



STATE OF VERMONT
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 15, 2024

Dear Committee Chairs:

As you know, the House Committee on Appropriations is reviewing the status of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) appropriations. The goal is to identify any funds that will remain unobligated by the end of the calendar year so that the General Assembly may reallocate them accordingly to ensure that they are obligated by December 31, 2024. Any funds that aren't obligated by December 31, 2024 must be forfeited back to the federal government.

I have tasked the Joint Fiscal Office (JFO) with collecting feedback and information on ARPA appropriations from committees of jurisdiction. Please review the attached table that shows:

- Appropriation authorization language
- Category of spending
- The agency or department that received the appropriation
- Appropriation amount
- Funds allocated
- Funds obligated
- Funds expended
- An estimate of unwarded funds

The attached data is based on 12/31/2023 reporting and includes ARPA appropriations relevant to your committee's jurisdiction. If there are items outside of your jurisdiction, please let JFO know. Please pay particular attention to any highlighted items, as they currently have large balances.

The headings in the spreadsheet have very specific definitions:

- **Appropriation** is the amount of spending authority authorized by the General Assembly
- **Allocated** is the amount that an agency or department has either obligated, expended, or designated for a specific project, grant, or contract, the agreement for which is still being negotiated
- **Obligated** is spending that is committed through a grant or contract
- **Expended** is the amount of funds that have been paid out through an invoice or other bill

Please review the appropriations attached by taking testimony as needed and investigating other relevant information. Please let the Committee on Appropriations know by February 23 if there

are any funds that are likely available for reallocation. To the extent funds are identified as available, the Committee on Appropriations will work to reallocate them within existing programs, based on legislative priorities, to ensure that all ARPA funds are obligated by December 31, 2024.

Please send your response to Maria Blair at JFO at mblair@leg.state.vt.us.

Rep. Diane Lanpher

Sincerely,

Representative Diane Lanpher