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H.882

An act relating to capital construction and State bonding budget adjustment

The Senate proposes to the House to amend the bill by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

\* \* \* Legislative Intent \* \* \*

Sec. 1. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 1 is amended to read:

Sec. 1. LEGISLATIVE INTENT

(a) It is the intent of the General Assembly that of the ~~\$122,767,376.00~~ \$130,606,224.00 authorized in this act, not more than \$56,520,325.00 shall be appropriated in the first year of the biennium, and the remainder shall be appropriated in the second year.

(b) It is the intent of the General Assembly that in the second year of the biennium, any amendments to the appropriations or authorities granted in this act shall take the form of the Capital Construction and State Bonding Adjustment Bill. It is the intent of the General Assembly that unless otherwise indicated, all appropriations in this act are subject to capital budget adjustment.

\* \* \* Capital Appropriations \* \* \*

Sec. 2. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 2 is amended to read:

Sec. 2. STATE BUILDINGS

\* \* \*

(c) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2025:



1 (b) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2025 to the Department of  
2 Buildings and General Services for the Agency of Human Services for the  
3 following projects described in this subsection:

4 (1) Northwest State Correctional Facility, booking expansion, planning,  
5 design, and construction: ~~\$2,500,000.00~~ \$2,600,000.00

6 \* \* \*

7 (3) Statewide, correctional facilities, HVAC systems, planning, design,  
8 and construction for upgrades and replacements:

9 ~~\$700,000.00~~ \$5,150,000.00

10 (4) Statewide, correctional facilities, accessibility upgrades:

11 \$822,000.00

12 \* \* \*

13 Appropriation – FY 2024 \$1,800,000.00

14 Appropriation – FY 2025 ~~\$16,200,000.00~~ \$21,572,000.00

15 Total Appropriation – Section 3 ~~\$18,000,000.00~~ \$23,372,000.00

16 Sec. 4. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 4 is amended to read:

17 Sec. 4. COMMERCE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

18 \* \* \*

19 (b) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2025 to the Agency of  
20 Commerce and Community Development for the following projects described  
21 in this subsection:

1 (1) Major maintenance at statewide historic sites:

2 \$500,000.00 \$700,000.00

3 \* \* \*

4 Appropriation – FY 2024 \$596,000.00

5 Appropriation – FY 2025 \$596,000.00 \$796,000.00

6 Total Appropriation – Section 4 ~~\$1,192,000.00~~ \$1,392,000.00

7 Sec. 5. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 9 is amended to read:

8 Sec. 9. NATURAL RESOURCES

9 \* \* \*

10 (f) The following amounts are appropriated in FY 2025 to the Agency of  
11 Natural Resources for the Department of Fish and Wildlife for the projects  
12 described in this subsection:

13 (1) General infrastructure projects, including small-scale maintenance  
14 and rehabilitation of infrastructure, and improvements to buildings, including  
15 conservation camps:

16 \$1,344,150.00 \$2,114,000.00

17 \* \* \*

18 Appropriation – FY 2024 \$6,997,081.00

19 Appropriation – FY 2025 \$7,497,051.00 \$8,266,901.00

20 Total Appropriation – Section 9 ~~\$14,494,132.00~~ \$15,263,982.00

21 Sec. 6. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 10 is amended to read:



1 Total Appropriation – Section 10 \$15,885,000.00

2 Sec. 7. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 15a is added to read:

3 Sec. 15a. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

4 The sum of \$1,540,000.00 is appropriated in FY 2025 to the Department of  
5 Buildings and General Services for the Department of Labor for upgrades of  
6 mechanical systems and HVAC, life safety needs, and minor interior  
7 renovations at 5 Green Mountain Drive in Montpelier.

8 Sec. 8. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 15b is added to read:

9 Sec. 15b. SERGEANT AT ARMS

10 The sum of \$100,000.00 is appropriated in FY 2025 to the Sergeant at Arms  
11 for the replacement of tables and chairs in the State House cafeteria.

12 \* \* \* Funding \* \* \*

13 Sec. 8a. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 16 is amended to read:

14 Sec. 16. REALLOCATION OF FUNDS; TRANSFER OF FUNDS

15 (a) The following sums are reallocated to the Department of Buildings  
16 and General Services from prior capital appropriations to defray expenditures  
17 authorized in Sec. 2 of this act:

18 \* \* \*

19 (5) of the amount appropriated in 2015 Acts and Resolves No. 26, Sec.

20 2(b) (various projects): ~~\$65,463.17~~ \$147,206.37

21 \* \* \*









1 (c) Authorizations. In FY 2024, spending authority for the following  
2 capital projects are authorized as follows:

3 \* \* \*

4 (7) ~~the Department of Buildings and General Services is authorized to~~  
5 ~~spend \$600,000.00 for planning for the boiler replacement at the Northern~~  
6 ~~State Correctional Facility in Newport; [Repealed.]~~

7 \* \* \*

8 (9) ~~the Department of Buildings and General Services is authorized to~~  
9 ~~spend \$600,000.00 for the Agency of Human Services for the planning and~~  
10 ~~design of the booking expansion at the Northwest State Correctional Facility;~~  
11 ~~[Repealed.]~~

12 (10) the Department of Buildings and General Services is authorized to  
13 spend ~~\$1,000,000.00~~ \$750,000.00 for the Agency of Human Services for the  
14 planning and design of the Department for Children and Families' short-term  
15 stabilization facility;

16 (11) the Department of Buildings and General Services is authorized to  
17 spend \$750,000.00 for the Judiciary for design, renovations, and land  
18 acquisition at the Washington County Superior Courthouse in Barre;

19 \* \* \*

20 (16) the Vermont State Colleges is authorized to spend ~~\$7,500,000.00~~  
21 \$6,500,000.00 for construction, renovation, and major maintenance at any

1 facility owned or operated in the State by the Vermont State Colleges;  
2 infrastructure transformation planning; and the planning, design, and  
3 construction of Green Hall and Vail Hall;

4 \* \* \*

5 (19) the Agency of Natural Resources is authorized to spend  
6 \$4,000,000.00 for the Department of Environmental Conservation for the  
7 Municipal Pollution Control Grants for pollution control projects and planning  
8 advances for feasibility studies; and

9 (20) the Agency of Natural Resources is authorized to spend  
10 \$3,000,000.00 for the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation for the  
11 maintenance facilities at the Gifford Woods State Park and Groton Forest  
12 State Park; ~~and.~~

13 (21) ~~the Agency of Natural Resources is authorized to spend~~  
14 ~~\$800,000.00 for the Department of Fish and Wildlife for infrastructure~~  
15 ~~maintenance and improvements of the Department's buildings, including~~  
16 ~~conservation camps. [Repealed.]~~

17 (d) ~~FY 2025 capital projects authorizations. To the extent general funds~~  
18 ~~are available to appropriate to the Fund established in 32 V.S.A. § 1001b in FY~~  
19 ~~2025, it is the intent of the General Assembly that the following capital~~  
20 ~~projects receive funding from the Fund~~ In FY 2024, spending authority for the  
21 following capital projects are authorized as follows:



1 (9) the sum of \$250,000.00 to the Department of Buildings and General  
2 Services for planning for the 133-109 State Street tunnel waterproofing and  
3 Aiken Avenue reconstruction; ~~and~~

4 (10) the sum of \$200,000.00 to the Department of Buildings and  
5 General Services for the renovation of the stack area, HVAC upgrades, and the  
6 elevator replacement at 111 State Street;

7 (11) the sum of \$1,000,000.00 to the Department of Buildings and  
8 General Services for roof replacement and brick façade repairs at the  
9 McFarland State Office Building in Barre; and

10 (12) the sum of \$30,000.00 to the Department of Fish and Wildlife for  
11 the Lake Champlain International fishing derby.

12 \* \* \*

13 \* \* \* Policy \* \* \*

14 \* \* \* Agency of Natural Resources \* \* \*

15 Sec. 11. 10 V.S.A. § 2603 is amended to read:

16 § 2603. POWERS AND DUTIES: COMMISSIONER

17 \* \* \*

18 ~~(g) The Commissioner shall consult with and receive approval from the~~  
19 ~~Commissioner of Buildings and General Services concerning proposed~~  
20 ~~construction or renovation of individual projects involving capital~~  
21 ~~improvements which are expected, either in phases or in total, to cost more~~

1 ~~than \$200,000.00. The Department of Environmental Conservation shall~~  
2 ~~manage all contracts for engineering services for capital improvements made~~  
3 ~~by the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation~~ The Department of  
4 Environmental Conservation Facilities Engineering Section:

5 (1) may execute and consult on design for the Department of Forests,  
6 Parks and Recreation;

7 (2) shall provide professional engineering services for compliance with  
8 environmental operating permits; and

9 (3) shall be the custodian of all plans of record for work executed by the  
10 Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation, regardless of the source and  
11 designer of record.

12 \* \* \*

13 Sec. 12. LEGISLATIVE INTENT; SALISBURY FISH HATCHERY

14 It is the intent of the General Assembly that:

15 (1) The State shall maintain or increase its current fish stocking  
16 capacity.

17 (2) To the extent practicable, the Salisbury fish hatchery shall, subject to  
18 annual appropriations, continue operating through December 31, 2027.

19 (3) The Agency of Natural Resources shall examine potential options  
20 for continuing the operation of the Salisbury fish hatchery after fiscal year  
21 2027, including maintaining any necessary permits.

1           (4) The Agency of Natural Resources shall examine options for  
2 maintaining or increasing the State’s current fish stocking capacity following  
3 the potential closure of the Salisbury fish hatchery, including:

4           (A) replacing the stocking capacity of the Salisbury fish hatchery  
5 with increased stocking capacity at one or more State-operated or federally  
6 operated fish hatcheries;

7           (B) transferring fish broodstock from the Salisbury hatchery to other  
8 State fish hatcheries;

9           (C) establishing additional egg production at other State fish  
10 hatcheries to compensate for any lost egg production; and

11           (D) utilizing other innovative or more cost-effective approaches for  
12 replacing any lost stocking capacity.

13           (5) The Agency of Natural Resources shall examine options for limiting  
14 any negative economic impact from the potential closure of the Salisbury fish  
15 hatchery, including impacts from reduced fish stocking on fishing and tourism,  
16 and impacts from the loss of staff positions at the Salisbury fish hatchery.

17           (6) The Salisbury fish hatchery shall not close without prior approval of  
18 the General Assembly, which shall be provided if:

19           (A) the hatchery is unable to secure the necessary permits to continue  
20 operating after December 31, 2027; or

1           (B) the stocking capacity of the hatchery can be replaced in a manner  
2 that is more cost-effective than the up-front and operating costs of the capital  
3 improvements necessary for the hatchery to obtain the necessary permits to  
4 continue operating after December 31, 2027.

5 Sec. 13. SALISBURY FISH HATCHERY; ANNUAL REPORT

6           On or before January 15 of 2025, 2026, and 2027, the Secretary of Natural  
7 Resources shall submit a written report to the Senate Committees on  
8 Institutions and on Natural Resources and Energy and the House Committees  
9 on Corrections and Institutions and on Environment and Energy regarding  
10 efforts undertaken and progress made with respect to sustaining the fish  
11 production and stocking capacity of Vermont's State-operated fish hatcheries,  
12 including:

13           (1) efforts to maintain permits necessary to continue operating the  
14 Salisbury fish hatchery after December 31, 2027;

15           (2) the potential for transferring the stocking capacity of the Salisbury  
16 fish hatchery to one or more State-operated or federally operated fish  
17 hatcheries, including estimated costs;

18           (3) the potential for transferring the fish broodstock of the Salisbury fish  
19 hatchery to one or more State-operated fish hatcheries for the purpose of  
20 replacing the Salisbury fish hatchery's egg production, including estimated  
21 costs;





1 Cherry Street in the City of Burlington, \$6,242,500.00 shall be deposited into  
2 the Property Management Revolving Fund (58700) to recover the deficit  
3 incurred in the fund as a result of the original purchase of the property and,  
4 notwithstanding 29 V.S.A. § 168(c), \$293,753.63 shall be deposited into the  
5 State Energy Revolving Fund (59700) to repay debt outstanding for loans for  
6 energy improvement projects on the property.

7 Sec. 16. SALE OF FORMER WILLISTON STATE POLICE BARRACKS;  
8 INTENT; REPORT

9 It is the intent of the General Assembly that the Town of Williston shall  
10 report to the Senate Committee on Institutions and the House Committee on  
11 Corrections and Institutions in January 2025 regarding:

12 (1) whether the town desires to purchase the property; and

13 (2) if so:

14 (A) the feasibility of the Town purchasing the property, including  
15 any requested conditions on the sale of the property; and

16 (B) the potential future uses of the property envisioned by the Town.

17 Sec. 17. 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 36 is amended to read:

18 Sec. 36. PUBLIC SAFETY FIELD STATION; WILLISTON

19 \* \* \*

20 (b) The Beginning on July 1, 2025, the Commissioner of Buildings and  
21 General Services is authorized to sell the Williston Public Safety Field Station

1 and adjacent land pursuant to the requirements of 29 V.S.A. § 166. The  
2 proceeds from the sale shall be appropriated to future capital construction  
3 projects.

4 Sec. 18. 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 50, Sec. 34 is amended to read:

5 Sec. 34. WILLISTON PUBLIC SAFETY BARRACKS; SALE

6 ~~The~~ Beginning on July 1, 2025, the Commissioner of Buildings and General  
7 Services is authorized to sell the property known as the Williston Public Safety  
8 Barracks (State Office Building) located at 2777 St. George Road in Williston,  
9 Vermont pursuant to the requirements of 29 V.S.A. § 166. The proceeds from  
10 the sale shall be appropriated to future capital construction projects.

11 Sec. 19. 29 V.S.A. § 152 is amended to read:

12 § 152. DUTIES OF COMMISSIONER

13 (a) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services, in addition to the  
14 duties expressly set forth elsewhere by law, shall have the authority to:

15 \* \* \*

16 (3) Prepare or cause to be prepared plans and specifications for  
17 construction and repair on all State-owned buildings:

18 \* \* \*

19 (B) For which no specific appropriations have been made by the  
20 General Assembly or the Emergency Board. The Commissioner may, with the  
21 approval of the Secretary of Administration, acquire an option, ~~for a price not~~

1 ~~to exceed \$75,000.00~~, on an individual property without prior legislative  
2 approval, for a price not to exceed five percent of the listed sale price of the  
3 property, provided the option contains a provision stating that purchase of the  
4 property shall occur only upon the approval of the General Assembly and the  
5 appropriation of funds for this purpose. The State Treasurer is authorized to  
6 advance a sum not to exceed ~~\$75,000.00~~ five percent of the listed sale price of  
7 the property, upon warrants drawn by the Commissioner of Finance and  
8 Management for the purpose of purchasing an option on a property pursuant to  
9 this subdivision.

10 \* \* \*

11 (19) Transfer any unexpended project balances between projects that are  
12 authorized within the same section of ~~an annual~~ a biennial capital construction  
13 act.

14 (20) Transfer any unexpended project balances between projects that are  
15 authorized within different capital construction acts, with the approval of the  
16 Secretary of Administration, when the unexpended project balance does not  
17 exceed ~~\$100,000.00~~ \$200,000.00, or with the additional approval of the  
18 Emergency Board when such balance exceeds ~~\$100,000.00~~ \$200,000.00.

19 \* \* \*

20 (22) Use the contingency fund appropriation to cover shortfalls for any  
21 project approved in any capital construction act; however, transfers from the

1 contingency in excess of ~~\$50,000.00~~ \$100,000.00 shall be done with the  
2 approval of the Secretary of Administration.

3 \* \* \*

4 Sec. 20. 29 V.S.A. § 166 is amended to read:

5 § 166. SELLING OR RENTING STATE PROPERTY

6 \* \* \*

7 (b)(1) Upon authorization by the General Assembly, which may be granted  
8 by resolution, and with the advice and consent of the Governor, the  
9 Commissioner of Buildings and General Services may sell real estate owned  
10 by the State. ~~Such~~ The property shall be sold to the highest bidder ~~therefor~~ at  
11 public auction or upon sealed bids ~~in~~ at the discretion of the Commissioner of  
12 Buildings and General Services, who may reject any or all bids, or the  
13 Commissioner is authorized to list the sale of property with a real estate agent  
14 licensed by the State. In no event shall the property be sold for less than fair  
15 market value as determined by the Commissioner in consultation with an  
16 independent real estate broker or appraiser, or both, retained by the  
17 Commissioner, unless otherwise authorized by the General Assembly.

18 \* \* \*

1 Sec. 21. SOUTHEAST STATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY; POTENTIAL  
2 LAND TRANSFER; REPORT

3 (a) The Department of Fish and Wildlife, in consultation with the  
4 Department of Buildings and General Services, shall evaluate the potential  
5 transfer of a portion of the former Southeast State Correctional Facility  
6 property to the Department of Fish and Wildlife for inclusion in the adjacent  
7 wildlife management area. The evaluation shall:

8 (1) delineate the portions of the former Southeast State Correctional  
9 Facility property that could be used for future redevelopment of the site, taking  
10 into account any necessary setbacks from wetlands, streams, or wildlife  
11 habitat;

12 (2) identify any portions of the property that could be transferred into  
13 the adjacent wildlife management area and potential impacts on the  
14 redevelopment or sale of the property from the transfer of the identified  
15 portions; and

16 (3) identify any rights of way or easements that will be necessary for the  
17 potential future redevelopment of any retained portion of the property.

18 (b) On or before January 15, 2025, the Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife  
19 and the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services shall report to the  
20 House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committee

1 on Institutions regarding the evaluation and any legislative action that may be  
2 necessary to facilitate a proposed transfer or redevelopment of the property.

3 Sec. 21a. SOUTHERN STATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY; TRANSFER  
4 OF PARCEL

5 (a) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services is authorized to  
6 transfer to the Town of Springfield a portion of the Southern State Correctional  
7 Facility Property consisting of approximately 10 acres to be used as the  
8 location of a new Town garage.

9 (b) The transfer shall be contingent on:

10 (1) the State obtaining State and local zoning and subdivision approvals  
11 that are necessary for the transfer; and

12 (2) the negotiation of an agreement between the State and the Town of  
13 Springfield regarding the maintenance and upkeep of the access road and the  
14 water and sewer service lines for the Correctional Facility and the transferred  
15 parcel.

16 (c) The transferred parcel shall not include any brownfields on the  
17 Southern State Correctional Facility Property.

18 (d) In the event the Town does not utilize the transferred parcel for a new  
19 Town garage, the Town shall consult with the Commissioner of Buildings and  
20 General Services regarding any proposed alternative uses of the parcel.

1       (e) The transfer authority provided pursuant to this section shall expire on  
2       July 1, 2027.

3       Sec. 22. FORENSIC FACILITY; NEEDS; REVIEW; REPORT

4       (a) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services, in consultation  
5       with the Commissioners of Mental Health and of Disabilities, Aging, and  
6       Independent Living, shall review the programming needs and facility  
7       requirements of individuals who will be housed in a proposed forensic facility.  
8       The review shall be performed during fiscal year 2025 using funds from the  
9       Department of Buildings and General Service's base appropriation as the  
10       Commissioner determines to be appropriate. The Commissioner shall report,  
11       on or before February 1, 2025, to the Senate Committees on Appropriations  
12       and on Institutions and to the House Committees on Appropriations and on  
13       Corrections and Institutions regarding the findings of the review.

14       (b) It is the intent of the General Assembly that the fiscal year 2026 capital  
15       construction and State bonding act shall include funding for the design and  
16       development of the proposed forensic facility.

17       Sec. 22a. SOUTHEAST STATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY;

18               POTENTIAL REUSE BY STATE; INTENT

19       It is the intent of the General Assembly that the parcel on which the former  
20       Southeast State Correctional Facility was located shall not be sold unless the



1 State has determined that the site is not needed for use as the location for a  
2 State facility or other State purpose.

3 Sec. 23. DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES YOUTH

4 SHORT-TERM STABILIZATION AND TREATMENT CENTER;

5 LONG-TERM LEASE; AUTHORIZATION

6 Notwithstanding any provisions of 29 V.S.A. § 165(h) or 29 V.S.A.  
7 § 166(a) to the contrary, the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services  
8 is authorized to enter into a long-term ground lease agreement at a below-  
9 market rate for an initial term of not more than 20 years with not more than  
10 four five-year renewal options for the Department for Children and Families  
11 Youth Short Term Stabilization and Treatment Center. At the end of the term  
12 and any renewals, the ground lease shall terminate.

13 Sec. 24. CAPITOL COMPLEX FLOOD RECOVERY; SPECIAL

14 COMMITTEE

15 (a) The Special Committee on Capitol Complex Flood Recovery is  
16 established. The Special Committee shall comprise the Joint Fiscal Committee  
17 and the chairs of the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the  
18 Senate Committee on Institutions.

19 (b)(1) The Special Committee shall meet at the call of the chair of the Joint  
20 Fiscal Committee, in consultation with the chairs of the House Committee on  
21 Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committee on Institutions.

1           (2)(A) The Special Committee shall meet to review and recommend  
2 alterations to proposals and plans for Capitol Complex flood recovery.

3           (B) The Special Committee may, as necessary, grant approval to  
4 proposals and plans for Capitol Complex flood recovery.

5           (c) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services shall provide  
6 quarterly updates to the Special Committee on the planning process for Capitol  
7 Complex flood recovery.

8           (d) The Special Committee shall be entitled to per diem and expenses as  
9 provided in 2 V.S.A. § 23.

10       Sec. 25. STATE HOUSE; IMPROVEMENTS; DESIGN; SPECIAL  
11           COMMITTEE

12           (a)(1) To allow the Department of Buildings and General Services to begin  
13 the design development phase, it is the intent of the General Assembly to  
14 approve a schematic design plan for accessibility, life safety, and mechanical  
15 systems improvements to the State House identified in Scenario 1, as approved  
16 by the Joint Legislative Mangement Committee on December 15, 2023 and  
17 excluding any improvements that would impact committee rooms.

18           (2) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services shall provide  
19 the Special Committee established pursuant to subsection (b) of this section  
20 with a draft schematic design plan for the work identified pursuant to

1 subdivision (1) of this subsection on or before July 15, 2024 and a final  
2 schematic design plan on or before September 15, 2024.

3 (b)(1) A Special Committee to be called the Special Committee on State  
4 House Improvements consisting of the Joint Legislative Management  
5 Committee and the Chairs of the House Committee on Corrections and  
6 Institutions and the Senate Committee on Institutions is established.

7 (2) The Special Committee is authorized to meet to:

8 (A) review and recommend alterations to the draft schematic design  
9 to be submitted on or before July 15, 2024 as described in subsection (a) of this  
10 section at a regularly scheduled Joint Legislative Management Committee  
11 meeting; and

12 (B) review and approve the final schematic design to be submitted on  
13 or before September 15, 2024 as described in subsection (a) of this section at a  
14 regularly scheduled Joint Legislative Management Committee meeting.

15 (c) In making its decision, the Special Committee shall consider:

16 (1) how the design impacts the ability of the General Assembly to  
17 conduct legislative business;

18 (2) whether the design allows for public access to citizens;

19 (3) the financial consequences to the State of approval or disapproval of  
20 the proposal; and

21 (4) whether any potential alternatives are available.





1 the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate  
2 Committee on Institutions regarding progress in fulfilling the requirements of  
3 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 28 and subsection (a) of this section.

4 Sec. 28. POTENTIAL REUSE OF CHITTENDEN REGIONAL

5 CORRECTIONAL FACILITY SITE; FEASIBILITY; REPORT

6 (a) On or before December 15, 2025, the Commissioner of Buildings and  
7 General Services, in consultation with the Commissioner of Corrections, shall  
8 report to the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate  
9 Committees on Institutions and on Judiciary regarding the feasibility of  
10 utilizing the site of the Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility for a reentry  
11 facility for eligible justice-involved men following the construction of  
12 replacement facilities for justice-involved women.

13 (b) The report shall:

14 (1)(A) evaluate the condition and structure of the existing facility to  
15 determine if it can be repurposed as a reentry facility in a manner that supports  
16 the programmatic goals of the Department of Corrections using evidence-based  
17 principles for wellness environments for supporting trauma-informed practices;  
18 and

19 (B) if it can be repurposed as a reentry facility, the improvements and  
20 other work necessary to support the programmatic goals of the Department of  
21 Corrections using evidence-based principles for wellness environments for

1 supporting trauma-informed practices and the estimated cost of performing the  
2 work;

3 (2)(A) evaluate whether a new reentry facility could be constructed on  
4 the site following the demolition of some or all of the existing facility;

5 (B) identify potential designs for a newly constructed reentry facility  
6 at the site that supports the programmatic goals of the Department of  
7 Corrections using evidence-based principles for wellness environments for  
8 supporting trauma-informed practices; and

9 (C) identify any site work, improvements, and other work necessary  
10 to construct a new reentry facility on the site, including the cost of any such  
11 work; and

12 (3) if the existing facility cannot be repurposed as a reentry facility and a  
13 new reentry facility cannot be constructed on the site, identify other potential  
14 sites for a male reentry facility that are near:

15 (A) support services, programming, and work opportunities needed to  
16 facilitate successful reentry into the community; and

17 (B) existing or potential future public transit services.

18 (c) As used in this section, “reentry facility” means a facility at which  
19 incarcerated individuals prepare to transition back into the community  
20 following release. Reentry facilities provide services, or enable incarcerated  
21 individuals to obtain services, that will facilitate the transition back into the

1 community, including career and housing supports, vocational education, job  
2 placement, mental health counseling, substance use disorder treatment or  
3 recovery services, financial education, assistance with obtaining public  
4 benefits, and other similar services.

5 (d) It is the intent of the General Assembly that the fiscal year 2026 capital  
6 construction and State bonding act shall include funding for the preparation of  
7 the report required pursuant to this section.

8 \* \* \* Judiciary \* \* \*

9 Sec. 29. BARRE; WASHINGTON COUNTY SUPERIOR COURTHOUSE;  
10 LAND ACQUISITION; AUTHORIZATION; COMMUNICATION  
11 WITH CITY

12 (a) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services, in consultation  
13 with the Judiciary, is authorized to use the amounts appropriated in 2023 Acts  
14 and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 18(c)(11) and (d)(4) to purchase land as needed to  
15 renovate or replace the Washington County Superior Courthouse.

16 (b) The Commissioner shall:

17 (1) consult with the City of Barre on potential options for renovating or  
18 replacing the Washington County Superior Courthouse in Barre; and

19 (2) provide updates to the City on progress made with respect to  
20 renovating or replacing the Courthouse.



1 Sec. 30. WHITE RIVER JUNCTION; WINDSOR COUNTY SUPERIOR  
2 COURTHOUSE; TEMPORARY RELOCATION OF EMPLOYEES

3 It is the intent of the General Assembly that following completion of the  
4 renovations to the Windsor County Superior Courthouse in White River  
5 Junction, the offices of the Windsor County State's Attorney shall be relocated  
6 to the leased office space at 55 Railroad Row that is being used as temporary  
7 office space for Courthouse employees during the renovation.

8 \* \* \* Effective Date \* \* \*

9 Sec. 31. EFFECTIVE DATE

10 This act shall take effect on passage.