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STATE OF VERMONT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CORRECTIONS
AND INSTITUTIONS

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April XX, 2023

Nicholas J. Deml, Commissioner
Vermont Department of Corrections
280 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671-2000
Nicholas.Deml@vermont.gov

Dear Commissioner Deml:

The House Committee on Corrections and Institutions (the "Committee") expresses its intent that the Department of Corrections (the "Department") collaborate with various stakeholders to develop a plan for the replacement of the Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility (the "Facility") with trauma-informed and gender-responsive facilities and programming to promote the successful rehabilitation and reentry of justice-involved women.

Specifically, the Committee intends that the Department's collaboration ensures involvement by the Department of Building and General Services, individuals and organizations with expertise and experience in the criminal justice and correctional systems, interested stakeholders that express a desire to collaborate, and others identified by those collaborating in the plan development.

The Committee's objective is to create replacement facilities that promote the successful rehabilitation and reentry of justice-involved women. To achieve this objective, the Department must use data-driven methods that align with Vermont's approach to criminal justice and correctional reform. The plan should incorporate trauma-informed and gender-responsive design principles, programming, and services in developing the size and scale of any replacement and reentry facilities.

The Department and the involved stakeholders shall report to the House Committees on Corrections and Institutions and on Judiciary and the Senate Committees on Institutions and on Judiciary by January 15, 2024, and annually thereafter, on any progress and recommendations to replace the Facility.

Sincerely,

Representative Alice M. Emmons, Chair