108,609
Grants 350,000
Sec. B.901 Transportation - aviation

Personal services 3,907,105
Operating expenses 17,194,905
Grants 737,501
Total 21,839,511

Source of funds

Transportation fund 5,766,122
Federal funds 16,073,389
Total 21,839,511

Sec. B.902 Transportation - buildings

Personal services 1,025,000
Operating expenses 1,800,000
Total 2,825,000

Source of funds

Transportation fund 2,825,000
Total 2,825,000
Sec. B.903  Transportation - program development

Personal services  82,232,854
Operating expenses  307,766,179
Grants  30,605,814
Total  420,604,847

Source of funds

Transportation fund  65,845,147
TIB fund  14,726,719
Federal funds  334,397,149
Interdepartmental transfers  1,411,518
Local match  4,224,314
Total  420,604,847

Sec. B.904  Transportation - rest areas construction

Personal services  300,000
Operating expenses  1,185,601
Total  1,485,601

Source of funds

Transportation fund  148,560
Federal funds  1,337,041
Total  1,485,601

Sec. B.905  Transportation - maintenance state system

Personal services  42,757,951
Operating expenses 63,680,546
Total 106,438,497

Source of funds
Transportation fund 105,406,483
Federal funds 932,014
Interdepartmental transfers 100,000
Total 106,438,497

Sec. B.906 Transportation - policy and planning
Personal services 4,108,918
Operating expenses 942,444
Grants 9,000,491
Total 14,051,853

Source of funds
Transportation fund 3,137,901
Federal funds 10,797,449
Interdepartmental transfers 116,503
Total 14,051,853

Sec. B.906.1 Transportation - Environmental Policy and Sustainability
Personal services 6,953,362
Operating expenses 1,176,411
Grants 1,480,000
Total 9,609,773
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Sec. B.907 Transportation - rail

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<th>Item</th>
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<tr>
<td>Personal services</td>
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Source of funds

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<tbody>
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<td>Interdepartmental transfers</td>
<td>2,196,000</td>
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<td>Local match</td>
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Sec. B.908 Transportation - public transit

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<th>Item</th>
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<tr>
<td>Personal services</td>
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<td>Operating expenses</td>
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<td>Grants</td>
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Source of funds

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transportation fund</td>
<td>9,807,525</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Federal funds & 45,592,700 
Interdepartmental transfers & 140,000 
Total & 55,540,225 

Sec. B.909  Transportation - central garage

| Personal services | 5,480,920 |
| Operating expenses | 18,070,315 |
| Total | 23,551,235 |

Source of funds

| Internal service funds | 23,551,235 |
| Total | 23,551,235 |

Sec. B.910  Department of motor vehicles

| Personal services | 33,713,124 |
| Operating expenses | 13,549,772 |
| Total | 47,262,896 |

Source of funds

| Transportation fund | 44,454,119 |
| Federal funds | 2,687,081 |
| Interdepartmental transfers | 121,696 |
| Total | 47,262,896 |

Sec. B.911  Transportation - town highway structures

| Grants | 8,016,000 |
| Total | 8,016,000 |
Source of funds

Transportation fund 8,016,000

Total 8,016,000

Sec. B.912 Transportation - town highway local technical assistance program

Personal services 449,763

Operating expenses 31,689

Total 481,452

Source of funds

Transportation fund 121,452

Federal funds 360,000

Total 481,452

Sec. B.913 Transportation - town highway class 2 roadway

Grants 8,858,000

Total 8,858,000

Source of funds

Transportation fund 8,858,000

Total 8,858,000

Sec. B.914 Transportation - town highway bridges

Personal services 12,185,000

Operating expenses 33,149,278

Total 45,334,278

Source of funds
TIB fund 3,973,281
Federal funds 39,264,097
Local match 2,096,900
Total 45,334,278

Sec. B.915 Transportation - town highway aid program

Grants 29,532,753
Total 29,532,753

Source of funds
Transportation fund 29,532,753
Total 29,532,753

Sec. B.916 Transportation - town highway class 1 supplemental grants

Grants 128,750
Total 128,750

Source of funds
Transportation fund 128,750
Total 128,750

Sec. B.917 Transportation - town highway: state aid for nonfederal disasters

Grants 1,150,000
Total 1,150,000

Source of funds
Transportation fund 1,150,000
Total 1,150,000
Sec. B.918  Transportation - town highway: state aid for federal disasters

<table>
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<th>Item</th>
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<td>Grants</td>
<td>155,000</td>
<td>Federal funds</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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Sec. B.919  Transportation - municipal mitigation assistance program

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<td>125,000</td>
<td>Transportation fund</td>
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<td>Operating expenses</td>
<td>280,000</td>
<td>Special funds</td>
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<td>Grants</td>
<td>6,738,000</td>
<td>Federal funds</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>7,143,000</td>
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Sec. B.920  Transportation - public assistance grant program

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<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>1,050,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,250,000</td>
<td>Total</td>
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Source of funds

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Source of funds</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Special funds</td>
<td>50,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal funds</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interdepartmental transfers</td>
<td>200,000</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,250,000</strong></td>
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Sec. B.921 Transportation board

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<td>Personal services</td>
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<td>Operating expenses</td>
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Source of funds

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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td><strong>200,097</strong></td>
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Sec. B.922 Total transportation

Source of funds

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<td>TIB fund</td>
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<td>Special funds</td>
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<td>Federal funds</td>
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<td>Internal service funds</td>
<td>23,551,235</td>
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<td>Interdepartmental transfers</td>
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<td>Local match</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>878,789,194</strong></td>
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Sec. B.1000  Debt service

Operating expenses  675,000
Total  675,000

Source of funds

General fund  675,000
Total  675,000

Sec. B.1001  Total debt service

Source of funds

General fund  675,000
Total  675,000

* * * Fiscal Year 2025 One-Time Appropriations * * *

Sec. B.1100  MISCELLANEOUS FISCAL YEAR 2025 ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS

(a) Department of Public Safety. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) $250,000 General Fund to fund the Urban Search and Rescue Team.

(b) Military Department. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) $10,000 General Fund for the USS Vermont Support Group.

(c) Department of Mental Health. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:
(1) $1,000,000 General Fund for start-up costs related to the psychiatric youth inpatient facility funded by 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. B.1105(b)(4).

(d) Department of Health. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) $1,060,000 Opioid Abatement Special Fund for a program administered by Vermont’s 13 recovery centers in collaboration with the Department of Corrections to provide recovery support to those in correctional facilities, post-incarceration, and involved in probation and parole;

(2) $1,000,000 Opioid Abatement Special Fund for grants to providers to establish community-based stabilization beds for individuals transitioning between substance use disorder residential treatment and the recovery system;

(3) $800,000 Opioid Abatement Special Fund for grants to providers for ongoing support for contingency management;

(4) $714,481 Opioid Abatement Special Fund to expand Student Assistance Professional and school-based services;

(5) $325,000 Opioid Abatement Special Fund for recovery housing supports;

(6) $150,000 Opioid Abatement Special Fund for a grant to Johnson Health Center to establish a managed medical response partnership for individuals with substance use disorder;
(7) $150,000 Opioid Abatement Special Fund for a grant to Vermonters for Criminal Justice Reform to establish a managed medical response partnership for individuals with substance use disorder;

(8) $835,073 General Fund for the Bridges to Health Program; and

(9) $400,000 General Fund for the Vermont Household Health Insurance Survey.

(e) Department for Children and Families. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) $16,500,000 General Fund for the General Assistance Emergency Housing program;

(2) $1,034,065 General Fund to extend 10 Economic Services Division limited service positions, including associated operating costs, in support of the General Assistance Emergency Housing program; and

(3) $332,000 General Fund for a 2-1-1 service line contract to operate 24 hours seven days per week.

(f) Vermont State University. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) $10,000,000 General Fund for deficit reduction and systems transformation bridge funding; and

(2) $1,000,000 General Fund for the Community College of Vermont Tuition Advantage Program.
(g) Department of Environmental Conservation. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

1. $500,000 General Fund to be used as State match for the federal Water Resources Development Act Winooski Study;
2. $225,000 General Fund for contracting to support development of State Flood Hazard Area Standards;
3. $1,500,000 General Fund for contracting to support completion of river corridor mapping and implementation of river corridor permitting;
4. $150,000 General Fund for contracting to support wetlands mapping and rulemaking; and
5. $50,000 General Fund for education and outreach on the use of unencapsulated polystyrene foam for docks in waters of the State.

(h) Department of Economic Development. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

1. $150,000 General Fund for continued funding of the International Business Office previously funded by 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec. G.300(b)(1).

(i) Department of Housing and Community Development. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

1. $1,000,000 General Fund for the Manufactured Home Improvement and Repair Program.
(j) Agency of Transportation. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) $630,000 Transportation Fund for a grant to Green Mountain Transit as one-time bridge funding while Green Mountain Transit stabilizes its finances, adjusts its service levels, and transitions to a sustainable funding model;

(2) $1,700,000 Transportation Fund for the purpose of providing grants to increase access to level 1 and 2 electric vehicle supply equipment charging ports at workplaces and multiunit dwelling places; and

(3) $70,000 Transportation Fund for the purpose of providing grants as part of the eBike Incentive Program.

(k) Secretary of State. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) $300,000 General Fund to support the costs of elections in calendar year 2024;

(2) $67,000 General Fund, notwithstanding 3 V.S.A. § 124(a), to the Office of Professional Regulation to support the administrative work necessary to implement newly joined interstate compacts; and

(3) $50,000 General Fund for a consultant to assist the Working Group on Participation and Accessibility of Municipal Public Meetings and Elections.

(l) Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:
(1) $1,000,000 General Fund for the pilot expansion of the Water Quality Assistance Program to provide financial assistance to logging contractors.

(m) Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) $240,000 General Fund for a grant to the Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont for the Crop Cash, Crop Cash Plus, and Farm Share programs; and

(2) $100,000 General Fund for grants to Vermont’s 14 Natural Resources Conservation Districts.

(n) Agency of Human Services Secretary’s Office. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) $3,913,200 General Fund and $5,366,383 federal funds to be used for Global Commitment match for the Medicaid Global Payment Program. To the extent that at a future date the Global Payment Program ceases to operate as a program or changes methodology to a retrospective payment program, any resulting one-time General Fund spending authority remaining at that time shall be reverted. If the Human Services Caseload Reserve established in 32 V.S.A. § 308b has not been replenished in accordance with subdivision (b)(21) of Sec. B.1102 of this act, the remaining unallocated General Fund balance shall be reserved in the Human Services Caseload Reserve established in 32 V.S.A. § 308b up to the amount appropriated in this subdivision.
(o) Department of Vermont Health Access. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) $9,279,583 Global Commitment for the Medicaid Global Payment Program;

(2) $150,000 General Fund to conduct a technical analysis of Vermont’s health insurance markets; and

(3) $100,000 General Fund to implement the expansion of Medicare Savings Programs eligibility.

(p) Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) $82,000 General Fund to fund the start-up costs relating to the Adult Days center in central Vermont.

(q) Center for Crime Victim Services. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) $254,000 General Fund for a grant to the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence to maintain its current level of operations;

(2) $60,000 General Fund for a grant to support the creation of the Memorial and Healing Garden on the former grounds of Saint Joseph’s Orphanage; and

(3) $22,000 General Fund for a grant to the Intercollegiate Sexual Harm Prevention Council for the purpose of staffing the Council and providing per
diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses to members who are not otherwise compensated by their employer.

(r) Department of Corrections. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) $300,000 General Fund for the purpose of contracting with a vendor to enhance the Department’s capacity to analyze and interpret data, with the goals of transferring individuals from incarceration to community supervision more quickly and improving reentry and case management processes.

(s) Green Mountain Care Board. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) $15,000 General Fund for a contract with a qualified entity for a reference-based pricing analysis.

(t) Joint Fiscal Office. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) $50,000 General Fund for a consultant to assist the County and Regional Governance Study Committee.

(u) General Assembly. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) $15,000 General Fund for per diem compensation and expense reimbursement for the members of the County and Regional Governance Study Committee.
(v) Agency of Administration. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) $200,000 General Fund for local economic damage grants to municipalities that were impacted by the August and December 2023 flooding events in counties that are eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency Public Assistance funds under federal disaster declarations DR-4744-VT and DR-4762-VT. It is the intent of the General Assembly that these local economic damage grants be distributed to municipalities throughout the State to address the secondary economic impacts of the August and December 2023 flooding events. Monies from these grants shall not be expended on Federal Emergency Management Agency related projects.

Sec. B.1101.1 TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION

(a) In fiscal year 2025, $1,100,000 General Fund is appropriated to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

Sec. B.1102 UNOBLIGATED GENERAL FUND CONTINGENT APPROPRIATIONS

(a) As part of the fiscal year 2024 closeout, the Department of Finance and Management shall execute the requirements of 32 V.S.A. § 308. If any balance remains after meeting these requirements, then, notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 308c, the Department of Finance and Management shall designate the first $44,310,000 as unallocated carryforward for use in meeting the requirements of the fiscal year 2025 appropriations act as passed by the
General Assembly. The Department of Finance and Management shall then, notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 308c, calculate the maximum number of contingent transactions that can be funded, in the order provided in subsection (b) of this section, and designate that money to remain unallocated for such purpose in fiscal year 2025. Any residual balance remaining after such designations shall be reserved in accordance with 32 V.S.A. § 308c.

(b) In fiscal year 2025, the following contingent transactions shall be executed in the following order from the designated unallocated balance as determined in subsection (a) of this section:

(1) $20,000,000 is appropriated to the Department for Children and Families for the General Assistance Emergency Housing program.

(2) $3,500,000 is transferred to the Community Resilience and Disaster Mitigation Fund for an appropriation in an equal amount to the Department of Public Safety for grants to municipalities with Federal Emergency Management Agency approved Individuals and Households Program registrations for Individual Assistance relating to a calendar year 2023 flooding event and for subgrants to residential building owners of up to $300,000 for residential structure elevation projects.

(3) $3,000,000 is transferred to the Dam Safety Revolving Loan Fund.

(4) $3,000,000 is appropriated to the Department for Children and Families’ Family Services Division for the Comprehensive Child Welfare Information System.
(5) $12,500,000 is appropriated to the Department of Public Safety to be used as matching funds for Federal Emergency Management Agency Flood Hazard Mitigation grant receipts.

(6) $12,000,000 is appropriated to the Agency of Administration to fund additional direct payments to the Vermont State Retirement System made pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 473(c)(8).

(7) $4,000,000 is appropriated to the Department of Environmental Conservation for the Healthy Homes Initiative.

(8) $5,000,000 is transferred to the Other Infrastructure, Essential Investments, and Reserves subaccount in the Cash Fund for Capital and Essential Investments established in 32 V.S.A. § 1001b and reserved in accordance with the provisions of 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. C.108(b). It is the intent of the General Assembly that these funds be used for the State match needed for water- and wastewater-related projects under the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. These funds shall only be expended if authorized by the General Assembly.

(9) $10,000,000 is appropriated to the Department for Children and Families’ Office of Economic Opportunity to expand shelter bed and permanent supportive housing capacity in the State.

(10) $1,300,000 is appropriated to the Department for Children and Families for a grant to the Vermont Foodbank. It is the intent of the General Assembly that $1,000,000 of these funds be used as direct aid to the Vermont
Foodbank’s network partner food shelves and pantries through an equitable statewide distribution of food and or subgrants or both.

(11) $500,000 is appropriated to the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living for grants to skilled nursing facilities to increase the pipeline of employed licensed nursing assistants, including increasing the capacity of new and existing facility-based training programs, and developing or expanding collaborations with other programs, including career and technical education programs. Grants may support training program costs, paid internships, student support, and recruitment and retention bonuses.

(A) Of the funds appropriated in subdivision (11) of this section, $150,000 shall be for grants of $30,000 or less.

(B) Of the funds appropriated in subdivision (11) of this section, $350,000 shall be for up to three grants.

(12) $500,000 is appropriated to the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living for Medical Director recruitment and retention grants of not more than $50,000 per grant at skilled nursing facilities.

(13) $1,500,000 is appropriated to the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation for the Vermont Serve, Learn, and Earn Program.

(14) $6,000,000 is appropriated to the Department of Housing and Community Development for the Vermont Housing Improvement Program.

(15) $1,000,000 is appropriated to the Department of Public Safety’s Division of Fire Safety to subsidize the cost of providing cancer screening to
all Vermont professional and volunteer firefighters, as well as all enrollees in
the Vermont Fire Academy Firefighter I program.

(16) $5,000,000 is appropriated to the Agency of Commerce and
Community Development to open a flood recovery center to administer a grant
program, in coordination with the Central Vermont Economic Development
Corporation, to issue grants to flood impacted businesses of not more than
$50,000 per recipient. An amount not to exceed five percent of this
appropriation may be used for the administrative costs of the program. Twenty
percent of these funds shall be for grants to business owners who are Black,
Indigenous, and Persons of Color.

(17) $12,500,000 is transferred to the Other Infrastructure, Essential
Investments, and Reserves subaccount in the Cash Fund for Capital and
Essential Investments established in 32 V.S.A. § 1001b and reserved in
accordance with the provisions of 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec.
C.108(a). It is the intent of the General Assembly that these funds be used for
the State match needed for transportation-related projects under the federal
Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. These funds shall only be expended if
authorized by the General Assembly.

(18) $8,000,000 is transferred to the Child Care Contribution Fund
established in 32 V.S.A. § 10554 to be available for appropriation to
Department for Children and Families’ Child Development Division for the
Child Care Financial Assistance Program if necessary. As part of the report
required by 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. E.131.2, as amended by 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 87, Sec. 61, the Treasurer shall include a recommendation regarding the future status of these funds and whether the Child Care Contribution Fund should have a statutory reserve.

(19) $60,000 is appropriated to the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets for a grant to the Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont for the Crop Cash, Crop Cash Plus, and Farm Share programs.

(20) $750,000 is transferred to the Court Technology Fund established in 4 V.S.A. § 27.

(21) $3,913,200 is reserved in the Human Services Caseload Reserve.

Sec. B.1103 CASH FUND FOR CAPITAL AND ESSENTIAL INVESTMENTS – FISCAL YEAR 2025 ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS

(a) In fiscal year 2025, $9,550,000 is appropriated from the Capital Infrastructure sub account in the Cash Fund for Capital and Essential Investments for the following projects:

(1) $220,000 is appropriated to the Department of Buildings and General Services for planning, reuse, and contingency;

(2) $2,300,000 is appropriated to the Department of Buildings and General Services for parking garage repairs at 32 Cherry Street in Burlington;
(3) $1,500,000 is appropriated to the Department of Buildings and General Services for the renovation of the interior HVAC steam lines at 120 State Street in Montpelier;

(4) $850,000 is appropriated to the Department of Buildings and General Services for the Judiciary for design, renovations, and land acquisition at the Washington County Superior Courthouse in Barre;

(5) $850,000 is appropriated to the Department of Buildings and General Services for the Department of Public Safety for the planning and design of the Special Teams Facility and Storage;

(6) $850,000 is appropriated to the Department of Buildings and General Services for the Department of Public Safety for the planning and design of the Rutland Field Station;

(7) $1,500,000 is appropriated to the Vermont Veterans’ Home for the design and renovation of the Brandon and Cardinal units;

(8) $250,000 is appropriated to the Department of Buildings and General Services for planning for the 133-109 State Street tunnel waterproofing and Aiken Avenue reconstruction;

(9) $200,000 is appropriated to the Department of Buildings and General Services for the renovation of the stack area, HVAC upgrades, and the elevator replacement at 111 State Street;
(10) $1,000,000 is appropriated to the Department of Buildings and General Services for roof replacement and brick facade repairs at the McFarland State Office Building in Barre; and

(11) Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 1001b, $30,000 is appropriated to the Department of Fish and Wildlife for the Lake Champlain International Fishing Derby.

Sec. B.1104 APPROPRIATION OF ARPA FUNDS; FISCAL YEAR 2025

(a) To the extent that any base funding appropriation that would have otherwise come from the General Fund or a special fund has been replaced in this act with the appropriation of an equivalent amount of American Rescue Plan Act – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund, it is the intent of the General Assembly that this funding replacement for eligible expenses is a one-time funding option for fiscal year 2025 that shall not recur. Any agency or department impacted by this funding replacement in fiscal year 2025 shall include an equivalent amount of General Fund or relevant special fund in its budget proposal in future fiscal years in order to maintain its base appropriation.

* * * Fiscal Year 2024 Adjustments, Appropriations, and Amendments * * *

Sec. C.100 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. B.318 is amended to read:

Sec. B.318 Department for children and families - child development

<p>| | |</p>
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<tr>
<td>Personal services</td>
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Grants $95,860,842 $85,860,842

Total $102,342,338 $92,342,338

Source of funds

General fund $35,016,309 $25,016,309

Special funds 16,745,000

Federal funds 37,419,258

Global Commitment fund 13,161,771

Total $102,342,338 $92,342,338

Sec. C.101 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. B.1100, as amended by 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 87, Sec. 40, is further amended to read:

Sec. B.1100 MISCELLANEOUS FISCAL YEAR 2024 ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS

(a) Agency of Administration. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:

* * *

(5) $6,250,000 $6,265,000 General Fund for local economic damage grants to municipalities that were impacted by the July 2023 flooding event in counties that are eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance funds under federal disaster declaration DR-4720-VT. It is the intent of the General Assembly that these local economic damage grants be distributed to municipalities throughout the state to address the secondary
economic impacts of the July 2023 flooding event. Monies from these grants shall not be expended on FEMA-related projects.

* * *

(B) $3,000,000 $3,015,000 of the funds appropriated in this subdivision (a)(5) for local economic damage grants shall be distributed as follows:

* * *

(C) To the extent that the funds appropriated in this subdivision (a)(5) have not been granted by June September 30, 2024, they shall revert the General Fund and be transferred to the Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund.

* * *

(l) Agency of Human Services Central Office. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:

* * *

(3) $10,000,000 $9,429,904 General Fund to continue to address the emergent and exigent circumstances impacting health care providers following the COVID-19 pandemic; and

(4) $10,534,603 General Fund and $13,693,234 Federal Revenue Fund #2205 #22005 for use as Global Commitment matching funds for one-time caseload pressures due to the suspension of Medicaid eligibility redeterminations; and
(5) $570,096 General Fund and $741,072 Federal Revenue Fund #22005 for use as Global Commitment matching funds for supplemental nonemergency medical transportation funding.

(m) Department of Vermont Health Access. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) $366,066 General Fund and $372,048 Federal Revenue Fund #22005 to the Department of Vermont Health Access for a two-year pilot to expand the Blueprint for Health Hub and Spoke program and;

(2) $15,583,352 Global Commitment Fund #20405 to the Department of Health Access Medicaid program for a two-year pilot to expand the Blueprint for Health Hub and Spoke program; and

(3) $1,311,168 in Global Commitment Fund #20405 as supplemental funding for nonemergency medical transportation services to address the urgent financial needs of the Department’s contracted nonemergency medical transportation service providers.

(A) The Department of Vermont Health Access shall report on its new payment methodology for nonemergency medical transportation and the estimated costs of providing nonemergency medical transportation to Medicaid beneficiaries in fiscal year 2026 under that methodology as part of the Department’s fiscal year 2025 budget adjustment presentation.

* * *
(o) Department for Children and Families. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:

* * *

(13) $500,000 General Fund and $500,000 federal funds for information technology implementation to support the Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer Program.

* * *

Sec. C.102 GLOBAL COMMITMENT WAIVER AMENDMENT

(a) The Secretary of Human Services may request to amend Vermont’s Global Commitment to Health Section 1115 Demonstration Waiver to make changes necessary to comply with federal Home and Community-Based Services Conflict of Interest requirements, as well as to seek approval of Federal Medical Assistance Percentage federal funds for certain room and board payments and rental assistance not currently eligible for Federal Medical Assistance Percentage federal funds.

Sec. C.103 GLOBAL COMMITMENT INVESTMENT; HOME-DELIVERED MEALS

(a) The Secretary of Human Services shall request approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for home-delivered meals that are part of a participant’s service plan of care and meet Vermont’s area agencies on aging’s nutrition requirements in accordance with the Older Americans Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 3001–3058ff to be a Global Commitment Investment.
Sec. C.104  3 V.S.A. § 3091 is amended to read:

§ 3091. HEARINGS

(a) An applicant for or a recipient of assistance, benefits, or social services from the Department for Children and Families, of Vermont Health Access, of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living, or of Mental Health, or of the Department of Health’s Women, Infant, and Children program, or an applicant for a license from one of those departments, except for the Department of Health, or a licensee may file a request for a fair hearing with the Human Services Board. An opportunity for a fair hearing will be granted to any individual requesting a hearing because his or her claim for assistance, benefits, or services is denied, or is not acted upon with reasonable promptness; or because the individual is aggrieved by any other Agency action affecting his or her receipt of assistance, benefits, or services, or license or license application; or because the individual is aggrieved by Agency policy as it affects his or her situation.

* * *

Sec. C.105  2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. E.104.1 is amended to read:

Sec. E.104.1 DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT;

PENSION PLUS APPROPRIATION DIRECTIVE

(a) In fiscal year 2024, and in each applicable year thereafter, funds appropriated to the Department of Finance and Management and the Agency of Administration in Sec. B.104.1 of this act or in other one-time appropriation
sections of the appropriations act to fund additional payments to the Vermont State Retirement System made pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 473(c)(8) shall be directly deposited in the Vermont State Retirement System.

(b) Beginning in fiscal year 2025, and in each applicable year thereafter, additional contributions pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 473(c)(8) shall be made through the percentage of payroll rate process pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 473(d).

Sec. C.106 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. E.107(d) is amended to read:

(d) Contributions of State. As provided by law, the Retirement Board shall certify to the Governor or Governor-Elect a statement of the percentage of the payroll of all members sufficient to pay for all operating expenses of the Vermont State Retirement System and all contributions of the State that will become due and payable during the next biennium. The contributions of the State to pay the annual actuarially determined employer contribution and any additional amounts pursuant to section (c)(8) of this section shall be charged to the departmental appropriation from which members’ salaries are paid and shall be included in each departmental budgetary request. Annually, on or before January 15, the Commissioner of Finance and Management shall provide to the General Assembly a breakdown of the components of the payroll charge applied to each department’s budget in the current fiscal year and anticipated to apply in the upcoming fiscal year. This report shall itemize the percentages of payroll assessments to fund:
(1) the actuarially determined employer contribution to the Vermont State Retirement System; and

(2) any additional payments made pursuant to subdivision (c)(8) of this section to the Vermont State Retirement System; and

(3) the employer contribution to the State Employees’ Postemployment Benefits Trust Fund made pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 479a (e)(3).

Sec. C.107  2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. E.900 is amended to read:

Sec. E.900  TRANSPORTATION FUND RESERVE; REVERSIONS EXCLUDED

(a) To calculate For the purpose of calculating the fiscal year 2024 Transportation Fund Stabilization Reserve requirement of five percent of prior year appropriations, Transportation Fund reversions of $20,727,012 are excluded deducted from the fiscal year 2023 total appropriations amount.

Sec. C.108  CENTRAL GARAGE FUND

(a) Notwithstanding 19 V.S.A. § 13(c), the Transportation Fund transfer to the Central Garage fund in fiscal year 2024 shall be $0.

Sec. C.109  2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec B.1102 is amended to read:

Sec. B.1102  AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT; FISCAL YEAR 2024 ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS

(a) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of $10,000,000 General Fund is appropriated to the Department of Housing and Community Development for the Vermont Rental Housing Improvement Program established in 10 V.S.A.
§ 699. The Department may use up to five percent for administrative costs to allow for the support of the grant program and technical assistance.

* * *

Sec. C.110  EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM; REVERSION AND REALLOCATION

(a) The Secretary of Administration shall revert up to $5,000,000 of prior fiscal year federal funds appropriated through the Emergency Rental Assistance Program, as approved by the Joint Fiscal Committee pursuant to Grant Request #3034. An amount of spending authority equal to these reversions shall be provided, pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 511, to existing State programs that meet the eligibility criteria established by the U.S. Treasury.

(b) To the extent that qualifying General Fund expenditures already incurred are transferred onto the spending authority established in subsection (a) of this section, the Commissioner of Finance and Management shall, notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 706, transfer an equivalent amount of General Fund spending authority to support programs established through Grant Request #3034 and subsequent Emergency Rental Assistance Program grant approvals by the Joint Fiscal Committee.

Sec. C.111  2024 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 4(b) is amended to read:

(b) Appropriation. The sum of $500,000.00 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Secretary of State in fiscal year 2024 for the purpose of offsetting election costs incurred by school districts pursuant to this section or
the provisions of 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 1. To the extent to which these funds remain unobligated and unexpended at the end of fiscal year 2024, they shall revert to the General Fund and a new one-time General Fund appropriation shall be established in fiscal year 2025, in the amount reverted, to be used for election costs in fiscal year 2025.

Sec. C.112 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 22, Sec. 14 is amended to read:

Sec. 14. APPROPRIATION; OPIOID ABATEMENT SPECIAL FUND

In fiscal year 2023, the following monies shall be appropriated from the Opioid Abatement Special Fund pursuant to 18 V.S.A. § 4774:

(1) $1,980,000.00 for the expansion of naloxone distribution efforts, including establishing harm reduction vending machines, home delivery and mail order options, and expanding the harm reduction pack and leave behind kit programs;

(2)(A) $2,000,000.00 $1,500,000 divided equally between four opioid treatment programs to cover costs associated with partnering with other health care providers to expand satellite locations for the dosing of medications, including costs associated with the satellite locations’ physical facilities, staff time at the satellite locations, and staff time at opioid treatment programs to prepare medications and coordinate with satellite locations;

(B) the satellite locations established pursuant to this subdivision (2)(1) shall be located in Addison County, eastern or southern Vermont,
Chittenden County, and in a facility operated by the Department of Corrections;

(2) $500,000 to establish a second Chittenden Clinic Addiction Treatment Center;

* * *

Sec. C.113  APPROPRIATION; EVIDENCE-BASED EDUCATION AND ADVERTISING FUND

(a) $1,980,000 is appropriated from the Evidence-Based Education and Advertising Fund to the Department of Health for the expansion of opioid antagonist distribution efforts, including establishing harm reduction vending machines, home delivery and mail order options, and expanding the harm reduction pack and leave behind kit programs.

Sec. C.114  2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. B.1105 is amended to read:

Sec. B.1105  CASH FUND FOR CAPITAL AND ESSENTIAL INVESTMENTS – FISCAL YEAR 2024 ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS

(a) In fiscal year 2024, $17,685,000 $15,435,000 is appropriated from the Capital Infrastructure sub account in the Cash Fund for Capital and Essential Investments for the following projects:

* * *
(7) $600,000 is appropriated to the Department of Buildings and General Services for planning for the boiler replacement at the Northern State Correctional Facility in Newport; [Repealed.]

* * *

(9) $600,000 is appropriated to the Department of Buildings and General Services for the Agency of Human Services for the planning and design of the booking expansion at the Northwest State Correctional Facility; [Repealed.]

(10) $1,000,000 $750,000 is appropriated to the Department of Buildings and General Services for the Agency of Human Services for the planning and design of the Department for Children and Families’ short-term stabilization facility;

(11) $750,000 is appropriated to the Department of Buildings and General Services for the Judiciary for design, renovations, and land acquisition at the Washington County Superior Courthouse in Barre;

* * *

(16) $4,000,000 is appropriated to the Agency of Natural Resources for the Department of Environmental Conservation for the Municipal Pollution Control Grants for pollution control projects and planning advances for feasibility studies; and
(17) $3,000,000 is appropriated to the Agency of Natural Resources for the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation for the maintenance facilities at the Gifford Woods State Park and Groton State Forest; and

(18) $800,000 is appropriated to the Agency of Natural Resources for the Department of Fish and Wildlife for infrastructure maintenance and improvements of the Department’s buildings, including conservation camps.

(b) In fiscal year 2024, $31,025,000 is appropriated from the Other Infrastructure, Essential Investments, and Reserves subaccount in the Cash Fund for Capital and Essential Investments for the following projects. This funding is provided by the General Fund transfer in Sec. D.101 of this act.

* * *

(3) $7,500,000 is appropriated to the Vermont State Colleges for construction, renovation, and major maintenance at any facility owned or operated in the State by the Vermont State Colleges; infrastructure transformation planning; and the planning, design, and construction of Green Hall and Vail Hall; and

* * *

Sec. C.115  2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. E.301.1 is amended to read:

Sec. E.301.1  GLOBAL COMMITMENT APPROPRIATIONS;

TRANSFER; REPORT

(a) To facilitate the end-of-year closeout for fiscal year 2024, the Secretary of Human Services, with approval from the Secretary of Administration, may
make transfers among the appropriations authorized for Medicaid and Medicaid-waiver program expenses, including Global Commitment appropriations outside the Agency of Human Services. At least three business days prior to any transfer, the Agency of Human Services shall submit to the Joint Fiscal Office a proposal of transfers to be made pursuant to this section. A final report on all transfers made under this section shall be made to the Joint Fiscal Committee for review at the Committee’s September 2024 meeting.

The purpose of this section is to provide the Agency with limited authority to modify the appropriations to comply with the terms and conditions of the Global Commitment to Health Section 1115 demonstration approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services under Section 1115 of the Social Security Act.

(b) To address the disruption to cash flows caused by the Change Healthcare cybersecurity incident, pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 308b(a), funds shall be unreserved from the subaccount of the Human Services Caseload Reserve established in 32 V.S.A. § 308b(c)(2) for appropriation to Sec. B.301, Secretary’s Office Global Commitment, of this act for net-neutral transfers made under the authority granted to the Secretary of Administration in subsection (a) of this section. Once the cash flows are restored, the Commissioner of Finance and Management shall include the actions necessary to reserve in the Human Services Caseload Reserve the amount previously unreserved as part of the fiscal year 2025 budget adjustment.
Sec. C.116  2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. B.1101 is amended to read:

Sec. B.1101  WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT –

FISCAL YEAR 2024 ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS

(a) Education workforce.

* * *

(2) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of $2,500,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation for the Vermont Teacher Forgivable Loan Incentive Program to provide forgivable loans to students enrolled in an eligible school who meet the eligibility requirements in subdivision (A) of this subsection. The goal of the program is to encourage students to enter into teaching professions, with an emphasis on encouraging Black, Indigenous, and Persons of Color, New Americans, and other historically underrepresented communities.

* * *

(C) There shall be no deadline to apply for a forgivable loan under this section. Forgivable loans shall be awarded on a rolling basis, provided funds are available, and any funds remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall roll over carry forward and shall be available to the Corporation in the following fiscal year to award additional forgivable loans as set forth in this section.

* * *
Sec. C.117  2023 Acts and Resolves No. 64, Sec. 3a, is amended to read:

Sec. 3a. APPROPRIATION; SCHOOL MEALS

The sum of $29,000,000.00 $26,400,000.00 is appropriated from the Education Fund to the Agency of Education for fiscal year 2024 to provide reimbursement for school meals under 16 V.S.A. § 4017.

* * * Fiscal Year 2025 Fund Transfers and Reserve Allocations * * *

Sec. D.100 ALLOCATIONS; PROPERTY TRANSFER TAX

(a) This act contains the following amounts allocated to special funds that receive revenue from the property transfer tax. These allocations shall not exceed available revenues.

(1) The sum of $575,662 is allocated from the Current Use Administration Special Fund to the Department of Taxes for administration of the Use Tax Reimbursement Program. Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 9610(c), amounts in excess of $575,662 from the property transfer tax deposited into the Current Use Administration Special Fund shall be transferred into the General Fund.

(2) Notwithstanding 10 V.S.A. § 312, amounts in excess of $22,106,740 from the property transfer tax and surcharge established in 32 V.S.A. § 9602a deposited into the Vermont Housing and Conservation Trust Fund shall be transferred into the General Fund.

(A) The dedication of $2,500,000 in revenue from the property transfer tax pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 9610(d) for the debt payments on the
affordable housing bond pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 314 shall be offset by the reduction of $1,500,000 in the appropriation to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board and $1,000,000 from the surcharge established in 32 V.S.A. § 9602a. The fiscal year 2025 appropriation of $22,106,740 to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board reflects the $1,500,000 reduction. The affordable housing bond and related property transfer tax and surcharge provisions are repealed after the life of the bond on July 1, 2039. Once the bond is retired, the $1,500,000 reduction in the appropriation to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board shall be restored.

(3) Notwithstanding 24 V.S.A. § 4306(a), amounts in excess of $7,772,373 from the property transfer tax deposited into the Municipal and Regional Planning Fund shall be transferred into the General Fund. The $7,772,373 shall be allocated as follows:

(A) $6,404,540 for disbursement to regional planning commissions in a manner consistent with 24 V.S.A. § 4306(b);

(B) $931,773 for disbursement to municipalities in a manner consistent with 24 V.S.A. § 4306(b); and

(C) $436,060 to the Agency of Digital Services for the Vermont Center for Geographic Information.

Sec. D.101  FUND TRANSFERS

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the following amounts are transferred from the funds indicated:
(1) From the General Fund to the:

(A) General Obligation Bonds Debt Service Fund (#35100):
$73,212,880.

(B) Capital Infrastructure Subaccount in the Cash Fund for Capital and Essential Investments Fund (#21952): $6,688,747.63.

(C) Tax Computer System Modernization Fund (#21909):
$1,800,000.

(D) Fire Prevention/Building Inspection Special Fund (#21901):
$1,400,000.

(E) Enhanced 9-1-1 Board Fund (#21711): $1,300,000.

(F) Unsafe Dam Revolving Loan Fund (#21960): $1,000,000.

(G) Military – Sale of Burlington Armory & Other (#21661):
$890,000.

(H) Act 250 Permit Fund (#21260): $600,000.


(J) Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund (#21555): $830,000.

(K) Education Fund (#20205): $25,000,000.

(2) From the Transportation Fund to the:

(A) Vermont Recreational Trails Fund (#21455): $370,000.

(B) Downtown Transportation and Related Capital Improvements Fund (#21575): $523,966.
(C) General Obligation Bonds Debt Service Fund (#35100): $316,745.

(D) Notwithstanding 19 V.S.A. § 13(c), the Transportation Fund transfer to the Central Garage fund in fiscal year 2025 shall be $0.

(3) From the Education Fund to the:

(A) Tax Computer System Modernization Fund (#21909): $1,400,000.

(4) From the Clean Water Fund to the:

(A) Agricultural Water Quality Special Fund (#21933): $9,010,000.

(B) Lake in Crisis Response Program Special Fund (#21938): $120,000.

(5) From the Other Infrastructure, Essential Investments and Reserves Subaccount in the Cash for Capital and Essential Investments Fund to the:

(A) Transportation Fund (#20105): $25,000,000.

(B) General Fund (#10000): $5,000,000.

(6) From the Tax-Local Option Process Fees Fund (#21591), notwithstanding 24 V.S.A. § 138(c)(1), to the:

(A) Tax Computer System Modernization Fund (#21909): $2,000,000.

(7) From the Central Garage Fund established in 19 V.S.A. § 13 to:

(A) the Transportation Fund: $1,100,000.
(b) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, in fiscal year 2025:

(1) The following amounts shall be transferred to the General Fund from the funds indicated:

(A) Cannabis Regulation Fund (#21998): $12,000,000.

(B) AHS Central Office Earned Federal Receipts (#22005): $4,641,960.

(C) Sports Wagering Enterprise Fund (#50250): $7,000,000.

(D) Liquor Control Fund (#50300): $21,100,000.

(E) Tobacco Litigation Settlement Fund (#21370): $3,000,000.

(F) Financial Institutions Supervision Fund (#21065): $1,100,000.

(2) The following estimated amounts, which may be all or a portion of unencumbered fund balances, shall be transferred from the following funds to the General Fund. The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall report to the Joint Fiscal Committee at its July meeting the final amounts transferred from each fund and certify that such transfers will not impair the agency, office, or department reliant upon each fund from meeting its statutory requirements.

(A) AG-Fees & Reimbursements-Court Order Fund (#21638): $2,000,000.

(B) Unclaimed Property Fund (#62100): $6,500,000.
(3) $66,935,000 of the net unencumbered fund balances in the Insurance Regulatory and Supervision Fund (#21075), the Captive Insurance Regulatory and Supervision Fund (#21085), and the Securities Regulatory and Supervision Fund (#21080) shall be transferred to the General Fund.

(c)(1) Notwithstanding Sec. 1.4.3 of the Rules for State Matching Funds under the Federal Public Assistance Program, in fiscal year 2025, the Secretary of Administration may provide funding from the Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund that was transferred pursuant to subdivision (a)(1)(J) of this section to subgrantees prior to the completion of a project. In fiscal year 2025, up to 70 percent of the State funding match on the nonfederal share of an approved project for municipalities that were impacted by the August and December 2023 flooding events in counties that are eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency Public Assistance funds under federal disaster declarations DR-4744-VT and DR-4762-VT may be advanced at the request of a municipality.

(2) Notwithstanding Sec. 1.4.1 of the Rules for State Matching Funds Under the Federal Public Assistance Program, the Secretary of Administration shall increase the standard State funding match on the nonfederal share of an approved project to the highest percentage possible given available funding for municipalities in counties that were impacted by the August and December 2023 flooding events and are eligible for Federal Emergency Management
Agency Public Assistance funds under federal disaster declarations DR-4744-VT and DR-4762-VT.

Sec. D.102 REVERSIONS

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, in fiscal year 2025, the following amounts shall revert to the General Fund from the accounts indicated:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1210002000</td>
<td>Legislature</td>
<td>$211,576.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1215001000</td>
<td>Legislative Counsel</td>
<td>$301,089.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1220000000</td>
<td>Joint Fiscal Committee/Office</td>
<td>$301,010.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1220890501</td>
<td>Budget System/Transfer to Tax Dept</td>
<td>$39.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1220891802</td>
<td>Decarbonization Mech Study</td>
<td>$39.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3150892104</td>
<td>MH – Case Management Serv</td>
<td>$350,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1100892201</td>
<td>Agency of Administration – 27/53 Reserve</td>
<td>$8,064,362.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1100892302</td>
<td>Agency of Administration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>– Trans. Retirement</td>
<td>$3,935,637.31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(b) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, in fiscal year 2025, the following amounts shall revert to the American Rescue Plan Act – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund from the accounts indicated:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3440892306</td>
<td>DCF – OEO – Home Weatherization Assistance</td>
<td>$5,000,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sec. D.103  RESERVES

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, in fiscal year 2025, the following reserve transactions shall be implemented for the funds provided:

(1) General Fund.

   (A) Pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 308, an estimated amount of $15,168,663 shall be added to the General Fund Budget Stabilization Reserve.

   (B) $5,480,000 shall be added to the 27/53 reserve in fiscal year 2025. This action is the fiscal year 2025 contribution to the reserve for the 53rd week of Medicaid as required by 32 V.S.A. § 308e and the 27th payroll reserve as required by 32 V.S.A. § 308e.

   (C) Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 308b, $3,913,200 shall be unreserved from the Human Services Caseload Reserve established within the General Fund in 32 V.S.A. § 308b.

(2) Other Infrastructure, Essential Investments and Reserves Subaccount in the Cash for Capital and Essential Investments Fund.

   (A) $25,000,000 is unreserved to be used by the Agency of Transportation in accordance with the provisions for which the funds were originally reserved in 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. C.108(a).

   (B) $5,000,000 of the $14,500,000 reserved in 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. C.108(b) is unreserved.

(3) Transportation Fund.
(A) For the purpose of calculating the fiscal year 2025 Transportation Fund stabilization requirement of five percent of prior year appropriations, Transportation Fund reversions are deducted from the fiscal year 2024 total appropriations amount.

*** General Government ***

Sec. E.100 POSITIONS

(a) The establishment of 43 permanent positions is authorized in fiscal year 2025 for the following:

(1) Permanent classified positions:

(A) Department of Public Safety:

(i) one Criminal History Record Specialist I; and

(ii) three Regional Emergency Management Program Coordinators.

(B) Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation:

(i) four Field Park Manager IVs.

(C) Office of the Treasurer:

(i) one Internal Auditor.

(D) Office of the Secretary of State:

(i) one Administrative Services Coordinator IV; and

(ii) one Information Technology Specialist III.

(E) Department of Environmental Conservation:

(i) one Administrative Services Coordinator;
(ii) two Environmental Engineers;

(iii) two Environmental Technicians; and

(iv) 10 Environmental Analysts.

(F) Agency of Education:

(i) one CTE Education Programs Coordinator; and

(ii) one Education Finance Data Analyst.

(G) Department of Corrections:

(i) five Probation and Parole Officers.

(2) Permanent exempt positions:

(A) Agency of Administration – Secretary’s Office:

(i) one Chief Performance Officer.

(B) Judiciary:

(i) three Superior Court Judges.

(C) Department of State’s Attorneys and Sheriffs:

(i) one SIU Director.

(D) Office of Legislative Counsel:

(i) one Law Clerk; and

(ii) two Legislative Counsels.

(E) Office of Legislative Information Technology:

(i) one Audio Visual Specialist.

(F) Joint Fiscal Office:

(i) one Analyst.
(b) The conversion of 14 limited service positions to classified permanent status is authorized in fiscal year 2025 as follows:

1) Department of Environmental Conservation:
   (A) one Environmental Engineer V;
   (B) one Environmental Engineer III; and
   (C) one Environmental Scientist IV.

2) Department of Labor:
   (A) one Re-Employment Services and Eligibility Assessment Program Coordinator; and
   (B) nine Re-Employment Services and Eligibility Assessment Program Facilitators.

3) Agency of Education:
   (A) one Education Project Manager.

(c) The establishment of 35 exempt limited service positions is authorized in fiscal year 2025 as follows:

1) Judiciary:
   (A) one Database Administrator;
   (B) two IT Help Desk Analysts;
   (C) two Centralized Service Analysts;
   (D) 10 Judicial Assistants; and
   (E) 11 Judicial Officer II’s.

2) Department of State’s Attorneys and Sheriffs:
(A) seven Deputy State’s Attorneys;

(B) one Victim Advocate; and

(C) one Legal Assistant.

Sec. E.100.1  3 V.S.A. § 2310 is added to read:

§ 2310. CHIEF PERFORMANCE OFFICER

(a) There is created the permanent, exempt position of Chief Performance Officer within the Agency of Administration for the purpose of better developing a culture of performance accountability and continuous improvement across State government. The Chief Performance Officer shall:

(1) provide advice, recommendations, and consultation to the Executive and Legislative branches of State government about performance improvement and management;

(2) lead the creation and implementation of a performance improvement and management strategy for State government to ensure effective and efficient government operations;

(3) assist agencies and departments as necessary in developing, monitoring, managing, and improving performance measures as well as developing strategies that maximize results and return on investment;

(4) develop and offer trainings, professional development opportunities, and resources for agencies and departments regarding performance improvement and management; and
(5) provide consultation on the design and implementation of systems that use data and metrics to measure and report performance.

Sec. E.106 CORONAVIRUS STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND APPROPRIATIONS; REVERSION AND ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW SPENDING AUTHORITY

(a) The Agency of Administration shall structure any existing American Rescue Plan Act – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund program in accordance with the requirements of 31 C.F.R. Part 35 and in a manner designed to achieve the intent of the General Assembly and may revert any unexpended and unencumbered spending authority and establish new spending authority across governmental units in an overall net-neutral manner, pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 511.

(b) The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall revert all unobligated American Rescue Plan Act – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund spending authority prior to December 31, 2024. The total amount of American Rescue Plan Act – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund spending authority reverted in accordance with this subsection shall equal the amount of new spending authority established pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 511 for the following purposes in the following order:

(1) $36,000,000 to the Department of Public Safety Division of Emergency Management for Federal Emergency Management Agency match or municipal support for hazard mitigation. Any unexpended and
unencumbered spending authority shall be reverted and amount of funds equal to the reversion shall be transferred to the Community Resilience and Disaster Mitigation Fund.

(2) $4,000,000 to the Agency of Administration for Administration costs, including for an anticipated audit response per 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec. G.801(a) and 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. G.801(A).

(3) $30,000,000 to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board to provide support and enhance capacity for the production and preservation of affordable mixed-income rental housing and homeownership units, including improvements to manufactured homes and communities, permanent homes and emergency shelter for those experiencing homelessness, recovery residences, and housing available to farm workers, refugees, and individuals who are eligible to receive Medicaid-funded home and community based services.

(4) $25,000,000 to the Department of Housing and Community Development for a grant to the Vermont Housing Finance Agency for the Middle-Income Homeownership Development Program, the First Generation Homebuyer Program, and the Vermont Rental Revolving Loan Fund. Up to $1,000,000 of these funds may be for the First Generation Homebuyer Program.

(5) Any remaining funds shall be subject to the establishment of new spending authority or transferred, with the express authorization of the Joint
Fiscal Committee, to existing American Rescue Plan Act – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund programs established by the General Assembly.

(c) If previously obligated American Rescue Plan Act – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund spending authority becomes unobligated after December 31, 2024, the Commissioner of Finance and Management may, with the approval of the Joint Fiscal Committee, revert the unobligated American Rescue Plan Act – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund spending authority and establish new spending authority pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 511 for any existing American Rescue Plan Act – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery programs in accordance with the requirements of 31 C.F.R. Part 35.

Sec. E.125 OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL; ABOLISHED POSITIONS

(a) The abolishment of two session-only Law Clerk positions in the Office of Legislative Counsel is authorized in fiscal year 2025.

Sec. E.125.1 2 V.S.A. § 403 is amended to read:

§ 403. FUNCTIONS; CONFIDENTIALITY

* * *

(b)(1)(A) All requests for legal assistance, information, and advice from the Office of Legislative Counsel; all information received in connection with research or drafting; and all confidential materials provided to or generated by the Office shall remain confidential unless the party requesting or providing the information or material designates that it is not confidential.
(B) Any draft of a report or other work in progress generated by or submitted to the Office of Legislative Counsel shall remain confidential until it has been finalized.

* * *

Sec. E.126. 32 V.S.A. § 1052 is amended to read:

§ 1052. MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY; COMPENSATION AND EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT

* * *

(b) During any session of the General Assembly, each member is entitled to receive reimbursement of expenses as follows: set forth in this subsection.

(1) Mileage reimbursement. Each member shall be entitled to receive reimbursement in an amount equal to the actual mileage traveled for each day of session in which the member travels between Montpelier and the member’s home or from Montpelier or from the member’s home to another site on officially sanctioned legislative business. Reimbursement of actual mileage traveled under this subdivision shall be at the rate per mile determined by the federal Office of Government-wide Policy and published in the Federal Register for the year of the session.

(2) Meals and lodging allowance. Each member shall receive either a meals allowance or reimbursement of actual meals expenses. A member shall be presumed to have elected to receive the meals allowance unless the member informs the Office of Legislative Operations by a date established by
the Office of Legislative Operations that the member wishes to receive reimbursement of actual meals expenses. A member’s election to receive reimbursement of actual meals expenses shall remain in effect through the remainder of that session unless the member notifies the Office, in writing, that the member needs to change to the meals allowance due to a change in circumstances or for another compelling reason.

(A) Meals allowance. A member who elects to receive a meals allowance shall receive an amount equal to the daily amount for meals and lodging determined for Montpelier, Vermont, by the federal Office of Government-wide Policy and published in the Federal Register for the year of the session, for each day the House in which the member serves shall sit.

(B) Meals reimbursement. A member who elects to receive reimbursement of expenses shall receive reimbursement equal to the actual amounts expended by the member for meals for each day that the House in which the member serves shall sit; provided, however, that the total amount of the weekly reimbursement available pursuant to this subdivision (B) shall not exceed the amount the member would have received for the same week if the member had elected the meals allowance pursuant to subdivision (A) of this subdivision (2). The member shall provide meal receipts or otherwise substantiate the amounts expended to the Office of Legislative Operations in the form and manner prescribed by the Director of Legislative Operations.
(3) Lodging. Each member shall receive either a lodging allowance or reimbursement of actual lodging expenses. A member shall be presumed to have elected to receive the lodging allowance unless the member informs the Office of Legislative Operations by a date established by the Office of Legislative Operations that the member wishes to receive reimbursement of actual lodging expenses. A member’s election to receive reimbursement of actual lodging expenses shall remain in effect through the remainder of that session unless the member notifies the Office, in writing, that the member needs to change to the lodging allowance due to a change in circumstances or for another compelling reason.

(A) Lodging allowance. A member who elects to receive a lodging allowance shall receive an amount equal to the daily amount for lodging determined for Montpelier, Vermont, by the federal Office of Government-wide Policy and published in the Federal Register for the year of the session for each day the House in which the member serves shall sit.

(B) Lodging reimbursement. A member who elects to receive reimbursement of expenses shall receive reimbursement equal to the actual amounts expended by the member for lodging for each day that the House in which the member serves shall sit; provided, however, that the total amount of the weekly reimbursement available pursuant to this subdivision (B) for each week shall not exceed the amount the member would have received for the same week if the member had elected the lodging allowance pursuant to
subdivision (A) of this subdivision (3). The member shall provide lodging
receipts or otherwise substantiate the amounts expended to the Office of
Legislative Operations in the form and manner prescribed by the Director of
Legislative Operations.

(4) Absences. If a member is absent for reasons other than sickness or
legislative business for one or more entire days while the house House in
which the member sits is in session, the member shall notify the Office of
Legislative Operations of that absence, and expenses received shall not include
the amount that the legislator specifies was not the member shall not be
entitled to receive or be reimbursed for mileage, meals, or lodging expenses
incurred during the period of that absence, except that lodging expenses
associated with a lease or rental agreement may be received or reimbursed
upon approval of either the Speaker of the House or the President Pro Tempore
of the Senate.

* * *

Sec. E.126.1  2 V.S.A. § 703 is amended to read:

§ 703. FUNCTIONS; CONFIDENTIALITY

(a) The Office of Legislative Information Technology shall:

* * *

(b) Any draft of a report or other work in progress generated by or
submitted to the Office of Legislative Information Technology shall remain
confidential until it has been finalized.
Sec. E.126.2 LEGISLATURE; STATE HOUSE RENOVATION

APPROVAL

(a) The Speaker of the House, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Chair of the House Committee on Appropriations, and the Chair of the Senate Committee on Appropriations shall have the authority to approve the use of legislative budget carryforward funds to cover the cost of room renovations to increase public space within the State House.

Sec. E.127 2 V.S.A. § 523 is amended to read:

§ 523. FUNCTIONS; CONFIDENTIALITY

* * *

(b)(1)(A) All requests for assistance, information, and advice from the Joint Fiscal Office, all information received in connection with fiscal research or related drafting, and all confidential materials provided to or generated by the Joint Fiscal Office shall remain confidential unless the party requesting or providing the information designates that it is not confidential.

(B) Any draft of a report or other work in progress generated by or submitted to the Joint Fiscal Office shall remain confidential until it has been finalized.

* * *
Sec. E.127.1  FISCAL YEAR 2025 FEE REPORT; PROTECTION TO PERSONS AND PROPERTY

(a) Fiscal year 2025 fee information. The Judiciary, agencies, departments, boards, and offices that receive appropriations in Secs. B.200 through B.299 of this act shall, in collaboration with the Joint Fiscal Office, prepare a comprehensive fee report for each fee that is in effect in fiscal year 2025. The fee report shall contain the following information for each fee:

1. the statutory authorization and termination date, if any;
2. the current rate or amount of the fee and the date the fee was last set or adjusted by the General Assembly or Joint Fiscal Committee;
3. the Fund into which the fee revenues are deposited;
4. the amount of the revenues derived from the fee in each of the five fiscal years preceding fiscal year 2025;
5. the number of times that the fee was paid in each of the two fiscal years preceding fiscal year 2025;
6. a projection of the fee revenues in fiscal years 2025 and 2026;
7. a description of the service or product provided or the regulatory function performed by the Judiciary, agency, department, board or office supported by the fee;
8. the amount of the fee if adjusted for inflation from the last time the fee amount was modified using an appropriate index chosen in consultation with the Joint Fiscal Office. The inflation adjustment shall be calculated as the
percentage change between the value of the index in the July of the year the fee was last adjusted by the General Assembly and July 2024;

(9) if any portion of the fee revenue is deposited into a special fund, the percentage of the special fund’s revenues that the fee represents;

(10) any available information regarding comparable fees in other jurisdictions;

(11) any polices or trends that might affect the viability of the fee amount; and

(12) any other relevant considerations for setting the fee amount.

(b) Reports.

(1) The Joint Fiscal Office shall provide guidance as necessary to the Judiciary, agencies, departments, boards, and offices described in subsection (a) of this section on the methodology to be used for compiling the information requested in the fee reports. On or before October 15, 2024, the Judiciary, agencies, departments, boards, and offices described in subsection (a) of this section shall submit a draft report of the information required in subdivisions (a)(1)–(12) of this section to the Joint Fiscal Office for review. The Judiciary, agencies, departments, boards, and offices shall work with the Joint Fiscal Office to finalize the report before submitting the final report described in subdivision (2) of this subsection.

(2) On or before December 15, 2024, the Judiciary, agencies, departments, boards, and offices described in subsection (a) shall submit a
jointly prepared final report to the House Committees on Appropriations and on Ways and Means and the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Finance.

(3) If any of the information requested in this section cannot be provided for any reason, the Judiciary, agencies, departments, boards, and offices described in subsection (a) shall include in both the draft and final reports a written explanation for why the information cannot be provided.

(c) As used in this section, as it pertains to Executive Branch agencies, departments, boards, and offices, “fee” means any source of State revenue classified by the Department of Finance and Management Accounting System as “fees,” “business licenses,” “nonbusiness licenses,” and “fines and penalties.” As it pertains to the Judiciary, “fee” means any source of State revenue classified by the Department of Finance and Management accounting system as “fees.”

(d) Executive Branch fee report moratorium. Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 605, in fiscal year 2025, the Governor shall not be required to submit the consolidated Executive Branch fee annual report and request to the General Assembly.

(e) Judicial Branch fee report moratorium. Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 605a, in fiscal year 2025, the Justices of the Supreme Court or the Court Administrator if one is appointed pursuant to 4 V.S.A. § 21 shall not be
required to submit the consolidated Judicial Branch fee annual report and
request to the General Assembly.

Sec. E.132 33 V.S.A. § 8003 is amended to read:

§ 8003. PROGRAM LIMITATIONS

(a) Cash contributions. The Treasurer or designee shall not accept a
contribution:

(1) unless it is in cash; or

(2) except in the case of a contribution under 26 U.S.C. § 529A(c)(1)(C)
(relating to a change in a designated beneficiary or program), if such
contribution to an ABLE account would result in aggregate contributions from
all contributors to the ABLE account for the taxable year exceeding the
amount in effect under 26 U.S.C. § 2503(b) for the calendar year in which the
taxable year begins.

(b) Separate accounting. The Treasurer or designee shall provide separate
accounting for each designated beneficiary.

(c) Limited investment direction. A designated beneficiary may, directly or
indirectly, direct the investment of any contributions to the Vermont ABLE
Savings Program, or any earnings thereon, not more than two times in any
calendar year.

(d) No pledging of interest as security. A person shall not use an interest in
the Vermont ABLE Savings Program, or any portion thereof, as security for a
loan.
(e) Prohibition on excess contributions. The Treasurer or designee shall adopt adequate safeguards under the Vermont ABLE Savings Program to prevent aggregate contributions on behalf of a designated beneficiary in excess of the limit established by the State pursuant to 26 U.S.C. § 529(b)(6).

(f) Adjustment or recovery. Neither the State nor any agency or instrumentality of the State shall seek adjustment or recovery under Section 529A of the federal Internal Revenue Code against an ABLE account for the costs of benefits provided to a designated beneficiary.

(g) Abandoned accounts. Any abandoned ABLE accounts shall be subject to the unclaimed property provisions in 27 V.S.A. chapter 18.

Sec. E.132.1 27 V.S.A. § 1452 is amended to read:

§ 1452. DEFINITIONS

As used in this chapter:

* * *

(24) “Property” means tangible property described in section 1465 of this title or a fixed and certain interest in intangible property held, issued, or owed in the course of a holder’s business or by a government, governmental subdivision, agency, or instrumentality. The term:

* * *

(C) does not include:

(i) property held in a plan described in 26 U.S.C. § 529A, as may be amended; [Repealed.]
(ii) game-related digital content;

(iii) a loyalty card; or

(iv) a gift card.

* * *

Sec. E.133 VERMONT STATE EMPLOYEES’ RETIREMENT SYSTEM AND VERMONT PENSION INVESTMENT COMMISSION; OPERATING BUDGET, SOURCE OF FUNDS

(a) Of the $3,063,180 appropriated in Sec. B.133 of this act, $2,047,989 constitutes the Vermont State Employees’ Retirement System operating budget, and $1,015,191 constitutes the portion of the Vermont Pension Investment Commission’s budget attributable to the Vermont State Employees’ Retirement System.

Sec. E.134 VERMONT MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES’ RETIREMENT SYSTEM AND VERMONT PENSION INVESTMENT COMMISSION; OPERATING BUDGET; SOURCE OF FUNDS

(a) Of the $1,737,125 appropriated in Sec. B.134 of this act, $1,359,845 constitutes the Vermont Municipal Employees’ Retirement System operating budget, and $377,280 constitutes the portion of the Vermont Pension Investment Commission’s budget attributable to the Vermont Municipal Employees’ Retirement System.
Sec. E.134.1 VERMONT MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES’ RETIREMENT SYSTEM; FISCAL YEARS 2027–2030; RATES

(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of 24 V.S.A. § 5064(b), for the period of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, contributions shall be made by:

(1) Group A members at the rate of 4.5 percent of earnable compensation;

(2) Group B members at the rate of 6.875 percent of earnable compensation;

(3) Group C members at the rate of 12.0 percent of earnable compensation; and

(4) Group D members at the rate of 13.35 percent of earnable compensation.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of 24 V.S.A. § 5064(b), for the period July 1, 2027 through June 30, 2028, contributions shall be made by:

(1) Group A members at the rate of 4.75 percent of earnable compensation;

(2) Group B members at the rate of 7.125 percent of earnable compensation;

(3) Group C members at the rate of 12.25 percent of earnable compensation; and

(4) Group D members at the rate of 13.6 percent of earnable compensation.
(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of 24 V.S.A. § 5064(b), for the period July 1, 2028 through June 30, 2029, contributions shall be made by:

(1) Group A members at the rate of 5.0 percent of earnable compensation;

(2) Group B members at the rate of 7.375 percent of earnable compensation;

(3) Group C members at the rate of 12.5 percent of earnable compensation; and

(4) Group D members at the rate of 13.85 percent of earnable compensation.

(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of 24 V.S.A. § 5064(b), for the period July 1, 2029 through June 30, 2030, contributions shall be made by:

(1) Group A members at the rate of 5.25 percent of earnable compensation;

(2) Group B members at the rate of 7.625 percent of earnable compensation;

(3) Group C members at the rate of 12.75 percent of earnable compensation; and

(4) Group D members at the rate of 14.1 percent of earnable compensation.
Sec. E.139  GRAND LIST LITIGATION ASSISTANCE

(a) Of the appropriation in Sec. B.139 of this act, $9,000 shall be transferred to the Attorney General and $70,000 shall be transferred to the Department of Taxes’ Division of Property Valuation and Review and used with any remaining funds from the amount previously transferred for final payment of expenses incurred by the Department or towns in defense of grand list appeals regarding the reappraisals of the hydroelectric plants and other expenses incurred to undertake utility property appraisals in Vermont.

Sec. E.142  PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES

(a) This appropriation is for State payments in lieu of property taxes under 32 V.S.A. chapter 123, subchapter 4, and the payments shall be calculated in addition to and without regard to the appropriations for PILOT for Montpelier and for correctional facilities elsewhere in this act. Payments in lieu of taxes under this section shall be paid from the PILOT Special Fund under 32 V.S.A. § 3709.

Sec. E.143  PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES; MONTPELIER

(a) Payments in lieu of taxes under this section shall be paid from the PILOT Special Fund under 32 V.S.A. § 3709.

Sec. E.144  PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES; CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

(a) Payments in lieu of taxes under this section shall be paid from the PILOT Special Fund under 32 V.S.A. § 3709.
Sec. E.200 ATTORNEY GENERAL

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Office of the Attorney General, Medicaid Fraud and Residential Abuse Unit, is authorized to retain, subject to appropriation, one-half of the State share of any recoveries from Medicaid fraud settlements, excluding interest, that exceed the State share of restitution to the Medicaid Program. All such designated additional recoveries retained shall be used to finance Medicaid Fraud and Residential Abuse Unit activities.

(b) Of the revenue available to the Attorney General under 9 V.S.A. § 2458(b)(4), $1,749,700 is appropriated in Sec. B.200 of this act.

Sec. E.204 JUDICIARY; SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE POSITIONS

(a) Of the three Superior Court Judge positions established in Sec. E.100(a)(2)(B)(i) of this act, one shall be funded with the Tobacco Litigation Settlement Fund appropriated to the Judiciary in 2018 (Sp. Sess.) Acts and Resolves No. 11, Sec. C.106(a).

Sec. E.204.1 2018 (Sp. Sess.) Acts and Resolves No. 11, Sec. C.106, is amended to read:

Sec. C.106 CHINS CASES SYSTEM-WIDE REFORM

(a) The sum of $7,000,000 $4,000,000 is appropriated from the Tobacco Litigation Settlement Fund to the Judiciary in fiscal year 2018 and shall carry forward for the uses and based on the allocations set forth in subsections (b)
and (c) of this section. The purpose of the funds is to make strategic investments to transform the adjudication of CHINS cases in Vermont.

(b) The sum appropriated from the Tobacco Litigation Settlement Fund in subsection (a) of this section shall be allocated as follows:

(1) $1,250,000 for fiscal year 2019, which shall not be distributed until the group defined in subsection (c) of this section provides proposed expenditures as part of its fiscal year 2019 budget adjustment request;

(2) $2,500,000 for fiscal year 2020, for which the group shall provide proposed expenditures as part of its fiscal year 2020 budget request or budget adjustment request, or both;

(3) $2,500,000 for fiscal year 2021, for which the group shall provide proposed expenditures as part of its fiscal year 2021 budget request or budget adjustment request, or both; and

(4) $750,000 in fiscal year 2022 or after as needed.

* * *

Sec. E.208 PUBLIC SAFETY; ADMINISTRATION

(a) The Commissioner of Public Safety is authorized to enter into a performance-based contract with the Essex County Sheriff’s Department to provide law enforcement service activities agreed upon by both the Commissioner of Public Safety and the Sheriff.
Sec. E.208.1 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY; EMBEDDED MENTAL HEALTH WORKERS; REPORT

(a) In 2025, the Department of Public Safety shall present the House Committee on Health Care and the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Judiciary with measurable outcomes on the results of the Department’s embedded mental health worker program to date, by barrack, and on the Department’s collaboration with the Department of Mental Health to achieve a coordinated and integrated system of care, including how this program works with 988, with the statewide Mobile Crisis Response program, and with the designated and specialized service agencies.

Sec. E.209 PUBLIC SAFETY; STATE POLICE

(a) Of the General Fund appropriation in Sec. B.209 of this act, $35,000 shall be available to the Southern Vermont Wilderness Search and Rescue Team, which comprises State Police, the Department of Fish and Wildlife, county sheriffs, and local law enforcement personnel in Bennington, Windham, and Windsor Counties, for snowmobile enforcement.

(b) Of the General Fund appropriation in Sec. B.209 of this act, $405,000 is allocated for grants in support of the Drug Task Force. Of this amount, $190,000 shall be used by the Vermont Drug Task Force to fund three town task force officers. These town task force officers shall be dedicated to enforcement efforts with respect to both regulated drugs as defined in 18 V.S.A. § 4201(29) and the diversion of legal prescription drugs. Any
unobligated spending authority may be allocated by the Commissioner to fund the work of the Drug Task Force or carried forward.

Sec. E.212 PUBLIC SAFETY; FIRE SAFETY

(a) Of the General Fund appropriation in Sec. B.212 of this act, $55,000 shall be granted to the Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force for the purpose of designing dry hydrants.

Sec. E.215 MILITARY; ADMINISTRATION

(a) Of the funds appropriated in Sec. B.215 of this act, $1,319,834 shall be granted to the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation for the National Guard Tuition Benefit Program established in 16 V.S.A. § 2857.

Sec. E.219 MILITARY; VETERANS’ AFFAIRS

(a) Of the funds appropriated in Sec. B.219 of this act, $1,000 shall be used for continuation of the Vermont Medal Program, $2,000 shall be used for the expenses of the Governor’s Veterans’ Advisory Council, $7,500 shall be used for the Veterans’ Day parade, and $10,000 shall be granted to the American Legion for the Boys’ State and Girls’ State programs.

Sec. E.232 SECRETARY OF STATE; VERMONT ACCESS NETWORK BUDGET

(a) The Office of the Secretary of State shall request that Vermont Access Network submit a proposed operating budget required to maintain its current level of operation and programming. The Office of the Secretary of State shall
include the proposed operating budget as part of its fiscal year 2026 budget presentation.

Sec. E.300 FUNDING FOR THE OFFICE OF THE HEALTH CARE ADVOCATE, VERMONT LEGAL AID

(a) Of the funds appropriated in Sec. B.300 of this act:

(1) $2,000,406 shall be used for the contract with the Office of the Health Care Advocate;

(2) $1,717,994 for Vermont Legal Aid services, including the Poverty Law Project and mental health services; and

(3) $650,000 is for the purposes of maintaining current Vermont Legal Aid program capacity and addressing increased requests for services, including eviction prevention and protection from foreclosure and consumer debt.

Sec. E.300.1 18 V.S.A. § 8915 is added to read:

§ 8915. PROVISION FOR AGREEMENTS WITH CASE MANAGEMENT ENTITIES

Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the Commissioner of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living may enter into agreements with case management entities to support local communities. The Commissioner may develop rules setting forth the standards and procedures for the case management entities it contracts with.
Sec. E.300.2  2022 Acts and Resolves No. 83, Sec. 72a, as amended by 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. C.105 and 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. E.301.2, is further amended to read:

Sec. 72a.  MEDICAID HOME- AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES (HCBS) PLAN

* * *

(f) The Global Commitment Fund appropriated in subsection (e) of this section obligated in fiscal year years 2023 and fiscal year 2024, and 2025 for the purposes of bringing HCBS plan spending authority forward into fiscal year 2024 and fiscal year 2025, respectively. The funds appropriated in subsections (b), (c), and (e) of this section may be transferred on a net-neutral basis in fiscal year years 2023 and fiscal year 2024, and 2025 in the same manner as the Global Commitment appropriations in 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. E.301. The Agency shall report to the Joint Fiscal Committee in September 2023 and September 2024, and September 2025, respectively, on transfers of appropriations made and final amounts expended by each department in fiscal year years 2023 and fiscal year 2024, and 2025, respectively, and any obligated funds carried forward to be expended in fiscal year 2024 and fiscal year 2025, respectively.
Sec. E.300.3  AGENCY OF HUMAN SERVICES; FISCAL YEAR 2024

CLOSEOUT CONTINGENT APPROPRIATION;

COMPREHENSIVE CHILD WELFARE INFORMATION
SYSTEM

(a) Notwithstanding 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 87, Sec. 103(a), to the extent that General Fund appropriated to the Agency of Human Services in 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Secs. B.300 through B.341 remains unobligated and unexpended at the end of fiscal year 2024, up to $3,000,000 shall revert to the General Fund. A one-time General Fund appropriation in an amount equivalent to the reversion shall be made to the Department for Children and Families’ Family Services Division for the Comprehensive Child Welfare Information System in fiscal year 2025.

Sec. E.300.4  OPERATIONAL COSTS; RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH

(a) On or before January 15, 2025, the Department for Children and Families shall submit a report to the House Committees on Appropriations and on Human Services and to the Senate Committees on Appropriations and Health and Welfare describing the anticipated cost differential in operating the former Woodside Juvenile Rehabilitation Center as compared to operating the various residential treatment programs for youth developed to replace the former Woodside Juvenile Rehabilitation Center.
Sec. E.301  SECRETARY’S OFFICE; GLOBAL COMMITMENT

(a) The Agency of Human Services shall use the funds appropriated in Sec. B.301 of this act for payment required under the intergovernmental agreement between the Agency of Human Services and the managed care entity, the Department of Vermont Health Access, as provided for in the Global Commitment for Health Waiver approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services under Section 1115 of the Social Security Act.

(b) In addition to the State funds appropriated in Sec. B.301 of this act, a total estimated sum of $24,301,185 is anticipated to be certified as State matching funds under Global Commitment as follows:

(1) $21,295,850 certified State match available from local education agencies for eligible special education school-based Medicaid services under Global Commitment. This amount, combined with $29,204,150 of federal funds appropriated in Sec. B.301 of this act, equals a total estimated expenditure of $50,500,000. An amount equal to the amount of the federal matching funds for eligible special education school-based Medicaid services under Global Commitment shall be transferred from the Global Commitment Fund to the Medicaid Reimbursement Special Fund created in 16 V.S.A. § 2959a.

(2) $3,005,335 certified State match available from local designated mental health and developmental services agencies for eligible mental health services provided under Global Commitment.
(c) Up to $4,487,210 is transferred from the Agency of Human Services Federal Receipts Holding Account to the Interdepartmental Transfer Fund consistent with the amount appropriated in Sec. B.301 of this act.

Sec. E.301.1 GLOBAL COMMITMENT APPROPRIATIONS; TRANSFER; REPORT

(a) To facilitate the end-of-year closeout for fiscal year 2025, the Secretary of Human Services, with approval from the Secretary of Administration, may make transfers among the appropriations authorized for Medicaid and Medicaid-waiver program expenses, including Global Commitment appropriations outside the Agency of Human Services. At least three business days prior to any transfer, the Agency of Human Services shall submit to the Joint Fiscal Office a proposal of transfers to be made pursuant to this section. A final report on all transfers made under this section shall be sent to the Joint Fiscal Committee for review at the Committee’s September 2025 meeting.

The purpose of this section is to provide the Agency of Human Services with limited authority to modify appropriations to comply with the terms and conditions of the Global Commitment for Health Section 1115 demonstration waiver approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services under Section 1115 of the Social Security Act.
Sec. E.306  DR. DYNASAUR; PREMIUM INVOICING SUSPENSION AND AMNESTY

(a) The Agency of Human Services is authorized under 33 V.S.A. § 1901(c) and Vermont’s Global Commitment to Health Section 1115 Medicaid demonstration to charge a monthly premium for certain Dr. Dynasaur enrollees whose family income exceeds 195 percent of the federal poverty level. The Agency suspended premium invoicing for this population as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency, and that premium suspension has continued following the end of the public health emergency.

(b)(1) The Agency shall not attempt to collect or take adverse action against a Dr. Dynasaur enrollee or the enrollee’s family as a result of any unpaid premium balance that was incurred prior to the public health emergency or during the period of the invoicing suspension.

(2) At such time as the Agency reinstates premium invoicing, no Dr. Dynasaur applicant or enrollee shall carry any outstanding premium balance.

Sec. E.306.1  HEALTH INSURANCE MARKETS; TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

(a) The Agency of Human Services shall conduct a technical analysis relating to Vermont’s health insurance markets that shall include:

(1) determining the potential advantages and disadvantages to individuals, small businesses, and large businesses of modifying Vermont’s
current health insurance market structure, including the impacts on health
insurance premiums and on Vermonters’ access to health care services;

(2) exploring other affordability mechanisms to address the calendar
year 2026 expiration of federal enhanced premium tax credits for plans issued
through the Vermont Health Benefit Exchange; and

(3) examining the feasibility of creating a public option or other
mechanism through which otherwise ineligible individuals or employees of
small businesses, or both, could buy into Vermont Medicaid coverage.

(b) On or before January 15, 2025, the Agency of Human Services and the
Department of Vermont Health Access shall provide the results of the analysis
to the House Committee on Health Care and the Senate Committees on Health
and Welfare and on Finance.

Sec. E.306.2 DVHA; RATE ANALYSES REQUEST

(a) To the extent that resources allow, the Department of Vermont Health
Access shall conduct the analysis set forth in subdivision (1) of this subsection
first, followed by the analysis set forth in subdivision (2) of this subsection,
and shall provide its findings to the House Committees on Health Care and on
Appropriations and the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on
Appropriations on or before January 15, 2025:

(1) methodologies for comparing Medicaid rates for home health agency
services to rates under the Medicare home health prospective payment system
model and for comparing Medicaid pediatric palliative care rates to rates under
the Medicare home health prospective payment system model or to Medicare hospice rates, or both; and

(2) methodologies for modifying the Medicaid Resource-Based Relative Value Scale professional fee schedule by considering:

(A) maintaining alignment with relative value units used by Medicare but including a minimum on conversion factors;

(B) benchmarking one or more conversion factors in Vermont Medicaid to the Medicare conversion factor from a specific year; and

(C) determining whether Vermont Medicaid should continue to use two separate conversion factors, or transition to a single conversion factor in combination with other methods of providing enhanced support for primary care services.

Sec. E.306.3 PSYCHIATRIC RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT FACILITY; LICENSURE

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, no funds appropriated to the Department of Vermont Health Access in this act shall be expended for operation of a psychiatric residential treatment facility until the facility has been licensed by the State; provided, however, that the Department may expend funds on goods and services, such as purchasing supplies and hiring and training staff, that are necessary to prepare the facility to be operational upon licensure. Notwithstanding 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. E.511.1, a psychiatric residential treatment facility may be approved in
accordance with 16 V.S.A. § 166(b) and applicable State Board of Education
Rules.

Sec. E.306.4 MEDICARE SAVINGS PROGRAMS; INCOME ELIGIBILITY

(a) The Agency of Human Services shall make the following changes to the Medicare Savings Programs:

(1) increase the Qualified Medicare Beneficiary Program income threshold to 145 percent of the federal poverty level; and

(2) increase the Qualifying Individual Program income threshold to the maximum percent of the federal poverty level allowed under federal law based on the increase to the income threshold for the Qualified Medicare Beneficiary Program in subdivision (1) of this subsection.

Sec. E.306.5 MEDICARE SAVINGS PROGRAMS; MEDICAID STATE PLAN AMENDMENT; VPHARM TRANSITION; REPORTS

(a) The Agency of Human Services shall request approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to amend Vermont’s Medicaid state plan to expand eligibility for the Medicare Savings Programs as set forth in Sec. E.306.4 of this act.

(b)(1) On or before January 15, 2025, the Agency of Human Services shall provide recommendations to the House Committees on Health Care, on Human Services, and on Appropriations and the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Appropriations regarding the VPharm program to ensure
alignment with the Medicare Savings Programs’ eligibility expansions set forth in Sec. E.306.4 of this act, including:

(A) whether the VPharm program should be modified or repealed as a result of the Medicare Savings Programs’ eligibility expansions;

(B) whether the benefits provided by the VPharm program should be delivered through an alternative program design;

(C) the estimated fiscal impacts of implementing any recommended changes; and

(D) when any recommended changes should take effect.

(2) The Agency of Human Services and the Department of Vermont Health Access shall seek input from the Office of the Health Care Advocate and other interested stakeholders in developing the recommendations required by this subsection.

(c) On or before January 15, 2027, the Agency of Human Services shall provide cost estimates for expanding eligibility for the Medicare Savings Programs beyond the eligibility expansions set forth in Sec. E.306.4 of this act to the House Committees on Health Care, on Human Services, and on Appropriations and the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Appropriations.
Sec. E.307 14 V.S.A. § 931 is amended to read:

§ 931. LIMITATIONS ON CLAIMS OF CREDITORS

All claims against the decedent’s estate that arose before the death of the decedent, including claims of the State and any subdivision thereof except claims filed by the State on behalf of Vermont Medicaid, absolute or contingent, liquidated or unliquidated, founded on contract, tort, or other legal basis, if not barred earlier by other statute of limitations, are barred against the estate, the legal representative of the estate, and the heirs and devisees of the decedent, unless presented within one year after the decedent’s death. Nothing in this section affects or prevents any proceeding to enforce any mortgage, pledge, or other lien upon the property of the estate. Claims filed by the State on behalf of Vermont Medicaid must be filed in accordance with subsection 1203(d) of this title.

Sec. E.307.1 14 V.S.A. § 1203 is amended to read:

§ 1203. LIMITATIONS ON PRESENTATION OF CLAIMS

(a) All claims against a decedent’s estate that arose before the death of the decedent, including claims of the State and any subdivision thereof except claims filed by the State on behalf of Vermont Medicaid, whether due or to become due, absolute or contingent, liquidated or unliquidated, founded on contract, tort, or other legal basis, except claims for the possession of or title to real estate and claims for injury to the person and damage to property suffered by the act or default of the deceased, if not barred earlier by other statute of
limitations, are barred against the estate, the executor or administrator, and the heirs and devisees of the decedent, unless presented as follows:

(1) within four months after the date of the first publication of notice to creditors if notice is given in compliance with the Rules of Probate Procedure; provided, however, that claims barred by the nonclaim statute of the decedent’s domicile before the first publication for claims in the State are also barred in this State;

(2) within one year after the decedent’s death, if notice to creditors has not been published or otherwise given as provided by the Rules of Probate Procedure.

* * *

(d) Claims filed by the State on behalf of Vermont Medicaid must be presented within four months after the date of the first publication of notice to creditors if notice is given in compliance with the Rules of Probate Procedure, regardless of the date of the decedent’s death or when a decedent’s executor or administrator opens the estate.

Sec. E.311 18 V.S.A. chapter 1, subchapter 2 is amended to read:

Subchapter 2. Health Care Professions; Educational Assistance

* * *
§ 32. EDUCATIONAL LOAN REPAYMENT FOR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS AND HEALTH CARE EDUCATIONAL LOAN REPAYMENT FUND PROFESSIONALS

(a) There is hereby established a special fund to be known as the Vermont Health Care Educational Loan Repayment Fund, that shall be used for the purpose of ensuring a stable and adequate supply of health care providers and health care educators to meet the health care needs of Vermonters, with a focus on recruiting and retaining providers and health care educators in underserved geographic and specialty areas.

(b) The fund shall be established and held separate and apart from any other funds or monies of the State and shall be used and administered exclusively for the purpose of this section. The money in the Fund shall be invested in the same manner as permitted for investment of funds belonging to the State of held in the Treasury. The Fund shall consist of the following:

(1) such sums as may be appropriated or transferred from time to time by the General Assembly, the state Emergency Board, or the Joint Fiscal Committee during such times as the General Assembly is not in session;

(2) interest earned from the investment of fund balances;

(3) any other money from any other source accepted for the benefit of the Fund.

(c) The Fund shall be administered by the Department of Health, which shall make funds available to the University of Vermont College of Medicine.
area health education centers (AHEC) program for loan repayment awards. The Commissioner may require certification of compliance with this section prior to the making of an award.

(d)(b) AHEC shall administer awards in such a way as to comply with the requirements of Section 108(f) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(e)(c) AHEC shall make loan repayment awards in exchange for service commitment by health care providers professionals and health care educators and shall define the service obligation in a contract with the health care provider professional or health care educator. Payment awards shall be made directly to the educational loan creditor or lender of the health care provider professional or health care educator.

(f)(d) Loan repayment awards shall only be available for a health care provider professional or health care educator who:

1. is a Vermont resident;
2. serves Vermont;
3. accepts patients with coverage under Medicaid, Medicare, or other State-funded health care benefit programs, if applicable; and
4. has outstanding educational debt acquired in the pursuit of an undergraduate or graduate degree from an accredited college or university that exceeds the amount of the loan repayment award.

(g)(e) Additional eligibility and selection criteria will be developed annually by the Commissioner in consultation with AHEC and may include...
local goals for improved service, community needs, or other awarding parameters.

(4)(f) The Commissioner may adopt rules in order to implement the program established in this section.

(4)(g) As used in this section:

* * *

(2) “Health care provider professional” means an individual licensed, certified, or otherwise authorized by law to provide professional health care services in this State to an individual during that individual’s medical, mental health, or dental care; treatment or confinement; or in a public health role.

(h) Loan repayment shall be awarded on a rolling basis, provided funds are available, and any funds remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall carry forward and shall be available to the Department of Health and AHEC in the following fiscal year to award additional loan repayment as set forth in this section.

* * *

§ 33. UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT COLLEGE OF MEDICINE;

MEDICAL STUDENT INCENTIVE SCHOLARSHIP

* * *

(f) Forgivable loans shall be awarded on a rolling basis, provided funds are available, and any funds remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall carry
forward and shall be available to the Department of Health and the Corporation
in the following fiscal year to award additional forgivable loans as set forth in
this section.

§ 34. VERMONT NURSING FORGIVABLE LOAN INCENTIVE

PROGRAM

(a) As used in this section:

* * *

(4) “Forgivable loan” means a loan awarded under this section covering
tuition, which may also include room, board, and the cost of required
books and supplies for up to full-time attendance at an eligible school.

* * *

(d) To be eligible for a forgivable loan under the Program, an individual,
whether a resident or nonresident, shall satisfy all of the following
requirements:

* * *

(5) have completed the Program’s application form, the Free
Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), and the Vermont grant
application each academic year of enrollment and such financial aid forms as
the Corporation deems necessary, in accordance with a schedule determined by
the Corporation; and

* * *
(j) Forgivable loans shall be awarded on a rolling basis, provided funds are available, and any funds remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall carry forward and shall be available to the Department of Health and the Corporation in the following fiscal year to award additional forgivable loans as set forth in this section.

* * *

§ 35. VERMONT HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM

(a) As used in this section:

* * *

(4) “Loan repayment” means the cancellation and repayment of loans under this section.

* * *

(b) The Vermont Health Care Professional Loan Repayment Program is created and shall be administered by the Department of Health in collaboration with AHEC. The Program provides loan repayment on behalf of individuals who live and work in this State as a nurse, physician assistant, medical lab technician, medical lab technologist, clinical laboratory scientist, child psychiatrist, or primary care provider and who meet the eligibility requirements in subsection (d) of this section.
(c) The loan repayment benefits provided under the Program shall be paid on behalf of the eligible individual by AHEC, subject to the appropriation of funds by the General Assembly for this purpose.

(d) To be eligible for loan repayment under the Program, an individual shall satisfy all of the following requirements:

(1) have graduated from an eligible school where the individual was awarded a degree in nursing, physician assistant studies, medicine, osteopathic medicine, or naturopathic medicine, or a two- or four-year degree that qualifies the individual to be a medical lab technician, medical lab technologist, or clinical laboratory scientist;

(2) work in this State as a nurse, physician assistant, medical lab technician, medical lab technologist, or clinical laboratory scientist, child psychiatrist, or primary care provider; and

(3) be a resident of Vermont.

(e)(1) An eligible individual shall be entitled to an amount of loan cancellation and repayment under this section equal to one year of loans for each year of service as a nurse, physician assistant, medical technician, child psychiatrist, or primary care provider in this State for a defined service obligation in Vermont of not less than one year. Employment as a traveling nurse shall not be construed to satisfy the service commitment required for loan repayment under this section.
(2) AHEC shall award loan repayments in amounts that are sufficient to attract high-quality candidates while also making a meaningful increase in Vermont’s health care professional workforce.

(f) Loan repayment shall be awarded on a rolling basis, provided funds are available, and any funds remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall carry forward and shall be available to the Department of Health and AHEC in the following fiscal year to award additional loan repayment as set forth in this section.

* * *
§ 36. NURSE FACULTY FORGIVABLE LOAN INCENTIVE PROGRAM

* * *
(d) To be eligible for a forgivable loan under the Program, an individual, whether a resident or nonresident, shall satisfy all of the following requirements:

* * *
(5) have completed the Program’s application form and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) such financial aid forms as the Corporation deems necessary, in accordance with a schedule determined by the Corporation; and

* * *
(g) Forgivable loans shall be awarded on a rolling basis, provided funds are available, and any funds remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall carry
forward and shall be available to the Department of Health and the Corporation in the following fiscal year to award additional forgivable loans as set forth in this section.

* * *

§ 37. NURSE FACULTY LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM

(a) As used in this section:

* * *

(4) “Loan repayment” means the cancellation and repayment of loans under this section.

* * *

(e) An eligible individual shall be entitled to an amount of loan cancellation and repayment under this section equal to one year of loans for each year of service as a member of the nurse faculty at a nursing school in this state for a defined service obligation of not less than one year at a Vermont nursing school.

(f) Loan repayment shall be awarded on a rolling basis, provided funds are available, and any funds remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall carry forward and shall be available to the Department of Health and AHEC in the following fiscal year to award additional loan repayment as set forth in this section.

* * *
§ 38. VERMONT MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL FORGIVABLE LOAN INCENTIVE PROGRAM

* * *

(d) To be eligible for a forgivable loan under the Program, an individual, whether a resident or nonresident, shall satisfy all of the following requirements:

* * *

(5) have completed the Program’s application form and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) such financial aid forms as the Corporation deems necessary, in accordance with a schedule determined by the Corporation; and

* * *

(h) Forgivable loans shall be awarded on a rolling basis, provided funds are available, and any funds remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall carry forward and shall be available to the Department of Health and the Corporation in the following fiscal year to award additional forgivable loans as set forth in this section.

* * *

§ 39. VERMONT PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER FORGIVABLE LOAN INCENTIVE PROGRAM

* * *
(d) To be eligible for a forgivable loan under the Program, an individual, whether a resident or nonresident, shall satisfy all of the following requirements:

* * *

(4) have executed a credit agreement or promissory note that will reduce the individual’s forgivable loan benefit, in whole or in part, pursuant to subsection (f)(e) of this section, if the individual fails to complete the period of service required in subdivision (3) of this subsection;

(5) have completed the Program’s application form and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) such financial aid forms as the Corporation deems necessary, in accordance with a schedule determined by the Corporation; and

* * *

(g) Forgivable loans shall be awarded on a rolling basis, provided funds are available, and any funds remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall carry forward and shall be available to the Department of Health and the Corporation in the following fiscal year to award additional forgivable loans as set forth in this section.

* * *

§ 40. VERMONT DENTAL HYGIENIST FORGIVABLE LOAN INCENTIVE PROGRAM

* * *
(d) To be eligible for a forgivable loan under the Program, an individual, whether a resident or nonresident, shall satisfy all of the following requirements:

* * *

(4) have executed a credit agreement or promissory note that will reduce the individual’s forgivable loan benefit, in whole or in part, pursuant to subsection (g) of this section, if the individual fails to complete the period of service required in this subsection;

(5) have completed the Program’s application form, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), and the Vermont grant application each academic year of enrollment and such financial aid forms as the Corporation deems necessary, in accordance with a schedule determined by the Corporation; and

* * *

(h) Forgivable loans shall be awarded on a rolling basis, provided funds are available, and any funds remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall carry forward and shall be available to the Department of Health and the Corporation in the following fiscal year to award additional forgivable loans as set forth in this section.

* * *

Sec. E.312 HEALTH; PUBLIC HEALTH

(a) AIDS/HIV funding:
(1) In fiscal year 2025 and as provided in this section, the Department of Health shall provide grants in the amount of $475,000 in AIDS Medication Rebates special funds to the Vermont AIDS service and peer-support organizations for client-based support services. The Department of Health AIDS Program shall meet at least quarterly with the Community Advisory Group with current information and data relating to service initiatives. The funds shall be allocated according to an RFP process.

(2) In fiscal year 2025 and as provided in this section, the Department of Health shall provide grants in the amount of $295,000 for HIV and Harm Reduction Services to the following organizations:

(A) Vermont CARES – $140,000;

(B) AIDS Project of Southern Vermont – $100,000; and

(C) HIV/HCV Resource Center – $55,000.

(3) Ryan White Title II funds for AIDS services and the Vermont Medication Assistance Program shall be distributed in accordance with federal guidelines. The federal guidelines shall not apply to programs or services funded solely by the State General Fund.

(A) The Secretary of Human Services shall immediately notify the Joint Fiscal Committee if at any time there are insufficient funds in the Vermont Medication Assistance Program to assist all eligible individuals. The Secretary shall work in collaboration with persons living with HIV/AIDS to
develop a plan to continue access to Vermont Medication Assistance Program medications until such time as the General Assembly can take action.

(B) As provided in this section, the Secretary of Human Services shall work in collaboration with the Vermont Medication Assistance Program Advisory Committee, which shall be composed of not less than 50 percent of members who are living with HIV/AIDS. If a modification to the program’s eligibility requirements or benefit coverage is considered, the Committee shall make recommendations regarding the program’s formulary of approved medication, related laboratory testing, nutritional supplements, and eligibility for the program.

(4) In fiscal year 2025, the Department of Health shall provide grants in the amount of $400,000 General Fund and $700,000 Opioid Abatement Special Fund to existing syringe service programs for HIV and Harm Reduction Services not later than September 1, 2024. The method by which these prevention funds are distributed shall be determined by mutual agreement of the Department of Health and the Vermont AIDS service organizations and other Vermont HIV/AIDS prevention providers.

(5) In fiscal year 2025, the Department of Health shall provide grants in the amount $350,000 Opioid Abatement Special Fund to fund new syringe service programs to increase the geographic distribution of Harm Reduction Services in Vermont not later than September 1, 2024.
(6) In fiscal year 2025, the Department of Health shall not reduce any grants to the Vermont AIDS service and peer-support organizations or syringe service programs from funds appropriated for AIDS/HIV services to levels below those in fiscal year 2024 without receiving prior approval from the Joint Fiscal Committee.

Sec. E.312.1 18 V.S.A. § 4772 is amended to read:

§ 4772. OPIOID SETTLEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

* * *

(e) Presentation. Annually, the Advisory Committee shall vote on its recommendations. If the recommendations are supported by an affirmative vote of the majority, the Advisory Committee shall present its recommendations for expenditures from the Opioid Abatement Special Fund established pursuant to this subchapter to the Department of Health and concurrently submit its recommendations in writing to the House Committees on Appropriations and on Human Services and the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Health and Welfare. The Advisory Committee shall give priority consideration to services requiring funding on an ongoing basis.

Sec. E.312.2 LEGISLATIVE INTENT; OPIOID ABATEMENT SPECIAL FUND

(a) It is the intent of the General Assembly that syringe services be funded annually at not less than fiscal year 2025 levels through the Opioid Abatement
Special Fund established in 18 V.S.A. § 4774, provided funds remain available.

Sec. E.313  PLAN; PUBLIC INEBRIATE AND SOBER BED PROGRAMS

(a)(1) On or before July 15, 2024, the Department of Health shall initiate the first of as many as five stakeholder meetings for the purpose of identifying and discussing improvements to public inebriate and sober bed programs. Data from the report produced in accordance with 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. E.313 shall inform the work of this stakeholder group.

(2) Participating stakeholders shall include:

(A) the Commissioner of Public Safety or designee;

(B) the Commissioner of Corrections or designee;

(C) a representative of the Vermont Preferred Provider Network for substance use disorder treatment appointed by the Commissioner of Health; and

(D) a representative of recovery centers in the State appointed by Recovery Partners of Vermont.

(b) As part of its fiscal year 2026 budget presentation, the Department of Health, in consultation with the stakeholder group described in subsection (a) of this section, shall submit a plan to the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Health and Welfare and to the House Committees on Appropriations and on Human Services with recommendations to reorganize public inebriate and sober bed programs in a manner that accounts for increased client acuity.
and decreased bed availability throughout the State. The proposed reorganization shall include a spending plan that prioritizes staff support and public safety.

Sec. E.313.1 CERTIFIED RECOVERY RESIDENCES

(a) Of the funds appropriated in Sec. B.313 of this act, $1,200,000 Opioid Abatement Special Fund shall be for recovery residencies certified by the Vermont Alliance for Recovery Residences, including at least two new recovery residencies certified by the Vermont Alliance for Recovery Residences.

(b) It is the intent of the General Assembly that recovery residencies be funded annually at not less than fiscal year 2025 levels through the Opioid Abatement Special Fund established in 18 V.S.A. § 4774 as long as funds remain available.

Sec. E.314 RATE INCREASE; DESIGNATED AND SPECIALIZED SERVICE AGENCIES

(a) In fiscal year 2025, the Agency of Human Services shall increase the base funding rate for designated and specialized service agencies by three percent to reflect inflationary increases for developmental disability services and mental health services. These funds shall be used in accordance with all contractual and regulatory requirements as negotiated by the designated and specialized service agencies and the Agency of Human Services.
Sec. E.316 33 V.S.A. § 3531 is amended to read:

§ 3531. CHILD CARE – BUILDING BRIGHT SPACES FOR BRIGHT FUTURES FUNDS FUND

(a) A child care facilities An early childhood services financing program is established to facilitate the development and expansion of child care facilities early childhood service programs in the State. The Program This financing program shall be administered by the Department for Children and Families.

(b) The Program shall be supported from a special fund, to be known as the “Building Bright Spaces for Bright Futures Fund,” referred to in this section as “the Bright Futures Fund,” is hereby created for this purpose to be administered by the Commissioner for Children and Families. Subject to approvals required by 32 V.S.A. § 5, the Fund may accept gifts and donations from any source, and the Commissioner may take appropriate actions to encourage contributions and designations to the account Fund, including publicizing explanations of the purposes of the Fund and the uses to which the Bright Futures Fund has been or will be applied.

(c) Funds appropriated for this Program shall be used by the Commissioner to award grants to eligible applicants for the development and expansion of child care options and community programs targeted for youths 14 through 18 years of age. These options may include recreational programs and related equipment or facilities, development or expansion of child care facilities, and community-based programs that address specific child care and...
youth program needs of the applicant region. The Commissioner shall establish by rule, criteria, conditions, and procedures for awarding such grants and administering this Program shall disburse the proceeds of this fund in accordance with the plan developed by the Building Bright Futures Council per 33 V.S.A. § 4603(3) and all applicable administrative bulletins.

Sec. E.316.1 33 V.S.A. § 4601 is amended to read:

§ 4601. DEFINITIONS

As used in this chapter:

(1) “Early care, health, and education” means all services provided to families expecting a child and to children up to the age of six (eight years of age), including child care, family support, early education, mental and physical health services, nutrition services, and disability services.

(2) “Regional council” means a regional entity linked to the State Building Bright Futures Council to support the creation of an integrated system of early care, health, and education at the local level.

Sec. E.317 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT; COMPREHENSIVE CHILD WELFARE INFORMATION SYSTEM

(a) In developing and implementing a comprehensive child welfare information system, the Department for Children and Families’ Division of Family Services shall solicit input from youth, foster parents, kinship care providers, Division staff, and the employees of the Office of Racial Equity’s Division of Racial Justice Statistics.
Sec. E.317.1 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 87, Sec. 101 is amended to read:

Sec. 101. FOSTER CARE; SUBSIDIZED ADOPTION; EXPENDITURE

(a) The Department for Children and Families’ Family Services Division shall spend funds appropriated in 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. B.317 on a four percent rate increase for foster care and subsidized adoption.

[Repealed.]

Sec. E.317.2 ADOPTION; POST PERMANENCY SERVICES; YOUTH SERVICES

(a) Of the funds appropriated in Sec. B.317 of this act:

(1) $145,926 General Fund and $124,308 federal funds shall be for grants to post permanency adoption services;

(2) $446,253 General Fund shall be for a grant to Spectrum Youth and Family Services for the youth homeless shelter in Saint Albans;

(3) $125,000 General Fund shall be for grants to be distributed equally to the Vermont Youth Services Bureaus; and

(4) $181,000 General Fund shall be for grants to support homeless youth services in Vermont.

Sec. E.318 CONSENSUS ESTIMATE; CHILD CARE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

(a) On or before December 1, 2024, 2025, and 2026, the Department for Children and Families and the Joint Fiscal Office shall jointly determine and submit a consensus estimate for costs related to the Child Care Financial
Assistance Program for the coming fiscal year to the House Committees on Appropriations and on Human Services and to the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Health and Welfare. This consensus estimate shall serve as a baseline for the Department for Children and Families’ Child Care Financial Assistance Program budget.

Sec. E.318.1 33 V.S.A. § 3517 is amended to read:

§ 3517. CHILD CARE TUITION RATES

A child care provider shall ensure that its tuition rates are available to the public. A regulated child care provider shall not impose an increase on annual child care tuition that exceeds 1.5 times the most recent annual increase in the NAICS code 611, Educational Services. This amount shall be posted on the Department’s website annually.

Sec. E.318.2 33 V.S.A. § 3517 is amended to read:

§ 3517. CHILD CARE TUITION RATES

A child care provider shall ensure that its tuition rates are available to the public. A regulated child care provider shall not impose an increase on annual child care tuition that exceeds 1.5 times the most recent annual increase in the NAICS code 611, Educational Services. This amount shall be posted on the Department’s website annually.
Sec. E.318.3 33 V.S.A. § 3512 is amended to read:

§ 3512. CHILD CARE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM;

ELIGIBILITY

(a)(1) The Child Care Financial Assistance Program is established to subsidize, to the extent that funds permit, the costs of child care for families that need child care services in order to obtain employment, to retain employment, or to obtain training leading to employment. Families seeking employment shall be entitled to participate in the Program for up to three months and the Commissioner may further extend that period.

* * *

Sec. E.321 GENERAL ASSISTANCE EMERGENCY HOUSING

(a) To the extent emergency housing is available and within the funds appropriated, the Commissioner for Children and Families shall ensure that General Assistance Emergency Housing is provided in fiscal year 2025 to households that attest to lack of a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and have a member who:

(1) is 65 years of age or older;

(2) has a disability that can be documented by:

(A) receipt of Supplemental Security Income or Social Security Disability Insurance; or

(B) a form developed by the Department as a means of documenting a qualifying disability or health condition that requires:
(i) the applicant’s name, date of birth, and the last four digits of the applicant’s Social Security number or other identifying number;

(ii) a description of the applicant’s disability or health condition;

(iii) a description of the risk posed to the applicant’s health, safety, or welfare if temporary emergency housing is not authorized pursuant to this section; and

(iv) a certification of a health care provider, as defined in 18 V.S.A. § 9481, that includes the provider’s credentials, credential number, address, and phone number;

(3) is a child 19 years of age or under;

(4) is pregnant;

(5) has experienced the death of a spouse, domestic partner, or minor child that caused the household to lose its housing;

(6) has experienced a natural disaster, such as a flood, fire, or hurricane;

(7) is under a court-ordered eviction or constructive eviction due to circumstances over which the household has no control; or

(8) is experiencing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, human trafficking, hate violence, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions that relate to violence against the individual or a household member that caused the household to lose its housing.

(b)(1) General Assistance Emergency Housing shall be provided in a community-based shelter whenever possible. If there is inadequate
community-based shelter space available within the Agency of Human Services district in which the household presents itself, the household shall be provided emergency housing in a hotel or motel within the district, if available, until adequate community-based shelter space becomes available in the district. The utilization of hotel and motel rooms pursuant to this subdivision shall be capped at 1,100 rooms per night between September 15, 2024 through November 30, 2024 and between April 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025.

(2) The maximum number of days that an eligible household receives emergency housing in a hotel or motel under this section, per 12-month period, shall not exceed 80 days.

(3) The Department shall provide emergency winter housing to households meeting the eligibility criteria in subsection (a) of this section between December 1, 2024 and March 31, 2025. Emergency housing in a hotel or motel provided pursuant to this subdivision shall not count toward the maximum days of eligibility per 12-month period provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection.

(4)(A) Notwithstanding any rule or law to the contrary, the Department shall require all households applying for or receiving General Assistance Emergency Housing to engage in their own search for and accept any available alternative housing placements. All applicants and eligible households shall regularly provide information to the Department, not less frequently than monthly, about their efforts to secure an alternative housing placement. If the
Department determines that a household, at the time of application or during the term of the household’s authorization, has not made efforts to secure an alternative housing placement, or has access to an alternative housing placement, the Department shall deny the application or terminate the authorization at the end of the current authorization period.

(B) For purposes of this subdivision (4), “alternative housing placements” may include shelter beds and pods; placements with family or friends; permanent housing solutions, including tiny homes, manufactured homes, and apartments; residential treatment beds for physical health, long-term care, substance use, or mental health; nursing home beds; and recovery homes.

(c) Emergency housing provided pursuant to this section shall replace the catastrophic and noncatastrophic categories adopted by the Department in rule.

(d) Emergency housing required pursuant to this section may be provided through approved community-based shelters, new unit generation, open units, licensed hotels or motels, or other appropriate shelter space. The Department shall, when available, prioritize emergency housing at housing or shelter placements other than hotels or motels.

(e) Case management services provided by case managers employed by or under contract with the Agency of Human Services or reimbursed through an Agency-funded grant shall include assisting clients with finding appropriate housing.
(f) The Commissioner for Children and Families shall adopt emergency rules pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 844 for the administration of this section, which shall be deemed to have met the emergency rulemaking standard in 3 V.S.A. § 844(a), while permanent rules are pending.

(g) On or before the last day of each month from July 2024 through June 2025, the Department for Children and Families, or other relevant agency or department, shall continue submitting a similar report to that due pursuant to 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 81, Sec. 6(b) to the Joint Fiscal Committee, House Committee on Human Services, and Senate Committee on Health and Welfare. Additionally, this report shall include the Department’s monthly expenditure on General Assistance Emergency Housing.

(h) For emergency housing provided in a hotel or motel beginning on July 1, 2024 and thereafter, the Department for Children and Families shall not pay a hotel or motel establishment more than the hotel’s lowest advertised room rate and not more than $80 a day per room to shelter a household experiencing homelessness. The Department for Children and Families may shelter a household in more than one hotel or motel room depending on the household’s size and composition.

(i) The Department for Children and Families shall apply the following rules to participating hotels and motels:

(1) Section 2650.1 of the Department for Children and Families’ General Assistance (CVR 13-170-260):
(2) Department of Health, Licensed Lodging Establishment Rule (CVR 13-140-023); and 

(3) Department of Public Safety, Vermont Fire and Building Safety Code (CVR 28-070-001).

(j)(1) The Department for Children and Families may work with either a shelter provider or a community housing agency to enter into a full or partial facility lease or sales agreement with a hotel or motel provider. Any facility conversion under this section shall comply with the Office of Economic Opportunity’s shelter standards.

(2) If the Department for Children and Families determines that a contractual agreement with a licensed hotel or motel operator to secure temporary emergency housing capacity is beneficial to improve the quality, cleanliness, or access to services for those households temporarily housed in the facility, the Department shall be authorized to enter into such an agreement in accordance with the per-room rate identified in subsection (h) of this section; provided, however, that in no event shall such an agreement cause a household to become unhoused. The Department for Children and Families may include provisions to address access to services or related needs within the contractual agreement.

(k) Of the amount appropriated to implement this section, not more than $500,000 shall be used for security costs.

(l) As used in this section:
(1) “Community-based shelter” means a shelter that meets the Vermont Housing Opportunity Grant Program’s Standards of Provision of Assistance.

(2) “Household” means an individual and any dependents for whom the individual is legally responsible and who live in Vermont. “Household” includes individuals who reside together as one economic unit, including those who are married, parties to a civil union, or unmarried.

Sec. E.321.1 EMERGENCY SHELTERS

(a)(1) The Department for Children and Families shall continue to develop emergency shelters for the provision of lodging between December 1, 2024 and March 31, 2025 to households that do not meet the eligibility criteria for General Assistance Emergency Housing as described in subsection (a) of Sec. E.321 of this act or are otherwise in need of emergency shelter.

(2) The Department shall work with community providers as available to deliver daytime and overnight shelter services.

(b)(1) In fiscal year 2025, $10,000,000 allocated from the General Fund in Sec. B.1102(b)(9) of this act to expand shelter bed and permanent supportive housing shall be used by the Department to first develop emergency shelters as required in subsection (a) of this section. Any allocated funds that are not needed for emergency shelters may be used to expand permanent shelter bed and permanent supportive housing capacity.

(2) On or before July 15, 2024, the Department shall submit to the Joint Fiscal Committee a plan for the development of emergency shelters required
pursuant to this subsection. On or before September 1, 2024 and November 1, 2024, the Department shall submit to the Joint Fiscal Committee progress reports addressing the Department’s efforts to develop sufficient emergency shelter beds, including updates on work to provide overnight shelter and daytime solutions in advance of December 1, 2024.

(c) As used in this section, “emergency shelter” means a congregate, semi-congregate, or non-congregate facility providing safe shelter where limited services shall be offered, including limited storage of possessions and personal hygiene facilities.

Sec. E.321.2 GENERAL ASSISTANCE EMERGENCY HOUSING TASK FORCE

(a) Creation. There is created the General Assistance Emergency Housing Task Force to provide recommendations to the General Assembly regarding the statewide and local operation and administration of the General Assistance Emergency Housing benefit.

(b) Membership. The Task Force shall be composed of the following members:

(1) two representatives with lived experience of homelessness, one representative appointed by the Speaker and one representative appointed by the President Pro Tempore;

(2) a representative, appointed by the Housing and Homelessness Alliance of Vermont;
(3) a representative, appointed by the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board;

(4) a representative, appointed by Vermont Care Partners;

(5) a representative, appointed by the Long-Term Care Crisis Coalition;

(6) a representative, appointed by Vermont 2-1-1;

(7) a representative, appointed by the Vermont League of Cities and Towns;

(8) a representative, appointed by the Vermont Center for Independent Living;

(9) a representative with experience operating an emergency shelter program, appointed jointly by the Speaker of the House and the President Pro Tempore;

(10) the Commissioner of the Department for Children and Families or designee;

(11) the Deputy Commissioner of the Department for Children and Families’ Division of Economic Services; and

(12) the Commissioner of the Department of Housing and Community Development or designee.

(c) Powers and duties. The Task Force shall examine and provide recommendations on the following:
(1) household eligibility; maximum days of eligibility; application, notice, and appeals processes; participant requirements; and annual reporting requirements;

(2) the process to establish a single, statewide, unified coordinated entry system with participation from the Department;

(3) the current organization of roles and responsibilities within the Department for Children and Families’ Office of Economic Opportunity and the Division of Economic Services;

(4) the number and types of emergency shelter spaces needed and currently available for each geographic region in the State, with a preference for noncongregate shelter spaces;

(5) the identification of a consistent lead agency for each geographic region;

(6) the identification of role and responsibility assigned to the lead agency;

(7) potential adjustments to emergency housing policy during cold weather months;

(8) a process to enable participating households to place a percentage of the household’s gross income into savings, which shall be returned to the household for permanent housing expenses when the household exits the General Assistance Emergency Housing;
(9) a mechanism for addressing potential conduct challenges posed by a member of a participating household served in a motel, hotel, or shelter;

(10) the identification of any State rules and local regulations and ordinances that are impeding the timely development of safe, decent, affordable housing in Vermont communities in order to:

(A) identify areas in which flexibility or discretion are available; and

(B) advise whether the temporary suspension of relevant State rules and local regulations and ordinances, or the adoption or amendment of State rules, would facilitate faster and less costly revitalization of existing housing and construction of new housing units;

(11) a mechanism to ensure that eligible households are sheltered until transitional or permanent housing is available; and

(12) strategies to reduce reliance on hotels and motels for emergency housing.

(d) Assistance. The Task Force shall have the administrative, technical, and legal assistance of the Department for Children and Families.

(e) Report. On or before January 15, 2025, the Task Force shall submit a written report to the House Committee on Human Services and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare with its findings and any recommendations for legislative action.

(f) Meetings.
(1) The Commissioner for Children and Families or designee shall call the first meeting of the Task Force to occur on or before August 1, 2024.

(2) The Task Force shall select a chair or co-chairs from among its members at the first meeting.

(3) A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum.

(4) The Task Force shall cease once the report required pursuant to subsection (e) of this section has been submitted to the General Assembly.

(g) Compensation and reimbursement. Members of the Task Force shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses as permitted under 32 V.S.A. § 1010 for not more than eight meetings. These payments shall be made from monies appropriated to the Department for Children and Families.

Sec. E.323 32 V.S.A. § 306 is amended to read:

§ 306. BUDGET REPORT

(a) The Governor shall submit to the General Assembly, not later than the third Tuesday of every annual session, a budget that shall embody his or her the Governor’s estimates, requests, and recommendations for appropriations or other authorizations for expenditures from the State Treasury. In the first year of the biennium, the budget shall relate to the two succeeding fiscal years. In the second year of the biennium, it shall relate to the succeeding fiscal year. The budget shall be based upon the official State revenue estimates, including
the Medicaid estimated caseloads and per-member per-month expenditures,
adopted by the Emergency Board pursuant to section 305a of this title.

(1) As part of the budget report, the Governor shall:

* * *

(C) itemize current services liabilities, including the total obligations
and the amount estimated for full funding in the current year in which an
amortization schedule exists. These shall include the following liabilities
projected for the start of the budget fiscal year:

* * *

(iii) Reach Up funding full benefit obligations, including the
standard of need for the current fiscal year, reflecting the level of financial
assistance necessary to meet a family’s ongoing basic needs in the current
fiscal year as defined in 33 V.S.A. § 1101(13), prior to any rateable reductions
made pursuant to 33 V.S.A. § 1103(a), which ensure that the expenditures for
the programs shall not exceed appropriations;

* * *

Sec. E.324  EXPEDITED CRISIS FUEL ASSISTANCE

(a) The Commissioner for Children and Families or designee may authorize
crisis fuel assistance to those income-eligible households that have applied for
an expedited seasonal fuel benefit but have not yet received it if the benefit
cannot be executed in time to prevent them from running out of fuel. The
crisis fuel grants authorized pursuant to this section count toward the crisis fuel
grants pursuant to 33 V.S.A. § 2609(b).

Sec. E.324.1  33 V.S.A. § 2609 is amended to read:

§ 2609.  CRISIS RESERVES; ELIGIBILITY AND ASSISTANCE

* * *

(b) Crisis fuel grants shall may be limited per winter heating season to one
grant for households that are income-eligible and have received a seasonal fuel
assistance grant and meet all eligibility requirements for crisis fuel assistance
or to two grants for households that are not income-eligible for seasonal fuel
assistance and meet all eligibility requirements for crisis fuel assistance.

Sec. E.325  DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES; OFFICE
OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

(a) Of the General Fund appropriation in Sec. B.325 of this act,

$25,747,402 shall be used by the Department for Children and Families’ Office
of Economic Opportunity to issue grants to community agencies assisting
individuals experiencing homelessness by preserving existing services,
increasing services, or increasing resources available statewide. These funds
may be granted alone or in conjunction with federal Emergency Solutions
Grants funds. Grant decisions and the administration of funds shall be done in
consultation with the two U.S. Department of Housing and Urban
Development recognized Continuum of Care programs.
Sec. E.326  DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES; OFFICE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY; WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE

(a) Of the special fund appropriation in Sec. B.326 of this act, $750,000 is for the replacement and repair of home heating equipment.

Sec. E.326.1  33 V.S.A. § 2502 is amended to read:

§ 2502.  HOME WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

* * *

(b) In addition, the Director shall supplement or supplant any federal program with the State Home Weatherization Assistance Program.

(1) The State program Program shall provide an enhanced weatherization assistance amount exceeding the federal per-unit limit allowing amounts up to an average of $8,500.00 $15,300.00 per unit allocated on a cost-effective basis. The allowable average per unit may be adjusted to account for the lower cost per unit of multifamily buildings will be $4,500.00. In units where costs exceed the allowable average by more than 25 percent, prior approval of the Director of the State Economic Opportunity Office shall be required before work commences. This amount shall be adjusted annually to account for inflation of materials and labor.

* * *

(c) The Secretary of Human Services Director shall by rule establish require landlords that are not income eligible to enter into a rent stabilization
agreements and provisions to recapture amounts expended for weatherization of a rental unit that exceed the amount of agreement that takes into account the energy cost reductions projected to be obtained by eligible tenants of the unit. The time periods established for rent stabilization and recapture shall be set taking into account the size of benefits received by tenants and landlords as well as the effect on Program participation. Funds recaptured under this section shall be deposited into the Home Weatherization Assistance Fund established under section 2501 of this title.

***

Sec. E.329 33 V.S.A. § 1602 is amended to read:

§ 1602. VERMONT DEAF, HARD OF HEARING, AND DEAFBLIND ADVISORY COUNCIL

***

(b) Membership. The Advisory Council shall consist of the following members:

***

(9) a superintendent, selected by the Vermont Superintendents Association; and

(10) a special education administrator, selected by the Vermont Council of Special Education Administrators; and

(11) a representative of the Vermont chapter of Hands and Voices.

***
Sec. E.338  CORRECTIONS; CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

(a) Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 3709(a), the special fund appropriation of $152,000 in Sec. B.338 of this act for the supplemental facility payments to Newport and Springfield shall be paid from the PILOT Special Fund under 32 V.S.A. § 3709.

Sec. E.338.1 CORRECTIONS; DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ACCOUNTABILITY PROGRAMS

(a) $850,000 of the General Fund appropriation made in Sec. B.338.1 of this act shall be for an annual grant to the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence for Domestic Violence Accountability Programs.

Sec. E.339 OUT-OF-STATE BED SAVINGS; PRETRIAL SUPERVISION PROGRAM

(a) To the extent that the need for the General Fund dollars appropriated to the Department of Corrections for out-of-state beds in Sec. B.339 of this act is reduced, it is the intent of the General Assembly that these funds be reappropriated to the Department of Corrections for the Pretrial Supervision Program.

Sec. E.345 18 V.S.A. § 9374(h) is amended to read:

(h)(1) The Board may assess and collect from each regulated entity the actual costs incurred by the Board, including staff time and contracts for professional services, in carrying out its regulatory duties for health insurance rate review under 8 V.S.A. § 4062; hospital budget review under chapter 221,
subchapter 7 of this title; and accountable care organization certification and
budget review under section 9382 of this title. The Board may also assess and
collect from general hospitals licensed under chapter 43 of this title expenses
incurred by the Commissioner of Health in administering hospital community
reports under section 9405b of this title.

(2)(A) In addition to the assessment and collection of actual costs
pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection and except except as otherwise
provided in subdivisions (2)(C) and (3) (1)(C) and (2) of this subsection (h), all
other the expenses of the Board shall be borne as follows:

(i) 40.0 percent by the State from State monies;

(ii) 30 28.8 percent by the hospitals;

(iii) 24 23.2 percent by nonprofit hospital and medical service
corporations licensed under 8 V.S.A. chapter 123 or 125, health insurance
companies licensed under 8 V.S.A. chapter 101, and health maintenance
organizations licensed under 8 V.S.A. chapter 139; and

(iv) six 8.0 percent by accountable care organizations certified
under section 9382 of this title.

(B) Expenses (B) Expenses under subdivision (A)(iii) of this subdivision (2)(1)
shall be allocated to persons licensed under Title 8 based on premiums paid for
health care coverage, which for the purposes of this subdivision (2)(1) shall
include major medical, comprehensive medical, hospital or surgical coverage,
and comprehensive health care services plans, but shall not include long-term

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care, limited benefits, disability, credit or stop loss, or excess loss insurance coverage.

(C) Expenses incurred by the Board for regulatory duties associated with certificates of need shall be assessed pursuant to the provisions of section 9441 of this title and not shall not be assessed in accordance with the formula set forth in subdivision (A) of this subdivision (2)(1).

(3)(2) The Board may determine the scope of the incurred expenses to be allocated pursuant to the formula set forth in subdivision (2)(1) of this subsection if, in the Board’s discretion, the expenses to be allocated are in the best interests of the regulated entities and of the State.

(4)(3) If the amount of the proportional assessment to any entity calculated in accordance with the formula set forth in subdivision (2)(A)(1)(A) of this subsection would be less than $150.00, the Board shall assess the entity a minimum fee of $150.00. The Board shall apply the amounts collected based on the difference between each applicable entity’s proportional assessment amount and $150.00 to reduce the total amount assessed to the regulated entities pursuant to subdivisions (2)(A)(ii)–(iv) (1)(A)(ii)–(iv) of this subsection.

(5)(4)(A) Annually on or before September 15, the Board shall report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations the total amount of all expenses eligible for allocation pursuant to this subsection (h) during the preceding State fiscal year and the total amount actually billed back to the
regulated entities during the same period. The provisions of 2 V.S.A. § 20(d) (expiration of required reports) shall not apply to the report to be made under this subdivision.

(B) The Board and the Department shall also present the information required by this subsection (h) to the Joint Fiscal Committee annually at its September meeting.

Sec. E.345.1 18 V.S.A. § 9405b is amended to read:

§ 9405b. HOSPITAL COMMUNITY REPORTS AND AMBULATORY SURGICAL CENTER QUALITY REPORTS

* * *

(e) The Green Mountain Care Board may assess and collect from general hospitals licensed under chapter 43 of this title expenses incurred by the Commissioner of Health in administering hospital community reports and ambulatory surgical center quality reports under this section.

Sec. E.345.2 GREEN MOUNTAIN CARE BOARD; REFERENCE-BASED PRICING; DATA ANALYSIS; REPORT

(a) The funds appropriated to the Green Mountain Care Board in Sec. B.1100(s)(1) of this act shall be for a contract with a qualified entity for a reference-based pricing analysis that will analyze commercial medical claims for all inpatient and outpatient hospital services and supplies incurred by active and retired members and their dependents enrolled in the State Employees’ Health Benefit Plan and in the health benefit plans offered by the Vermont
Education Health Initiative during calendar years 2018 to the most recent year for which data are available, to determine what savings, if any, could have been realized for that period if a reference-based pricing methodology benchmarked to Medicare rates had been applied.

(b) On or before December 15, 2024, the Green Mountain Care Board shall report to the House Committees on Health Care and on Government Operations and Military Affairs and the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Government Operations with the results of the analysis and any recommendations for legislative action, as well as identifying the other aspects of Vermont’s health care system that likely would be affected by the use of reference-based pricing, such as hospital margins, health insurance premiums, and the State’s health care reform efforts.

Sec. E.500  EDUCATION; FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

(a) The Global Commitment funds appropriated in Sec. B.500 of this act will be used for physician claims for determining medical necessity of individualized education programs. These services are intended to increase access to quality health care for uninsured persons, underinsured persons, and Medicaid beneficiaries.

Sec. E.502  EDUCATION; SPECIAL EDUCATION: FORMULA GRANTS

(a) Of the appropriation authorized in Sec. B.502 of this act, and notwithstanding any other provision of law, an amount not to exceed $4,329,959 shall be used by the Agency of Education in fiscal year 2025 as
funding for 16 V.S.A. § 2967(b)(2)–(6). In distributing such funds, the Secretary shall not be limited by the restrictions contained within 16 V.S.A. § 2969(c) and (d).

(b) Of the appropriation authorized in Sec. B.502 of this act, and notwithstanding any other provision of law, an amount not to exceed $500,000 shall be used by the Agency of Education in fiscal year 2025 as funding for 16 V.S.A. § 2975. In distributing such funds, the Secretary shall not be limited by the restrictions contained within 16 V.S.A. § 2969(c) and (d).

Sec. E.503 EDUCATION; STATE-PLACED STUDENTS

(a) The Independence Place Program of ANEW Place shall be considered a 24-hour residential program for the purposes of reimbursement of education costs.

Sec. E.504 ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY

(a) Of the appropriation in Sec. B.504 of this act, $3,778,133 General Fund shall be granted to adult education and literacy providers, pursuant to the Adult Education and Secondary Credential Program established in 16 V.S.A. § 945.

Sec. E.504.1 EDUCATION; FLEXIBLE PATHWAYS

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of 16 V.S.A. § 4025 to the contrary, of the appropriation in Sec. B.504.1 of this act, $2,518,755 Education Fund shall be granted by the Agency of Education to adult education and literacy providers pursuant to the Adult Education and Secondary Credential Program established in 16 V.S.A. § 945.
(b) Notwithstanding 16 V.S.A. § 4025, of the Education Fund appropriation in Sec. B.504.1 of this act, the amount of:

(1) $921,500 is designated for dual enrollment programs, notwithstanding 16 V.S.A. § 944(f)(2):

(2) $2,000,000 is designated to support the Vermont Virtual High School;

(3) $400,000 is designated for secondary school reform grants; and

(4) $4,600,000 is designated for Early College pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 946.

(c) Of the General Fund appropriation in Sec. B.504.1 of this act, $921,500 is designated for dual enrollment programs.

Sec. E.504.2 16 V.S.A. § 945 is amended to read:

§ 945. ADULT DIPLOMA PROGRAM; GENERAL EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM ADULT EDUCATION AND SECONDARY CREDENTIAL PROGRAM

(a) The Secretary shall maintain an Adult Diploma Program (ADP), which shall be an assessment process administered by the Agency through which an individual, any Vermont resident who is at least 20 years of age; who has not received a high school diploma; and who is not enrolled in a public or approved independent school, postsecondary institution, or home study program can receive a local high school diploma granted by one of the Program’s participating high schools.
(b) The Secretary shall maintain a General Educational Development (GED) Program, which it the Secretary shall administer jointly with the GED testing service and approved local testing centers and through which an adult individual a Vermont resident who is at least 16 years of age and who has not received a high school diploma; and who is not enrolled in secondary a public or an approved independent school, a postsecondary institution, or a home study program can receive a secondary school equivalency certificate based on successful completion of the GED tests.

(c) The Secretary may provide additional programs designed to address the individual needs and circumstances of adult students, particularly students with the lowest levels of literacy skills.

(d) The diagnostic portion of the Program referenced in subsection 4011(f) of this title shall be used as a tool to evaluate the educational needs of and skills gained by individual students but shall not be used to exclude individuals from the Program or to condition payments to local education and literacy providers.

Sec. E.504.3 REPEAL

16 V.S.A. § 943 (High School Completion Program) is repealed.
Sec. E.504.4  16 V.S.A. § 4011 is amended to read:

§ 4011. EDUCATION PAYMENTS

(a) Annually, the General Assembly shall appropriate funds to pay for statewide education spending and a portion of a base education amount for each adult diploma education and secondary credential program student.

* * *

(f) Annually, the Secretary shall pay to a department or agency local adult education and literacy provider, as defined in section 942 of this title, that provides an adult diploma education and secondary credential program an amount equal to 26 percent of the base education amount for each student who completed the diagnostic portion of the program, based on an average of the previous two years; 40 percent of the payment required under this subsection shall be from State funds appropriated from the Education Fund and 60 percent of the payment required under this subsection shall be from State funds appropriated from the General Fund.

* * *

Sec. E.504.5  16 V.S.A. § 944 is amended to read:

§ 944. DUAL ENROLLMENT PROGRAM

* * *

(b) Students.

(1) A Vermont resident who has completed grade 10 but has not received a high school diploma is eligible to participate in the Program if:
(A) the student:

* * *

(ii) is assigned to a public school through the High School Completion Program a student in the Adult Diploma Program under subsection 945(a) of this title; or

* * *

Sec. E.504.6  16 V.S.A. § 941 is amended to read:

§ 941. FLEXIBLE PATHWAYS INITIATIVE

(a) There is created within the Agency a Flexible Pathways Initiative:

* * *

(b) The Secretary shall develop, publish, and regularly update guidance, in the form of technical assistance, sharing of best practices and model documents, legal interpretations, and other support designed to assist school districts:

* * *

(3) to create opportunities for secondary students to pursue flexible pathways to graduation that:

* * *

(C) include:

* * *

(v) the High School Completion Program as set forth in section 943 of this title; and [Repealed.]
(vi) the Adult Diploma Program and General Educational Development Program adult education and secondary credential opportunities as set forth in section 945 of this title; and

* * * 

Sec. E.507.1 ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS; CATEGORICAL AID

(a) The funds appropriated in Sec. B.507.1 of this act shall be used to provide categorical aid to school districts for English Learner services, pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 4013.

Sec. E.514 STATE TEACHERS’ RETIREMENT SYSTEM

(a) In accordance with 16 V.S.A. § 1944(g)(2), the annual contribution to the Vermont State Teachers’ Retirement System shall be $201,182,703, of which $191,382,703 shall be the State’s contribution and $9,800,000 shall be contributed from local school systems or educational entities pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 1944c.

(b) In accordance with 16 V.S.A. § 1944(c)(2), of the annual contribution, $37,842,027 is the “normal contribution,” and $163,340,676 is the “accrued liability contribution.”

Sec. E.514.1 VERMONT STATE TEACHERS’ RETIREMENT SYSTEM AND VERMONT PENSION INVESTMENT COMMISSION; OPERATING BUDGET, SOURCE OF FUNDS

(a) Of the $3,572,780 appropriated in Sec. B.514.1 of this act, $2,516,037 constitutes the Vermont State Teachers’ Retirement System operating budget.
and $1,056,743 constitutes the portion of the Vermont Pension Investment Commission’s budget attributable to the Vermont State Teachers’ Retirement System.

Sec. E.515 RETIRED TEACHERS’ HEALTH CARE AND MEDICAL BENEFITS

(a) In accordance with 16 V.S.A. § 1944b(b)(2) and (h)(1), the annual contribution to the Retired Teachers’ Health and Medical Benefits plan shall be $70,482,644, of which $62,107,644 shall be the State’s contribution and $8,375,000 shall be from the annual charge for teacher health care contributed by employers pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 1944d. Of the annual contribution, $21,648,946 is the “normal contribution,” and $48,833,698 is the “accrued liability contribution.”

Sec. E.600 UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

(a) The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall issue warrants to pay 1/12 of the appropriation in Sec. B.600 of this act to the University of Vermont on or about the 15th day of each calendar month of the year.

(b) Of this appropriation, $380,362 shall be transferred to the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research to comply with State matching fund requirements necessary for the receipt of available federal or private funds, or both.
Sec. E.602 VERMONT STATE COLLEGES

(a) The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall issue warrants to pay 1/12 of the appropriation in Sec. B.602 of this act to the Vermont State Colleges on or about the 15th day of each calendar month of the year.

(b) Of this appropriation, $427,898 shall be transferred to the Vermont Manufacturing Extension Center to comply with State matching fund requirements necessary for the receipt of available federal or private funds, or both.

Sec. E.602.1 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec. E.602.2, as amended by 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 83, Sec. 67 and 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. C.101, is further amended to read:

Sec. E.602.2 VERMONT STATE COLLEGES

(a) The Vermont State College (VSC) system shall transform itself into a fully integrated system that achieves financial stability in a responsible and sustainable way in order to meet each of these strategic priorities:

* * *

(b) VSC shall meet the following requirements during the transformation of its system required under subsection (a) of this section and shall accommodate the oversight of the General Assembly in so doing.

(1) VSC shall reduce its structural deficit by $5,000,000.00 per year for three years and by $3,500,000.00 per year for the following two years through a combination of annual operating expense reductions and increased
enrollment revenues, for a total of $25,000,000.00 $22,000,000.00 by the end of fiscal year 2026. These reductions shall be structural in nature and shall not be met by use of one-time funds. The VSC Board of Trustees, through the Chancellor or designee, shall report the results of these structural reductions to the House and Senate Committees on Education and on Appropriations annually during the Chancellor’s budget presentation.

* * *

Sec. E.603 VERMONT STATE COLLEGES; ALLIED HEALTH

(a) If Global Commitment fund monies are unavailable, the total grant funding for the Vermont State Colleges shall be maintained through the General Fund or other State funding sources.

(b) The Vermont State Colleges shall use the Global Commitment funds appropriated in Sec. B.603 of this act to support the dental hygiene, respiratory therapy, and nursing programs that graduate approximately 315 health care providers annually. These graduates deliver direct, high-quality health care services to Medicaid beneficiaries or uninsured or underinsured persons.

Sec. E.605 VERMONT STUDENT ASSISTANCE CORPORATION

(a) Of the funds appropriated to the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation in Sec. B.605 of this act:

(1) $25,000 shall be deposited into the Trust Fund established in 16 V.S.A. § 2845;
(2) not more than $300,000 may be used by the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation for a student aspirational initiative to serve one or more high schools; and

(3) not less than $1,000,000 shall be used to continue the Vermont Trades Scholarship Program established in 2022 Act and Resolves No. 183, Sec. 14.

(b) Of the funds appropriated to the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation in Sec. B.605 of this act that are remaining after accounting for the expenditures set forth in subsection (a) of this section, not less than 93 percent shall be used for direct student aid.

(c) After accounting for the expenditures set forth in subsection (a) of this section, up to seven percent of the funds appropriated to the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation in Sec. B.605 of this act or otherwise currently or previously appropriated to the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation or provided to the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation by an agency or department of the State for the administration of a program or initiative may be used by the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation for its costs of administration. The Vermont Student Assistance Corporation may recoup its reasonable costs of collecting the forgivable loans in repayment. Funds shall not be used for indirect costs. To the extent that any of these funds are federal funds, allocation for expenses associated with administering the funds shall be consistent with federal grant requirements.
Sec. E.605.1  NEED-BASED STIPEND FOR DUAL ENROLLMENT AND EARLY COLLEGE STUDENTS

(a) Notwithstanding 16 V.S.A. § 4025, the sum of $41,225 Education Fund and $41,225 General Fund is appropriated to the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation for dual enrollment and need-based stipend purposes to fund a flat-rate, need-based stipend or voucher program for financially disadvantaged students enrolled in a dual enrollment course pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 944 or in early college pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 946 to be used for the purchase of books, cost of transportation, and payment of fees. The Vermont Student Assistance Corporation shall establish the criteria for program eligibility. Funds shall be granted to eligible students on a first-come, first-served basis until funds are depleted.

(b) On or before January 15, 2025, the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation shall report on the program to the House Committees on Appropriations and on Commerce and Economic Development and to the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

Sec. E.704  DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS, PARKS AND RECREATION; WATER QUALITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM EXPANSION; PILOT

(a) Using the funds appropriated in Sec. B.1100(I)(1) of this act, the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation shall as a pilot expand the Water
Quality Assistance Program established in 10 V.S.A. § 2622a to enable the Program to provide financial assistance to logging contractors to ensure implementation of proactive and preventative water quality protection and climate adaptation practices on harvest sites. The Program shall provide financial assistance to logging contractors for the following:

1. implementation of accepted management practices and other best practices defined by the Department on harvest sites to enhance water quality protection and climate adaptation measures before forest operations take place;

2. purchase by logging contractors of materials or practices that can be used for forest access road construction, landing preparation, bridge construction or installation, culvert protection or installation, and sediment control in advance of harvest implementation in order to comply with the accepted management practices and other potentially applicable water quality requirements; and

3. financial assistance or cost share for a logging contractor to be Master Logger Certified by third-party entities, such as the Northeast Master Logger Certification Program of the Trust to Conserve Northeast Forestlands.

(b) The Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation may establish criteria for eligibility under the Water Quality Assistance Program, including priority of assistance and application requirements.

(c) The Water Quality Assistance Program shall operate as a pilot program in fiscal year 2025.
(d) On or before July 15, 2025, the Commissioner of Forests, Parks and Recreation shall report to the House Committee on Agriculture, Food Resiliency, and Forestry and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy the results of the pilot Water Quality Assistance Program.

Sec. E.802 10 V.S.A. § 699 is amended to read:

§ 699. VERMONT RENTAL HOUSING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

* * *

(e) Program requirements applicable to grants. For a grant awarded through the Program, the following requirements apply for a minimum period of five years:

(1) A landlord shall coordinate with nonprofit housing partners and local coordinated entry organizations to identify potential tenants.

(2)(A) Except as provided in subdivision (2)(B) of this subsection (e), a landlord shall lease the unit to a household that is exiting homelessness or actively working with an immigrant or refugee resettlement program or composed of at least one individual with a disability who is eligible to receive Medicaid-funded home and community based services.

(B) If, upon petition of the landlord, the Department or the housing organization that issued the grant determines that a household exiting homelessness under subdivision (A) of this subdivision (e)(2) is not available to lease the unit, then the landlord shall lease the unit:

* * *
Sec. E.910 23 V.S.A. § 304c is amended to read:

§ 304c. MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION PLATES: BUILDING BRIGHT SPACES FOR BRIGHT FUTURES FUND

(a) The Commissioner shall, upon application, issue “Building Bright Spaces for Bright Futures Fund,” referred to as “the Bright Futures Fund,” registration plates for use only on vehicles registered at the pleasure car rate, on trucks registered for less than 26,001 pounds, on vehicles registered to State agencies under section 376 of this title, and excluding vehicles registered under the International Registration Plan. Plates so acquired shall be mounted on the front and rear of the vehicle. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall utilize the graphic design recommended by the Commissioner for Children and Families for the special plates to enhance the public awareness of the State’s interest in supporting children’s early childhood services. Applicants shall apply on forms prescribed by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles and shall pay an initial fee of $29.00 in addition to the annual fee for registration. In following years, in addition to the annual registration fee, the holder of a Bright Futures Fund plate shall pay a renewal fee of $29.00. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall adopt rules under 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 to implement the provisions of this subsection.

(b) Fees collected under subsection (a) of this section shall be deposited as follows:

(1) 29 percent to in the Transportation Fund.
(2) 71 percent to the Department for Children and Families for deposit in the Building Bright Futures Fund created in 33 V.S.A. § 3531.

(c) Renewal fees collected under subsection (a) of this section shall be allocated as follows:

(1) 79 percent to the Department for Children and Families for deposit in the Building Bright Futures Fund created in 33 V.S.A. § 3531.

(2) 21 percent to in the Transportation Fund.

(d) The Department of Motor Vehicles shall be charged by the Department of Corrections for the production of the Building Bright Futures license plates.

Sec. E.915 TRANSPORTATION; TOWN HIGHWAY AID PROGRAM

(a) The total appropriation in Sec. B.915 of this act is authorized, notwithstanding the provisions of 19 V.S.A. § 306(a).

* * * Financial Regulation Fees * * *

Sec. F.100 8 V.S.A. § 4800(2)(A)(iii) is amended to read:

(iii) Except as provided in subdivisions (I) and (II) of this subdivision, initial and annual producer appointment fees for each qualification set forth in section 4813g of subchapter 1A of this chapter for resident and nonresident producers acting as agents of foreign insurers, $60.00 $80.00:

* * *
Sec. F.101 9 V.S.A. § 5302(e) is amended to read:

(e) At the time of the filing of the information prescribed in subsection (a), (b), (c), or (d) of this section, except investment companies subject to 15 U.S.C. § 80a-1 et seq., the issuer shall pay to the Commissioner a fee of $600.00 $820.00. The fee is nonrefundable.

Sec. F.102 9 V.S.A. § 5302(f) is amended to read:

(f) Investment companies subject to 15 U.S.C. § 80a-1 et seq. shall pay to the Commissioner an initial notice filing fee of $2,000.00 $2,275.00 and an annual renewal fee of $1,650.00 $2,025.00 for each portfolio or class of investment company securities for which a notice filing is submitted.

Sec. F.103 9 V.S.A. § 5410(b) is amended to read:

(b) The fee for an individual is $120.00 $145.00 when filing an application for registration as an agent, $120.00 $145.00 when filing a renewal of registration as an agent, and $120.00 $145.00 when filing for a change of registration as an agent. The fee is nonrefundable.

* * * Pay Act * * *

Sec. G.100 COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS; FISCAL YEARS 2025 AND 2026

(a) Fiscal year 2025. This act fully funds the first year of the collective bargaining agreements between the State and the Vermont State Employees’ Association and the State and the Vermont Troopers’ Association for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. The collective bargaining
agreements for most classified employees provide in fiscal year 2025 an average 1.9 percent step increase and 4.5 percent across-the-board increase for a total of a 6.4 percent increase.

(b) Fiscal year 2026. This act fully funds the second year of the collective bargaining agreements between the State and the Vermont State Employees’ Association and the State and the Vermont Troopers’ Association for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. The collective bargaining agreements for most classified employees provide in fiscal year 2026 an average 1.9 percent step increase and 3.5 percent across-the-board increase for a total of a 5.4 percent increase.

Sec. G.101 EXEMPT EMPLOYEES; PERMITTED SALARY INCREASES;

FISCAL YEARS 2025 AND 2026

(a) Fiscal year 2025. The Executive, Judicial, and Legislative Branches may extend the fiscal year 2025 provisions of the collective bargaining agreements that are funded by this act to employees not covered by the bargaining agreements as they determine to be appropriate and in accordance with the appropriations provided to each branch.

(b) Fiscal year 2026. The Executive, Judicial, and Legislative Branches may extend the fiscal year 2026 provisions of the collective bargaining agreements that are funded by this act to employees not covered by the bargaining agreements as they determine to be appropriate and in accordance with the appropriations provided to each branch.
Sec. G.102 EXECUTIVE BRANCH; EXEMPT AGENCY AND DEPARTMENT HEADS, DEPUTIES, AND EXECUTIVE ASSISTANTS; ANNUAL SALARY ADJUSTMENT AND SPECIAL SALARY INCREASE OR BONUS

(a) Fiscal year 2025. For purposes of determining annual salary adjustments, special salary increases, and bonuses under 32 V.S.A. §§ 1003(b) and 1020(b), “the average rate of adjustment available to most classified employees under the collective bargaining agreement” shall be, in fiscal year 2025, 6.4 percent.

(b) Fiscal year 2026. For purposes of determining annual salary adjustments, special salary increases, and bonuses under 32 V.S.A. §§ 1003(b) and 1020(b), “the average rate of adjustment available to most classified employees under the collective bargaining agreement” shall be, in fiscal year 2026, 5.4 percent.

Sec. G.103 32 V.S.A. § 1003 is amended to read:

§ 1003. STATE OFFICERS

(a) Each elective officer of the Executive Department is entitled to an annual salary as follows:

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<td>as of July 14</td>
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(b) The Governor may appoint each officer of the Executive Branch listed in this subsection at a starting salary ranging from the base salary stated for that position to a salary that does not exceed the maximum salary unless otherwise authorized by this subsection. The maximum salary for each appointive officer shall be 50 percent above the base salary. Annually, the Governor may grant to each of those officers an annual salary adjustment subject to the maximum salary. The annual salary adjustment granted to officers under this subsection shall not exceed the average rate of adjustment available to most classified employees under the collective bargaining agreement then in effect. In addition to the annual salary adjustment specified in this subsection, the Governor may grant a special salary increase subject to the maximum salary, or a bonus, to any officer listed in this subsection whose job duties have significantly increased, or whose contributions to the State in the preceding year are deemed especially significant. Special salary increases or bonuses granted to any individual shall not exceed the average rate of
adjustment available to most classified employees under the collective bargaining agreement then in effect.

(1) Heads of the following Departments and Agencies:

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(A) Administration    $121,634 $126,378 $134,466 $141,727

(B) Agriculture, Food and Markets    $121,634 $126,378 $134,466 $141,727

(C) Financial Regulation    $113,710 $118,145 $125,706 $132,494

(D) Buildings and General Services    $113,710 $118,145 $125,706 $132,494

(E) Children and Families    $113,710 $118,145 $125,706 $132,494

(F) Commerce and Community Development    $121,634 $126,378 $134,466 $141,727

(G) Corrections    $113,710 $118,145 $125,706 $132,494
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| (S) Human Services | $121,634 | $126,378 | $134,466 | $141,727 |
| (T) Digital Services | $121,634 | $126,378 | $134,466 | $141,727 |
| (U) Labor | $113,710 | $118,145 | $125,706 | $132,494 |
| (V) Libraries | $103,149 | $118,145 | $114,031 | $120,189 |
| (W) Liquor and Lottery | $103,149 | $118,145 | $114,031 | $120,189 |
| (X) [Repealed.] | |
| (Y) Mental Health | $113,710 | $118,145 | $125,706 | $132,494 |
| (Z) Military | $113,710 | $118,145 | $125,706 | $132,494 |
| (AA) Motor Vehicles | $103,149 | $118,145 | $114,031 | $120,189 |
| (BB) Natural Resources | $121,634 | $126,378 | $134,466 | $141,727 |
| (CC) Natural Resources Board Chair | $103,149 | $118,145 | $114,031 | $120,189 |
| (DD) Public Safety | $113,710 | $118,145 | $125,706 | $132,494 |
| (EE) Public Service | $113,710 | $118,145 | $125,706 | $132,494 |
| (FF) Taxes | $113,710 | $118,145 | $125,706 | $132,494 |
| (GG) Tourism and Marketing | $103,149 | $118,145 | $114,031 | $120,189 |
(HH) Transportation $121,634  $126,378  $134,466  $141,727

(II) Vermont Health Access $113,710  $118,145  $125,706  $132,494

(JJ) Veterans’ Home $113,710  $118,145  $125,706  $132,494

(2) [Repealed.]

(3) If the Chair of the Natural Resources Board is employed on less than a full-time basis, the hiring and salary maximums for that position shall be reduced proportionately.

(4) When a permanent employee is appointed to an exempt position, the Governor may authorize such employee to retain the present salary even though it is in excess of any salary maximum provided in statute.

* * *

(d) Notwithstanding the maximum salary established in subsection (b) of this section, the Defender General shall not receive compensation in excess of the compensation established for the Attorney General in this section.

(e) Notwithstanding the maximum salary established in subsection (b) of this section, the maximum salary for the Commissioner of Health shall not exceed 100 percent above the base salary for this position.

Sec. G.104  32 V.S.A. § 1003(c) is amended to read:

(c) The officers of the Judicial Branch named in this subsection shall be entitled to annual salaries as follows:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Salary as of</th>
<th>Salary as of</th>
<th>Salary as of</th>
<th>Salary as of</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 3, 2022</td>
<td>July 2, 2023</td>
<td>July 14, 2024</td>
<td>July 13, 2025</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) Chief Justice of

Supreme Court $193,600 $201,150 $214,024 $225,581

(2) Each Associate Justice

$184,771 $191,977 $204,264 $215,294

(3) Administrative Judge

$184,771 $191,977 $204,264 $215,294

(4) Each Superior Judge

$175,654 $182,505 $194,185 $204,671

(5) [Repealed.]

(6) Each Magistrate

$132,441 $137,606 $146,413 $154,319

(7) Each Judicial Bureau hearing officer

$132,441 $137,606 $146,413 $154,319
Sec. G.105  32 V.S.A. § 1141 is amended to read:

§ 1141.  ASSISTANT JUDGES

(a)(1) Each assistant judge of the Superior Court shall be entitled to receive compensation in the amount of $203.05 $224.47 a day as of July 3, 2022 July 14, 2024 and $210.97 $236.59 a day as of July 2, 2023 July 13, 2025 for time spent in the performance of official duties and necessary expenses as allowed to classified State employees. Compensation under this section shall be based on a two-hour minimum and hourly thereafter.

(2)(A) The compensation paid to an assistant judge pursuant to this section shall be paid by the State except as provided in subdivision (B) of this subdivision (2).

(B) The compensation paid to an assistant judge pursuant to this section shall be paid by the county at the State rate established in subdivision (a)(1) of this section when an assistant judge is sitting with a presiding Superior judge in the Civil or Family Division of the Superior Court.

(b) Assistant judges of the Superior Court shall be entitled to receive pay for such days as they attend court when it is in actual session or during a court recess when engaged in the special performance of official duties.
Sec. G.106  32 V.S.A. § 1142 is amended to read:

§ 1142.  PROBATE JUDGES

(a) The Probate judges in the several Probate Districts shall be entitled to receive the following annual salaries, which shall be paid by the State in lieu of all fees or other compensation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Annual Salary 2022</th>
<th>Annual Salary 2023</th>
<th>Annual Salary 2024</th>
<th>Annual Salary 2025</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Addison</td>
<td>$69,249</td>
<td>$71,950</td>
<td>$76,555</td>
<td>$80,689</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bennington</td>
<td>$87,541</td>
<td>$90,955</td>
<td>$96,776</td>
<td>102,002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caledonia</td>
<td>$61,412</td>
<td>$63,807</td>
<td>$67,891</td>
<td>$71,557</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chittenden</td>
<td>$146,093</td>
<td>$151,791</td>
<td>$161,506</td>
<td>$170,227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essex</td>
<td>$17,156</td>
<td>$17,825</td>
<td>$18,966</td>
<td>$19,990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin</td>
<td>$69,249</td>
<td>$71,950</td>
<td>$76,555</td>
<td>$80,689</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Isle</td>
<td>$17,156</td>
<td>$17,825</td>
<td>$18,966</td>
<td>$19,990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lamoille</td>
<td>$48,343</td>
<td>$50,228</td>
<td>$53,443</td>
<td>$56,329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>$57,489</td>
<td>$59,734</td>
<td>$63,554</td>
<td>$66,986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orleans</td>
<td>$56,183</td>
<td>$58,374</td>
<td>$62,110</td>
<td>$65,464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rutland</td>
<td>$124,126</td>
<td>$128,967</td>
<td>$137,221</td>
<td>$144,631</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>$95,379</td>
<td>$99,099</td>
<td>$105,441</td>
<td>$111,135</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(b) Probate judges shall be entitled to be paid by the State for their actual and necessary expenses under the rules pertaining to classified State employees. The compensation for the Probate judge of the Chittenden District shall be for full-time service.

(c) All Probate judges, regardless of the number of hours worked annually, shall be eligible to participate in all employee benefits that are available to exempt employees of the Judicial Department.

Sec. G.107  32 V.S.A. § 1182 is amended to read:

§ 1182.  SHERIFFS

(a) The sheriffs of all counties except Chittenden shall be entitled to receive salaries in the amount of $94,085.00 $104,010.00 as of July 3, 2022 July 14, 2024 and $97,754.00 $109,627.00 as of July 2, 2023 July 13, 2025. The Sheriff of Chittenden County shall be entitled to an annual salary in the amount of $99,566.00 $110,070.00 as of July 3, 2022 July 14, 2024 and $103,449.00 $116,014.00 as of July 2, 2023 July 13, 2025.

(b) Compensation under subsection (a) of this section shall be reduced by 10 percent for any sheriff who has not obtained Level III law enforcement officer certification under 20 V.S.A. § 2358.
Sec. G.108 32 V.S.A. § 1183 is amended to read:

§ 1183. STATE’S ATTORNEYS

(a) The State's Attorneys shall be entitled to receive annual salaries as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Annual</th>
<th>Annual</th>
<th>Annual</th>
<th>Annual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Salary</td>
<td>Salary</td>
<td>Salary</td>
<td>Salary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>as of</td>
<td>as of</td>
<td>as of</td>
<td>as of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>July 3</td>
<td>July 2</td>
<td>July 14</td>
<td>July 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2022</td>
<td>2023</td>
<td>2024</td>
<td>2025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addison County</td>
<td>$127,265</td>
<td>$132,228</td>
<td>$140,691</td>
<td>$148,288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bennington County</td>
<td>$127,265</td>
<td>$132,228</td>
<td>$140,691</td>
<td>$148,288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caledonia County</td>
<td>$127,265</td>
<td>$132,228</td>
<td>$140,691</td>
<td>$148,288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chittenden County</td>
<td>$133,051</td>
<td>$138,240</td>
<td>$147,087</td>
<td>$155,030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essex County</td>
<td>$95,451</td>
<td>$99,174</td>
<td>$105,521</td>
<td>$111,219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin County</td>
<td>$127,265</td>
<td>$132,228</td>
<td>$140,691</td>
<td>$148,288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Isle County</td>
<td>$95,451</td>
<td>$99,174</td>
<td>$105,521</td>
<td>$111,219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lamoille County</td>
<td>$127,265</td>
<td>$132,228</td>
<td>$140,691</td>
<td>$148,288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange County</td>
<td>$127,265</td>
<td>$132,228</td>
<td>$140,691</td>
<td>$148,288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orleans County</td>
<td>$127,265</td>
<td>$132,228</td>
<td>$140,691</td>
<td>$148,288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rutland County</td>
<td>$127,265</td>
<td>$132,228</td>
<td>$140,691</td>
<td>$148,288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington County</td>
<td>$127,265</td>
<td>$132,228</td>
<td>$140,691</td>
<td>$148,288</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(13) Windham County $127,265 $132,228 $140,691 $148,288
(14) Windsor County $127,265 $132,228 $140,691 $148,288

(b) In settlement of their accounts, the Commissioner of Finance and Management shall allow the State’s Attorneys the expense of printing briefs in cases in which the State’s Attorney has represented the State and their necessary and actual expenses under the rules pertaining to classified State employees.

Sec. G.109 PAY ACT APPROPRIATIONS; FISCAL YEARS 2025 AND 2026

(a) Executive Branch. The first and second years of the two-year agreements between the State of Vermont and the Vermont State Employees’ Association for the Defender General, Non-Management, Supervisory, and Corrections bargaining units, and, for the purpose of appropriation, the State’s Attorneys’ offices bargaining unit, for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2026; the collective bargaining agreement with the Vermont Troopers’ Association for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2026; and salary increases for employees in the Executive Branch not covered by the bargaining agreements shall be funded as follows:

(1) Fiscal year 2025.

(A) General Fund. The amount of $27,279,337.00 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Secretary of Administration for distribution to
departments to fund the fiscal year 2025 collective bargaining agreements and the requirements of this act.

(B) Transportation Fund. The amount of $2,500,000.00 is appropriated from the Transportation Fund to the Secretary of Administration for distribution to the Agency of Transportation and the Department of Public Safety to fund the fiscal year 2025 collective bargaining agreements and the requirements of this act.

(C) Other funds. The Administration shall provide additional spending authority to departments through the existing process of excess receipts to fund the fiscal year 2025 collective bargaining agreements and the requirements of this act. The estimated amounts are $25,627,057.00 from a special fund, federal funds, and other sources.

(D) Transfers. With due regard to the possible availability of other funds, for fiscal year 2025, the Secretary of Administration may transfer from the various appropriations and various funds and from the receipts of the Liquor Control Board such sums as the Secretary may determine to be necessary to carry out the purposes of this act to the various agencies supported by State funds.

(2) Fiscal year 2026.

(A) General Fund. The amount of $24,644,442.00 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Secretary of Administration for distribution to
departments to fund the fiscal year 2026 collective bargaining agreements and the requirements of this act.

(B) Transportation Fund. The amount of $3,000,000.00 is appropriated from the Transportation Fund to the Secretary of Administration for distribution to the Agency of Transportation and the Department of Public Safety to fund the fiscal year 2026 collective bargaining agreements and the requirements of this act.

(C) Other funds. The Administration shall provide additional spending authority to departments through the existing process of excess receipts to fund the fiscal year 2026 collective bargaining agreements and the requirements of this act. The estimated amounts are $27,868,854.00 from a special fund, federal funds, and other sources.

(D) Transfers. With due regard to the possible availability of other funds, for fiscal year 2026, the Secretary of Administration may transfer from the various appropriations and various funds and from the receipts of the Liquor Control Board such sums as the Secretary may determine to be necessary to carry out the purposes of this act to the various agencies supported by State funds.

(3) This section shall include sufficient funding to ensure administration of exempt pay plans authorized by 32 V.S.A. § 1020(c).

(b) Judicial Branch.
(1) Extension to noncovered employees. The Chief Justice of the Vermont Supreme Court may extend the provisions of the Judiciary’s collective bargaining agreement to Judiciary employees who are not covered by the bargaining agreement.

(2) Fiscal year 2025. The first year of the two-year agreements between the State of Vermont and the Vermont State Employees’ Association for the judicial bargaining unit for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 and salary increases for employees in the Judicial Branch not covered by the bargaining agreements shall be funded as follows: the amount of $2,470,963.00 is appropriated from the General Fund and the amount of $185,986.00 is provided from other sources to the Judiciary to fund the fiscal year 2025 collective bargaining agreement and the requirements of this act.

(3) Fiscal year 2026. The second year of the two-year agreements between the State of Vermont and the Vermont State Employees’ Association for the judicial bargaining unit for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 and salary increases for employees in the Judicial Branch not covered by the bargaining agreements shall be funded as follows: the amount of $2,388,783.00 is appropriated from the General Fund and the amount of $179,801.00 is provided from other sources to the Judiciary to fund the fiscal year 2026 collective bargaining agreement and the requirements of this act.

(c) Legislative Branch.
(1) For the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, the General Assembly, including all Legislative Branch employees, shall be funded as follows: the amount of $884,808.00 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Legislative Branch.

(2) For the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, the General Assembly, including all Legislative Branch employees, shall be funded as follows: the amount of $758,613.00 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Legislative Branch.

* * * Effective Dates * * *

Sec. H.100 EFFECTIVE DATES


(b) Notwithstanding 1 V.S.A. § 214:

(1) Sec. C.102 shall take effect retroactively on March 1, 2024;

(2) Secs. C.108, C.109, and C.110 shall take effect retroactively on July 1, 2023; and

(3) Sec. E.910 shall take effect retroactively on January 1, 2024.

(c) Sec. E.306.4 shall take effect on January 1, 2026.

(d) Sec. E.318.2 shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

(e) Sec. F.100 shall take effect on January 1, 2025.

(f) All remaining sections shall take effect on July 1, 2024.