

ADDENDUM

TO THE

SENATE CALENDAR

OF

WEDNESDAY

May 8, 2024

COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE REPORT

H. 883.

**An act relating to making appropriations for the
support of government.**

COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE REPORT

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TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

The Committee of Conference to which were referred the disagreeing votes of the two Houses upon Bill entitled:

H. 883. An act relating to making appropriations for the support of government.

Respectfully reports that it has met and considered the same and recommends that the Senate recede from its proposal of amendment and that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

* * * 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:

<u>B.100–B.199 and E.100–E.199</u>	<u>General Government</u>
<u>B.200–B.299 and E.200–E.299</u>	<u>Protection to Persons and Property</u>
<u>B.300–B.399 and E.300–E.399</u>	<u>Human Services</u>
<u>B.400–B.499 and E.400–E.499</u>	<u>Labor</u>
<u>B.500–B.599 and E.500–E.599</u>	<u>General Education</u>
<u>B.600–B.699 and E.600–E.699</u>	<u>Higher Education</u>
<u>B.700–B.799 and E.700–E.799</u>	<u>Natural Resources</u>

<u>B.800–B.899 and E.800–E.899</u>	<u>Commerce and Community Development</u>
<u>B.900–B.999 and E.900–E.999</u>	<u>Transportation</u>
<u>B.1000–B.1099 and E.1000–E.1099</u>	<u>Debt Service</u>
<u>B.1100–B.1199 and E.1100–E.1199</u>	<u>One-time and other appropriation actions</u>

(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

Personal services	3,624,952
Operating expenses	185,657
Grants	<u>25,000</u>
Total	3,835,609
Source of funds	
General fund	2,449,890
Special funds	25,000
Internal service funds	437,265
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>923,454</u>
Total	3,835,609

Sec. B.101 Secretary of administration - finance

Personal services	1,414,180
Operating expenses	<u>160,916</u>
Total	1,575,096
Source of funds	
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,575,096</u>
Total	1,575,096

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

Personal services	894,261
Operating expenses	<u>90,822</u>
Total	985,083
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>985,083</u>
Total	985,083

Sec. B.103 Secretary of administration - general liability insurance	
Personal services	567,817
Operating expenses	<u>59,472</u>
Total	627,289
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>627,289</u>
Total	627,289
Sec. B.104 Secretary of administration - all other insurance	
Personal services	275,025
Operating expenses	<u>48,667</u>
Total	323,692
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>323,692</u>
Total	323,692
Sec. B.105 Agency of digital services - communications and information technology	
Personal services	82,994,362
Operating expenses	<u>62,547,212</u>
Total	145,541,574
Source of funds	
General fund	209,808
Special funds	511,723
Internal service funds	<u>144,820,043</u>
Total	145,541,574
Sec. B.106 Finance and management - budget and management	
Personal services	1,526,943
Operating expenses	<u>332,906</u>
Total	1,859,849
Source of funds	
General fund	1,183,688
Internal service funds	666,328
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>9,833</u>
Total	1,859,849
Sec. B.107 Finance and management - financial operations	
Personal services	2,753,093
Operating expenses	<u>887,167</u>
Total	3,640,260
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	3,499,357
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>140,903</u>
Total	3,640,260

Sec. B.108 Human resources - operations	
Personal services	11,174,144
Operating expenses	<u>1,533,893</u>
Total	12,708,037
Source of funds	
General fund	1,835,968
Special funds	242,235
Internal service funds	10,105,741
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>524,093</u>
Total	12,708,037
Sec. B.108.1 Human resources - VTNR operations	
Personal services	2,001,756
Operating expenses	<u>897,472</u>
Total	2,899,228
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>2,899,228</u>
Total	2,899,228
Sec. B.109 Human resources - employee benefits & wellness	
Personal services	1,219,976
Operating expenses	<u>656,818</u>
Total	1,876,794
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>1,876,794</u>
Total	1,876,794
Sec. B.110 Libraries	
Personal services	2,608,231
Operating expenses	987,312
Grants	<u>272,701</u>
Total	3,868,244
Source of funds	
General fund	2,151,812
Special funds	130,971
Federal funds	1,467,374
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>118,087</u>
Total	3,868,244
Sec. B.111 Tax - administration/collection	
Personal services	28,375,591
Operating expenses	<u>6,868,137</u>
Total	35,243,728

Source of funds	
General fund	23,248,019
Special funds	11,880,709
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>115,000</u>
Total	35,243,728
Sec. B.112 Buildings and general services - administration	
Personal services	1,070,354
Operating expenses	<u>229,587</u>
Total	1,299,941
Source of funds	
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,299,941</u>
Total	1,299,941
Sec. B.113 Buildings and general services - engineering	
Personal services	18,881
Operating expenses	<u>1,271,574</u>
Total	1,290,455
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>1,290,455</u>
Total	1,290,455
Sec. B.113.1 Buildings and General Services Engineering - Capital Projects	
Personal services	2,973,306
Operating expenses	<u>500,000</u>
Total	3,473,306
Source of funds	
General fund	2,973,306
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>500,000</u>
Total	3,473,306
Sec. B.114 Buildings and general services - information centers	
Personal services	3,585,324
Operating expenses	<u>1,919,853</u>
Total	5,505,177
Source of funds	
General fund	688,453
Transportation fund	4,292,149
Special funds	<u>524,575</u>
Total	5,505,177
Sec. B.115 Buildings and general services - purchasing	
Personal services	2,462,542
Operating expenses	<u>245,613</u>
Total	2,708,155

Source of funds	
General fund	1,568,464
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,139,691</u>
Total	2,708,155
Sec. B.116 Buildings and general services - postal services	
Personal services	826,840
Operating expenses	<u>177,446</u>
Total	1,004,286
Source of funds	
General fund	90,941
Internal service funds	<u>913,345</u>
Total	1,004,286
Sec. B.117 Buildings and general services - copy center	
Personal services	902,844
Operating expenses	<u>237,416</u>
Total	1,140,260
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>1,140,260</u>
Total	1,140,260
Sec. B.118 Buildings and general services - fleet management services	
Personal services	915,232
Operating expenses	<u>251,755</u>
Total	1,166,987
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>1,166,987</u>
Total	1,166,987
Sec. B.119 Buildings and general services - federal surplus property	
Operating expenses	<u>4,298</u>
Total	4,298
Source of funds	
Enterprise funds	<u>4,298</u>
Total	4,298
Sec. B.120 Buildings and general services - state surplus property	
Personal services	375,218
Operating expenses	<u>149,871</u>
Total	525,089
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>525,089</u>
Total	525,089

Sec. B.121 Buildings and general services - property management	
Personal services	1,471,106
Operating expenses	<u>652,847</u>
Total	2,123,953
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>2,123,953</u>
Total	2,123,953
Sec. B.122 Buildings and general services - fee for space	
Personal services	20,361,714
Operating expenses	<u>17,940,900</u>
Total	38,302,614
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	38,214,088
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>88,526</u>
Total	38,302,614
Sec. B.124 Executive office - governor's office	
Personal services	1,621,889
Operating expenses	<u>529,815</u>
Total	2,151,704
Source of funds	
General fund	1,896,299
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>255,405</u>
Total	2,151,704
Sec. B.125 Legislative counsel	
Personal services	3,906,667
Operating expenses	<u>291,399</u>
Total	4,198,066
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>4,198,066</u>
Total	4,198,066
Sec. B.126 Legislature	
Personal services	6,531,132
Operating expenses	<u>4,934,310</u>
Total	11,465,442
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>11,465,442</u>
Total	11,465,442

Sec. B.126.1 Legislative information technology	
Personal services	1,433,677
Operating expenses	<u>807,537</u>
Total	2,241,214
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>2,241,214</u>
Total	2,241,214
Sec. B.127 Joint fiscal committee	
Personal services	2,661,816
Operating expenses	<u>197,363</u>
Total	2,859,179
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>2,859,179</u>
Total	2,859,179
Sec. B.128 Sergeant at arms	
Personal services	1,501,807
Operating expenses	<u>161,697</u>
Total	1,663,504
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>1,663,504</u>
Total	1,663,504
Sec. B.129 Lieutenant governor	
Personal services	273,359
Operating expenses	<u>48,050</u>
Total	321,409
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>321,409</u>
Total	321,409
Sec. B.130 Auditor of accounts	
Personal services	4,397,652
Operating expenses	<u>140,540</u>
Total	4,538,192
Source of funds	
General fund	383,992
Special funds	53,145
Internal service funds	<u>4,101,055</u>
Total	4,538,192

Sec. B.131 State treasurer	
Personal services	6,021,504
Operating expenses	<u>305,404</u>
Total	6,326,908
Source of funds	
General fund	2,233,091
Special funds	3,783,849
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>309,968</u>
Total	6,326,908
Sec. B.132 State treasurer - unclaimed property	
Personal services	814,215
Operating expenses	<u>514,990</u>
Total	1,329,205
Source of funds	
Private purpose trust funds	<u>1,329,205</u>
Total	1,329,205
Sec. B.133 Vermont state retirement system	
Personal services	213,238
Operating expenses	<u>2,849,942</u>
Total	3,063,180
Source of funds	
Pension trust funds	<u>3,063,180</u>
Total	3,063,180
Sec. B.134 Municipal employees' retirement system	
Personal services	237,966
Operating expenses	<u>1,499,159</u>
Total	1,737,125
Source of funds	
Pension trust funds	<u>1,737,125</u>
Total	1,737,125
Sec. B.134.1 Vermont Pension Investment Commission	
Personal services	2,154,707
Operating expenses	<u>294,507</u>
Total	2,449,214
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>2,449,214</u>
Total	2,449,214

Sec. B.135 State labor relations board	
Personal services	290,593
Operating expenses	<u>48,629</u>
Total	339,222
Source of funds	
General fund	329,646
Special funds	6,788
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>2,788</u>
Total	339,222
Sec. B.136 VOSHA review board	
Personal services	98,853
Operating expenses	<u>25,115</u>
Total	123,968
Source of funds	
General fund	72,964
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>51,004</u>
Total	123,968
Sec. B.136.1 Ethics Commission	
Personal services	171,374
Operating expenses	<u>38,979</u>
Total	210,353
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>210,353</u>
Total	210,353
Sec. B.137 Homeowner rebate	
Grants	<u>19,100,000</u>
Total	19,100,000
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>19,100,000</u>
Total	19,100,000
Sec. B.138 Renter rebate	
Grants	<u>9,500,000</u>
Total	9,500,000
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>9,500,000</u>
Total	9,500,000
Sec. B.139 Tax department - reappraisal and listing payments	
Grants	<u>3,400,000</u>
Total	3,400,000

Source of funds	
General fund	<u>3,400,000</u>
Total	3,400,000
Sec. B.140 Municipal current use	
Grants	<u>20,050,000</u>
Total	20,050,000
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>20,050,000</u>
Total	20,050,000
Sec. B.142 Payments in lieu of taxes	
Grants	<u>12,050,000</u>
Total	12,050,000
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>12,050,000</u>
Total	12,050,000
Sec. B.143 Payments in lieu of taxes - Montpelier	
Grants	<u>184,000</u>
Total	184,000
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>184,000</u>
Total	184,000
Sec. B.144 Payments in lieu of taxes - correctional facilities	
Grants	<u>40,000</u>
Total	40,000
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>40,000</u>
Total	40,000
Sec. B.145 Total general government	
Source of funds	
General fund	117,405,610
Transportation fund	4,292,149
Special funds	31,882,209
Federal funds	1,467,374
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	<u>1,329,205</u>
Total	382,870,889

Sec. B.200 Attorney general	
Personal services	14,435,517
Operating expenses	2,015,028
Grants	<u>20,000</u>
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	<u>4,558,245</u>
Total	16,470,545
Sec. B.201 Vermont court diversion	
Personal services	1,250
Grants	<u>3,526,258</u>
Total	3,527,508
Source of funds	
General fund	3,269,511
Special funds	<u>257,997</u>
Total	3,527,508
Sec. B.202 Defender general - public defense	
Personal services	17,745,612
Operating expenses	<u>1,393,866</u>
Total	19,139,478
Source of funds	
General fund	18,399,825
Special funds	589,653
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>150,000</u>
Total	19,139,478
Sec. B.203 Defender general - assigned counsel	
Personal services	7,654,274
Operating expenses	<u>49,500</u>
Total	7,703,774
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>7,703,774</u>
Total	7,703,774
Sec. B.204 Judiciary	
Personal services	58,439,095
Operating expenses	12,479,384
Grants	<u>121,030</u>
Total	71,039,509

Source of funds	
General fund	63,414,698
Special funds	4,503,401
Federal funds	953,928
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>2,167,482</u>
Total	71,039,509
Sec. B.205 State's attorneys	
Personal services	17,309,679
Operating expenses	<u>2,034,016</u>
Total	19,343,695
Source of funds	
General fund	18,734,634
Federal funds	31,000
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>578,061</u>
Total	19,343,695
Sec. B.206 Special investigative unit	
Personal services	66,237
Operating expenses	24,295
Grants	<u>2,140,047</u>
Total	2,230,579
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>2,230,579</u>
Total	2,230,579
Sec. B.206.1 Crime Victims Advocates	
Personal services	3,016,156
Operating expenses	<u>104,396</u>
Total	3,120,552
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>3,120,552</u>
Total	3,120,552
Sec. B.207 Sheriffs	
Personal services	5,067,726
Operating expenses	<u>405,868</u>
Total	5,473,594
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>5,473,594</u>
Total	5,473,594
Sec. B.208 Public safety - administration	
Personal services	4,620,756
Operating expenses	<u>6,022,923</u>
Total	10,643,679

Source of funds	
General fund	6,179,193
Special funds	4,105
Federal funds	396,362
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>4,064,019</u>
Total	10,643,679
Sec. B.209 Public safety - state police	
Personal services	74,755,468
Operating expenses	15,992,094
Grants	<u>1,137,841</u>
Total	91,885,403
Source of funds	
General fund	57,891,409
Transportation fund	20,250,000
Special funds	3,170,328
Federal funds	8,967,252
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,606,414</u>
Total	91,885,403
Sec. B.210 Public safety - criminal justice services	
Personal services	5,387,100
Operating expenses	<u>2,152,467</u>
Total	7,539,567
Source of funds	
General fund	1,829,099
Special funds	4,975,847
Federal funds	<u>734,621</u>
Total	7,539,567
Sec. B.211 Public safety - emergency management	
Personal services	5,420,245
Operating expenses	1,326,624
Grants	<u>41,392,759</u>
Total	48,139,628
Source of funds	
General fund	940,339
Special funds	710,000
Federal funds	46,427,309
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>61,980</u>
Total	48,139,628

Sec. B.212 Public safety - fire safety	
Personal services	9,384,147
Operating expenses	3,412,948
Grants	<u>107,000</u>
Total	12,904,095
Source of funds	
General fund	1,586,884
Special funds	10,093,736
Federal funds	1,178,475
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>45,000</u>
Total	12,904,095
Sec. B.213 Public safety - Forensic Laboratory	
Personal services	3,842,354
Operating expenses	<u>1,095,166</u>
Total	4,937,520
Source of funds	
General fund	3,768,566
Special funds	75,572
Federal funds	557,339
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>536,043</u>
Total	4,937,520
Sec. B.215 Military - administration	
Personal services	1,056,147
Operating expenses	776,352
Grants	<u>1,319,834</u>
Total	3,152,333
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>3,152,333</u>
Total	3,152,333
Sec. B.216 Military - air service contract	
Personal services	10,499,846
Operating expenses	<u>1,504,451</u>
Total	12,004,297
Source of funds	
General fund	775,259
Federal funds	<u>11,229,038</u>
Total	12,004,297
Sec. B.217 Military - army service contract	
Personal services	45,473,792
Operating expenses	<u>8,181,836</u>
Total	53,655,628

Source of funds	
Federal funds	<u>53,655,628</u>
Total	53,655,628
Sec. B.218 Military - building maintenance	
Personal services	827,320
Operating expenses	<u>1,008,123</u>
Total	1,835,443
Source of funds	
General fund	1,772,943
Special funds	<u>62,500</u>
Total	1,835,443
Sec. B.219 Military - veterans' affairs	
Personal services	1,211,819
Operating expenses	176,383
Grants	<u>28,500</u>
Total	1,416,702
Source of funds	
General fund	1,096,505
Special funds	209,092
Federal funds	<u>111,105</u>
Total	1,416,702
Sec. B.220 Center for crime victim services	
Personal services	2,061,261
Operating expenses	391,491
Grants	<u>9,908,464</u>
Total	12,361,216
Source of funds	
General fund	1,601,998
Special funds	4,015,490
Federal funds	<u>6,743,728</u>
Total	12,361,216
Sec. B.221 Criminal justice council	
Personal services	2,356,811
Operating expenses	<u>1,821,496</u>
Total	4,178,307
Source of funds	
General fund	3,835,126
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>343,181</u>
Total	4,178,307

Sec. B.222 Agriculture, food and markets - administration	
Personal services	3,057,449
Operating expenses	<u>346,294</u>
Total	3,403,743
Source of funds	
General fund	1,393,366
Special funds	1,432,323
Federal funds	<u>578,054</u>
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	<u>2,780,000</u>
Total	9,129,474
Source of funds	
General fund	3,400,278
Special funds	4,020,618
Federal funds	1,696,578
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>12,000</u>
Total	9,129,474
Sec. B.224 Agriculture, food and markets - agricultural development	
Personal services	4,265,067
Operating expenses	734,947
Grants	<u>15,307,498</u>
Total	20,307,512
Source of funds	
General fund	3,077,928
Special funds	644,363
Federal funds	<u>16,585,221</u>
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	<u>212,000</u>
Total	3,763,640
Source of funds	
General fund	824,794
Special funds	2,242,158
Federal funds	343,452
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>353,236</u>
Total	3,763,640

Sec. B.225.1 Agriculture, food and markets - Vermont Agriculture and Environmental Lab

Personal services	1,822,983
Operating expenses	<u>1,438,533</u>
Total	3,261,516
Source of funds	
General fund	1,602,665
Special funds	1,591,189
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>67,662</u>
Total	3,261,516

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

Personal services	3,815,695
Operating expenses	745,519
Grants	<u>11,147,000</u>
Total	15,708,214
Source of funds	
General fund	1,817,135
Special funds	10,528,782
Federal funds	2,169,174
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,193,123</u>
Total	15,708,214

Sec. B.226 Financial regulation - administration

Personal services	2,726,198
Operating expenses	159,635
Grants	<u>100,000</u>
Total	2,985,833
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>2,985,833</u>
Total	2,985,833

Sec. B.227 Financial regulation - banking

Personal services	2,400,645
Operating expenses	<u>473,873</u>
Total	2,874,518
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>2,874,518</u>
Total	2,874,518

Sec. B.228 Financial regulation - insurance

Personal services	5,028,218
Operating expenses	<u>556,622</u>
Total	5,584,840

Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>5,584,840</u>
Total	5,584,840
Sec. B.229 Financial regulation - captive insurance	
Personal services	5,723,322
Operating expenses	<u>652,707</u>
Total	6,376,029
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>6,376,029</u>
Total	6,376,029
Sec. B.230 Financial regulation - securities	
Personal services	1,269,574
Operating expenses	<u>241,157</u>
Total	1,510,731
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>1,510,731</u>
Total	1,510,731
Sec. B.232 Secretary of state	
Personal services	22,592,899
Operating expenses	4,345,999
Grants	<u>1,000,000</u>
Total	27,938,898
Source of funds	
General fund	1,000,000
Special funds	19,922,486
Federal funds	<u>7,016,412</u>
Total	27,938,898
Sec. B.233 Public service - regulation and energy	
Personal services	10,861,325
Operating expenses	1,405,907
Grants	<u>28,300</u>
Total	12,295,532
Source of funds	
Special funds	11,060,542
Federal funds	992,781
Interdepartmental transfers	225,423
Enterprise funds	<u>16,786</u>
Total	12,295,532

Sec. B.233.1 VT Community Broadband Board	
Personal services	1,609,379
Operating expenses	269,690
Grants	<u>150,000</u>
Total	2,029,069
Source of funds	
Special funds	1,269,289
Federal funds	<u>759,780</u>
Total	2,029,069
Sec. B.234 Public utility commission	
Personal services	5,052,403
Operating expenses	<u>617,149</u>
Total	5,669,552
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>5,669,552</u>
Total	5,669,552
Sec. B.235 Enhanced 9-1-1 Board	
Personal services	4,429,219
Operating expenses	<u>471,441</u>
Total	4,900,660
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>4,900,660</u>
Total	4,900,660
Sec. B.236 Human rights commission	
Personal services	927,697
Operating expenses	<u>115,103</u>
Total	1,042,800
Source of funds	
General fund	953,800
Federal funds	<u>89,000</u>
Total	1,042,800
Sec. B.236.1 Liquor & Lottery Comm. Office	
Personal services	9,831,453
Operating expenses	<u>5,667,447</u>
Total	15,498,900
Source of funds	
Special funds	125,000
Tobacco fund	250,579
Interdepartmental transfers	70,000
Enterprise funds	<u>15,053,321</u>
Total	15,498,900

Sec. B.240 Cannabis Control Board

Personal services	4,242,224
Operating expenses	<u>1,819,990</u>
Total	6,062,214
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>6,062,214</u>
Total	6,062,214

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	<u>15,070,107</u>
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	<u>3,795,202</u>
Total	27,235,434
Source of funds	
General fund	12,913,202
Special funds	135,517
Federal funds	13,565,080
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>621,635</u>
Total	27,235,434

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

Grants	<u>2,039,512,911</u>
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	<u>4,487,210</u>
Total	2,039,512,911

Sec. B.303 Developmental disabilities council	
Personal services	479,072
Operating expenses	95,765
Grants	<u>191,595</u>
Total	766,432
Source of funds	
Special funds	12,000
Federal funds	<u>754,432</u>
Total	766,432
Sec. B.304 Human services board	
Personal services	703,548
Operating expenses	<u>90,191</u>
Total	793,739
Source of funds	
General fund	486,165
Federal funds	<u>307,574</u>
Total	793,739
Sec. B.305 AHS - administrative fund	
Personal services	330,000
Operating expenses	<u>13,170,000</u>
Total	13,500,000
Source of funds	
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>13,500,000</u>
Total	13,500,000
Sec. B.306 Department of Vermont health access - administration	
Personal services	134,929,148
Operating expenses	44,171,193
Grants	<u>3,112,301</u>
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	<u>4,508,158</u>
Total	182,212,642
Sec. B.307 Department of Vermont health access - Medicaid program - global commitment	
Personal services	547,983
Grants	<u>899,550,794</u>
Total	900,098,777

Source of funds	
Global Commitment fund	<u>900,098,777</u>
Total	900,098,777
Sec. B.309 Department of Vermont health access - Medicaid program - state only	
Grants	<u>63,033,948</u>
Total	63,033,948
Source of funds	
General fund	62,151,546
Global Commitment fund	<u>882,402</u>
Total	63,033,948
Sec. B.310 Department of Vermont health access - Medicaid non-waiver matched	
Grants	<u>34,994,888</u>
Total	34,994,888
Source of funds	
General fund	12,511,405
Federal funds	<u>22,483,483</u>
Total	34,994,888
Sec. B.311 Health - administration and support	
Personal services	8,373,168
Operating expenses	7,519,722
Grants	<u>7,985,727</u>
Total	23,878,617
Source of funds	
General fund	3,189,843
Special funds	2,308,186
Federal funds	11,040,433
Global Commitment fund	7,173,924
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>166,231</u>
Total	23,878,617
Sec. B.312 Health - public health	
Personal services	67,812,371
Operating expenses	11,025,497
Grants	<u>46,766,832</u>
Total	125,604,700
Source of funds	
General fund	12,908,892
Special funds	24,906,804
Tobacco fund	1,088,918

Federal funds	64,038,301
Global Commitment fund	17,036,150
Interdepartmental transfers	5,600,635
Permanent trust funds	<u>25,000</u>
Total	125,604,700
Sec. B.313 Health - substance use programs	
Personal services	6,570,967
Operating expenses	511,500
Grants	<u>58,215,510</u>
Total	65,297,977
Source of funds	
General fund	6,672,061
Special funds	2,413,678
Tobacco fund	949,917
Federal funds	15,456,754
Global Commitment fund	<u>39,805,567</u>
Total	65,297,977
Sec. B.314 Mental health - mental health	
Personal services	50,191,086
Operating expenses	5,517,999
Grants	<u>270,625,138</u>
Total	326,334,223
Source of funds	
General fund	25,555,311
Special funds	1,718,092
Federal funds	11,436,913
Global Commitment fund	287,609,767
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>14,140</u>
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	<u>5,627,175</u>
Total	69,832,010
Source of funds	
General fund	39,722,724
Special funds	2,781,912
Federal funds	24,448,223
Global Commitment fund	2,417,024
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>462,127</u>
Total	69,832,010

Sec. B.317 Department for children and families - family services

Personal services	45,197,694
Operating expenses	5,315,309
Grants	<u>98,251,027</u>
Total	148,764,030
Source of funds	
General fund	58,838,741
Special funds	729,587
Federal funds	34,666,196
Global Commitment fund	54,514,506
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>15,000</u>
Total	148,764,030

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

Personal services	5,908,038
Operating expenses	813,321
Grants	<u>223,329,336</u>
Total	230,050,695
Source of funds	
General fund	76,723,518
Special funds	96,312,000
Federal funds	43,511,414
Global Commitment fund	<u>13,503,763</u>
Total	230,050,695

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

Personal services	13,157,660
Operating expenses	<u>3,759,992</u>
Total	16,917,652
Source of funds	
General fund	5,200,064
Special funds	455,719
Federal funds	10,874,269
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>387,600</u>
Total	16,917,652

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

Personal services	2,252,206
Grants	<u>10,717,444</u>
Total	12,969,650
Source of funds	
General fund	7,376,133
Global Commitment fund	<u>5,593,517</u>
Total	12,969,650

Sec. B.321 Department for children and families - general assistance	
Personal services	15,000
Grants	<u>11,054,252</u>
Total	11,069,252
Source of funds	
General fund	10,811,345
Federal funds	11,320
Global Commitment fund	<u>246,587</u>
Total	11,069,252
Sec. B.322 Department for children and families - 3SquaresVT	
Grants	<u>44,377,812</u>
Total	44,377,812
Source of funds	
Federal funds	<u>44,377,812</u>
Total	44,377,812
Sec. B.323 Department for children and families - reach up	
Operating expenses	23,821
Grants	<u>37,230,488</u>
Total	37,254,309
Source of funds	
General fund	24,733,042
Special funds	5,970,229
Federal funds	2,806,330
Global Commitment fund	<u>3,744,708</u>
Total	37,254,309
Sec. B.324 Department for children and families - home heating fuel assistance/LIHEAP	
Grants	<u>16,019,953</u>
Total	16,019,953
Source of funds	
Special funds	1,480,395
Federal funds	<u>14,539,558</u>
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	<u>35,466,283</u>
Total	36,383,719

Source of funds	
General fund	28,178,010
Special funds	83,135
Federal funds	4,935,273
Global Commitment fund	<u>3,187,301</u>
Total	36,383,719
Sec. B.326 Department for children and families - OEO - weatherization assistance	
Personal services	465,709
Operating expenses	248,905
Grants	<u>15,147,885</u>
Total	15,862,499
Source of funds	
Special funds	7,697,546
Federal funds	<u>8,164,953</u>
Total	15,862,499
Sec. B.327 Department for Children and Families - Secure Residential Treatment	
Personal services	258,100
Operating expenses	42,225
Grants	<u>3,476,862</u>
Total	3,777,187
Source of funds	
General fund	3,747,187
Global Commitment fund	<u>30,000</u>
Total	3,777,187
Sec. B.328 Department for children and families - disability determination services	
Personal services	7,860,410
Operating expenses	<u>488,354</u>
Total	8,348,764
Source of funds	
General fund	124,172
Federal funds	<u>8,224,592</u>
Total	8,348,764
Sec. B.329 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - administration & support	
Personal services	45,217,977
Operating expenses	<u>6,472,558</u>
Total	51,690,535

Source of funds	
General fund	22,916,281
Special funds	1,390,457
Federal funds	26,063,097
Global Commitment fund	35,000
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,285,700</u>
Total	51,690,535
Sec. B.330 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - advocacy and independent living grants	
Grants	<u>24,571,060</u>
Total	24,571,060
Source of funds	
General fund	8,392,303
Federal funds	7,321,114
Global Commitment fund	<u>8,857,643</u>
Total	24,571,060
Sec. B.331 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - blind and visually impaired	
Grants	<u>1,907,604</u>
Total	1,907,604
Source of funds	
General fund	489,154
Special funds	223,450
Federal funds	890,000
Global Commitment fund	<u>305,000</u>
Total	1,907,604
Sec. B.332 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - vocational rehabilitation	
Grants	<u>10,179,845</u>
Total	10,179,845
Source of funds	
General fund	1,371,845
Federal funds	7,558,000
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,250,000</u>
Total	10,179,845
Sec. B.333 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - developmental services	
Grants	<u>329,299,344</u>
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	<u>50,000</u>
Total	329,299,344
Sec. B.334 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - TBI home and community based waiver	
Grants	<u>6,845,005</u>
Total	6,845,005
Source of funds	
Global Commitment fund	<u>6,845,005</u>
Total	6,845,005
Sec. B.334.1 Disabilities, aging and independent living - Long Term Care	
Grants	<u>293,584,545</u>
Total	293,584,545
Source of funds	
General fund	498,579
Federal funds	2,450,000
Global Commitment fund	<u>290,635,966</u>
Total	293,584,545
Sec. B.335 Corrections - administration	
Personal services	5,025,978
Operating expenses	<u>266,783</u>
Total	5,292,761
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>5,292,761</u>
Total	5,292,761
Sec. B.336 Corrections - parole board	
Personal services	475,099
Operating expenses	<u>59,692</u>
Total	534,791
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>534,791</u>
Total	534,791
Sec. B.337 Corrections - correctional education	
Personal services	3,979,310
Operating expenses	<u>252,649</u>
Total	4,231,959
Source of funds	
General fund	4,082,899

Federal funds	276
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>148,784</u>
Total	4,231,959
Sec. B.338 Corrections - correctional services	
Personal services	147,472,104
Operating expenses	<u>24,914,205</u>
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	<u>396,315</u>
Total	172,386,309
Sec. B.338.1 Corrections - Justice Reinvestment II	
Grants	<u>11,055,849</u>
Total	11,055,849
Source of funds	
General fund	8,478,161
Federal funds	13,147
Global Commitment fund	<u>2,564,541</u>
Total	11,055,849
Sec. B.339 Corrections - Correctional services-out of state beds	
Personal services	<u>4,130,378</u>
Total	4,130,378
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>4,130,378</u>
Total	4,130,378
Sec. B.340 Corrections - correctional facilities - recreation	
Personal services	634,972
Operating expenses	<u>456,715</u>
Total	1,091,687
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>1,091,687</u>
Total	1,091,687
Sec. B.341 Corrections - Vermont offender work program	
Personal services	324,103
Operating expenses	<u>166,750</u>
Total	490,853

Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>490,853</u>
Total	490,853
Sec. B.342 Vermont veterans' home - care and support services	
Personal services	17,631,222
Operating expenses	<u>5,013,462</u>
Total	22,644,684
Source of funds	
General fund	4,320,687
Special funds	10,051,903
Federal funds	<u>8,272,094</u>
Total	22,644,684
Sec. B.343 Commission on women	
Personal services	398,669
Operating expenses	<u>93,837</u>
Total	492,506
Source of funds	
General fund	487,998
Special funds	<u>4,508</u>
Total	492,506
Sec. B.344 Retired senior volunteer program	
Grants	<u>160,155</u>
Total	160,155
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>160,155</u>
Total	160,155
Sec. B.345 Green Mountain Care Board	
Personal services	8,396,809
Operating expenses	<u>398,601</u>
Total	8,795,410
Source of funds	
General fund	3,494,109
Special funds	<u>5,301,301</u>
Total	8,795,410
Sec. B.346 Office of the Child, Youth, and Family Advocate	
Personal services	342,966
Operating expenses	<u>88,820</u>
Total	431,786
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>431,786</u>
Total	431,786

Sec. B.347 Total human services

Source of funds	
General fund	1,328,118,806
Special funds	202,800,452
Tobacco fund	23,088,208
State health care resources fund	28,053,557
ARPA State Fiscal	5,000,000
Federal funds	1,803,398,922
Global Commitment fund	1,980,839,553
Internal service funds	490,853
Interdepartmental transfers	32,893,535
Permanent trust funds	<u>25,000</u>
Total	5,404,708,886

Sec. B.400 Labor - programs

Personal services	39,963,839
Operating expenses	5,708,836
Grants	<u>9,199,639</u>
Total	54,872,314
Source of funds	
General fund	10,916,365
Special funds	9,407,107
Federal funds	34,261,616
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>287,226</u>
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	<u>287,226</u>
Total	54,872,314

Sec. B.500 Education - finance and administration

Personal services	22,086,664
Operating expenses	4,484,934
Grants	<u>14,770,700</u>
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	<u>505,297</u>
Total	41,342,298
Sec. B.501 Education - education services	
Personal services	28,237,700
Operating expenses	1,134,912
Grants	<u>322,345,763</u>
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	<u>962,474</u>
Total	351,718,375
Sec. B.502 Education - special education: formula grants	
Grants	<u>264,649,859</u>
Total	264,649,859
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>264,649,859</u>
Total	264,649,859
Sec. B.503 Education - state-placed students	
Grants	<u>20,000,000</u>
Total	20,000,000
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>20,000,000</u>
Total	20,000,000
Sec. B.504 Education - adult education and literacy	
Grants	<u>4,694,183</u>
Total	4,694,183
Source of funds	
General fund	3,778,133
Federal funds	<u>916,050</u>
Total	4,694,183
Sec. B.504.1 Education - Flexible Pathways	
Grants	<u>11,361,755</u>
Total	11,361,755
Source of funds	
General fund	921,500
Education fund	<u>10,440,255</u>
Total	11,361,755

Sec. B.505 Education - adjusted education payment	
Grants	<u>1,893,267,394</u>
Total	1,893,267,394
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>1,893,267,394</u>
Total	1,893,267,394
Sec. B.506 Education - transportation	
Grants	<u>25,306,000</u>
Total	25,306,000
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>25,306,000</u>
Total	25,306,000
Sec. B.507 Education - Merger Support Grants	
Grants	<u>1,800,000</u>
Total	1,800,000
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>1,800,000</u>
Total	1,800,000
Sec. B.507.1 Education - EL Categorical Aid	
Grants	<u>2,250,000</u>
Total	2,250,000
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>2,250,000</u>
Total	2,250,000
Sec. B.508 Education - nutrition	
Grants	<u>20,400,000</u>
Total	20,400,000
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>20,400,000</u>
Total	20,400,000
Sec. B.509 Education - Afterschool Grant Program	
Personal services	500,000
Grants	<u>3,500,000</u>
Total	4,000,000
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>4,000,000</u>
Total	4,000,000

Sec. B.510 Education - essential early education grant	
Grants	<u>8,725,587</u>
Total	8,725,587
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>8,725,587</u>
Total	8,725,587
Sec. B.511 Education - technical education	
Grants	<u>17,881,950</u>
Total	17,881,950
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>17,881,950</u>
Total	17,881,950
Sec. B.511.1 State Board of Education	
Personal services	54,208
Operating expenses	<u>16,500</u>
Total	70,708
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>70,708</u>
Total	70,708
Sec. B.513 Retired Teachers Pension Plus Funding	
Grants	<u>12,000,000</u>
Total	12,000,000
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>12,000,000</u>
Total	12,000,000
Sec. B.514 State teachers' retirement system	
Grants	<u>191,382,703</u>
Total	191,382,703
Source of funds	
General fund	155,384,035
Education fund	<u>35,998,668</u>
Total	191,382,703
Sec. B.514.1 State teachers' retirement system administration	
Personal services	349,979
Operating expenses	<u>3,222,801</u>
Total	3,572,780
Source of funds	
Pension trust funds	<u>3,572,780</u>
Total	3,572,780

Sec. B.515 Retired teachers' health care and medical benefits	
Grants	<u>62,107,644</u>
Total	62,107,644
Source of funds	
General fund	43,031,103
Education fund	<u>19,076,541</u>
Total	<u>62,107,644</u>
Sec. B.516 Total general education	
Source of funds	
General fund	228,890,519
Special funds	23,651,687
Tobacco fund	750,388
Education fund	2,323,283,242
Federal funds	354,654,849
Global Commitment fund	260,000
Interdepartmental transfers	1,467,771
Pension trust funds	<u>3,572,780</u>
Total	<u>2,936,531,236</u>
Sec. B.600 University of Vermont	
Grants	<u>55,706,897</u>
Total	55,706,897
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>55,706,897</u>
Total	<u>55,706,897</u>
Sec. B.602 Vermont state colleges	
Grants	<u>50,940,478</u>
Total	50,940,478
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>50,940,478</u>
Total	<u>50,940,478</u>
Sec. B.603 Vermont state colleges - allied health	
Grants	<u>1,788,434</u>
Total	1,788,434
Source of funds	
General fund	288,434
Global Commitment fund	<u>1,500,000</u>
Total	<u>1,788,434</u>

Sec. B.605 Vermont student assistance corporation	
Grants	<u>26,139,946</u>
Total	26,139,946
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>26,139,946</u>
Total	26,139,946
Sec. B.605.1 VSAC - Flexible Pathways Stipend	
Grants	<u>82,450</u>
Total	82,450
Source of funds	
General fund	41,225
Education fund	<u>41,225</u>
Total	82,450
Sec. B.606 New England higher education compact	
Grants	<u>86,520</u>
Total	86,520
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>86,520</u>
Total	86,520
Sec. B.607 University of Vermont - Morgan Horse Farm	
Grants	<u>1</u>
Total	1
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>1</u>
Total	1
Sec. B.608 Total higher education	
Source of funds	
General fund	133,203,501
Education fund	41,225
Global Commitment fund	<u>1,500,000</u>
Total	134,744,726
Sec. B.700 Natural resources - agency of natural resources - administration	
Personal services	6,006,412
Operating expenses	<u>1,475,166</u>
Total	7,481,578
Source of funds	
General fund	5,129,356
Special funds	775,079
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,577,143</u>
Total	7,481,578

Sec. B.701 Natural resources - state land local property tax assessment	
Operating expenses	<u>2,689,176</u>
Total	2,689,176
Source of funds	
General fund	2,267,676
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>421,500</u>
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	<u>853,066</u>
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	<u>1,490,597</u>
Total	30,294,005
Sec. B.703 Forests, parks and recreation - administration	
Personal services	1,347,215
Operating expenses	<u>1,658,662</u>
Total	3,005,877
Source of funds	
General fund	2,867,366
Special funds	<u>138,511</u>
Total	3,005,877
Sec. B.704 Forests, parks and recreation - forestry	
Personal services	7,880,566
Operating expenses	1,005,046
Grants	<u>1,712,423</u>
Total	10,598,035
Source of funds	
General fund	6,299,512
Special funds	547,215
Federal funds	3,394,931
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>356,377</u>
Total	10,598,035

Sec. B.705 Forests, parks and recreation - state parks

Personal services	13,641,062
Operating expenses	5,555,506
Grants	<u>50,000</u>
Total	19,246,568
Source of funds	
General fund	1,461,122
Special funds	<u>17,785,446</u>
Total	19,246,568

Sec. B.706 Forests, parks and recreation - lands administration and recreation

Personal services	3,209,865
Operating expenses	7,721,058
Grants	<u>3,729,759</u>
Total	14,660,682
Source of funds	
General fund	1,179,068
Special funds	2,283,759
Federal funds	10,802,370
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>395,485</u>
Total	14,660,682

Sec. B.708 Forests, parks and recreation - forest and parks access roads

Personal services	130,000
Operating expenses	<u>99,925</u>
Total	229,925
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>229,925</u>
Total	229,925

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

Personal services	9,202,579
Operating expenses	4,811,255
Grants	<u>122,735</u>
Total	14,136,569
Source of funds	
General fund	2,243,575
Special funds	794,867
Federal funds	2,164,711
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>8,933,416</u>
Total	14,136,569

Sec. B.710 Environmental conservation - air and waste management

Personal services	27,995,328
Operating expenses	10,788,954
Grants	<u>4,943,000</u>
Total	43,727,282
Source of funds	
General fund	199,372
Special funds	24,643,580
Federal funds	18,800,064
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>84,266</u>
Total	43,727,282

Sec. B.711 Environmental conservation - office of water programs

Personal services	50,153,806
Operating expenses	8,362,915
Grants	<u>92,365,140</u>
Total	150,881,861
Source of funds	
General fund	11,887,629
Special funds	30,967,150
Federal funds	107,154,542
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>872,540</u>
Total	150,881,861

Sec. B.713 Natural resources board

Personal services	3,313,829
Operating expenses	<u>421,198</u>
Total	3,735,027
Source of funds	
General fund	760,232
Special funds	<u>2,974,795</u>
Total	3,735,027

Sec. B.714 Total natural resources

Source of funds	
General fund	42,792,800
Special funds	81,275,829
Fish and wildlife fund	10,418,331
Federal funds	152,068,301
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>14,131,324</u>
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	<u>389,320</u>
Total	3,597,146
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>3,597,146</u>
Total	3,597,146

Sec. B.801 Economic development

Personal services	4,612,442
Operating expenses	1,215,603
Grants	<u>6,539,044</u>
Total	12,367,089
Source of funds	
General fund	5,701,138
Special funds	820,850
Federal funds	4,021,428
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,823,673</u>
Total	12,367,089

Sec. B.802 Housing and community development

Personal services	7,645,042
Operating expenses	910,983
Grants	<u>23,978,656</u>
Total	32,534,681
Source of funds	
General fund	5,365,841
Special funds	8,702,439
Federal funds	14,615,349
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>3,851,052</u>
Total	32,534,681

Sec. B.806 Tourism and marketing

Personal services	5,332,723
Operating expenses	6,090,577
Grants	<u>3,920,000</u>
Total	15,343,300
Source of funds	
General fund	4,785,247
Federal funds	10,483,053
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>75,000</u>
Total	15,343,300

Sec. B.808 Vermont council on the arts	
Grants	<u>973,848</u>
Total	973,848
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>973,848</u>
Total	973,848
Sec. B.809 Vermont symphony orchestra	
Grants	<u>149,680</u>
Total	149,680
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>149,680</u>
Total	149,680
Sec. B.810 Vermont historical society	
Grants	<u>1,135,640</u>
Total	1,135,640
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>1,135,640</u>
Total	1,135,640
Sec. B.811 Vermont housing and conservation board	
Grants	<u>82,283,351</u>
Total	82,283,351
Source of funds	
Special funds	25,607,155
Federal funds	<u>56,676,196</u>
Total	82,283,351
Sec. B.812 Vermont humanities council	
Grants	<u>309,000</u>
Total	309,000
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>309,000</u>
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	<u>5,749,725</u>
Total	148,693,735

Sec. B.900 Transportation - finance and administration	
Personal services	18,099,986
Operating expenses	6,108,609
Grants	<u>350,000</u>
Total	24,558,595
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	23,202,105
Federal funds	<u>1,356,490</u>
Total	24,558,595
Sec. B.901 Transportation - aviation	
Personal services	3,907,105
Operating expenses	17,194,905
Grants	<u>737,501</u>
Total	21,839,511
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	5,766,122
Federal funds	<u>16,073,389</u>
Total	21,839,511
Sec. B.902 Transportation - buildings	
Personal services	1,025,000
Operating expenses	<u>1,800,000</u>
Total	2,825,000
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	<u>2,825,000</u>
Total	2,825,000
Sec. B.903 Transportation - program development	
Personal services	82,232,854
Operating expenses	307,766,179
Grants	<u>30,605,814</u>
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	<u>4,224,314</u>
Total	420,604,847
Sec. B.904 Transportation - rest areas construction	
Personal services	300,000
Operating expenses	<u>1,185,601</u>
Total	1,485,601

Source of funds	
Transportation fund	148,560
Federal funds	<u>1,337,041</u>
Total	1,485,601
Sec. B.905 Transportation - maintenance state system	
Personal services	42,757,951
Operating expenses	<u>63,680,546</u>
Total	106,438,497
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	105,406,483
Federal funds	932,014
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>100,000</u>
Total	106,438,497
Sec. B.906 Transportation - policy and planning	
Personal services	4,108,918
Operating expenses	942,444
Grants	<u>9,000,491</u>
Total	14,051,853
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	3,137,901
Federal funds	10,797,449
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>116,503</u>
Total	14,051,853
Sec. B.906.1 Transportation - Environmental Policy and Sustainability	
Personal services	6,953,362
Operating expenses	1,176,411
Grants	<u>1,480,000</u>
Total	9,609,773
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	531,909
Federal funds	7,900,327
Local match	<u>1,177,537</u>
Total	9,609,773
Sec. B.907 Transportation - rail	
Personal services	5,734,768
Operating expenses	<u>43,012,063</u>
Total	48,746,831
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	15,690,849
Federal funds	30,641,237

Interdepartmental transfers	2,196,000
Local match	<u>218,745</u>
Total	48,746,831
Sec. B.908 Transportation - public transit	
Personal services	4,612,631
Operating expenses	119,894
Grants	<u>50,807,700</u>
Total	55,540,225
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	9,807,525
Federal funds	45,592,700
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>140,000</u>
Total	55,540,225
Sec. B.909 Transportation - central garage	
Personal services	5,480,920
Operating expenses	<u>18,070,315</u>
Total	23,551,235
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>23,551,235</u>
Total	23,551,235
Sec. B.910 Department of motor vehicles	
Personal services	33,713,124
Operating expenses	<u>13,549,772</u>
Total	47,262,896
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	44,454,119
Federal funds	2,687,081
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>121,696</u>
Total	47,262,896
Sec. B.911 Transportation - town highway structures	
Grants	<u>8,016,000</u>
Total	8,016,000
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	<u>8,016,000</u>
Total	8,016,000
Sec. B.912 Transportation - town highway local technical assistance program	
Personal services	449,763
Operating expenses	<u>31,689</u>
Total	481,452

Source of funds	
Transportation fund	121,452
Federal funds	<u>360,000</u>
Total	481,452
Sec. B.913 Transportation - town highway class 2 roadway	
Grants	<u>8,858,000</u>
Total	8,858,000
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	<u>8,858,000</u>
Total	8,858,000
Sec. B.914 Transportation - town highway bridges	
Personal services	12,185,000
Operating expenses	<u>33,149,278</u>
Total	45,334,278
Source of funds	
TIB fund	3,973,281
Federal funds	39,264,097
Local match	<u>2,096,900</u>
Total	45,334,278
Sec. B.915 Transportation - town highway aid program	
Grants	<u>29,532,753</u>
Total	29,532,753
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	<u>29,532,753</u>
Total	29,532,753
Sec. B.916 Transportation - town highway class 1 supplemental grants	
Grants	<u>128,750</u>
Total	128,750
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	<u>128,750</u>
Total	128,750
Sec. B.917 Transportation - town highway: state aid for nonfederal disasters	
Grants	<u>1,150,000</u>
Total	1,150,000
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	<u>1,150,000</u>
Total	1,150,000

Sec. B.918 Transportation - town highway: state aid for federal disasters	
Personal services	25,000
Grants	<u>155,000</u>
Total	180,000
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	20,000
Federal funds	<u>160,000</u>
Total	180,000
Sec. B.919 Transportation - municipal mitigation assistance program	
Personal services	125,000
Operating expenses	280,000
Grants	<u>6,738,000</u>
Total	7,143,000
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	715,000
Special funds	5,000,000
Federal funds	<u>1,428,000</u>
Total	7,143,000
Sec. B.920 Transportation - public assistance grant program	
Operating expenses	200,000
Grants	<u>1,050,000</u>
Total	1,250,000
Source of funds	
Special funds	50,000
Federal funds	1,000,000
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>200,000</u>
Total	1,250,000
Sec. B.921 Transportation board	
Personal services	176,315
Operating expenses	<u>23,782</u>
Total	200,097
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	<u>200,097</u>
Total	200,097
Sec. B.922 Total transportation	
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	325,557,772
TIB fund	18,700,000
Special funds	5,050,000
Federal funds	493,926,974

Internal service funds	23,551,235
Interdepartmental transfers	4,285,717
Local match	<u>7,717,496</u>
Total	878,789,194

Sec. B.1000 Debt service

Operating expenses	<u>675,000</u>
Total	675,000
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>675,000</u>
Total	675,000

Sec. B.1001 Total debt service

Source of funds	
General fund	<u>675,000</u>
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 (c)(20) 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

Personal services		5,670,999
Operating expenses		810,497
Grants	95,860,842	<u>85,860,842</u>
Total	102,342,338	<u>92,342,338</u>
Source of funds		
General fund	35,016,309	<u>25,016,309</u>
Special funds		16,745,000
Federal funds		37,419,258
Global Commitment fund		13,161,771
Total	102,342,338	<u>92,342,338</u>

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 ~~\$13,693,231~~ \$13,694,105 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~~ the individual's 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~~ the individual's 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~~ the individual's 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(e)(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 (e)(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 (e)(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~~ \$30,025,000 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~~ \$6,500,000 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.

(I) Criminal History Records Check Fund (#21130): \$107,277.

(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:

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

(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:

<u>3440892306</u>	<u>DCF – OEO – Home Weatherization</u>	
	<u>Assistance</u>	<u>\$5,000,000.00</u>

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.

(D) 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. 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. An~~ 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 ~~is~~ 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, ~~no~~ 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~~ \$1,750,000 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~~ \$250,000 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. Dinosaur 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. Dinosaur 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. Dinosaur 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.~~

~~(e) 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.

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

~~(i)~~(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 service 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~~ cover 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)~~(e) 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 residences certified by the Vermont Alliance for Recovery Residences, including at least two new recovery residences certified by the Vermont Alliance for Recovery Residences.

(b) It is the intent of the General Assembly that recovery residences 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~~ 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 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 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~~ 16 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~~ completes the diagnostic ~~portion~~ portions 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(1)(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 ~~allocated~~ 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~~ deposited 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 ~~Fund~~ 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:

	<u>Annual</u> <u>Salary</u> <u>as of</u> <u>July 3,</u> <u>2022</u>	<u>Annual</u> <u>Salary</u> <u>as of</u> <u>July 2,</u> <u>2023</u>	<u>Annual</u> <u>Salary</u> <u>as of</u> <u>July 14,</u> <u>2024</u>	<u>Annual</u> <u>Salary</u> <u>as of</u> <u>July 13,</u> <u>2025</u>
(1) Governor	\$201,150	\$208,995	\$222,371	\$234,379
(2) Lieutenant Governor	\$ 85,384	\$88,714	\$94,392	\$99,489
(3) Secretary of State	\$127,548	\$132,522	\$141,003	\$148,617
(4) State Treasurer	\$127,548	\$132,522	\$141,003	\$148,617
(5) Auditor of Accounts	\$127,548	\$132,522	\$141,003	\$148,617
(6) Attorney General	\$152,725	\$158,681	\$168,837	\$177,954

(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:

<u>Base</u> <u>Salary</u> <u>as of</u> <u>July 3,</u> <u>2022</u>	<u>Base</u> <u>Salary</u> <u>as of</u> <u>July 2,</u> <u>2023</u>	<u>Base</u> <u>Salary</u> <u>as of</u> <u>July 14,</u> <u>2024</u>	<u>Base</u> <u>Salary</u> <u>as of</u> <u>July 13,</u> <u>2025</u>
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(A) Administration	\$121,634	\$126,378	<u>\$134,466</u>	<u>\$141,727</u>
(B) Agriculture, Food and Markets	\$121,634	\$126,378	<u>\$134,466</u>	<u>\$141,727</u>
(C) Financial Regulation	\$113,710	\$118,145	<u>\$125,706</u>	<u>\$132,494</u>
(D) Buildings and General Services	\$113,710	\$118,145	<u>\$125,706</u>	<u>\$132,494</u>
(E) Children and Families	\$113,710	\$118,145	<u>\$125,706</u>	<u>\$132,494</u>
(F) Commerce and Community Development	\$121,634	\$126,378	<u>\$134,466</u>	<u>\$141,727</u>
(G) Corrections	\$113,710	\$118,145	<u>\$125,706</u>	<u>\$132,494</u>
(H) Defender General	\$113,710	\$118,145	<u>\$125,706</u>	<u>\$132,494</u>
(I) Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living	\$113,710	\$118,145	<u>\$125,706</u>	<u>\$132,494</u>
(J) Economic Development	\$103,149	\$107,172	<u>\$114,031</u>	<u>\$120,189</u>
(K) Education	\$121,634	\$126,378	<u>\$134,466</u>	<u>\$141,727</u>
(L) Environmental Conservation	\$113,710	\$118,145	<u>\$125,706</u>	<u>\$132,494</u>
(M) Finance and Management	\$113,710	\$118,145	<u>\$125,706</u>	<u>\$132,494</u>
(N) Fish and Wildlife	\$103,149	\$107,172	<u>\$114,031</u>	<u>\$120,189</u>
(O) Forests, Parks and Recreation	\$103,149	\$107,172	<u>\$114,031</u>	<u>\$120,189</u>
(P) Health	\$113,710	\$118,145	<u>\$125,706</u>	<u>\$132,494</u>
(Q) Housing and Community Development	\$103,149	\$107,172	<u>\$114,031</u>	<u>\$120,189</u>

(R) Human Resources	\$113,710	\$118,145	<u>\$125,706</u>	<u>\$132,494</u>
(S) Human Services	\$121,634	\$126,378	<u>\$134,466</u>	<u>\$141,727</u>
(T) Digital Services	\$121,634	\$126,378	<u>\$134,466</u>	<u>\$141,727</u>
(U) Labor	\$113,710	\$118,145	<u>\$125,706</u>	<u>\$132,494</u>
(V) Libraries	\$103,149	\$107,172	<u>\$114,031</u>	<u>\$120,189</u>
(W) Liquor and Lottery	\$103,149	\$107,172	<u>\$114,031</u>	<u>\$120,189</u>
(X) [Repealed.]				
(Y) Mental Health	\$113,710	\$118,145	<u>\$125,706</u>	<u>\$132,494</u>
(Z) Military	\$113,710	\$118,145	<u>\$125,706</u>	<u>\$132,494</u>
(AA) Motor Vehicles	\$103,149	\$107,172	<u>\$114,031</u>	<u>\$120,189</u>
(BB) Natural Resources	\$121,634	\$126,378	<u>\$134,466</u>	<u>\$141,727</u>
(CC) Natural Resources Board Chair	\$103,149	\$107,172	<u>\$114,031</u>	<u>\$120,189</u>
(DD) Public Safety	\$113,710	\$118,145	<u>\$125,706</u>	<u>\$132,494</u>
(EE) Public Service	\$113,710	\$118,145	<u>\$125,706</u>	<u>\$132,494</u>
(FF) Taxes	\$113,710	\$118,145	<u>\$125,706</u>	<u>\$132,494</u>
(GG) Tourism and Marketing	\$103,149	\$107,172	<u>\$114,031</u>	<u>\$120,189</u>
(HH) Transportation	\$121,634	\$126,378	<u>\$134,466</u>	<u>\$141,727</u>
(II) Vermont Health Access	\$113,710	\$118,145	<u>\$125,706</u>	<u>\$132,494</u>
(JJ) Veterans' Home	\$113,710	\$118,145	<u>\$125,706</u>	<u>\$132,494</u>

(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:

	<u>Annual Salary as of July 3, 2022</u>	<u>Annual Salary as of July 2, 2023</u>	<u>-Annual Salary as of July 14, 2024</u>	<u>Annual Salary as of July 13, 2025</u>
(1) Chief Justice of Supreme Court	\$193,600	\$201,150	<u>\$214,024</u>	<u>\$225,581</u>
(2) Each Associate Justice	\$184,771	\$191,977	<u>\$204,264</u>	<u>\$215,294</u>
(3) Administrative Judge	\$184,771	\$191,977	<u>\$204,264</u>	<u>\$215,294</u>
(4) Each Superior Judge	\$175,654	\$182,505	<u>\$194,185</u>	<u>\$204,671</u>
(5) [Repealed.]				
(6) Each Magistrate	\$132,441	\$137,606	<u>\$146,413</u>	<u>\$154,319</u>
(7) Each Judicial Bureau hearing officer	\$132,441	\$137,606	<u>\$146,413</u>	<u>\$154,319</u>

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:

	<u>Annual Salary as of July 3, 2022</u>	<u>Annual Salary as of July 2, 2023</u>	<u>Annual Salary as of July 14, 2024</u>	<u>Annual Salary as of July 13, 2025</u>
(1) Addison	\$69,249	\$71,950	\$76,555	\$80,689
(2) Bennington	\$87,541	\$90,955	\$96,776	\$102,002
(3) Caledonia	\$61,412	\$63,807	\$67,891	\$71,557
(4) Chittenden	\$146,093	\$151,791	\$161,506	\$170,227
(5) Essex	\$17,156	\$17,825	\$18,966	\$19,990
(6) Franklin	\$69,249	\$71,950	\$76,555	\$80,689
(7) Grand Isle	\$17,156	\$17,825	\$18,966	\$19,990
(8) Lamoille	\$48,343	\$50,228	\$53,443	\$56,329
(9) Orange	\$57,489	\$59,731	\$63,554	\$66,986
(10) Orleans	\$56,183	\$58,374	\$62,110	\$65,464
(11) Rutland	\$124,126	\$128,967	\$137,221	\$144,631
(12) Washington	\$95,379	\$99,099	\$105,441	\$111,135
(13) Windham	\$77,089	\$80,095	\$85,221	\$89,823
(14) Windsor	\$104,527	\$108,604	\$115,555	\$121,795

(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:

	<u>Annual Salary as of July 3, 2022</u>	<u>Annual Salary as of July 2, 2023</u>	<u>Annual Salary as of July 14, 2024</u>	<u>Annual Salary as of July 13, 2025</u>
(1) Addison County	\$127,265	\$132,228	<u>\$140,691</u>	<u>\$148,288</u>
(2) Bennington County	\$127,265	\$132,228	<u>\$140,691</u>	<u>\$148,288</u>
(3) Caledonia County	\$127,265	\$132,228	<u>\$140,691</u>	<u>\$148,288</u>
(4) Chittenden County	\$133,051	\$138,240	<u>\$147,087</u>	<u>\$155,030</u>
(5) Essex County	\$95,451	\$99,174	<u>\$105,521</u>	<u>\$111,219</u>
(6) Franklin County	\$127,265	\$132,228	<u>\$140,691</u>	<u>\$148,288</u>
(7) Grand Isle County	\$95,451	\$99,174	<u>\$105,521</u>	<u>\$111,219</u>
(8) Lamoille County	\$127,265	\$132,228	<u>\$140,691</u>	<u>\$148,288</u>
(9) Orange County	\$127,265	\$132,228	<u>\$140,691</u>	<u>\$148,288</u>

(10) Orleans County	\$127,265	\$132,228	\$140,691	\$148,288
(11) Rutland County	\$127,265	\$132,228	\$140,691	\$148,288
(12) Washington County	\$127,265	\$132,228	\$140,691	\$148,288
(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. F.100 EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) This section and Secs. B.1102, C.100, C.101, C.103, C.104, C.105, C.106, C.107, C.111, C.112, C.113, C.114, C.115, C.116, C.117, E.125.1, E.126.2, and E.127.1 shall take effect on passage.

(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.

And by renumbering all of the sections of the bill to be numerically correct (including internal references) and adjusting all of the totals to be arithmetically correct.

*M. JANE KITCHEL
ANDREW PERCHLIK
RICHARD A. WESTMAN*

Committee on the part of the Senate

*DIANE LANPHER
ROBIN SCHEU
THERESA WOOD*

Committee on the part of the House