

1 Report of Committee of Conference

2 H.494

3 TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

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

6 H.494. An act relating to making appropriations for the support of
7 government.

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

12 * * * Purpose, Definitions, Legend * * *

13 Sec. A.100 SHORT TITLE

14 (a) This bill may be referred to as the BIG BILL – Fiscal Year 2024
15 Appropriations Act.

16 Sec. A.101 PURPOSE

17 (a) The purpose of this act is to provide appropriations for the operations of
18 State government and for capital appropriations not funded with bond proceeds
19 during fiscal year 2024. It is the express intent of the General Assembly that
20 activities of the various agencies, departments, divisions, boards, and
21 commissions be limited to those that can be supported by funds appropriated in

1 this act or other acts passed on or prior to June 30, 2023. Agency and
2 department heads are directed to implement staffing and service levels at the
3 beginning of fiscal year 2024 to meet this condition unless otherwise directed
4 by specific language in this act or other acts of the General Assembly.

5 Sec. A.102 APPROPRIATIONS

6 (a) It is the intent of the General Assembly that this act serves as the
7 primary source and reference for appropriations for the operation of State
8 government and for capital appropriations not funded with bond proceeds
9 during fiscal year 2024.

10 (b) The sums stated in this act are appropriated for the purposes specified
11 in the following sections of this act. When no time is expressly stated during
12 which any of the appropriations are to continue, the appropriations are single-
13 year appropriations, only for the purpose indicated and shall be paid from
14 funds shown as the source of funds. If in this act there is an error in either
15 addition or subtraction, the totals shall be adjusted accordingly. Apparent
16 errors in referring to section numbers of statutory titles within this act may be
17 disregarded by the Commissioner of Finance and Management.

18 (c) Unless codified or otherwise specified, all narrative portions of this act
19 apply only to the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2024.

20 Sec. A.103 DEFINITIONS

21 (a) As used in this act:

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

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

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

14 (4) “Personal services” means wages and salaries; fringe benefits; per
15 diems; contracted third-party services; and similar items.

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

20 Sec. A.104 RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING LAWS

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

3 Sec. A.105 OFFSETTING APPROPRIATIONS

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

7 Sec. A.106 FEDERAL FUNDS

8 (a) In fiscal year 2024, the Governor, with the approval of the General
9 Assembly or the Joint Fiscal Committee if the General Assembly is not in
10 session, may accept federal funds available to the State of Vermont, including
11 block grants in lieu of or in addition to funds designated as federal in this act.
12 The Governor, with the approval of the General Assembly or the Joint Fiscal
13 Committee if the General Assembly is not in session, may allocate all or any
14 portion of such federal funds for any purpose consistent with the purposes for
15 which the basic appropriations in this act have been made.

16 (b) If, during fiscal year 2024, federal funds available to the State of
17 Vermont and designated as federal in this and other acts of the 2023 session of
18 the Vermont General Assembly are converted into block grants or are
19 abolished under their current title in federal law and reestablished under a new
20 title in federal law, the Governor may continue to accept such federal funds for
21 any purpose consistent with the purposes for which the federal funds were

1 appropriated. The Governor may spend such funds for such purposes for not
2 more than 45 days prior to legislative or Joint Fiscal Committee approval.
3 Notice shall be given to the Joint Fiscal Committee without delay if the
4 Governor intends to use the authority granted by this section, and the Joint
5 Fiscal Committee shall meet in an expedited manner to review the Governor's
6 request for approval.

7 Sec. A.107 NEW POSITIONS

8 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the total number
9 of authorized State positions, both classified and exempt, excluding temporary
10 positions as defined in 3 V.S.A. § 311(a)(11), shall not be increased during
11 fiscal year 2024 except for new positions authorized by the 2023 session.
12 Limited service positions approved pursuant to 32 V.S.A. chapter 5 shall not
13 be subject to this restriction.

14 Sec. A.108 LEGEND

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

20 <u>B.100–B.199 and E.100–E.199</u>	<u>General Government</u>
21 <u>B.200–B.299 and E.200–E.299</u>	<u>Protection to Persons and</u>

1		<u>Property</u>
2	<u>B.300–B.399 and E.300–E.399</u>	<u>Human Services</u>
3	<u>B.400–B.499 and E.400–E.499</u>	<u>Labor</u>
4	<u>B.500–B.599 and E.500–E.599</u>	<u>General Education</u>
5	<u>B.600–B.699 and E.600–E.699</u>	<u>Higher Education</u>
6	<u>B.700–B.799 and E.700–E.799</u>	<u>Natural Resources</u>
7	<u>B.800–B.899 and E.800–E.899</u>	<u>Commerce and Community</u>
8		<u>Development</u>
9	<u>B.900–B.999 and E.900–E.999</u>	<u>Transportation</u>
10	<u>B.1000–B.1099 and E.1000–E.1099</u>	<u>Debt Service</u>
11	<u>B.1100–B.1199 and E.1100–E.1199</u>	<u>One-time and other</u>
12		<u>appropriation actions</u>

13 (b) The C sections contain any amendments to the current fiscal year; the D
14 sections contain fund transfers, reversions, and reserve allocations for the
15 upcoming budget year; the F sections contain workforce and economic
16 development policies; the G sections contain changes to Department of Motor
17 Vehicles fees; and the H section contains effective dates.

18 * * * Fiscal Year 2024 Base Appropriations * * *

19
20 Sec. B.100 Secretary of administration - secretary's office

21	Personal services	2,843,097
22	Operating expenses	160,849
23	Grants	<u>100,000</u>

1	Total	3,103,946
2	Source of funds	
3	General fund	2,359,270
4	Special funds	100,000
5	Internal service funds	403,239
6	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>241,437</u>
7	Total	3,103,946
8	Sec. B.101 Secretary of administration - finance	
9	Personal services	1,374,393
10	Operating expenses	<u>138,363</u>
11	Total	1,512,756
12	Source of funds	
13	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,512,756</u>
14	Total	1,512,756
15	Sec. B.102 Secretary of administration - workers' compensation insurance	
16	Personal services	895,051
17	Operating expenses	<u>91,550</u>
18	Total	986,601
19	Source of funds	
20	Internal service funds	<u>986,601</u>
21	Total	986,601
22	Sec. B.103 Secretary of administration - general liability insurance	
23	Personal services	545,717
24	Operating expenses	<u>63,558</u>
25	Total	609,275
26	Source of funds	
27	Internal service funds	<u>609,275</u>
28	Total	609,275
29	Sec. B.104 Secretary of administration - all other insurance	

1	Personal services	196,464
2	Operating expenses	<u>54,633</u>
3	Total	251,097
4	Source of funds	
5	Internal service funds	<u>251,097</u>
6	Total	251,097
7	Sec. B.104.1 Retired State Employees Pension Plus Funding	
8	Grants	<u>9,000,000</u>
9	Total	9,000,000
10	Source of funds	
11	General fund	<u>9,000,000</u>
12	Total	9,000,000
13	Sec. B.105 Agency of digital services - communications and information	
14	technology	
15	Personal services	102,479,935
16	Operating expenses	<u>36,148,517</u>
17	Total	138,628,452
18	Source of funds	
19	General fund	186,726
20	Special funds	471,611
21	Internal service funds	<u>137,970,115</u>
22	Total	138,628,452
23	Sec. B.106 Finance and management - budget and management	
24	Personal services	1,456,438
25	Operating expenses	<u>306,717</u>
26	Total	1,763,155
27	Source of funds	
28	General fund	1,143,286
29	Internal service funds	<u>619,869</u>

1	Total	1,763,155
2	Sec. B.107 Finance and management - financial operations	
3	Personal services	2,555,838
4	Operating expenses	<u>810,848</u>
5	Total	3,366,686
6	Source of funds	
7	Internal service funds	<u>3,366,686</u>
8	Total	3,366,686
9	Sec. B.108 Human resources - operations	
10	Personal services	10,175,933
11	Operating expenses	<u>1,483,759</u>
12	Total	11,659,692
13	Source of funds	
14	General fund	1,777,169
15	Special funds	263,589
16	Internal service funds	9,127,114
17	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>491,820</u>
18	Total	11,659,692
19	Sec. B.108.1 Human resources - VTHR operations	
20	Personal services	1,909,749
21	Operating expenses	<u>693,001</u>
22	Total	2,602,750
23	Source of funds	
24	Internal service funds	<u>2,602,750</u>
25	Total	2,602,750
26	Sec. B.109 Human resources - employee benefits & wellness	
27	Personal services	1,140,195
28	Operating expenses	<u>655,062</u>
29	Total	1,795,257

1	Source of funds	
2	Internal service funds	<u>1,795,257</u>
3	Total	1,795,257
4	Sec. B.110 Libraries	
5	Personal services	2,404,179
6	Operating expenses	906,958
7	Grants	<u>230,214</u>
8	Total	3,541,351
9	Source of funds	
10	General fund	2,088,614
11	Special funds	73,614
12	Federal funds	1,251,244
13	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>127,879</u>
14	Total	3,541,351
15	Sec. B.111 Tax - administration/collection	
16	Personal services	25,023,254
17	Operating expenses	<u>5,787,491</u>
18	Total	30,810,745
19	Source of funds	
20	General fund	22,406,475
21	Special funds	8,359,270
22	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>45,000</u>
23	Total	30,810,745
24	Sec. B.112 Buildings and general services - administration	
25	Personal services	988,938
26	Operating expenses	<u>333,561</u>
27	Total	1,322,499
28	Source of funds	
29	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,322,499</u>

1	Total	1,322,499
2	Sec. B.113 Buildings and general services - engineering	
3	Personal services	45,644
4	Operating expenses	<u>1,230,723</u>
5	Total	1,276,367
6	Source of funds	
7	General fund	<u>1,276,367</u>
8	Total	1,276,367
9	Sec. B.113.1 Buildings and General Services Engineering - Capital Projects	
10	Personal services	2,730,738
11	Operating expenses	<u>500,000</u>
12	Total	3,230,738
13	Source of funds	
14	General fund	2,730,738
15	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>500,000</u>
16	Total	3,230,738
17	Sec. B.114 Buildings and general services - information centers	
18	Personal services	3,646,408
19	Operating expenses	<u>1,801,847</u>
20	Total	5,448,255
21	Source of funds	
22	General fund	668,401
23	Transportation fund	4,235,134
24	Special funds	<u>544,720</u>
25	Total	5,448,255
26	Sec. B.115 Buildings and general services - purchasing	
27	Personal services	1,670,521
28	Operating expenses	<u>191,576</u>
29	Total	1,862,097

1	Source of funds	
2	General fund	1,481,008
3	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>381,089</u>
4	Total	1,862,097
5	Sec. B.116 Buildings and general services - postal services	
6	Personal services	800,527
7	Operating expenses	<u>173,126</u>
8	Total	973,653
9	Source of funds	
10	General fund	87,613
11	Internal service funds	<u>886,040</u>
12	Total	973,653
13	Sec. B.117 Buildings and general services - copy center	
14	Personal services	898,526
15	Operating expenses	<u>208,536</u>
16	Total	1,107,062
17	Source of funds	
18	Internal service funds	<u>1,107,062</u>
19	Total	1,107,062
20	Sec. B.118 Buildings and general services - fleet management services	
21	Personal services	888,607
22	Operating expenses	<u>245,134</u>
23	Total	1,133,741
24	Source of funds	
25	Internal service funds	<u>1,133,741</u>
26	Total	1,133,741
27	Sec. B.119 Buildings and general services - federal surplus property	
28	Operating expenses	<u>4,298</u>
29	Total	4,298

1	Source of funds	
2	Enterprise funds	<u>4,298</u>
3	Total	4,298
4	Sec. B.120 Buildings and general services - state surplus property	
5	Personal services	340,128
6	Operating expenses	<u>169,529</u>
7	Total	509,657
8	Source of funds	
9	Internal service funds	<u>509,657</u>
10	Total	509,657
11	Sec. B.121 Buildings and general services - property management	
12	Personal services	1,625,691
13	Operating expenses	<u>465,485</u>
14	Total	2,091,176
15	Source of funds	
16	Internal service funds	<u>2,091,176</u>
17	Total	2,091,176
18	Sec. B.122 Buildings and general services - fee for space	
19	Personal services	18,762,037
20	Operating expenses	<u>17,272,131</u>
21	Total	36,034,168
22	Source of funds	
23	Internal service funds	35,964,112
24	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>70,056</u>
25	Total	36,034,168
26	Sec. B.124 Executive office - governor's office	
27	Personal services	1,583,965
28	Operating expenses	<u>467,778</u>
29	Total	2,051,743

1	Source of funds	
2	General fund	1,801,931
3	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>249,812</u>
4	Total	2,051,743
5	Sec. B.125 Legislative counsel	
6	Personal services	3,633,429
7	Operating expenses	<u>291,348</u>
8	Total	3,924,777
9	Source of funds	
10	General fund	<u>3,924,777</u>
11	Total	3,924,777
12	Sec. B.126 Legislature	
13	Personal services	5,898,458
14	Operating expenses	<u>4,649,260</u>
15	Total	10,547,718
16	Source of funds	
17	General fund	<u>10,547,718</u>
18	Total	10,547,718
19	Sec. B.126.1 Legislative information technology	
20	Personal services	1,279,864
21	Operating expenses	<u>663,583</u>
22	Total	1,943,447
23	Source of funds	
24	General fund	<u>1,943,447</u>
25	Total	1,943,447
26	Sec. B.127 Joint fiscal committee	
27	Personal services	2,517,690
28	Operating expenses	<u>191,250</u>
29	Total	2,708,940

1	Source of funds	
2	General fund	<u>2,708,940</u>
3	Total	2,708,940
4	Sec. B.128 Sergeant at arms	
5	Personal services	1,404,247
6	Operating expenses	<u>130,514</u>
7	Total	1,534,761
8	Source of funds	
9	General fund	<u>1,534,761</u>
10	Total	1,534,761
11	Sec. B.129 Lieutenant governor	
12	Personal services	258,394
13	Operating expenses	<u>44,090</u>
14	Total	302,484
15	Source of funds	
16	General fund	<u>302,484</u>
17	Total	302,484
18	Sec. B.130 Auditor of accounts	
19	Personal services	4,160,946
20	Operating expenses	<u>183,967</u>
21	Total	4,344,913
22	Source of funds	
23	General fund	372,808
24	Special funds	53,145
25	Internal service funds	<u>3,918,960</u>
26	Total	4,344,913
27	Sec. B.131 State treasurer	
28	Personal services	5,374,687
29	Operating expenses	273,230

1	Grants	<u>400,000</u>
2	Total	6,047,917
3	Source of funds	
4	General fund	2,148,837
5	Special funds	3,737,463
6	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>161,617</u>
7	Total	6,047,917
8	Sec. B.132 State treasurer - unclaimed property	
9	Personal services	809,823
10	Operating expenses	<u>386,790</u>
11	Total	1,196,613
12	Source of funds	
13	Interdepartmental transfers	0
14	Private purpose trust funds	<u>1,196,613</u>
15	Total	1,196,613
16	Sec. B.133 Vermont state retirement system	
17	Personal services	221,698
18	Operating expenses	<u>2,768,981</u>
19	Total	2,990,679
20	Source of funds	
21	Pension trust funds	<u>2,990,679</u>
22	Total	2,990,679
23	Sec. B.134 Municipal employees' retirement system	
24	Personal services	222,371
25	Operating expenses	<u>1,499,452</u>
26	Total	1,721,823
27	Source of funds	
28	Pension trust funds	<u>1,721,823</u>
29	Total	1,721,823

1	Sec. B.134.1 Vermont Pension Investment Commission	
2	Personal services	2,129,637
3	Operating expenses	<u>248,561</u>
4	Total	2,378,198
5	Source of funds	
6	Special funds	<u>2,378,198</u>
7	Total	2,378,198
8	Sec. B.135 State labor relations board	
9	Personal services	258,094
10	Operating expenses	<u>49,671</u>
11	Total	307,765
12	Source of funds	
13	General fund	298,189
14	Special funds	6,788
15	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>2,788</u>
16	Total	307,765
17	Sec. B.136 VOSHA review board	
18	Personal services	86,954
19	Operating expenses	<u>15,054</u>
20	Total	102,008
21	Source of funds	
22	General fund	51,004
23	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>51,004</u>
24	Total	102,008
25	Sec. B.136.1 Ethics Commission	
26	Personal services	147,767
27	Operating expenses	<u>41,660</u>
28	Total	189,427
29	Source of funds	

1	Internal service funds	<u>189,427</u>
2	Total	189,427
3	Sec. B.137 Homeowner rebate	
4	Grants	<u>16,250,000</u>
5	Total	16,250,000
6	Source of funds	
7	General fund	<u>16,250,000</u>
8	Total	16,250,000
9	Sec. B.138 Renter rebate	
10	Grants	<u>9,500,000</u>
11	Total	9,500,000
12	Source of funds	
13	General fund	<u>9,500,000</u>
14	Total	9,500,000
15	Sec. B.139 Tax department - reappraisal and listing payments	
16	Grants	<u>3,394,500</u>
17	Total	3,394,500
18	Source of funds	
19	General fund	<u>3,394,500</u>
20	Total	3,394,500
21	Sec. B.140 Municipal current use	
22	Grants	<u>18,600,000</u>
23	Total	18,600,000
24	Source of funds	
25	General fund	<u>18,600,000</u>
26	Total	18,600,000
27	Sec. B.142 Payments in lieu of taxes	
28	Grants	<u>12,280,750</u>
29	Total	12,280,750

1	Source of funds	
2	Special funds	<u>12,280,750</u>
3	Total	12,280,750
4	Sec. B.143 Payments in lieu of taxes - Montpelier	
5	Grants	<u>184,000</u>
6	Total	184,000
7	Source of funds	
8	Special funds	<u>184,000</u>
9	Total	184,000
10	Sec. B.144 Payments in lieu of taxes - correctional facilities	
11	Grants	<u>40,000</u>
12	Total	40,000
13	Source of funds	
14	Special funds	<u>40,000</u>
15	Total	40,000
16	Sec. B.145 Total general government	
17	Source of funds	
18	General fund	118,585,063
19	Transportation fund	4,235,134
20	Special funds	28,493,148
21	Federal funds	1,251,244
22	Internal service funds	203,532,178
23	Interdepartmental transfers	5,157,757
24	Enterprise funds	4,298
25	Pension trust funds	4,712,502
26	Private purpose trust funds	<u>1,196,613</u>
27	Total	367,167,937
28	Sec. B.200 Attorney general	
29	Personal services	12,957,305

1	Operating expenses	1,696,265
2	Grants	<u>20,000</u>
3	Total	14,673,570
4	Source of funds	
5	General fund	6,974,796
6	Special funds	2,142,678
7	Tobacco fund	422,000
8	Federal funds	1,583,958
9	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>3,550,138</u>
10	Total	14,673,570
11	Sec. B.201 Vermont court diversion	
12	Personal services	1,250
13	Grants	<u>3,142,971</u>
14	Total	3,144,221
15	Source of funds	
16	General fund	2,886,224
17	Special funds	<u>257,997</u>
18	Total	3,144,221
19	Sec. B.202 Defender general - public defense	
20	Personal services	15,416,603
21	Operating expenses	<u>1,235,698</u>
22	Total	16,652,301
23	Source of funds	
24	General fund	15,912,648
25	Special funds	589,653
26	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>150,000</u>
27	Total	16,652,301
28	Sec. B.203 Defender general - assigned counsel	
29	Personal services	7,213,974

1	Operating expenses	<u>49,500</u>
2	Total	7,263,474
3	Source of funds	
4	General fund	<u>7,263,474</u>
5	Total	7,263,474
6	Sec. B.204 Judiciary	
7	Personal services	52,555,909
8	Operating expenses	11,583,876
9	Grants	<u>121,030</u>
10	Total	64,260,815
11	Source of funds	
12	General fund	58,250,863
13	Special funds	2,888,542
14	Federal funds	953,928
15	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>2,167,482</u>
16	Total	64,260,815
17	Sec. B.205 State's attorneys	
18	Personal services	14,787,744
19	Operating expenses	<u>1,999,496</u>
20	Total	16,787,240
21	Source of funds	
22	General fund	15,904,997
23	Special funds	109,778
24	Federal funds	233,490
25	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>538,975</u>
26	Total	16,787,240
27	Sec. B.206 Special investigative unit	
28	Personal services	64,287
29	Operating expenses	24,295

1	Grants	<u>2,140,047</u>
2	Total	2,228,629
3	Source of funds	
4	General fund	<u>2,228,629</u>
5	Total	2,228,629
6	Sec. B.206.1 Crime Victims Advocates	
7	Personal services	2,604,804
8	Operating expenses	<u>106,693</u>
9	Total	2,711,497
10	Source of funds	
11	General fund	<u>2,711,497</u>
12	Total	2,711,497
13	Sec. B.207 Sheriffs	
14	Personal services	4,698,652
15	Operating expenses	<u>390,662</u>
16	Total	5,089,314
17	Source of funds	
18	General fund	<u>5,089,314</u>
19	Total	5,089,314
20	Sec. B.208 Public safety - administration	
21	Personal services	4,539,941
22	Operating expenses	5,417,264
23	Grants	<u>357,986</u>
24	Total	10,315,191
25	Source of funds	
26	General fund	6,001,814
27	Special funds	4,105
28	Federal funds	547,260
29	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>3,762,012</u>

1	Total	10,315,191
2	Sec. B.209 Public safety - state police	
3	Personal services	67,754,321
4	Operating expenses	13,861,460
5	Grants	<u>1,591,501</u>
6	Total	83,207,282
7	Source of funds	
8	General fund	53,896,213
9	Transportation fund	20,250,000
10	Special funds	3,166,387
11	Federal funds	4,311,304
12	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,583,378</u>
13	Total	83,207,282
14	Sec. B.210 Public safety - criminal justice services	
15	Personal services	5,378,976
16	Operating expenses	<u>1,582,009</u>
17	Total	6,960,985
18	Source of funds	
19	General fund	1,467,321
20	Special funds	4,970,533
21	Federal funds	<u>523,131</u>
22	Total	6,960,985
23	Sec. B.211 Public safety - emergency management	
24	Personal services	4,561,578
25	Operating expenses	1,224,288
26	Grants	<u>25,350,252</u>
27	Total	31,136,118
28	Source of funds	
29	General fund	668,427

1	Special funds	710,000
2	Federal funds	29,561,807
3	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>195,884</u>
4	Total	31,136,118
5	Sec. B.212 Public safety - fire safety	
6	Personal services	8,663,478
7	Operating expenses	2,974,022
8	Grants	<u>107,000</u>
9	Total	11,744,500
10	Source of funds	
11	General fund	1,505,641
12	Special funds	9,567,787
13	Federal funds	626,072
14	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>45,000</u>
15	Total	11,744,500
16	Sec. B.213 Public safety - Forensic Laboratory	
17	Personal services	3,563,059
18	Operating expenses	<u>1,198,044</u>
19	Total	4,761,103
20	Source of funds	
21	General fund	3,626,083
22	Special funds	66,395
23	Federal funds	532,582
24	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>536,043</u>
25	Total	4,761,103
26	Sec. B.215 Military - administration	
27	Personal services	958,260
28	Operating expenses	746,963
29	Grants	<u>1,319,834</u>

1	Total	3,025,057
2	Source of funds	
3	General fund	<u>3,025,057</u>
4	Total	3,025,057
5	Sec. B.216 Military - air service contract	
6	Personal services	9,124,240
7	Operating expenses	<u>1,396,315</u>
8	Total	10,520,555
9	Source of funds	
10	General fund	665,922
11	Federal funds	<u>9,854,633</u>
12	Total	10,520,555
13	Sec. B.217 Military - army service contract	
14	Personal services	41,464,878
15	Operating expenses	<u>7,542,958</u>
16	Total	49,007,836
17	Source of funds	
18	Federal funds	<u>49,007,836</u>
19	Total	49,007,836
20	Sec. B.218 Military - building maintenance	
21	Personal services	789,478
22	Operating expenses	<u>937,403</u>
23	Total	1,726,881
24	Source of funds	
25	General fund	1,664,381
26	Special funds	<u>62,500</u>
27	Total	1,726,881
28	Sec. B.219 Military - veterans' affairs	
29	Personal services	1,204,996

1	Operating expenses	202,180
2	Grants	<u>33,300</u>
3	Total	1,440,476
4	Source of funds	
5	General fund	1,092,634
6	Special funds	241,942
7	Federal funds	<u>105,900</u>
8	Total	1,440,476
9	Sec. B.220 Center for crime victim services	
10	Personal services	1,967,547
11	Operating expenses	391,397
12	Grants	<u>9,181,723</u>
13	Total	11,540,667
14	Source of funds	
15	General fund	1,472,674
16	Special funds	3,461,972
17	Federal funds	<u>6,606,021</u>
18	Total	11,540,667
19	Sec. B.221 Criminal justice council	
20	Personal services	2,360,658
21	Operating expenses	<u>1,711,725</u>
22	Total	4,072,383
23	Source of funds	
24	General fund	3,720,035
25	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>352,348</u>
26	Total	4,072,383
27	Sec. B.222 Agriculture, food and markets - administration	
28	Personal services	2,648,873
29	Operating expenses	367,498

1	Grants	<u>217,222</u>
2	Total	3,233,593
3	Source of funds	
4	General fund	1,467,038
5	Special funds	1,242,062
6	Federal funds	<u>524,493</u>
7	Total	3,233,593
8	Sec. B.223 Agriculture, food and markets - food safety and consumer protection	
9	Personal services	4,963,520
10	Operating expenses	1,096,940
11	Grants	<u>2,780,000</u>
12	Total	8,840,460
13	Source of funds	
14	General fund	3,281,095
15	Special funds	3,942,188
16	Federal funds	1,605,177
17	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>12,000</u>
18	Total	8,840,460
19	Sec. B.224 Agriculture, food and markets - agricultural development	
20	Personal services	6,409,252
21	Operating expenses	678,344
22	Grants	<u>15,063,425</u>
23	Total	22,151,021
24	Source of funds	
25	General fund	3,068,393
26	Special funds	627,904
27	Federal funds	<u>18,454,724</u>
28	Total	22,151,021

1	Sec. B.225 Agriculture, food and markets - agricultural resource management	
2	and environmental stewardship	
3	Personal services	2,594,186
4	Operating expenses	979,802
5	Grants	<u>212,000</u>
6	Total	3,785,988
7	Source of funds	
8	General fund	745,509
9	Special funds	2,297,266
10	Federal funds	390,117
11	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>353,096</u>
12	Total	3,785,988
13	Sec. B.225.1 Agriculture, food and markets - Vermont Agriculture and	
14	Environmental Lab	
15	Personal services	1,711,447
16	Operating expenses	<u>1,363,276</u>
17	Total	3,074,723
18	Source of funds	
19	General fund	1,296,731
20	Special funds	1,715,459
21	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>62,533</u>
22	Total	3,074,723
23	Sec. B.225.2 Agriculture, Food and Markets - Clean Water	
24	Personal services	3,637,927
25	Operating expenses	575,499
26	Grants	<u>6,580,630</u>
27	Total	10,794,056
28	Source of funds	
29	General fund	1,732,136
30	Special funds	8,248,477

1	Federal funds	462,351
2	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>351,092</u>
3	Total	10,794,056
4	Sec. B.226 Financial regulation - administration	
5	Personal services	2,580,669
6	Operating expenses	<u>159,635</u>
7	Total	2,740,304
8	Source of funds	
9	Special funds	<u>2,740,304</u>
10	Total	2,740,304
11	Sec. B.227 Financial regulation - banking	
12	Personal services	2,426,962
13	Operating expenses	<u>510,179</u>
14	Total	2,937,141
15	Source of funds	
16	Special funds	<u>2,937,141</u>
17	Total	2,937,141
18	Sec. B.228 Financial regulation - insurance	
19	Personal services	4,872,900
20	Operating expenses	<u>634,698</u>
21	Total	5,507,598
22	Source of funds	
23	Special funds	<u>5,507,598</u>
24	Total	5,507,598
25	Sec. B.229 Financial regulation - captive insurance	
26	Personal services	5,294,300
27	Operating expenses	<u>710,775</u>
28	Total	6,005,075
29	Source of funds	

1	Special funds	<u>6,005,075</u>
2	Total	6,005,075
3	Sec. B.230 Financial regulation - securities	
4	Personal services	1,294,776
5	Operating expenses	<u>279,335</u>
6	Total	1,574,111
7	Source of funds	
8	Special funds	<u>1,574,111</u>
9	Total	1,574,111
10	Sec. B.232 Secretary of state	
11	Personal services	17,824,897
12	Operating expenses	<u>3,932,905</u>
13	Total	21,757,802
14	Source of funds	
15	Special funds	16,241,811
16	Federal funds	<u>5,515,991</u>
17	Total	21,757,802
18	Sec. B.233 Public service - regulation and energy	
19	Personal services	11,014,203
20	Operating expenses	1,730,270
21	Grants	<u>328,300</u>
22	Total	13,072,773
23	Source of funds	
24	Special funds	12,310,355
25	Federal funds	741,706
26	Enterprise funds	<u>20,712</u>
27	Total	13,072,773
28	Sec. B.233.1 VT Community Broadband Board	
29	Personal services	1,211,623

1	Operating expenses	155,443
2	Grants	<u>1,300,000</u>
3	Total	2,667,066
4	Source of funds	
5	Special funds	1,110,687
6	Federal funds	<u>1,556,379</u>
7	Total	2,667,066
8	Sec. B.234 Public utility commission	
9	Personal services	3,913,942
10	Operating expenses	<u>549,933</u>
11	Total	4,463,875
12	Source of funds	
13	Special funds	<u>4,463,875</u>
14	Total	4,463,875
15	Sec. B.235 Enhanced 9-1-1 Board	
16	Personal services	4,344,046
17	Operating expenses	<u>451,287</u>
18	Total	4,795,333
19	Source of funds	
20	Special funds	<u>4,795,333</u>
21	Total	4,795,333
22	Sec. B.236 Human rights commission	
23	Personal services	915,815
24	Operating expenses	<u>90,104</u>
25	Total	1,005,919
26	Source of funds	
27	General fund	920,110
28	Federal funds	<u>85,809</u>
29	Total	1,005,919

1	Sec. B.236.1 Liquor & Lottery Comm. Office	
2	Personal services	8,610,070
3	Operating expenses	<u>5,529,374</u>
4	Total	14,139,444
5	Source of funds	
6	Special funds	60,000
7	Tobacco fund	213,843
8	Interdepartmental transfers	70,000
9	Enterprise funds	<u>13,795,601</u>
10	Total	14,139,444
11	Sec. B.240 Cannabis Control Board	
12	Personal services	4,829,061
13	Operating expenses	<u>341,631</u>
14	Total	5,170,692
15	Source of funds	
16	Special funds	<u>5,170,692</u>
17	Total	5,170,692
18	Sec. B.241 Total protection to persons and property	
19	Source of funds	
20	General fund	208,539,656
21	Transportation fund	20,250,000
22	Special funds	109,230,607
23	Tobacco fund	635,843
24	Federal funds	133,784,669
25	Interdepartmental transfers	13,729,981
26	Enterprise funds	<u>13,816,313</u>
27	Total	499,987,069
28	Sec. B.300 Human services - agency of human services - secretary's office	
29	Personal services	14,083,686

1	Operating expenses	5,402,086
2	Grants	<u>2,895,202</u>
3	Total	22,380,974
4	Source of funds	
5	General fund	9,767,874
6	Special funds	135,517
7	Federal funds	11,678,441
8	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>799,142</u>
9	Total	22,380,974
10	Sec. B.301 Secretary's office - global commitment	
11	Grants	<u>1,990,896,293</u>
12	Total	1,990,896,293
13	Source of funds	
14	General fund	648,528,785
15	Special funds	32,994,384
16	Tobacco fund	21,049,373
17	State health care resources fund	25,265,312
18	Federal funds	1,259,024,269
19	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>4,034,170</u>
20	Total	1,990,896,293
21	Sec. B.303 Developmental disabilities council	
22	Personal services	458,902
23	Operating expenses	95,330
24	Grants	<u>191,595</u>
25	Total	745,827
26	Source of funds	
27	Special funds	12,000
28	Federal funds	<u>733,827</u>
29	Total	745,827

1	Sec. B.304 Human services board	
2	Personal services	648,082
3	Operating expenses	<u>89,467</u>
4	Total	737,549
5	Source of funds	
6	General fund	452,996
7	Federal funds	<u>284,553</u>
8	Total	737,549
9	Sec. B.305 AHS - administrative fund	
10	Personal services	330,000
11	Operating expenses	<u>13,170,000</u>
12	Total	13,500,000
13	Source of funds	
14	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>13,500,000</u>
15	Total	13,500,000
16	Sec. B.306 Department of Vermont health access - administration	
17	Personal services	136,568,959
18	Operating expenses	44,391,640
19	Grants	<u>2,912,301</u>
20	Total	183,872,900
21	Source of funds	
22	General fund	35,605,917
23	Special funds	4,753,011
24	Federal funds	134,621,243
25	Global Commitment fund	4,220,337
26	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>4,672,392</u>
27	Total	183,872,900
28	Sec. B.307 Department of Vermont health access - Medicaid program - global	
29	commitment	

1	Personal services	547,983
2	Grants	<u>932,542,238</u>
3	Total	933,090,221
4	Source of funds	
5	Global Commitment fund	<u>933,090,221</u>
6	Total	933,090,221
7	Sec. B.309 Department of Vermont health access - Medicaid program - state	
8	only	
9	Grants	<u>53,067,318</u>
10	Total	53,067,318
11	Source of funds	
12	General fund	53,062,626
13	Global Commitment fund	<u>4,692</u>
14	Total	53,067,318
15	Sec. B.310 Department of Vermont health access - Medicaid non-waiver	
16	matched	
17	Grants	<u>34,621,472</u>
18	Total	34,621,472
19	Source of funds	
20	General fund	12,634,069
21	Federal funds	<u>21,987,403</u>
22	Total	34,621,472
23	Sec. B.311 Health - administration and support	
24	Personal services	8,154,782
25	Operating expenses	7,410,428
26	Grants	<u>16,697,133</u>
27	Total	32,262,343
28	Source of funds	
29	General fund	3,131,446
30	Special funds	2,160,065

1	Federal funds	20,169,147
2	Global Commitment fund	6,732,468
3	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>69,217</u>
4	Total	32,262,343
5	Sec. B.312 Health - public health	
6	Personal services	64,592,946
7	Operating expenses	13,047,530
8	Grants	<u>45,946,724</u>
9	Total	123,587,200
10	Source of funds	
11	General fund	12,408,429
12	Special funds	25,017,725
13	Tobacco fund	1,088,918
14	Federal funds	66,753,896
15	Global Commitment fund	16,582,951
16	Interdepartmental transfers	1,710,281
17	Permanent trust funds	<u>25,000</u>
18	Total	123,587,200
19	Sec. B.313 Health - substance use programs	
20	Personal services	6,253,749
21	Operating expenses	511,500
22	Grants	<u>61,041,638</u>
23	Total	67,806,887
24	Source of funds	
25	General fund	5,591,811
26	Special funds	1,435,054
27	Tobacco fund	949,917
28	Federal funds	21,771,442
29	Global Commitment fund	<u>38,058,663</u>

1	Total	67,806,887
2	Sec. B.314 Mental health - mental health	
3	Personal services	47,716,644
4	Operating expenses	5,272,240
5	Grants	<u>264,539,814</u>
6	Total	317,528,698
7	Source of funds	
8	General fund	25,282,556
9	Special funds	1,708,155
10	Federal funds	10,999,654
11	Global Commitment fund	279,524,193
12	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>14,140</u>
13	Total	317,528,698
14	Sec. B.316 Department for children and families - administration & support	
15	services	
16	Personal services	44,446,942
17	Operating expenses	17,162,151
18	Grants	<u>3,919,106</u>
19	Total	65,528,199
20	Source of funds	
21	General fund	37,090,554
22	Special funds	2,781,912
23	Federal funds	23,540,549
24	Global Commitment fund	1,659,321
25	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>455,863</u>
26	Total	65,528,199
27	Sec. B.317 Department for children and families - family services	
28	Personal services	43,987,652
29	Operating expenses	5,180,385

1	Grants	<u>93,421,639</u>
2	Total	142,589,676
3	Source of funds	
4	General fund	59,707,017
5	Special funds	729,587
6	Federal funds	33,937,204
7	Global Commitment fund	48,178,131
8	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>37,737</u>
9	Total	142,589,676
10	Sec. B.318 Department for children and families - child development	
11	Personal services	5,670,999
12	Operating expenses	810,497
13	Grants	<u>95,860,842</u>
14	Total	102,342,338
15	Source of funds	
16	General fund	35,016,309
17	Special funds	16,745,000
18	Federal funds	37,419,258
19	Global Commitment fund	<u>13,161,771</u>
20	Total	102,342,338
21	Sec. B.319 Department for children and families - office of child support	
22	Personal services	12,411,108
23	Operating expenses	<u>3,714,732</u>
24	Total	16,125,840
25	Source of funds	
26	General fund	4,900,195
27	Special funds	455,719
28	Federal funds	10,382,326
29	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>387,600</u>

1	Total	16,125,840
2	Sec. B.320 Department for children and families - aid to aged, blind and disabled	
3	Personal services	2,252,206
4	Grants	<u>10,431,118</u>
5	Total	12,683,324
6	Source of funds	
7	General fund	7,533,333
8	Global Commitment fund	<u>5,149,991</u>
9	Total	12,683,324
10	Sec. B.321 Department for children and families - general assistance	
11	Personal services	15,000
12	Grants	<u>10,323,574</u>
13	Total	10,338,574
14	Source of funds	
15	General fund	10,041,239
16	Federal funds	11,320
17	Global Commitment fund	<u>286,015</u>
18	Total	10,338,574
19	Sec. B.322 Department for children and families - 3SquaresVT	
20	Grants	<u>44,377,812</u>
21	Total	44,377,812
22	Source of funds	
23	Federal funds	<u>44,377,812</u>
24	Total	44,377,812
25	Sec. B.323 Department for children and families - reach up	
26	Operating expenses	30,633
27	Grants	<u>35,536,413</u>
28	Total	35,567,046
29	Source of funds	

1	General fund	23,233,869
2	Special funds	5,970,229
3	Federal funds	3,531,330
4	Global Commitment fund	<u>2,831,618</u>
5	Total	35,567,046
6	Sec. B.324 Department for children and families - home heating fuel	
7	assistance/LIHEAP	
8	Grants	<u>16,019,953</u>
9	Total	16,019,953
10	Source of funds	
11	Special funds	1,480,395
12	Federal funds	<u>14,539,558</u>
13	Total	16,019,953
14	Sec. B.325 Department for children and families - office of economic	
15	opportunity	
16	Personal services	758,166
17	Operating expenses	95,628
18	Grants	<u>27,534,109</u>
19	Total	28,387,903
20	Source of funds	
21	General fund	20,942,194
22	Special funds	83,135
23	Federal funds	4,935,273
24	Global Commitment fund	<u>2,427,301</u>
25	Total	28,387,903
26	Sec. B.326 Department for children and families - OEO - weatherization	
27	assistance	
28	Personal services	415,233
29	Operating expenses	251,470
30	Grants	<u>11,838,018</u>

1	Total	12,504,721
2	Source of funds	
3	Special funds	7,649,635
4	Federal funds	<u>4,855,086</u>
5	Total	12,504,721
6	Sec. B.327 Department for Children and Families - Secure Residential	
7	Treatment	
8	Personal services	258,100
9	Operating expenses	153,597
10	Grants	<u>3,476,862</u>
11	Total	3,888,559
12	Source of funds	
13	General fund	3,858,559
14	Global Commitment fund	<u>30,000</u>
15	Total	3,888,559
16	Sec. B.328 Department for children and families - disability determination	
17	services	
18	Personal services	7,486,999
19	Operating expenses	<u>489,130</u>
20	Total	7,976,129
21	Source of funds	
22	General fund	118,796
23	Federal funds	<u>7,857,333</u>
24	Total	7,976,129
25	Sec. B.329 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - administration &	
26	support	
27	Personal services	42,900,084
28	Operating expenses	<u>6,323,252</u>
29	Total	49,223,336
30	Source of funds	

1	General fund	21,899,725
2	Special funds	1,390,457
3	Federal funds	24,831,870
4	Global Commitment fund	35,000
5	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,066,284</u>
6	Total	49,223,336
7	Sec. B.330 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - advocacy and	
8	independent living grants	
9	Grants	<u>22,380,328</u>
10	Total	22,380,328
11	Source of funds	
12	General fund	9,220,695
13	Federal funds	7,321,114
14	Global Commitment fund	<u>5,838,519</u>
15	Total	22,380,328
16	Sec. B.331 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - blind and visually	
17	impaired	
18	Grants	<u>1,907,604</u>
19	Total	1,907,604
20	Source of funds	
21	General fund	489,154
22	Special funds	223,450
23	Federal funds	890,000
24	Global Commitment fund	<u>305,000</u>
25	Total	1,907,604
26	Sec. B.332 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - vocational rehabilitation	
27	Grants	<u>10,179,845</u>
28	Total	10,179,845
29	Source of funds	
30	General fund	1,371,845

1	Federal funds	7,558,000
2	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,250,000</u>
3	Total	10,179,845
4	Sec. B.333 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - developmental services	
5	Grants	<u>308,668,057</u>
6	Total	308,668,057
7	Source of funds	
8	General fund	155,125
9	Special funds	15,463
10	Federal funds	431,512
11	Global Commitment fund	308,015,957
12	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>50,000</u>
13	Total	308,668,057
14	Sec. B.334 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - TBI home and	
15	community based waiver	
16	Grants	<u>6,638,028</u>
17	Total	6,638,028
18	Source of funds	
19	Global Commitment fund	<u>6,638,028</u>
20	Total	6,638,028
21	Sec. B.334.1 Disabilities, aging and independent living - Long Term Care	
22	Grants	<u>268,715,683</u>
23	Total	268,715,683
24	Source of funds	
25	General fund	498,579
26	Federal funds	2,450,000
27	Global Commitment fund	<u>265,767,104</u>
28	Total	268,715,683
29	Sec. B.335 Corrections - administration	

1	Personal services	3,806,377
2	Operating expenses	<u>243,057</u>
3	Total	4,049,434
4	Source of funds	
5	General fund	<u>4,049,434</u>
6	Total	4,049,434
7	Sec. B.336 Corrections - parole board	
8	Personal services	412,972
9	Operating expenses	<u>59,257</u>
10	Total	472,229
11	Source of funds	
12	General fund	<u>472,229</u>
13	Total	472,229
14	Sec. B.337 Corrections - correctional education	
15	Personal services	3,648,027
16	Operating expenses	<u>245,425</u>
17	Total	3,893,452
18	Source of funds	
19	General fund	3,744,668
20	Education fund	0
21	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>148,784</u>
22	Total	3,893,452
23	Sec. B.338 Corrections - correctional services	
24	Personal services	139,473,576
25	Operating expenses	<u>24,600,099</u>
26	Total	164,073,675
27	Source of funds	
28	General fund	159,502,946
29	Special funds	935,963

1	Federal funds	492,196
2	Global Commitment fund	2,746,255
3	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>396,315</u>
4	Total	164,073,675
5	Sec. B.338.1 Corrections - Justice Reinvestment II	
6	Grants	<u>10,659,519</u>
7	Total	10,659,519
8	Source of funds	
9	General fund	8,081,831
10	Federal funds	13,147
11	Global Commitment fund	<u>2,564,541</u>
12	Total	10,659,519
13	Sec. B.339 Corrections - Correctional services-out of state beds	
14	Personal services	<u>4,130,378</u>
15	Total	4,130,378
16	Source of funds	
17	General fund	<u>4,130,378</u>
18	Total	4,130,378
19	Sec. B.340 Corrections - correctional facilities - recreation	
20	Personal services	598,105
21	Operating expenses	<u>455,845</u>
22	Total	1,053,950
23	Source of funds	
24	Special funds	<u>1,053,950</u>
25	Total	1,053,950
26	Sec. B.341 Corrections - Vermont offender work program	
27	Personal services	1,220,613
28	Operating expenses	<u>525,784</u>
29	Total	1,746,397

1	Source of funds	
2	Internal service funds	<u>1,746,397</u>
3	Total	1,746,397
4	Sec. B.342 Vermont veterans' home - care and support services	
5	Personal services	18,187,631
6	Operating expenses	<u>5,978,873</u>
7	Total	24,166,504
8	Source of funds	
9	General fund	4,199,478
10	Special funds	11,655,797
11	Federal funds	<u>8,311,229</u>
12	Total	24,166,504
13	Sec. B.343 Commission on women	
14	Personal services	396,540
15	Operating expenses	<u>74,880</u>
16	Total	471,420
17	Source of funds	
18	General fund	467,572
19	Special funds	<u>3,848</u>
20	Total	471,420
21	Sec. B.344 Retired senior volunteer program	
22	Grants	<u>155,490</u>
23	Total	155,490
24	Source of funds	
25	General fund	<u>155,490</u>
26	Total	155,490
27	Sec. B.345 Green Mountain Care Board	
28	Personal services	8,136,639
29	Operating expenses	<u>402,594</u>

1	Total	8,539,233
2	Source of funds	
3	General fund	3,392,339
4	Special funds	<u>5,146,894</u>
5	Total	8,539,233
6	Sec. B.346 Office of the Child, Youth, and Family Advocate	
7	Personal services	387,000
8	Operating expenses	<u>26,000</u>
9	Total	413,000
10	Source of funds	
11	General fund	<u>413,000</u>
12	Total	413,000
13	Sec. B.347 Total human services	
14	Source of funds	
15	General fund	1,231,153,062
16	Special funds	124,537,345
17	Tobacco fund	23,088,208
18	State health care resources fund	25,265,312
19	Education fund	0
20	Federal funds	1,785,709,992
21	Global Commitment fund	1,943,848,077
22	Internal service funds	1,746,397
23	Interdepartmental transfers	28,591,925
24	Permanent trust funds	<u>25,000</u>
25	Total	5,163,965,318
26	Sec. B.400 Labor - programs	
27	Personal services	40,642,780
28	Operating expenses	5,955,495
29	Grants	<u>12,432,900</u>

1	Total	59,031,175
2	Source of funds	
3	General fund	10,600,636
4	Special funds	10,806,858
5	Federal funds	37,373,681
6	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>250,000</u>
7	Total	59,031,175
8	Sec. B.401 Total labor	
9	Source of funds	
10	General fund	10,600,636
11	Special funds	10,806,858
12	Federal funds	37,373,681
13	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>250,000</u>
14	Total	59,031,175
15	Sec. B.500 Education - finance and administration	
16	Personal services	17,683,192
17	Operating expenses	4,387,522
18	Grants	<u>15,270,700</u>
19	Total	37,341,414
20	Source of funds	
21	General fund	7,415,742
22	Special funds	16,575,926
23	Education fund	3,486,447
24	Federal funds	9,220,942
25	Global Commitment fund	260,000
26	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>382,357</u>
27	Total	37,341,414
28	Sec. B.501 Education - education services	
29	Personal services	30,951,380

1	Operating expenses	1,074,585
2	Grants	<u>460,105,273</u>
3	Total	492,131,238
4	Source of funds	
5	General fund	5,293,183
6	Special funds	2,919,560
7	Tobacco fund	750,388
8	Federal funds	<u>483,168,107</u>
9	Total	492,131,238
10	Sec. B.502 Education - special education: formula grants	
11	Grants	<u>226,195,600</u>
12	Total	226,195,600
13	Source of funds	
14	Education fund	<u>226,195,600</u>
15	Total	226,195,600
16	Sec. B.503 Education - state-placed students	
17	Grants	<u>19,000,000</u>
18	Total	19,000,000
19	Source of funds	
20	Education fund	<u>19,000,000</u>
21	Total	19,000,000
22	Sec. B.504 Education - adult education and literacy	
23	Grants	<u>4,412,900</u>
24	Total	4,412,900
25	Source of funds	
26	General fund	3,496,850
27	Federal funds	<u>916,050</u>
28	Total	4,412,900
29	Sec. B.504.1 Education - Flexible Pathways	

1	Grants	<u>10,143,000</u>
2	Total	10,143,000
3	Source of funds	
4	General fund	921,500
5	Education fund	<u>9,221,500</u>
6	Total	10,143,000
7	Sec. B.505 Education - adjusted education payment	
8	Grants	<u>1,703,317,103</u>
9	Total	1,703,317,103
10	Source of funds	
11	Education fund	<u>1,703,317,103</u>
12	Total	1,703,317,103
13	Sec. B.506 Education - transportation	
14	Grants	<u>23,520,000</u>
15	Total	23,520,000
16	Source of funds	
17	Education fund	<u>23,520,000</u>
18	Total	23,520,000
19	Sec. B.507 Education - small school grants	
20	Grants	<u>8,300,000</u>
21	Total	8,300,000
22	Source of funds	
23	Education fund	<u>8,300,000</u>
24	Total	8,300,000
25	Sec. B.509 Education - Afterschool Grant Program	
26	Grants	<u>4,000,000</u>
27	Total	4,000,000
28	Source of funds	
29	Education fund	<u>4,000,000</u>

1	Total	4,000,000
2	Sec. B.510 Education - essential early education grant	
3	Grants	<u>8,350,389</u>
4	Total	8,350,389
5	Source of funds	
6	Education fund	<u>8,350,389</u>
7	Total	8,350,389
8	Sec. B.511 Education - technical education	
9	Grants	<u>17,030,400</u>
10	Total	17,030,400
11	Source of funds	
12	Education fund	<u>17,030,400</u>
13	Total	17,030,400
14	Sec. B.511.1 State Board of Education	
15	Personal services	38,905
16	Operating expenses	<u>31,803</u>
17	Total	70,708
18	Source of funds	
19	General fund	<u>70,708</u>
20	Total	70,708
21	Sec. B.513 Retired Teachers Pension Plus Funding	
22	Grants	<u>9,000,000</u>
23	Total	9,000,000
24	Source of funds	
25	General fund	<u>9,000,000</u>
26	Total	9,000,000
27	Sec. B.514 State teachers' retirement system	
28	Grants	<u>184,811,051</u>
29	Total	184,811,051

1	Source of funds	
2	General fund	151,682,914
3	Education fund	<u>33,128,137</u>
4	Total	184,811,051
5	Sec. B.514.1 State teachers' retirement system administration	
6	Personal services	359,615
7	Operating expenses	<u>3,088,640</u>
8	Total	3,448,255
9	Source of funds	
10	Pension trust funds	<u>3,448,255</u>
11	Total	3,448,255
12	Sec. B.515 Retired teachers' health care and medical benefits	
13	Grants	<u>53,740,528</u>
14	Total	53,740,528
15	Source of funds	
16	General fund	38,318,167
17	Education fund	<u>15,422,361</u>
18	Total	53,740,528
19	Sec. B.516 Total general education	
20	Source of funds	
21	General fund	216,199,064
22	Special funds	19,495,486
23	Tobacco fund	750,388
24	Education fund	2,070,971,937
25	Federal funds	493,305,099
26	Global Commitment fund	260,000
27	Interdepartmental transfers	382,357
28	Pension trust funds	<u>3,448,255</u>
29	Total	2,804,812,586

1	Sec. B.600 University of Vermont	
2	Grants	<u>54,084,366</u>
3	Total	54,084,366
4	Source of funds	
5	General fund	<u>54,084,366</u>
6	Total	54,084,366
7	Sec. B.602 Vermont state colleges	
8	Grants	<u>30,500,464</u>
9	Total	30,500,464
10	Source of funds	
11	General fund	<u>30,500,464</u>
12	Total	30,500,464
13	Sec. B.602.2 Vermont state colleges - Transformation funding	
14	Grants	<u>17,500,000</u>
15	Total	17,500,000
16	Source of funds	
17	General fund	<u>17,500,000</u>
18	Total	17,500,000
19	Sec. B.603 Vermont state colleges - allied health	
20	Grants	<u>1,157,775</u>
21	Total	1,157,775
22	Source of funds	
23	General fund	748,314
24	Global Commitment fund	<u>409,461</u>
25	Total	1,157,775
26	Sec. B.605 Vermont student assistance corporation	
27	Grants	<u>25,378,588</u>
28	Total	25,378,588
29	Source of funds	

1	General fund	<u>25,378,588</u>
2	Total	25,378,588
3	Sec. B.605.1 VSAC - Flexible Pathways Stipend	
4	Grants	<u>82,450</u>
5	Total	82,450
6	Source of funds	
7	General fund	41,225
8	Education fund	<u>41,225</u>
9	Total	82,450
10	Sec. B.606 New England higher education compact	
11	Grants	<u>86,520</u>
12	Total	86,520
13	Source of funds	
14	General fund	<u>86,520</u>
15	Total	86,520
16	Sec. B.607 University of Vermont - Morgan Horse Farm	
17	Grants	<u>1</u>
18	Total	1
19	Source of funds	
20	General fund	<u>1</u>
21	Total	1
22	Sec. B.608 Total higher education	
23	Source of funds	
24	General fund	128,339,478
25	Education fund	41,225
26	Global Commitment fund	<u>409,461</u>
27	Total	128,790,164
28	Sec. B.700 Natural resources - agency of natural resources - administration	
29	Personal services	5,824,798

1	Operating expenses	<u>1,471,913</u>
2	Total	7,296,711
3	Source of funds	
4	General fund	4,914,987
5	Special funds	775,079
6	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,606,645</u>
7	Total	7,296,711
8	Sec. B.701 Natural resources - state land local property tax assessment	
9	Operating expenses	<u>2,674,517</u>
10	Total	2,674,517
11	Source of funds	
12	General fund	2,253,017
13	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>421,500</u>
14	Total	2,674,517
15	Sec. B.702 Fish and wildlife - support and field services	
16	Personal services	21,567,730
17	Operating expenses	7,140,027
18	Grants	<u>936,232</u>
19	Total	29,643,989
20	Source of funds	
21	General fund	7,173,206
22	Special funds	370,644
23	Fish and wildlife fund	10,921,090
24	Federal funds	9,793,589
25	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,385,460</u>
26	Total	29,643,989
27	Sec. B.703 Forests, parks and recreation - administration	
28	Personal services	1,200,585
29	Operating expenses	<u>1,596,687</u>

1	Total	2,797,272
2	Source of funds	
3	General fund	2,675,711
4	Special funds	<u>121,561</u>
5	Total	2,797,272
6	Sec. B.704 Forests, parks and recreation - forestry	
7	Personal services	7,948,381
8	Operating expenses	921,952
9	Grants	<u>1,184,458</u>
10	Total	10,054,791
11	Source of funds	
12	General fund	6,033,830
13	Special funds	702,229
14	Federal funds	3,098,484
15	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>220,248</u>
16	Total	10,054,791
17	Sec. B.705 Forests, parks and recreation - state parks	
18	Personal services	12,306,202
19	Operating expenses	3,741,476
20	Grants	<u>50,000</u>
21	Total	16,097,678
22	Source of funds	
23	General fund	690,613
24	Special funds	<u>15,407,065</u>
25	Total	16,097,678
26	Sec. B.706 Forests, parks and recreation - lands administration and recreation	
27	Personal services	2,496,749
28	Operating expenses	395,675
29	Grants	<u>2,827,587</u>

1	Total	5,720,011
2	Source of funds	
3	General fund	1,110,710
4	Special funds	2,141,005
5	Federal funds	2,225,851
6	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>242,445</u>
7	Total	5,720,011
8	Sec. B.708 Forests, parks and recreation - forest and parks access roads	
9	Personal services	130,000
10	Operating expenses	<u>99,925</u>
11	Total	229,925
12	Source of funds	
13	General fund	<u>229,925</u>
14	Total	229,925
15	Sec. B.709 Environmental conservation - management and support services	
16	Personal services	8,525,369
17	Operating expenses	4,700,521
18	Grants	<u>116,640</u>
19	Total	13,342,530
20	Source of funds	
21	General fund	2,039,082
22	Special funds	788,553
23	Federal funds	2,129,363
24	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>8,385,532</u>
25	Total	13,342,530
26	Sec. B.710 Environmental conservation - air and waste management	
27	Personal services	26,006,961
28	Operating expenses	10,026,393
29	Grants	<u>4,905,988</u>

1	Total	40,939,342
2	Source of funds	
3	General fund	193,565
4	Special funds	26,236,633
5	Federal funds	14,342,090
6	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>167,054</u>
7	Total	40,939,342
8	Sec. B.711 Environmental conservation - office of water programs	
9	Personal services	48,062,786
10	Operating expenses	7,982,625
11	Grants	<u>46,863,117</u>
12	Total	102,908,528
13	Source of funds	
14	General fund	9,971,201
15	Special funds	30,662,978
16	Federal funds	61,487,925
17	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>786,424</u>
18	Total	102,908,528
19	Sec. B.713 Natural resources board	
20	Personal services	3,082,659
21	Operating expenses	<u>397,315</u>
22	Total	3,479,974
23	Source of funds	
24	General fund	713,735
25	Special funds	<u>2,766,239</u>
26	Total	3,479,974
27	Sec. B.714 Total natural resources	
28	Source of funds	
29	General fund	37,999,582

1	Special funds	79,971,986
2	Fish and wildlife fund	10,921,090
3	Federal funds	93,077,302
4	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>13,215,308</u>
5	Total	235,185,268
6	Sec. B.800 Commerce and community development - agency of commerce and	
7	community development - administration	
8	Personal services	2,610,304
9	Operating expenses	982,307
10	Grants	<u>539,820</u>
11	Total	4,132,431
12	Source of funds	
13	General fund	3,666,442
14	Federal funds	351,000
15	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>114,989</u>
16	Total	4,132,431
17	Sec. B.801 Economic development	
18	Personal services	4,803,989
19	Operating expenses	1,050,879
20	Grants	<u>6,433,544</u>
21	Total	12,288,412
22	Source of funds	
23	General fund	5,489,902
24	Special funds	616,421
25	Federal funds	4,358,416
26	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,823,673</u>
27	Total	12,288,412
28	Sec. B.802 Housing and community development	
29	Personal services	6,428,334

1	Operating expenses	705,584
2	Grants	<u>23,739,005</u>
3	Total	30,872,923
4	Source of funds	
5	General fund	5,031,943
6	Special funds	6,937,054
7	Federal funds	15,854,615
8	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>3,049,311</u>
9	Total	30,872,923
10	Sec. B.806 Tourism and marketing	
11	Personal services	5,208,860
12	Operating expenses	8,930,168
13	Grants	<u>1,050,000</u>
14	Total	15,189,028
15	Source of funds	
16	General fund	4,630,975
17	Federal funds	10,483,053
18	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>75,000</u>
19	Total	15,189,028
20	Sec. B.808 Vermont council on the arts	
21	Grants	<u>896,940</u>
22	Total	896,940
23	Source of funds	
24	General fund	<u>896,940</u>
25	Total	896,940
26	Sec. B.809 Vermont symphony orchestra	
27	Grants	<u>145,320</u>
28	Total	145,320
29	Source of funds	

1	General fund	<u>145,320</u>
2	Total	145,320
3	Sec. B.810 Vermont historical society	
4	Grants	<u>1,060,699</u>
5	Total	1,060,699
6	Source of funds	
7	General fund	<u>1,060,699</u>
8	Total	1,060,699
9	Sec. B.811 Vermont housing and conservation board	
10	Grants	<u>86,519,068</u>
11	Total	86,519,068
12	Source of funds	
13	Special funds	24,552,855
14	Federal funds	<u>61,966,213</u>
15	Total	86,519,068
16	Sec. B.812 Vermont humanities council	
17	Grants	<u>300,000</u>
18	Total	300,000
19	Source of funds	
20	General fund	<u>300,000</u>
21	Total	300,000
22	Sec. B.813 Total commerce and community development	
23	Source of funds	
24	General fund	21,222,221
25	Special funds	32,106,330
26	Federal funds	93,013,297
27	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>5,062,973</u>
28	Total	151,404,821
29	Sec. B.900 Transportation - finance and administration	

1	Personal services	16,695,727
2	Operating expenses	5,232,777
3	Grants	<u>50,000</u>
4	Total	21,978,504
5	Source of funds	
6	Transportation fund	20,977,164
7	Federal funds	<u>1,001,340</u>
8	Total	21,978,504
9	Sec. B.901 Transportation - aviation	
10	Personal services	3,532,154
11	Operating expenses	13,397,252
12	Grants	<u>345,000</u>
13	Total	17,274,406
14	Source of funds	
15	Transportation fund	6,166,805
16	Federal funds	<u>11,107,601</u>
17	Total	17,274,406
18	Sec. B.902 Transportation - buildings	
19	Operating expenses	<u>1,525,000</u>
20	Total	1,525,000
21	Source of funds	
22	Transportation fund	<u>1,525,000</u>
23	Total	1,525,000
24	Sec. B.903 Transportation - program development	
25	Personal services	65,810,461
26	Operating expenses	311,158,635
27	Grants	<u>25,916,923</u>
28	Total	402,886,019
29	Source of funds	

1	Transportation fund	50,411,002
2	TIB fund	22,129,870
3	Special funds	3,000,000
4	Federal funds	321,560,449
5	Interdepartmental transfers	1,411,518
6	Local match	<u>4,373,180</u>
7	Total	402,886,019
8	Sec. B.904 Transportation - rest areas construction	
9	Personal services	800,000
10	Operating expenses	<u>846,444</u>
11	Total	1,646,444
12	Source of funds	
13	Transportation fund	166,964
14	Federal funds	<u>1,479,480</u>
15	Total	1,646,444
16	Sec. B.905 Transportation - maintenance state system	
17	Personal services	42,637,277
18	Operating expenses	<u>65,043,488</u>
19	Total	107,680,765
20	Source of funds	
21	Transportation fund	106,934,950
22	Federal funds	645,815
23	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>100,000</u>
24	Total	107,680,765
25	Sec. B.906 Transportation - policy and planning	
26	Personal services	4,984,735
27	Operating expenses	1,099,716
28	Grants	<u>7,227,544</u>
29	Total	13,311,995

1	Source of funds	
2	Transportation fund	3,260,534
3	Federal funds	9,989,315
4	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>62,146</u>
5	Total	13,311,995
6	Sec. B.906.1 Transportation - Environmental Policy and Sustainability	
7	Personal services	2,009,518
8	Grants	<u>25,964,730</u>
9	Total	27,974,248
10	Source of funds	
11	Transportation fund	472,695
12	Federal funds	22,095,781
13	Local match	<u>5,405,772</u>
14	Total	27,974,248
15	Sec. B.907 Transportation - rail	
16	Personal services	3,622,004
17	Operating expenses	<u>39,386,316</u>
18	Total	43,008,320
19	Source of funds	
20	Transportation fund	15,608,462
21	Federal funds	26,596,858
22	Interdepartmental transfers	671,000
23	Local match	<u>132,000</u>
24	Total	43,008,320
25	Sec. B.908 Transportation - public transit	
26	Personal services	4,062,649
27	Operating expenses	90,285
28	Grants	<u>44,642,396</u>
29	Total	48,795,330

1	Source of funds	
2	Transportation fund	9,016,189
3	Federal funds	39,639,141
4	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>140,000</u>
5	Total	48,795,330
6	Sec. B.909 Transportation - central garage	
7	Personal services	5,367,400
8	Operating expenses	<u>18,588,985</u>
9	Total	23,956,385
10	Source of funds	
11	Internal service funds	<u>23,956,385</u>
12	Total	23,956,385
13	Sec. B.910 Department of motor vehicles	
14	Personal services	31,563,822
15	Operating expenses	<u>13,346,863</u>
16	Total	44,910,685
17	Source of funds	
18	Transportation fund	42,101,908
19	Federal funds	2,687,081
20	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>121,696</u>
21	Total	44,910,685
22	Sec. B.911 Transportation - town highway structures	
23	Grants	<u>7,416,000</u>
24	Total	7,416,000
25	Source of funds	
26	Transportation fund	<u>7,416,000</u>
27	Total	7,416,000
28	Sec. B.912 Transportation - town highway local technical assistance program	
29	Personal services	443,165

1	Operating expenses	<u>34,750</u>
2	Total	477,915
3	Source of funds	
4	Transportation fund	117,915
5	Federal funds	<u>360,000</u>
6	Total	477,915
7	Sec. B.913 Transportation - town highway class 2 roadway	
8	Grants	<u>8,858,000</u>
9	Total	8,858,000
10	Source of funds	
11	Transportation fund	<u>8,858,000</u>
12	Total	8,858,000
13	Sec. B.914 Transportation - town highway bridges	
14	Personal services	16,970,000
15	Operating expenses	19,731,775
16	Grants	<u>500,000</u>
17	Total	37,201,775
18	Source of funds	
19	TIB fund	3,099,345
20	Federal funds	32,908,515
21	Local match	<u>1,193,915</u>
22	Total	37,201,775
23	Sec. B.915 Transportation - town highway aid program	
24	Grants	<u>28,672,753</u>
25	Total	28,672,753
26	Source of funds	
27	Transportation fund	<u>28,672,753</u>
28	Total	28,672,753
29	Sec. B.916 Transportation - town highway class 1 supplemental grants	

1	Grants	<u>128,750</u>
2	Total	128,750
3	Source of funds	
4	Transportation fund	<u>128,750</u>
5	Total	128,750
6	Sec. B.917 Transportation - town highway: state aid for nonfederal disasters	
7	Grants	<u>1,150,000</u>
8	Total	1,150,000
9	Source of funds	
10	Transportation fund	<u>1,150,000</u>
11	Total	1,150,000
12	Sec. B.918 Transportation - town highway: state aid for federal disasters	
13	Grants	<u>180,000</u>
14	Total	180,000
15	Source of funds	
16	Transportation fund	20,000
17	Federal funds	<u>160,000</u>
18	Total	180,000
19	Sec. B.919 Transportation - municipal mitigation assistance program	
20	Personal services	100,000
21	Operating expenses	275,000
22	Grants	<u>10,113,523</u>
23	Total	10,488,523
24	Source of funds	
25	Transportation fund	705,000
26	Special funds	5,000,000
27	Federal funds	<u>4,783,523</u>
28	Total	10,488,523
29	Sec. B.920 Transportation - public assistance grant program	

1	Operating expenses	200,000
2	Grants	<u>1,050,000</u>
3	Total	1,250,000
4	Source of funds	
5	Special funds	50,000
6	Federal funds	1,000,000
7	Interdepartmental transfers	<u>200,000</u>
8	Total	1,250,000
9	Sec. B.921 Transportation board	
10	Personal services	169,068
11	Operating expenses	<u>24,412</u>
12	Total	193,480
13	Source of funds	
14	Transportation fund	<u>193,480</u>
15	Total	193,480
16	Sec. B.922 Total transportation	
17	Source of funds	
18	Transportation fund	303,903,571
19	TIB fund	25,229,215
20	Special funds	8,050,000
21	Federal funds	476,014,899
22	Internal service funds	23,956,385
23	Interdepartmental transfers	2,706,360
24	Local match	<u>11,104,867</u>
25	Total	850,965,297
26	Sec. B.1000 Debt service	
27	Operating expenses	<u>75,705,398</u>
28	Total	75,705,398
29	Source of funds	

1	General fund	75,377,993
2	Transportation fund	<u>327,405</u>
3	Total	75,705,398
4	Sec. B.1001 Total debt service	
5	Source of funds	
6	General fund	75,377,993
7	Transportation fund	<u>327,405</u>
8	Total	75,705,398

9

10 * * * Fiscal Year 2024 One-time Appropriations * * *

11

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

13 APPROPRIATIONS

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

16 (1) \$2,300,000 General Fund to create, implement, and oversee a
17 comprehensive statewide language access plan;

18 (2) \$15,000,000 General Fund to be used to offset the cost of denied
19 claims for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reimbursement.

20 (3) \$500,000 General Fund for community grants related to health
21 equity. These funds shall not be released until the recommendation and report
22 required by Sec. E.100.1 of this act, regarding the permanent administrative
23 location for the Office of Health Equity, is provided to the committees of

1 jurisdiction listed in Sec. E.100.1 of this act and the positions in the Office of
2 Health Equity created by this act are filled.

3 (b) Vermont State Colleges. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for
4 the following:

5 (1) \$3,820,000 General Fund and \$5,180,000 American Rescue Plan
6 Act (ARPA) – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds for bridge funding to
7 support ongoing system transformation; and

8 (2) \$4,000,000 General Fund for the Community College of Vermont
9 to reduce the tuition fee for certificates, degrees, and courses that have a direct
10 nexus to Vermont business and industry needs.

11 (c) Department of Human Resources. In fiscal year 2024, funds are
12 appropriated for the following:

13 (1) \$725,000 General Fund to fund seven new permanent full-time
14 positions in the Operations division in fiscal year 2024. These position costs
15 shall be funded through the Department of Human Resources – Internal
16 Service Fund beginning in fiscal year 2025;

17 (2) \$75,000 General Fund to fund one new permanent full-time position
18 in the VTHR Operations division in fiscal year 2024. This position cost shall
19 be funded through the Department of Human Resources – Internal Service
20 Fund beginning in fiscal year 2025; and

1 (3) \$1,900,000 General Fund for the implementation of a Paid Family
2 and Medical Leave Insurance program available to all State employees in fiscal
3 year 2024. This program cost shall be funded through the Department of
4 Human Resources – Internal Service Fund beginning in fiscal year 2025.

5 (d) \$200,000 General Fund to the Department of Libraries in fiscal year
6 2024 to support the FiberConnect project relating to Internet access in public
7 libraries.

8 (e) Department of Public Safety. In fiscal year 2024, funds are
9 appropriated for the following:

10 (1) \$190,000 General Fund for external carriers (vests) that improve the
11 ergonomics of ballistic personal protective equipment; and

12 (2) \$500,000 General Fund for hiring incentives, including hiring
13 bonuses, to be paid to all new sworn members and emergency communication
14 dispatchers; recruitment awards to current members for successful recruitment
15 of a new member (criteria dependent); and student loan debt repayment of up
16 to \$10,000 per new hire toward the repayment of preexisting student loan debt.

17 (f) Military Department. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the
18 following:

19 (1) \$10,000 General Fund for a grant to the USS Vermont Support
20 Group, a nonprofit organization supporting military members serving on the
21 USS Vermont (SSN 792) and their families; and

1 (2) \$10,000 General Fund for a grant to North Country Honor Flight, an
2 organization that sponsors escorted trips for veterans to visit the war memorials
3 on the National Mall, to cover the expenses of 10 Vermont resident attendees.

4 (g) Criminal Justice Council. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated
5 for the following:

6 (1) \$1,200,000 General Fund for a three-phase accreditation process to
7 include job task analysis, curriculum development and piloting;

8 (2) \$20,000 General Fund for a records management system to ensure
9 efficient and compliant recordkeeping, including case management tracking,
10 reporting, and compliance monitoring for remote learning; and

11 (3) \$200,000 General Fund for a request for proposals and contracts
12 related to procedure development; off-site course development; records
13 management system transition; developing pathways to certification; and
14 medical personnel.

15 (h) \$210,000 General Fund to the Office of the Defender General in fiscal
16 year 2024, for the case management system.

17 (i) Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets. In fiscal year 2024, funds
18 are appropriated for the following:

19 (1) \$110,000 General Fund for electric vehicle charger inspections.

20 Funds shall be used for the purchase of two testing units and related equipment

1 to support the development and implementation of the Commercial Electric
2 Vehicle Fueling Systems regulatory program;

3 (2) \$1,070,000 General Fund for replacement of the existing Food
4 Safety Inspection Database; and

5 (3) \$500,000 General Fund for a grant to Salvation Farms to expand
6 access to locally grown food for all Vermonters.

7 (j) \$105,000 General Fund to the Department of Mental Health in fiscal
8 year 2024 for expediting competency and sanity evaluations.

9 (k) Green Mountain Care Board. In fiscal year 2024, funds are
10 appropriated for the following:

11 (1) \$620,000 General Fund for costs associated with the implementation
12 of the Vermont Health Care Uniform Reporting and Evaluation System
13 (VHCURES) database;

14 (2) \$120,500 General Fund for the implementation of a new financial
15 database solution; and

16 (3) \$50,000 General Fund for the development of the statutorily required
17 Health Resources Allocation Plan Tool.

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

20 (1) \$1,000,000 General Fund to the State Refugee Office for the
21 Employment Assistance Grants program created in 2022 Acts and Resolves

1 No. 185, Sec. B.1100, as amended by 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 3, Sec. 45.

2 Funds remaining at the end of fiscal year 2025 shall revert to the General

3 Fund:

4 (2) \$8,834,000 General Fund and \$11,483,302 Federal Revenue Fund

5 #22005 for a two-year pilot to expand the Blueprint for Health Hub and Spoke

6 program. Funds shall be used to expand the substances covered by the

7 program, include mental health and pediatric screenings, and make strategic

8 investments with community partners;

9 (3) \$10,000,000 General Fund to continue to address the emergent and

10 exigent circumstances impacting health care providers following the COVID-

11 19 pandemic; and

12 (4) \$10,534,603 General Fund and \$13,693,231 Federal Revenue Fund

13 #22005 for use as Global Commitment matching funds for one-time caseload

14 pressures due to the suspension of Medicaid eligibility redeterminations.

15 (m) \$366,066 General Fund and \$372,048 Federal Revenue Fund #22005

16 to the Department of Vermont Health Access for a two-year pilot to expand the

17 Blueprint for Health Hub and Spoke program and \$15,583,352 Global

18 Commitment Fund #20405 to the Department of Health Access Medicaid

19 program for a two-year pilot to expand the Blueprint for Health Hub and Spoke

20 program.

1 (n) Department of Health. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for
2 the following:

3 (1) \$4,595,448 Global Commitment Fund #20405 to the Division of
4 Substance Use Programs for a two-year pilot to expand the Blueprint for
5 Health Hub and Spoke program;

6 (2) \$30,000 General Fund for a housing voucher program administered
7 by the Vermont Association of Recovery Residences and Jenna’s Promise to
8 pay for a recovery home residents’ first month of rent;

9 (3) \$1,590,000 General Fund for the Division of Substance Use
10 Programs, in conjunction with \$1,410,000 appropriated from the General Fund
11 in Sec. B.313 of this act representing 30 percent of the fiscal year 2023
12 forecast for cannabis excise tax and used in a manner consistent with the
13 Substance Misuse Prevention Coalition funding intent as stated in 2022 Acts
14 and Resolves No. 185, Sec. B.1100(a)(12)(A)(i);

15 (4) \$500,000 Tobacco Settlement Fund for Division of Substance Use
16 Programs for tobacco and substance use disorder prevention and cessation
17 activities. The Division shall require that information on the use of the funds
18 appropriated in accordance with this section be provided to the Division by
19 grantees in an agreed-upon time frame, including the specific activities
20 supported by the funds, a description of the number of individuals served, and
21 information on the outcomes achieved by this investment. On or before,

1 January 10, 2024, the Division shall report on these metrics to the House and
2 Senate Committees on Appropriations, to the House Committee on Human
3 Services, and to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare;

4 (5) \$100,000 General Fund to the Department of Health to support the
5 Regional Emergency Medical Services Coordination study, which may include
6 hiring a consultant or others with technical expertise or both for the purpose of
7 assisting the Department in conducting its study and writing a report on its
8 findings and recommendations;

9 (6) \$100,000 General Fund to the Division of Substance Use Programs
10 for a grant to Jenna's Promise;

11 (7) \$5,000,000 General Fund for the purpose of supporting the
12 Community Violence Prevention Program established by legislation enacted in
13 2023. Unexpended appropriations shall carry forward into the subsequent
14 fiscal year and remain available for use for this purpose. All or part of this
15 appropriation may be transferred to the Department of Health for this Program
16 if necessary;

17 (8) \$375,000 General Fund to be granted to the Vermont Foundation for
18 Recovery for one-time program support; and

19 (9) \$350,000 General Fund to be granted to the Bridges to Health and
20 University of Vermont Extension Community Health Worker Outreach

1 program to support outreach, enrollment, education, transition, referral and
2 care coordination to migrant workers and farm families through June 30, 2024.

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

5 (1) \$2,000,000 General Fund to implement the two-year Reach Ahead
6 Pilot Program. Funds shall be used to increase monthly food assistance
7 benefits to Reach Ahead participants, expand the eligibility window for those
8 leaving Reach Up, and provide incentive payments;

9 (2) \$650,000 General Fund for the 2-1-1 service line. The Department,
10 in consultation with the Agency of Human Service Central Office, shall report
11 on the status of the service and its funding to the Joint Fiscal Committee on or
12 before the Committee's November 2023 meeting;

13 (3) \$40,000 General Fund to fund the purchase of a driving school
14 vehicle for the Youth Development Program to support foster and former
15 foster youth access to driver's education;

16 (4) \$18,884,610 General Fund to address the estimated need for the
17 Adverse Weather Conditions policy and General Assistance Emergency
18 Housing hotel and motel expenditures in fiscal year 2024;

19 (5) \$5,000,000 General Fund to the Housing Opportunity Grant Program
20 to expand and provide wraparound supports and services for homeless
21 households;

1 (6) \$3,000,000 General Fund for a grant to the Vermont Food Bank to
2 support increased capacity of services to meet persistent food insecurity;

3 (7) \$100,000 General Fund for a grant to the Vermont Food Bank in
4 consultation with the Junior League of Vermont for the statewide distribution
5 of diapers to families in need;

6 (8) \$50,000 General Fund for a grant to the Vermont Donor Milk Center
7 for statewide activities;

8 (9) \$130,000 General Fund for a grant to the Snelling Center to restart
9 the Early Childhood Education Leadership Program; and

10 (10) \$300,000 General Fund for a grant to Prevent Child Abuse
11 Vermont to provide education regarding the prevention of unsafe infant sleep
12 and to expand programming and support services regarding child abuse often
13 related to parental substance misuse.

14 (p) Department of Labor. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for
15 the following:

16 (1) \$200,000 General Fund to be granted to the State Workforce
17 Development Board for the New American Labor Force Program; and

18 (2) \$1,000,000 General Fund to provide services under the Work-Based
19 Learning and Training Program established pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 547.

20 (q) Natural Resources Board. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated
21 for the following:

1 (1) \$1,000,000 General Fund for the digitization of Natural Resources
2 Board documents. Funds shall be used for the continued digitization of
3 permanent, paper-based Act 250 land use permit records currently located at
4 the Natural Resources Board's five district offices; and

5 (2) \$200,000 General Fund for an Act 250 study contract. Funds shall
6 be used to contract with a consultant to assist with the preparation of a report
7 on updates necessary to the Act 250 program, per 2022 Acts and Resolves No.
8 182, Sec. 41(a).

9 (r) \$200,000 General Fund in fiscal year 2024 to the Agency of Education
10 for the work of the School Construction Task Force.

11 (s) \$35,000 General Fund to the Vermont Symphony Orchestra to support
12 the celebration of the Symphony's 90th season.

13 (t) \$1,200,000 General Fund to the Vermont Housing and Conservation
14 Board to administer and support the activities of the Land Access and
15 Opportunity Board.

16 (u) \$1,750,000 Tax – Current Use Administration Fund #21594 to the
17 Department of Taxes for the digitization of the Current Use program.

18 (v) Public Service Department. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated
19 for the following:

20 (1) \$500,000 Regulation/Energy Efficiency Fund #21698 to upgrade and
21 expand the ePSD case management system;

1 (2) \$400,000 Regulation/Energy Efficiency Fund #21698 to complete
2 the Telecom Plan Update scheduled for June 2024; and

3 (3) \$300,000 Regulation/Energy Efficiency Fund #21698 to craft policy
4 proposals to reform and streamline electric sector policy.

5 (w) Agency of Digital Services. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated
6 for the following:

7 (1) \$10,000,000 Technology Modernization Fund #21951 for Network
8 and Security Infrastructure Modernization including planning and design and
9 the replacement of legacy infrastructure, hardware and software, platforms
10 underlying the network and security architecture.

11 (A) The Agency of Digital Services shall select a vendor through a
12 competitive bid process. The Agency of Digital Services shall consider bids
13 with options to buy or lease equipment. Per 3 V.S.A. § 3303, any project with
14 a total cost of \$1,000,000 or greater shall be subject to an expert independent
15 review. The review shall include an analysis of all options, although the
16 Agency of Digital Services is limited to the bids that it receives. The Agency
17 of Digital Services may also purchase or lease equipment through a separate
18 competitive bid process.

19 (B) Once a vendor has been selected and an expert independent
20 review completed, the Agency of Digital Services shall issue a verbal or
21 written report to the Joint Information Technology Oversight Committee.

1 (x) \$4,680,000 General Fund to the Judiciary for the Judiciary network
2 replacement project.

3 (A) Judiciary shall update the Joint Information Technology
4 Oversight Committee on the status of this project on or before December 1,
5 2023.

6 (y) \$117,000 General Fund to the Agency of Commerce and Community
7 Development for a grant to the Vermont 250th Anniversary Commission for
8 the 250th celebration.

9 (z) Vermont Center for Crime Victims' Services. In fiscal year 2024, funds
10 are appropriated for the following:

11 (1) \$25,000 General Fund for a grant for a monument to the survivors
12 of St Joseph's Orphanage; and

13 (2) \$10,000 General Fund to continue the work of the Intercollegiate
14 Sexual Harm Prevention Council.

15 (aa) \$450,000 General Fund to the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and
16 Independent Living to continue the SASH pilot for another year.

17 (bb) \$100,000 General Fund to the Vermont Pension Investment
18 Commission for a study on the assets of the State's pension systems.

19 (cc) \$750,000 General Fund to the State Treasurer for the initial costs of
20 the Vermont Saves program.

1 (dd) Secretary of State. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the
2 following:

3 (1) \$1,000,000 General Fund for a grant to the Vermont Access
4 Network to offset declining cable revenues.

5 (2) \$100,000 General Fund for grants to municipalities for ranked
6 choice voting.

7 (ee) Joint Fiscal Office. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the
8 following:

9 (1) \$250,000 for per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses
10 for members of the Task Force on Economic Development Incentives and for
11 consulting services approved by the Task Force.

12 (2) \$75,000 for per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses
13 for members of the Legislative Working Group on Renewable Energy
14 Standard Reform and for consulting services related to this Group's work.

15 * * * Workforce Development * * *

16 Sec. B.1101 WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – FISCAL
17 YEAR 2024 ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS

18 (a) Education workforce.

19 (1) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$500,000 is appropriated from the
20 General Fund to the Agency of Education for the purpose of funding the
21 Emerging Pathways Grant Program to encourage and support the development

1 and retention of qualified and effective Vermont educators with the goal of
2 increased program completion rates and increased rates of licensure of
3 underrepresented demographics. These grants are to expand support,
4 mentoring, and professional development to prospective educators seeking
5 licensure through the Agency of Education's emerging pathways, including
6 peer review and apprentice pathways.

7 (A) Program administration. The Agency shall adopt policies,
8 procedures, and guidelines necessary for implementation of the grant program.
9 The Agency shall report to General Assembly on the status of the program on
10 or before January 15, 2024.

11 (B) Eligibility criteria. The Agency shall issue grants to
12 organizations, school districts, or a group of school districts for the
13 development and administration of programs designed to provide prospective
14 educators in emerging pathways with the support necessary for successful
15 entry into the educator workforce. Recruitment, support, and retention of
16 prospective educator candidates shall focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion.
17 Support provided through the program may include:

18 (i) support through the Praxis exam process;

19 (ii) local, educator-led seminars designed around the Vermont
20 licensure portfolio themes;

21 (iii) local educator mentors;

1 (iv) support in completing the peer review portfolio and licensing
2 process; and

3 (v) continued professional development support within the first
4 year of licensure.

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

13 (A) To be eligible for a forgivable loan under the program an
14 individual, whether a resident or nonresident of Vermont, shall satisfy all of
15 the following requirements:

16 (i) be enrolled in a teaching program at an eligible school;

17 (ii) maintain good standing at the eligible school at which the
18 individual is enrolled;

19 (iii) agree to work as a teacher in a Vermont public school for a
20 minimum of one year following licensure for each year of forgivable loan
21 awarded;

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

5 (v) have completed the program's application form, the Free
6 Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), and, for Vermont residents, the
7 Vermont grant application each academic year of enrollment in accordance
8 with a schedule determined by the Corporation; and

9 (vi) have provided such other documentation as the Corporation
10 may require.

11 (B) If an eligible individual fails to serve as a teacher in a Vermont
12 public school for a period that would entitle the individual to the full forgivable
13 loan benefit received by the individual, other than for good cause as
14 determined by the Corporation, then the individual shall receive only partial
15 loan forgiveness for a pro rata portion of the loan pursuant to the terms of the
16 interest-free credit agreement or promissory note signed by the individual at
17 the time of entering the program.

18 (C) There shall be no deadline to apply for a forgivable loan under
19 this section. Forgivable loans shall be awarded on a rolling basis provided
20 funds are available, and any funds remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall

1 roll over and shall be available to the Corporation in the following fiscal year
2 to award additional forgivable loans as set forth in this section.

3 (D) The Corporation shall adopt policies, procedures, and guidelines
4 necessary to implement the provisions of this section, including maximum
5 forgivable loan amounts. The Corporation shall not use more than seven
6 percent of the funds appropriated for the program for its costs of administration
7 and may recoup its reasonable costs of collecting the forgivable loans in
8 repayment.

9 (3) In fiscal year 2024, the sum of \$30,000 is appropriated from the
10 General Fund to the Agency of Education for the purpose of funding the
11 Historically Underrepresented Educator Affinity Groups Grant Program to
12 provide grants for the support of existing and development of new educator
13 affinity groups for historically underrepresented groups. The Agency of
14 Education shall administer the program.

15 (A) The Agency shall adopt policies, procedures, and guidelines
16 necessary for the implementation of the program established pursuant to this
17 subdivision.

18 (b) Youth workforce and high school completion.

19 (1) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$2,300,000 is appropriated from
20 the General Fund to the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation to fund
21 the Vermont Serve, Learn, and Earn Program, which supports workforce

1 development goals through creating meaningful paid service and learning
2 opportunities for young adults, through the Serve, Learn, and Earn Partnership
3 made up of the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps, Vermont Audubon,
4 Vermont Works for Women, and Resource VT. The Department shall enter
5 into a grant agreement with the Partnership that specifies the required services
6 and outcomes for the Program.

7 (2) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$1,000,000 is appropriated from
8 the General Fund to the Agency of Education for grants to Adult Basic
9 Education programs to provide bridge funding for Adult Basic Education
10 programs while the study and report required by Sec. E.504 of this act is
11 completed.

12 (c) Higher education.

13 (1) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$500,000 is appropriated from the
14 General Fund to the Vermont State Colleges to establish a Bachelor of Science
15 program in restorative justice at Vermont State University.

16 (2) In fiscal year 2024 the amount of \$1,500,000 is appropriated from
17 the General Fund to the Vermont State Colleges to establish the Certificate in
18 3-D Technology program.

19 (3) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$3,800,000 is appropriated from
20 the General Fund to the Vermont State Colleges to provide Critical
21 Occupations Scholarships for eligible students with a household income of

1 \$75,000 or less enrolled in education programs that lead to a career in the
2 following: early childhood occupations, clinical mental health counseling,
3 criminal justice occupations, dental hygienists, and all levels of nursing.

4 (4) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$1,500,000 is appropriated from
5 the General Fund to the University of Vermont to provide additional free
6 classes through the Upskill Vermont Scholarship Program for Vermont
7 residents seeking to transition to a new career or to enhance job skills.

8 (5) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$1,500,000 is appropriated from
9 the General Fund to the University of Vermont Office of Engagement, in
10 consultation with the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation, for additional
11 forgivable loans of \$5,000 per graduate for recent college graduates across all
12 Vermont higher education institutions who commit to work in Vermont for
13 two years after graduation.

14 (6) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$350,000 is appropriated from the
15 General Fund to the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation for a subgrant to
16 Advance Vermont to continue work pursuant to 2022 Acts and Resolves No.
17 183, Sec. 39 in support of the State's goal articulated in 10 V.S.A. § 546 that
18 70 percent of working-age Vermonters hold a credential of value by 2025. On
19 or before December 15, 2023, Advance Vermont shall report to the General
20 Assembly regarding outcomes achieved, the use of these State funds, and the
21 other fund sources Advance Vermont has secured for this project.

1 (d) Healthcare and social services workforce.

2 (1) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$1,000,000 is appropriated from
3 the General Fund to the Department of Health to be transferred as needed to
4 the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation for the Vermont Psychiatric
5 Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Forgivable Loan Incentive Program created
6 in 18 V.S.A. § 39.

7 (2) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$1,000,000 is appropriated from
8 the General Fund to the Department of Health to provide training for
9 emergency medical services personnel.

10 (3) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$170,000 is appropriated from the
11 General Fund to the Agency of Human Services to provide one additional year
12 of funding for the classified, three-year limited-service Health Care Workforce
13 Coordinator position created in the Agency of Human Services, Office of
14 Health Care Reform, pursuant to 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 183, Sec. 34(a).

15 (4) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$3,000,000 is appropriated from
16 the General Fund to the Department of Mental Health to address workforce
17 needs at the designated and specialized service agencies. These funds shall not
18 be released until a plan to meet training and retention is mutually agreed upon
19 by the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living and the
20 designated and specialized service agencies and approved by the Joint Fiscal
21 Committee if the legislature is not in session or the General Assembly in the

1 subsequent legislation. All or a portion of these funds may be used as
2 matching funds to the Agency of Human Services Global Commitment
3 program to provide State match if any part of the plan is eligible to draw
4 federal funds. It is the intent of the General Assembly to maximize the value
5 of this one-time funding through eligible Global Commitment investment.

6 (e) Corrections workforce.

7 (1) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$200,000 is appropriated from the
8 General Fund to the Department of Corrections for the purpose of contracting
9 or expanding an existing contract with a vendor to provide supervisory and
10 management professional development services to the Department's
11 employees in accordance with the Department's efforts to address an employee
12 workforce crisis and strengthen workplace satisfaction, pursuant to Sec. F.17
13 of this act.

14 (f) Economic development.

15 (1) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$5,000,000 is appropriated from
16 the General Fund to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development
17 for the Vermont Training Program to fulfill Vermont's obligation to procure
18 incentives in accordance with the Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce
19 Semiconductors for America (CHIPS) Act.

20 (2) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$1,250,000 is appropriated from
21 the General Fund to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development

1 for a grant to the regional development corporations to provide small- and mid-
2 sized businesses with professional and technical assistance.

3 (3) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$72,000 is appropriated from the
4 General Fund to the Vermont Council on the Arts to provide a State match for
5 National Endowment for the Arts funding to enable the Council to continue its
6 work boosting the creative economy in Vermont.

7 (4) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$8,000,000 General Fund is
8 appropriated to the Department of Economic Development for Brownfields
9 redevelopment consistent with Sec. F.5 of this act.

10 (5) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$1,000,000 General Fund is
11 appropriated to the Department for Children and Families to augment service
12 support funding in the Reach Up program.

13 (6) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$90,000 is appropriated from the
14 General Fund to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development for a
15 subgrant to the Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund to expand its Business
16 Coaching program to work with a group of existing energy services businesses
17 interested in adopting a climate centered mission and working with trades
18 persons looking to start their own climate-centered business.

19 (g) Agriculture Economic Development

1 (1) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$1,000,000 General Fund is
2 appropriated to the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets for the Working
3 Lands Enterprise grant program.

4 (2) In fiscal year 2024, \$2,300,000 General Fund is appropriated to the
5 Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets to fund Agriculture Development
6 Grants for meat, produce, and maple processing. The Secretary of Agriculture,
7 Food and Markets shall determine that there are significant interests in
8 establishing certain parameters in the grant program before making an award.
9 Grants should be awarded to farmers, processors, and businesses, which shall
10 not include hydroponic operations. Furthermore, the Secretary shall not
11 allocate more than 25 percent of grant funds toward the maple industry. Of the
12 funds appropriated under this subdivision, an amount not to exceed \$125,000
13 may be used by the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets to support the
14 cost of temporary employees to administer the grants.

15 (3) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$6,900,000 General Fund is
16 appropriated to the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets to fund
17 Agriculture Development Grants for the Organic Dairy Farm Assistance
18 Program.

19 (4) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$300,000 General Fund is
20 appropriated to the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets for a grant to the
21 Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund as follows:

1 (A) \$100,000 to the Independent Retail Grocers Project; and

2 (B) \$200,000 to the Beef on Dairy Project.

3 (5) In fiscal year 2024, \$150,000 General Fund is appropriated to the
4 Vermont Housing and Conservation Board for the establishment by the Farm
5 Viability Program of a pilot program to award a grant for the use of virtual
6 fences, solar powered collars, and solar powered transmitters to control
7 livestock. As used in this section, “livestock” means cattle, horses, sheep,
8 swine, and goats.

9 (6) In fiscal year 2024, \$415,000 General Fund is appropriated to the
10 Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets to fully fund the Dairy Risk
11 Management Assistance Program for farmers who enroll in calendar year
12 2023. These funds are in addition to the unexpended funds appropriated under
13 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 83, Sec. 68 to implement the Dairy Risk
14 Management Assistance Program.

15 (7) In fiscal year 2024, \$150,000 General Fund is appropriated to the
16 Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets for the Small Farmer Diversification
17 and Transition Program. The Agency staff who support the Working Lands
18 Enterprise Board shall administer the Program and provide small farmers in
19 Vermont with State financial assistance in the form of grants.

20 (A) Program applicants shall:

1 (i) be a small farmer and not permitted as a medium farm or large
2 farm at the time of application.

3 (ii) have a proposed plan for diversification or transition that
4 includes possible markets for the proposed product and probable income; and

5 (iii) demonstrate to the Agency that there is potential from the
6 proposed diversification or transition to create additional income for the
7 applicant.

8 (B) Small Farmer Diversification and Transition Program grants shall
9 be used for costs of:

10 (i) diversifying the farm products produced by the applicant;

11 (ii) transitioning the applicant from one form of farming to
12 another;

13 (iii) processing of farm products on the farm owned or controlled
14 by the applicant; and

15 (iv) development of an accessory on-farm business by the
16 applicant.

17 (C) The Working Lands Enterprise Board shall not require applicants
18 for a Small Farmer Diversification and Transition Program grant to provide a
19 match or to pay a minimum percentage of eligible project cost for which the
20 grant is proposed for use.

1 (D) The Secretary and the Working Lands Enterprise Board shall
2 provide public notice of the availability of grants from Small Farmer
3 Diversification and Transition Program as separate from the Working Lands
4 Enterprise Board’s traditional grants. The Secretary shall publicize the Small
5 Farmer Diversification and Transition Program grants in newsletters, press
6 releases, e-mail, and other communications from the Agency of Agriculture,
7 Food and Markets.

8 (E) As used in this subdivision B.1101(f)(7), “small farmer” means
9 any person who:

10 (i) is engaged in “farming” as that term is defined in 10 V.S.A.
11 § 6001(22), regardless of the size of the parcel, and whose gross income from
12 the sale of the farm products equals at least one-half of the farmer’s annual
13 gross income; or

14 (ii) a small farm subject to the Required Agricultural Practices.

15 Sec. B.1101.1 TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION

16 (a) In fiscal year 2024, \$240,000 General Fund is appropriated to the Truth
17 and Reconciliation Commission. These funds, in combination with
18 carryforward funds shall provide fiscal year 2024 funding for the
19 Commission’s activities.

20 * * * Affordable Housing * * *

21 Sec. B.1102 AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT – FISCAL YEAR

1 2024 ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS

2 (a) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$10,000,000 General Fund is
3 appropriated to the Department of Housing and Community Development for
4 the Vermont Rental Housing Improvement Program established in 10 V.S.A. §
5 699.

6 (b) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$300,000 General Fund is
7 appropriated to the Department of Housing and Community Development for a
8 grant to the Vermont Association of Planning and Development Agencies for
9 the purpose of hiring Housing Navigators.

10 (c) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$50,000,000 General Fund is
11 appropriated to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB):

12 (1) \$10,000,000 to provide support and enhance capacity for emergency
13 shelter and permanent homes for those experiencing homelessness. The funds
14 shall be used to expand Vermont's shelter capacity, provide homes for those
15 experiencing homelessness, and decrease reliance on the General Assistance
16 Emergency Housing hotel and motel program. The Vermont Housing and
17 Conservation Board shall consult with the Agency of Human Services to
18 ensure new investments in homes and shelters are paired with appropriate
19 support services for residents, including services supported through Medicaid.
20 Funded projects may utilize a range of housing options, including the
21 expansion of shelter capacity, the conversion of hotels to housing, creation of

1 permanent supportive housing, and utilization of manufactured homes on infill
2 sites.

3 (2) \$40,000,000 to provide support and enhance capacity for the
4 production and preservation of affordable mixed-income rental housing and
5 homeownership units, including improvements to manufactured homes and
6 communities, permanent homes for those experiencing homelessness, recovery
7 residences, and housing available to farm workers and refugees. The Board is
8 authorized to utilize up to 10 percent of these resources for innovative
9 approaches to helping communities meet their housing needs.

10 * * * Climate and Environment * * *

11 Sec. B.1103 CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT – FISCAL YEAR 2024

12 ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS

13 (a) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$700,000 General Fund is
14 appropriated to the Agency of Natural Resources – Central Office for
15 refrigerant management. Funds shall be used for incentives to improve or
16 replace commercial and industrial refrigeration systems with the goal of
17 reducing the use of high global warming potential (GWP) refrigerants.

18 (b) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$900,000 General Fund is
19 appropriated to the Agency of Natural Resources – Climate Action Office for
20 technical analyses, tools, and training. Funds shall be used for investments in
21 ongoing evaluation, implementation support and tracking of the impact of

1 programs, and policy approaches needed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions
2 and improve landscape-level resilience consistent with the Global Warming
3 Solutions Act.

4 (c) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$2,000,000 General Fund is
5 appropriated to the Department of Public Service for the School Heating
6 Assistance with Renewables and Efficiency Program (SHARE) to assist Title I
7 eligible schools in repairing or renovating their existing wood chip or pellet
8 heating systems or to install new wood chip or pellet heating systems.

9 (d) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$150,000 General Fund is
10 appropriated to the Department of Fish and Wildlife for Wildlife Crop Damage
11 Payments. Funds shall be used for payments to farmers under the provisions
12 of 10 V.S.A. §§ 4829.

13 (e) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$500,000 General Fund is
14 appropriated to the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation for Parks
15 personnel housing. Funds shall be used to renovate, remediate, and expand on-
16 site housing opportunities, including installation of full hook-ups for RVs;
17 splitting existing staff housing into multiple units; and making critical (health
18 and safety) repairs to the existing housing stock for Vermont State Parks staff
19 in critical locations statewide.

20 (f) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$1,000,000 General Fund is
21 appropriated to the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation for Small

1 Communities Outdoor Recreation Grant matching funds. Funds shall be used
2 to support Vermont communities by providing State match funds for federal
3 recreation grants.

4 (g) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$500,000 General Fund is
5 appropriated to the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation for emerald
6 ash borer mitigation and low income heating assistance. Funds shall be used to
7 remove high-risk ash trees on Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation
8 lands and provide free firewood to households with low income.

9 (h) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$2,500,000 General Fund is
10 appropriated to the Department of Environmental Conservation for the
11 Brownfields Reuse and Environmental Liability Limitation Act as codified in
12 10 V.S.A. chapter 159. Funds shall be used for the assessment and cleanup
13 planning for a maximum of 25 brownfields sites.

14 (i) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$600,000 General Fund is
15 appropriated to the Department of Environmental Conservation for the
16 Emissions Repair Program. Funds shall be used for the Emissions Repair
17 Program established by 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 55, Sec. 25 for fiscal
18 years 2024 through 2026.

19 (j) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$6,100,000 American Rescue Plan
20 Act (ARPA) – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds is appropriated to the
21 Department of Environmental Conservation for the Healthy Homes Initiative.

1 Funds shall be used to make repairs or improvements to drinking water,
2 wastewater, or stormwater systems for Vermonters who have low to moderate
3 income or who live in manufactured housing communities, or both.

4 (k) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$1,000,000 General Fund is
5 appropriated to the Department of Environmental Conservation for
6 Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) technical assistance. Funds shall be used
7 to support statewide groundwater Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)
8 remediation efforts.

9 (l) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$5,000,000 Environmental
10 Contingency Fund #21275 is appropriated to the Department of Environmental
11 Conservation for statewide Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) groundwater
12 remediation.

13 (m) In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$850,000 Transportation Fund is
14 appropriated to the Agency of Transportation for a grant to Green Mountain
15 Transit to operate routes on a zero-fare basis and prepare for the transition to
16 tiered-fare service.

17 * * * Retired Teachers' One-time COLA Payment * * *

18 Sec. B.1104 FISCAL YEAR 2024 ONE-TIME APPROPRIATION;

19 RETIRED TEACHERS' COST OF LIVING PAYMENT

20 (a) In fiscal year 2024, notwithstanding any provision of 16 V.S.A. § 4025
21 to the contrary, the amount of \$3,000,000 is appropriated to the Vermont State

1 Teachers' Retirement System from the Education Fund for Calendar Year
2 2023 supplemental payments made in Sec. E.514.2(b) of this act and
3 associated costs.

4 * * * Cash Fund for Capital and Essential Investments * * *

5 Sec. B.1105 CASH FUND FOR CAPITAL AND ESSENTIAL

6 INVESTMENTS – FISCAL YEAR 2024 ONE-TIME

7 APPROPRIATIONS

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

11 (1) \$400,000 is appropriated to the Department of Buildings and
12 General Services for planning, reuse, and contingency;

13 (2) \$1,700,000 is appropriated to the Department of Buildings and
14 General Services for roof replacement and brick façade repairs at the
15 McFarland State Office Building in Barre;

16 (3) \$135,000 is appropriated to the Department of Buildings and
17 General Services for 32 Cherry Street, parking garage repairs;

18 (4) \$1,000,000 is appropriated to the Department of Buildings and
19 General Services for roof replacement at the Central Services complex in
20 Middlesex;

1 (5) \$150,000 is appropriated to the Department of Buildings and
2 General Services for design documents for the State House expansion in
3 Montpelier;

4 (6) \$1,000,000 is appropriated to the Department of Buildings and
5 General Services for the renovation of the interior HVAC steam lines at 120
6 State Street;

7 (7) \$600,000 is appropriated to the Department of Buildings and
8 General Services for planning for the boiler replacement at the Northern State
9 Correctional Facility in Newport;

10 (8) \$750,000 is appropriated to the Department of Buildings and
11 General Services for planning for renovations to the administration building,
12 West Cottage, at the Criminal Justice Training Council in Pittsford;

13 (9) \$600,000 is appropriated to the Department of Buildings and
14 General Services for the Agency of Human Services for the planning and
15 design of the booking expansion at the Northwest State Correctional Facility;

16 (10) \$1,000,000 is appropriated to the Department of Buildings and
17 General Services for the Agency of Human Services for the planning and
18 design of the Department for Children and Families' short-term stabilization
19 facility;

1 (11) \$750,000 is appropriated to the Department of Buildings and
2 General Services for the Judiciary for renovations at the Washington County
3 Superior Courthouse in Barre;

4 (12) \$250,000 is appropriated to the Department of Buildings and
5 General Services for the Department of Public Safety for the planning and
6 design of the Special Teams Facility and Storage;

7 (13) \$250,000 is appropriated to the Department of Buildings and
8 General Services for the Department of Public Safety for the planning and
9 design of the Rutland Field Station;

10 (14) \$300,000 is appropriated to the Department of Buildings and
11 General Services for the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets for the
12 planning and design of the Vermont Agriculture and Environmental
13 Laboratory Heat Plant;

14 (15) \$1,000,000 is appropriated to the Department of Buildings and
15 General Services for electric vehicle charging stations at State buildings;

16 (16) \$4,000,000 is appropriated to the Agency of Natural Resources for
17 the Department of Environmental Conservation for the Municipal Pollution
18 Control Grants for pollution control projects and planning advances for
19 feasibility studies;

1 (17) \$3,000,000 is appropriated to the Agency of Natural Resources for
2 the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation for the maintenance facilities
3 at the Gifford Woods State Park and Groton Forest State Park; and

4 (18) \$800,000 is appropriated to the Agency of Natural Resources for
5 the Department of Fish and Wildlife for infrastructure maintenance and
6 improvements of the Department's buildings, including conservation camps.

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

11 (1) \$9,800,000 is appropriated to the Agency of Natural Resources for
12 the Department of Environmental Conservation for the State match to the
13 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act for the Drinking Water State Revolving
14 Fund and the Clean Water State Revolving Fund;

15 (2) \$4,500,000 is appropriated to the Agency of Natural Resources for
16 the Department of Environmental Conservation for the Waterbury Dam
17 rehabilitation;

18 (3) \$7,500,000 is appropriated to the Vermont State Colleges for
19 construction, renovation, and major maintenance at any facility owned or
20 operated in the State by the Vermont State Colleges; infrastructure

1 transformation planning; and the planning, design, and construction of Green
2 Hall and Vail Hall; and

3 (4) \$9,225,000 is appropriated to the Department of Mental Health for
4 construction of a psychiatric youth inpatient facility in the State.

5 (c) In fiscal year 2024, \$3,000,000 as appropriated in Sec. B.903 –
6 Transportation – program development of this act from the Cash Fund for
7 Capital and Essential Investments is for projects as specified in the State
8 transportation plan.

9 (d) In fiscal year 2024, to the extent funds are available from transfers
10 made in Sec. C.109 of this act, the projects in this subsection (d) shall receive
11 an appropriation from the Other Infrastructure, Essential Investments, and
12 Reserves subaccount in the Cash Fund for Capital and Essential Investments in
13 the following order:

14 (1) \$1,000,000 is appropriated to the Department of Mental Health for a
15 grant to Pathways Vermont for the purchase and renovation of a building to
16 serve as a permanent home for the Soteria House program.

17 (A) Prior to issuing the grant, the Commissioner of Mental Health,
18 with the assistance of the Secretary of Human Services and Commissioner of
19 Buildings and General Services, shall review the accuracy and
20 comprehensiveness of the financial analysis of the Pathways Vermont proposal
21 to purchase specified property and operate the Soteria House program.

1 (B) An accounting of the respective State and Pathways Vermont
2 shares of investment in this property shall be maintained in order to refund to
3 the State an appropriate share of any net proceeds resulting from future
4 divestiture of the property.

5 (2) \$1,000,000 is appropriated to the Department of Housing and
6 Community Development for a grant to the Vermont Housing Finance Agency
7 for its first generation homebuyer program.

8 (3) \$10,000,000 is appropriated to the Department of Housing and
9 Community Development for a grant to the Vermont Housing Finance Agency
10 to provide capitalization of revolving loan fund for the development of
11 'missing middle' rental housing.

12 (4) \$1,000,000 is appropriated to the Agency of Transportation for rail
13 trail grants.

14 (5) \$5,000,000 is appropriated to the Department of Economic
15 Development for the Rural Industrial Development Grant Program as
16 established in this act.

17 (6) \$3,500,000 is appropriated to the Agency of Transportation for the
18 Saint Albans garage replacement project.

19 (e) If a project described in this section has received an appropriation prior
20 to the effective date of this act and is not in compliance with the requirements
21 of 29 V.S.A. § 161, then the project shall not be subject to the requirements of

1 29 V.S.A. § 161 if any of the following apply as of the effective date of this

2 act:

3 (1) the project has been invited or advertised for bid;

4 (2) the project is under contract; or

5 (3) the funds are obligated.

6 * * * Fiscal Year 2023 Adjustments, Appropriations, and Amendments * * *

7 Sec. C.100 FISCAL YEAR 2023 GENERAL FUND UNALLOCATED

8 CARRYFORWARD

9 (a) After satisfying the requirements of 32 V.S.A. § 308, and after other
10 reserve requirements have been met, but prior to satisfying the requirements of
11 32 V.S.A. § 308c, the first \$337,449,200 of remaining unreserved and
12 undesignated funds at the close of fiscal year 2023 shall remain in the General
13 Fund and be carried forward to fiscal year 2024.

14 Sec. C.100.1 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. D.101 as amended by
15 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 3, Sec. 48 is further amended to read:

16 Sec. D.101 FUND TRANSFERS, REVERSIONS, AND RESERVES

17 * * *

18 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, in fiscal year
19 2023:

20 * * *

1 Sec. C.102 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec. E.335, as amended by 2022
2 Acts and Resolves No. 83, Sec. 62, and 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec.
3 C.111 is further amended to read:

4 Sec. E.335 CORRECTIONS APPROPRIATIONS; UNEXPENDED
5 FUNDS TRANSFER; JUSTICE REINVESTMENT;
6 REPORT

7 * * *

8 (c) Any funds ~~expended~~ authorized to be used on ~~community-based service~~
9 ~~programs~~ justice reinvestment programs pursuant to subsection (b) of this
10 section ~~shall be included in the subsequent year Department of Corrections~~
11 ~~budget for the same purpose at the same amount~~ may be carried forward over
12 multiple fiscal years until fully expended.

13 Sec. C.103 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. E.335 is amended to read:

14 Sec. E.335 CORRECTIONS APPROPRIATIONS; UNEXPENDED
15 FUNDS TRANSFER; JUSTICE REINVESTMENT; REPORT

16 * * *

17 (c) ~~Any funds expended on community-based service programs pursuant to~~
18 ~~subsection (b) of this section shall be included in the subsequent year~~
19 ~~Department of Corrections budget for the same purpose at the same amount.~~

20 [Repealed.]

1 Sec. C.104 DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

2 ARPA-SFR PROJECT FUNDS REVERSION

3 (a) \$1,100,000 of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – Coronavirus
4 State Fiscal Recovery Funds appropriated to the Department of Environmental
5 Conservation in 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec. G.501(a)(2) shall revert
6 to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery
7 Funds for reallocation in fiscal year 2024.

8 Sec. C.105 32 V.S.A. § 1001b is amended to read:

9 § 1001b. CASH FUND FOR CAPITAL EXPENDITURE CASH FUND AND
10 ESSENTIAL INVESTMENTS

11 (a) Creation. There is hereby created the ~~Capital Expenditure~~ Cash Fund
12 for Capital and Essential Investments to be administered by the Commissioner
13 of Finance and Management, in consultation with the State Treasurer, ~~for the~~
14 ~~purpose of using general funds.~~ The Fund shall have the following two
15 subaccounts:

16 (1) the Capital Infrastructure subaccount, to defray the costs of future
17 capital expenditures that would otherwise be authorized in the capital
18 construction act and paid for using the State’s general obligation bonding
19 authority and debt service obligations or paid for as a direct associated cost of
20 a capital project; and

1 (2) the Other Infrastructure, Essential Investments, and Reserves
2 subaccount, to fund essential investments and infrastructure needs, create
3 reserves for these expenditures and make contingent appropriations for other
4 infrastructure investments, as authorized by the General Assembly.

5 (b) Fund Accounts. ~~The Fund may consist of:~~

6 (1) Capital Infrastructure subaccount. The Capital Infrastructure
7 subaccount may consist of:

8 (A) transfers made by the General Assembly of four percent or less
9 of the last completed fiscal year's General Fund appropriations, less the
10 amount necessary to fund the State's general obligation debt service in the year
11 for which the transfer is being made, as determined by the State Treasurer and
12 the Commissioner of Finance and Management; and

13 (B) any interest earned by the subaccount.

14 (2) Other Infrastructure, Essential Investments, and Reserves
15 subaccount. The Other Infrastructure, Essential Investments, and Reserves
16 subaccount may consist of any appropriations or transfers made by the General
17 Assembly; from the General Fund or any other State fund and

18 ~~(2) any interest earned by the Fund.~~ any contingent transfers made by
19 the General Assembly from the General Fund after satisfying the requirements
20 of 32 V.S.A. § 308 but prior to satisfying the requirements of 32 V.S.A. § 308c

1 in any fiscal year and any contingent transfers made by the General Assembly
2 from other State funds.

3 (c) Use of funds. ~~Expenditure shall only be made from the Fund by~~
4 ~~appropriations by the General Assembly. Plans for use shall be submitted as~~
5 ~~part of the operating budget adjustment or operating budget process. Monies~~
6 in the Fund Accounts shall only be used ~~for~~ as follows:

7 (1) ~~costs associated with a proposed capital project that occur prior to~~
8 ~~the construction phase of that project, including feasibility, planning, design,~~
9 ~~and engineering and architectural costs; Expenditures shall only be made by~~
10 the General Assembly from the Capital Infrastructure subaccount for:

11 (A) tangible capital investments, as described in section 309 of this
12 title, with an anticipated lifespan of 20 years or more; and

13 (B) engineering and architectural costs directly associated with a
14 proposed capital project.

15 (2) ~~projects with an anticipated lifespan of less than 20 years;~~
16 Expenditures shall only be made by the General Assembly from the Other
17 Infrastructure, Essential Investments, and Reserves subaccount for:

18 (A) any expenditure eligible under subdivision (1) of this subsection
19 (c); and

1 (B) any other essential investments and infrastructure needs,
2 including transportation-related projects and capitalization of revolving loan
3 funds.

4 ~~(3) costs associated with the early redemption of general obligation~~
5 ~~bonds; and~~

6 ~~(4) other eligible capital projects receiving an appropriation from the~~
7 ~~General Assembly.~~

8 (d) Fund balance. All balances in the Fund accounts at the end of any
9 fiscal year shall be carried forward and remain part of the Fund accounts.
10 Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 511, the Commissioner of Finance and
11 Management shall not anticipate receipts for the Fund accounts and issue
12 warrants thereon.

13 ~~(e) Early redemption transfer. If any expenditures are made from the Fund~~
14 ~~or the General Assembly appropriates general funds to pay for the early~~
15 ~~redemption of general obligation bonds pursuant to subdivision (c)(3) of this~~
16 ~~section, then an amount equal to the reduction in debt service required in any~~
17 ~~fiscal year resulting from that redemption shall be transferred to the Fund~~
18 Spending authority. Any entity authorized to make expenditures from the
19 Capital Infrastructure subaccount shall have not more than two years from the
20 legislative session in which the act authorizing the expenditure was enacted to

1 encumber the funds. Any remaining unencumbered funds shall remain part of
2 the Fund account.

3 Sec. C.106 29 V.S.A. § 161 is amended to read:

4 § 161. REQUIREMENTS ON STATE CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

5 * * *

6 (b) Each contract awarded under this section for any State project with a
7 construction cost exceeding \$100,000.00 ~~or~~ a construction project with a
8 construction cost exceeding \$200,000.00 ~~which~~ that is authorized and is at
9 least 50 percent funded by a capital construction act pursuant to 32 V.S.A. §
10 701a, or a construction project with a construction cost exceeding \$200,000.00
11 that is at least 50 percent funded by the Cash Fund for Capital Infrastructure
12 and Other Essential Investments established in 32 V.S.A. § 1001 shall provide
13 that all construction employees working on the project shall be paid ~~no~~ not less
14 than the mean prevailing wage published periodically by the Vermont
15 Department of Labor in its occupational employment and wage survey plus an
16 additional fringe benefit of 42 and one-half percent of wage, as calculated by
17 the current Vermont prevailing wage survey. As used in this section, “fringe
18 benefits” means benefits, including paid vacations and holidays, sick leave,
19 employer contributions and reimbursements to health insurance and retirement
20 benefits, and similar benefits that are incidents of employment.

1 (c) In the construction of any State project, local capable labor shall be
2 utilized whenever practicable, but this section shall not be construed to compel
3 any person to discharge or lay off any regular employee.

4 (d) Subsections (a) through (c) of this section shall not apply to
5 maintenance or construction projects carried out by the Agency of
6 Transportation and by the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation.

7 * * *

8 Sec. C.107 32 V.S.A. § 1001 is amended to read:

9 § 1001. CAPITAL DEBT AFFORDABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

10 * * *

11 (c) Committee estimate of a prudent amount of net State tax-supported
12 debt; affordability considerations. On or before September 30 of each year, the
13 Committee shall submit to the Governor and the General Assembly the
14 Committee's estimate of net State tax-supported debt that prudently may be
15 authorized for the next fiscal year, together with a report explaining the basis
16 for the estimate. The Committee's estimate shall not take into consideration
17 the balance remaining at the end of each fiscal year in the subaccounts of the
18 Cash Fund for Capital and Essential Investments, established pursuant to
19 section 1001b of this title. The provisions of 2 V.S.A. § 20(d) (expiration of
20 required reports) shall not apply to the report to be made under this subsection.

1 In developing its annual estimate, and in preparing its annual report, the
2 Committee shall consider:

3 * * *

4 Sec. C.108 RESERVES FOR INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AND
5 JOBS ACT (IIJA) MATCH

6 (a) In fiscal year 2023, the Cash Fund for Capital and Essential Investments
7 initial balance amount of \$25,000,000 is reserved in the Other Infrastructure,
8 Essential Investments, and Reserves subaccount to provide the State match in
9 fiscal years 2025 and 2026 needed for federal funding for transportation related
10 projects under the IIJA. These funds shall only be expended if authorized by
11 the General Assembly.

12 (b) To the extent available in fiscal years 2023 and 2024, the amount of
13 \$14,500,000 is reserved in the Other Infrastructure, Essential Investments, and
14 Reserves subaccount of the Cash Fund for Capital and Essential Investments to
15 provide the State match in fiscal years 2025 and 2026 needed for federal
16 funding for water and wastewater related projects under the IIJA. These funds
17 shall only be expended if authorized by the General Assembly.

18 Sec. C.109 SUPPLEMENTAL CONTINGENT TRANSFERS TO CASH
19 FUND FOR CAPITAL AND ESSENTIAL INVESTMENTS

20 (a) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, to the extent any fund
21 specified in 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. D.101(b)(2) as amended by

1 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 3, Sec. 48 has an unobligated fund balance in
2 fiscal year 2023, the Commissioner of Finance and Management shall transfer
3 to the subaccount created under 32 V.S.A. 1001b(b)(2) the respective fiscal
4 year 2023 unobligated special fund balances. The Commissioner shall report
5 the amounts transferred pursuant to this provision to the Joint Fiscal
6 Committee in July 2023.

7 (b) To the extent available in fiscal year 2023, \$22,500,000 shall be
8 transferred from the General Fund to the Cash Fund for Capital and Essential
9 Investments pursuant to the provisions of 32 V.S.A. § 1001b(b)(2).

10 Sec. C.110 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 183, Sec. 51a is amended to read:

11 Sec. 51a. COVID-19-RELATED PAID LEAVE GRANT PROGRAM

12 (a) Establishment and appropriation.

13 (1) There is established in the Department of Financial Regulation the
14 COVID-19-Related Paid Leave Grant Program to administer and award grants
15 to employers to reimburse the cost of providing COVID-19-related paid leave
16 to employees as provided in subsection (e) of this section.

17 (2) The sum of ~~\$15,180,000~~ \$5,000,000 is appropriated from the
18 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery
19 Funds to the Department of Financial Regulation for fiscal years 2023 and
20 2024 for the provision of grants to reimburse employers for the cost of
21 providing COVID-19-related paid leave. ~~Not more than seven percent of the~~

1 ~~amount appropriated pursuant to this subdivision may be used for expenses~~
2 ~~related to Program administration and outreach.~~

3 * * *

4 (c) Grant program.

5 * * *

6 (3)(A) Employers may submit applications for grants during the period
7 beginning on October 1, 2022 and ending on September 30, 2023 and may
8 submit an application not more than once each calendar quarter during that
9 period. Grant applications shall be submitted for paid leave provided during
10 the preceding calendar quarter and, subject to subdivision (B) of this
11 subdivision (3), for calendar quarters in the program period prior to the
12 preceding calendar quarter.

13 (B) An employer shall be permitted to request grant funds for costs
14 related to COVID-19-related paid leave described in subsection (e) of this
15 section in a calendar quarter prior to the preceding calendar quarter if:

16 (i) the employer has not already received grant funds in relation to
17 the COVID-19-related leave; and

18 (ii) the costs of the COVID-19-related leave are eligible for a
19 grant pursuant to the provisions of this section and any applicable federal
20 requirements.

1 Sec. C.112 FUNDING OF POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYLS (PCB)

2 REMEDIATION AND REMOVAL IN SCHOOLS

3 (a) Education Fund; PCB appropriations. Notwithstanding 2022 Acts and
4 Resolves No. 178, Sec. 2(b):

5 (1) the funds reserved within the Education Fund for purposes of
6 investigation, remediation, and removal of PCBs from schools are unreserved;
7 and

8 (2) the unexpended or unobligated amount of the \$2,500,000 transferred
9 by the Emergency Board to the Agency of Education for PCB remediation
10 shall revert to the Education Fund for further allocation.

11 (b) Agency of Education; PCB remediation and removal reimbursement.
12 Notwithstanding 16 V.S.A. § 4025(d), \$29,500,000 and the unexpended funds
13 identified under subdivision (a)(2) of this section shall be appropriated from
14 the Education Fund to the Agency of Education in fiscal year 2024 for the
15 following purposes:

16 (1) Grants to schools in the State that are required to conduct
17 investigation, remediation, or removal of PCB contamination in the school
18 after Agency of Natural Resources testing but have not received a grant from
19 the Agency of Education for the costs of investigation, remediation, or
20 removal. The grants shall be in an amount sufficient to pay for 100 percent of
21 the school's investigation, remediation, or removal costs required by the

1 Agency of Natural Resources Investigation and Remediation of Contaminated
2 Properties Rule, including the costs incurred, when necessary, under State or
3 federal law to relocate students to a facility during remediation or removal
4 activities.

5 (2) Grants to schools in the State that conducted investigation,
6 remediation, or removal of PCBs in the school after Agency of Natural
7 Resources testing and received a grant for 80 percent of the costs of
8 remediation or removal from the Agency of Education. The grants under this
9 subdivision (2) shall be in an amount that will reimburse the school for any
10 remediation or removal costs not paid by the Agency of Natural Resources.

11 (3) A grant to the Burlington School District to reimburse the school
12 district for the actual cost of demolition and removal of PCB contamination at
13 Burlington High School, not to exceed \$16,000,000.

14 (c) Reimbursement. If a school district in the State recovers money from
15 litigation or other award for work covered under a grant issued under this
16 section, the school district shall reimburse the State the amount of the recovery
17 or the amount of the grant awarded to the school district under subsection (b)
18 of this section, whichever amount is less. Any reimbursed monies shall be
19 deposited into the Education Fund and reserved for use for school construction
20 as approved by the General Assembly.

1 (b) It is not the intent of the General Assembly to establish a public safety
2 communications system that disrupts or in any way jeopardizes the exceptional
3 dispatch services currently in place or the existing 911 system, but rather to
4 support, enhance, strengthen, and build upon those efforts and initiatives.

5 (c) The transition to a public safety communications system as specified in
6 subsection (a) of this section shall be overseen and managed by the temporary
7 Public Safety Communications Task Force established in subsection (d) of this
8 section.

9 (d)(1) There is established a Public Safety Communications Task Force to
10 oversee and manage all phases of the development, design, and
11 implementation of a statewide public safety communications system as
12 required by this section.

13 (2) The Task Force shall consist of seven members as follows:

14 (A) the Executive Director of the Enhanced 911 Board, who shall
15 serve as Co-Chair;

16 (B) the Commissioner of Public Safety or designee, who shall serve
17 as Co-Chair;

18 (C) one municipal official appointed by the Executive Director of the
19 Vermont League of Cities and Towns;

1 (D) one representative from a public safety answering point overseen
2 by a municipal police department appointed by the Vermont Association of
3 Chiefs of Police;

4 (E) one emergency medical technician or paramedic appointed by the
5 Vermont State Ambulance Association;

6 (F) one firefighter appointed by the Vermont State Firefighters'
7 Association; and

8 (G) the Chair of the Regional Dispatch Working Group established
9 by the General Assembly in Act 185 of 2022.

10 (3) At its initial organizational meeting the Task Force shall elect from
11 among its members a vice chair. Meetings may be held at the call of a Co-
12 Chair or at the request of two members. A majority of sitting members shall
13 constitute a quorum, and action taken by the Task Force may be authorized by
14 a majority of the members present and voting. Except for those members
15 regularly employed by the State, members are entitled to a per diem in the
16 amount of \$150 for each day spent in the performance of their duties. All
17 members, including members otherwise regularly employed by the State, shall
18 receive their actual and necessary expenses when away from home or office
19 upon their official duties pursuant to this section. A vacancy shall be filled by
20 the respective appointing authority. If the Chair of the Regional Dispatch
21 Working Group declines to participate as a member of the Task Force, the

1 Task Force shall appoint one member who shall have expertise relevant to the
2 purposes of this section.

3 (4) The Task Force is authorized to retain a project manager and one or
4 more additional consultants with relevant expertise in public safety
5 communications technology, design, and financing to assist with the
6 requirements of this section.

7 (5) The Department of Public Safety shall provide the Task Force with
8 administrative services and support.

9 (6)(A) The Task Force, in consultation with the Secretary of
10 Administration, shall develop procedures and best practices for State agency
11 cooperation and coordination on matters of overlapping jurisdiction. The
12 primary purpose of this subdivision is to ensure the Task Force has access to
13 expertise and data related to its mission, including expertise within and data
14 maintained by the Department of Public Service, the Agency of Digital
15 Services, the Division of Emergency Preparedness, Response and Injury within
16 the Department of Health, the Department of Taxes, the Agency of
17 Transportation, the Enhanced 911 Board, and the Department of Public Safety.

18 (B) Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to waive any
19 privilege or protection otherwise afforded information by law due solely to the
20 fact that the information is shared with the Task Force pursuant to this
21 subdivision.

1 (7) All meetings of the Task Force shall be open to the public and
2 conducted in accordance with the Vermont Open Meeting Law. All records of
3 the Task Force are subject to the Vermont Public Records Act.

4 (8) The Task Force shall cease to exist when a State entity authorized by
5 legislative enactment to permanently oversee and manage the public safety
6 communications system becomes operational.

7 (e) The establishment of a statewide public safety communications system
8 shall occur in essentially three phases, which include data collection and
9 analysis, design, and implementation. Certain aspects of each phase may occur
10 simultaneously as deemed appropriate by the Task Force.

11 (1) Data collection and analysis. On or before September 15, 2024, the
12 Task Force shall conduct a complete inventory and assessment of all aspects of
13 dispatch service currently provided in Vermont and, to the extent possible,
14 dispatch service currently provided outside Vermont for response agencies
15 located in Vermont, which shall include:

16 (A) an inventory of all existing dispatch infrastructure and
17 equipment, including facilities, hardware, software, applications, and land
18 mobile radio systems, referring to and incorporating any existing relevant data
19 collected by a State or municipal entity;

1 (B) the number of full-time and part-time personnel currently
2 performing dispatch service, taking into account personnel who have other
3 responsibilities in addition to providing dispatch service;

4 (C) the current total spending on dispatch service in Vermont that
5 includes and itemizes for each municipality and dispatch center all federal,
6 State, and municipal appropriations and fees, every contract for dispatch or
7 first responder service, and projected budgets;

8 (D) identification of the communications dead zones in the State,
9 meaning those areas that lack the infrastructure to support public safety land-
10 mobile-radio communications or cellular voice and data service, or both, and
11 taking into consideration all cell towers, including those that are part of the
12 FirstNet statewide public safety radio access network; cellular mapping efforts
13 conducted by the Department of Public Service; and any existing, relevant
14 mapping data collected by a dispatch center or other entity;

15 (E) with the assistance of the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, a
16 needs assessment to determine where and to what extent there are gaps in
17 dispatch service or significant challenges to the delivery of dispatch service
18 and to identify those municipalities that are likely to be most affected by either
19 the curtailment of dispatch service from the two State-run public safety
20 answering points or from a new financing mechanism for the continuation of
21 such service;

1 (F) an assessment of the service provided by each dispatch center and
2 identification of particular challenges or vulnerabilities, if any, including with
3 regard to workforce, failover procedures, communications technology, costs,
4 and governance; and

5 (G) collection and assessment of any other information the Task
6 Force deems relevant.

7 (2) Design. On or before January 15, 2024, the Task Force shall
8 develop findings and recommendations related to draft elements of a
9 preliminary design for a public safety communications system, including
10 identification of a proposed implementation timeline and any additional data
11 and resources needed to develop a final design on or before December 15,
12 2024. The final design shall include:

13 (A) technical and operational standards and protocols that ensure an
14 interoperable and resilient system that incorporates computer-aided dispatch
15 systems and land mobile radios;

16 (B) technology life-cycle standards to ensure system and database
17 upgrades are timely, sufficiently financed, and properly managed;

18 (C) system and database security and cybersecurity standards;

19 (D) continuity of operations standards and best practices that
20 encompass failover procedures and other system redundancies to ensure the
21 continuous performance of mission-critical operations;

1 (E) workforce training standards and other staffing best practices that
2 support the retention and well-being of dispatch personnel;

3 (F) a resource allocation plan that ensures dispatch service is
4 available in all regions of the State, including the establishment of new
5 dispatch centers or expanded capacity and capability of existing dispatch
6 centers, if deemed appropriate by the Task Force;

7 (G) a process for annually reviewing the budgets of dispatch centers;

8 (H) a recommended governance model to ensure effective State and
9 regional oversight, management, and continuous improvement of the system,
10 including identification of staffing or operational needs to support such
11 oversight and management of the system;

12 (I) cost estimates for implementing the system in Vermont, including
13 operational and capital costs;

14 (J) options for sustainably and equitably structuring the financing of
15 the public safety communications system, taking into consideration:

16 (i) existing budgets for regional and local dispatch;

17 (ii) the population, grand list, and call volume of each
18 municipality;

19 (iii) existing and potential State funding streams;

1 (iv) available federal funding opportunities for public safety
2 agencies and emergency communications systems, including equipment,
3 network infrastructure, and services;

4 (v) financing models adopted in other jurisdictions for public
5 safety communications systems; and

6 (vi) any other standards or procedures deemed necessary or
7 appropriate by the Task Force.

8 (f)(1) If the Task Force determines that sufficient minimum technical and
9 operational standards have been developed to warrant the funding of one or
10 more pilot projects, the Task Force may submit for approval a pilot project
11 plan to the Joint Fiscal Committee in calendar year 2023.

12 (2) Pilot projects eligible for funding under this subsection may include
13 new regional dispatch centers or expanded capacity at existing regional
14 dispatch centers, provided the Task Force determines the pilot demonstrates
15 project readiness and is otherwise consistent with the standards and purposes
16 of this section.

17 (3) In evaluating proposed pilot projects, the Task Force shall give a
18 high priority to projects in geographical areas of the State that presently face
19 significant challenges with respect to reliably providing dispatch service.

20 (4) The pilot project plan shall include a description of each proposed
21 project, the resources needed, and an explanation of how the project will align

1 with, inform, and further the development of a statewide public safety
2 communications system and ensure transparency and accountability
3 particularly with respect to the expenditure of State funds pursuant to this
4 subsection.

5 (5) The Joint Fiscal Committee is authorized to approve up to
6 \$4,500,000.00 in total for pilot projects authorized by this subsection.

7 (g) On or before January 15, 2024, the Task Force shall submit a progress
8 report on the data collection and analysis required by subdivision (e)(1) of this
9 section, the findings and recommendations required by subdivision (e)(2) of
10 this section, and a description and status report of any pilot projects funded
11 pursuant to subsection (f) of this section in a written report to the Senate
12 Committees on Government Operations and on Finance and the House
13 Committees on Government Operations and Military Affairs, on Ways and
14 Means, and on Environment and Energy. On or before December 15, 2024,
15 the Task Force shall submit to the same legislative committees a written report
16 containing its final design plan as required by subdivision (e)(2) of this section.

17 Sec. C.115 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. B.1100 is amended to read:

18 Sec. B.1100 FISCAL YEAR 2023 ONE-TIME GENERAL FUND

19 APPROPRIATIONS

20 * * *

1 (b) \$11,000,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to the
2 Department of Public Safety for regional dispatch funding. The funds are
3 subject to the following conditions:

4 (1) ~~\$4,500,000 shall be held in reserve until the report required by~~
5 ~~Sec. E.209.1 of this act is submitted and further approval to expend the funds is~~
6 ~~granted by the General Assembly~~ Up to \$1,000,000 shall be available for the
7 retention of technical experts to assist the Task Force with the analysis and
8 planning required by Sec. C.112 of this act and to fund the administrative
9 expenses incurred by the Public Safety Communications Task Force. If the
10 Task Force determines in calendar year 2023 that additional funding is
11 necessary to achieve its purposes, it may submit a request to the Joint Fiscal
12 Committee. The Joint Fiscal Committee is authorized to approve up to an
13 additional \$1,000,000.

14 (2) ~~\$6,500,000 to provide grants to regional dispatch facilities upon~~
15 ~~approval of the Joint Fiscal Committee subsequent to review of a Regional~~
16 ~~Dispatch Facility grant plan submitted by the Commissioner of Public Safety.~~
17 ~~The plan shall include the extent to which federal funding sources may be~~
18 ~~available for regional dispatch~~ Up to \$4,500,000 shall be available to provide
19 funding for pilot projects pursuant to Sec. C.112(f), of this act.

1 recommendations included in the Secretary of Administration's report related
2 to the funding of Enhanced 911 operations, dated January 15, 2022, and
3 required by 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec. E.235.

4 Sec. C.117 ORGANIC DAIRY FARM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

5 (a) The Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets shall establish an organic
6 dairy farm assistance program consistent with the requirements of this section.

7 (b) An organic dairy farm is eligible for assistance under this section if:

8 (1) the farm is currently operating as a dairy farm producing milk, either
9 organic or conventional;

10 (2) the farm shipped organic milk or processed its own organic milk
11 under the requirements of 6 V.S.A. chapter 151 during calendar year 2022 and
12 provides documentation to the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets of the
13 amount of organic milk shipped or processed during calendar year 2022 per
14 hundredweight;

15 (3) the farm is in good standing with the Agency of Agriculture, Food
16 and Markets; and

17 (4) the farm submits an application for assistance to the Agency of
18 Agriculture, Food and Markets by a date specified by the Secretary of
19 Agriculture, Food and Markets.

20 (c) The Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets shall award eligible
21 organic dairy farms financial assistance in the form of a grant in the amount of

1 \$5 per hundredweight of organic milk shipped or sold by the organic dairy
2 farm in calendar year 2022. Once the Agency of Agriculture, Food and
3 Markets determines that applications under this section are administratively
4 complete, the Agency shall process applications for payment in their order of
5 receipt. If all funds appropriated for implementation of this section are
6 awarded by the Agency, no further awards shall be made. If any funds
7 appropriated for implementation of this section remain after all timely
8 applications are processed, the remaining funds shall be transferred to the
9 Working Lands Enterprise Fund not later than December 31, 2023 for
10 distribution by the Working Lands Enterprise Board under the Small Farmer
11 Diversification and Transition Program.

12 Sec. C.118 2022 Acts and Resolves No.185, Sec. G.600(a)(2), as amended by
13 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 3, Sec. 67 is further amended to read:

14 (2) \$35,000,000 to the Department of Public Service ~~to grant~~ to contract
15 with Efficiency Vermont for the purpose of weatherization incentives to
16 Vermonters with a moderate income. These funds shall be deposited in the
17 Electric Efficiency Fund established under 30 V.S.A. § 209(d)(3) and shall be
18 available for ~~use by Efficiency Vermont~~ this purpose through December 31,
19 2026. Households approved for assistance in this section will also be offered
20 services outlined in subdivision (4) of this subsection.

1 Sec. C.119 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 182, Sec. 3, as amended by 2023 Acts
2 and Resolves No. 3, Sec. 75 is further amended to read:

3 Sec. 3. MANUFACTURED HOME IMPROVEMENT AND
4 REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

5 Of the amounts available from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)
6 recovery funds, ~~the following amounts are~~ \$4,000,000 is appropriated to the
7 Department of Housing and Community Development for the purposes
8 specified:

9 (1) ~~\$2,500,000.00 for manufactured~~ Manufactured home community
10 small-scale capital grants, through which the Department may award not more
11 than \$20,000.00 for owners of manufactured housing communities to complete
12 small-scale capital needs to help infill vacant lots with homes, which may
13 include projects such as disposal of abandoned homes, lot grading/preparation,
14 site electrical box issues/upgrades, E911 safety issues, legal fees, transporting
15 homes out of flood zones, individual septic system, and marketing to help
16 make it easier for home-seekers to find vacant lots around the State.

17 (2) ~~\$750,000.00 for manufactured~~ Manufactured home repair grants,
18 through which the Department may award funding for minor rehab or
19 accessibility projects, coordinated as possible with existing programs, for
20 between 250 and 400 existing homes where the home is otherwise in good

1 condition or in situations where the owner is unable to replace the home and
2 the repair will keep them housed.

3 (3) ~~\$750,000.00 for new~~ New manufactured home foundation grants,
4 through which the Department may award not more than \$15,000.00 per grant
5 for a homeowner to pay for a foundation or HUD-approved slab, site
6 preparation, skirting, tie-downs, and utility connections on vacant lots within
7 manufactured home communities.

8 * * *

9 Sec. C.120 BALANCE RESERVE UNRESERVED; RESERVED FOR
10 VCBB

11 (a) In fiscal year 2024, \$20,000,000 is unreserved from the General Fund
12 Balance Reserve established by 32 V.S.A. § 308c.

13 (b) In fiscal year 2024, \$20,000,000 is reserved in the General Fund for the
14 exclusive benefit of the Vermont Community Broadband Board and for the
15 sole purpose of securing federal funding under the National
16 Telecommunications and Information Administration's Enabling Middle Mile
17 Broadband Infrastructure Program. The State's pending application requires a
18 commitment to provide contingency reserve funding equal to 25percent of the
19 total award amount if the application is approved and the award is accepted by
20 the State.

1 (1) the Vermont Nursing Forgivable Loan Program created in 18 V.S.A.
2 § 34;

3 (2) the Medical Student Incentive Scholarship Program created in 18
4 V.S.A. § 33; and

5 (3) the health professional loan repayment programs created in 18 V.S.A
6 §§ 32 35.

7 (b) The Department shall true up and adjust the balances for any of the
8 programs listed above if past carryforward amounts were inconsistent with
9 legislative intent.

10 (c) The report required by Sec. E.125.1 of this act shall specifically address
11 carryforward requirements and any clarify statutory amendments.

12 Sec. C.123 HOUSING TRANSITION; RESOURCES FOR

13 COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY RESPONSE

14 (a) The additional funding provided in this section is to be used for a
15 coordinated and collaborated effort between State agencies and community
16 partners to address community impacts as individuals transition from hotel and
17 motel settings. The Secretaries of Administration, of Human Services, and of
18 Commerce and Community Development, and their respective designees, shall
19 collaborate with local community partners, including the community action
20 agencies; designated and specialized service agencies; homeless shelters;
21 health care providers such as free clinics, hospitals, health networks, and

1 community health teams; youth service agencies; and willing civic and
2 religious community organizations to support individuals and households who
3 are transitioning from hotels and motels to alternate housing or shelter
4 arrangements or who may be homeless.

5 (b) The Agency of Human Services shall transition the Coordinated Care
6 Housing Resource Teams into existing regional teams that shall take the
7 lessons learned from the statewide response and systematize cross-agency,
8 team-based complex care. The Agency's field directors shall lead this
9 transition, working in collaboration with leaders from the Blueprint for Health
10 and the regional partner organizations described in subsection (a) of this
11 section.

12 (c) The sum of \$10,000,000 shall be made available to the Department for
13 Children and Families in fiscal year 2023 as set forth in subsections (d) and (e)
14 of this section, and may be carried forward into fiscal year 2024, to provide
15 assistance to individuals and households experiencing homelessness. Funds
16 may be distributed through payments to beneficiaries, through grants, or
17 through contracts, at the Department's discretion. The amounts to be
18 distributed to community partners shall be awarded as flexible grants through
19 the Department for Children and Families' Office of Economic Opportunity
20 Housing Opportunity Program that enable the grantees working with these
21 individuals and households to respond to their short-term needs, which may

1 include rental deposits; campsite fees and camping equipment; furniture and
2 appliances; car repairs, if funds for repairs are not available from other
3 programs; and transportation costs, including relocation expenses.

4 (d) \$9,400,000 of the funds described in subsection (c) of this section shall
5 be transferred to the Department for Children and Families as set forth in this
6 subsection. The Agency of Administration shall structure the program in
7 accordance with the requirements of 31 C.F.R. Part 35 and in a manner
8 designed to achieve rapid deployment and administrative efficiency, and may
9 reallocate funds across governmental units in a net-neutral manner as follows
10 for a total of \$9,400,000:

11 (1) The Commissioner of Finance and Management is authorized to
12 reallocate General Fund appropriations made to the Vermont Housing and
13 Conservation Board in 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 3, Sec. 45. In exchange,
14 the Secretary of Administration shall provide an amount equal to the
15 reallocation amount to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board from the
16 federal funds appropriated through the Emergency Rental Assistance Program,
17 which was originally approved by the Joint Fiscal Committee pursuant to
18 Grant Request #3034.

19 (2) The Commissioner of Finance and Management is authorized to
20 reallocate American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – Coronavirus State Fiscal
21 Recovery Funds appropriated to the Agency of Human Services in 2021 Acts

1 and Resolves No. 74, Sec. G.300(a)(31), as amended by 2022 Acts and
2 Resolves No. 83, Sec. 68.

3 (e) The remaining \$600,000 of the funds described in subsection (c) of this
4 section are appropriated from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) –
5 Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds to the Department for Children and
6 Families for the purposes set forth in subsection (c) of this section.

7 (f) The funding provided in subsection (c) of this section is in addition to
8 other funding for housing stability services allocated in this act or through
9 other recent legislative action, including:

10 (1) \$15,200,00 in ARPA – Emergency Rental Assistance Program funds
11 for three years of housing stability wraparound services through community
12 partners;

13 (2) \$1,000,000 General Fund in 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 3, the
14 fiscal year 2023 budget adjustment act, to provide coordinated care teams for
15 wraparound support services;

16 (3) \$5,000,000 General Fund for a Housing Opportunity Program grant,
17 of which \$500,000 was allocated from fiscal year 2022 surplus funds;

18 (4) \$1,500,000 General Fund and Global Commitment Fund in this act
19 for Family Supported Housing programming;

20 (5) \$3,000,000 General Fund in 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 3 for the
21 Housing Voucher Program for families experiencing homelessness;

1 Sec. C.126 ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION UTILITY PROJECT REPORT

2 (a) On or before January 15, 2024, and annually until 2026, any
3 distribution utility that takes an action exempt under 10 V.S.A. § 6081(y) shall
4 report to the House Committee on Environment and Energy and the Senate
5 Committees on Finance and on Natural Resources and Energy on the projects
6 completed pursuant to that exemption in the preceding year. The report shall
7 address: the location of the projects, including whether it is located in a “1-acre
8 town” or a “10-acre town”; how many customers are affected by the project;
9 whether the project involved lines being hardened in place, buried
10 underground, or relocated to the right-of-way; how many poles were removed
11 and how many poles were set; and what permits the projects were required to
12 receive.

13 * * * Fiscal Year 2024 Fund Transfers and Reserve Allocations * * *

14 Sec. D.100 APPROPRIATIONS; PROPERTY TRANSFER TAX

15 (a) This act contains the following amounts appropriated from special
16 funds that receive revenue from the property transfer tax. Expenditures from
17 these appropriations shall not exceed available revenues.

18 (1) The sum of \$560,000 is appropriated from the Current Use
19 Administration Special Fund to the Department of Taxes for administration of
20 the Use Tax Reimbursement Program. Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 9610(c),
21 amounts in excess of \$560,000 from the property transfer tax deposited into the

1 Current Use Administration Special Fund shall be transferred into the General
2 Fund.

3 (2) The sum of \$21,462,855 is appropriated from the Vermont Housing
4 and Conservation Trust Fund to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board
5 (VHCB). Notwithstanding 10 V.S.A. § 312, amounts in excess of \$21,462,855
6 from the property transfer tax and surcharge established by 32 V.S.A. § 9602a
7 that are deposited into the Vermont Housing and Conservation Trust Fund
8 shall be transferred into the General Fund.

9 (A) The dedication of \$2,500,000 in revenue from the property
10 transfer tax pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 9610(d) for the debt payments on the
11 affordable housing bond (10 V.S.A. § 314) shall be offset by the reduction of
12 \$1,500,000 in the appropriation to the Vermont Housing and Conservation
13 Board and \$1,000,000 from the surcharge established by 32 V.S.A. § 9602a.
14 The fiscal year 2024 appropriation of \$21,462,855 to the Vermont Housing and
15 Conservation Board reflects the \$1,500,000 reduction. The affordable housing
16 bond and related property transfer tax and surcharge provisions are repealed
17 after the life of the bond on July 1, 2039. Once the bond is retired, it is the
18 intent of the General Assembly that the \$1,500,000 reduction in the
19 appropriation to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board should be
20 restored.

1 (3) The sum of \$7,545,993 is appropriated from the Municipal and
2 Regional Planning Fund. Notwithstanding 24 V.S.A. § 4306(a), amounts in
3 excess of \$7,545,993 from the property transfer tax that are deposited into the
4 Municipal and Regional Planning Fund shall be transferred into the General
5 Fund. The \$7,545,993 shall be allocated for the following:

6 (A) \$6,211,650 for disbursement to regional planning commissions in
7 a manner consistent with 24 V.S.A. § 4306(b);

8 (B) \$898,283 for disbursement to municipalities in a manner
9 consistent with 24 V.S.A. § 4306(b); and

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

12 Sec. D.100.1 LEGISLATIVE INTENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024

13 PLANNING FUNDS

14 (a) It is the intent of the General Assembly that an amount not to exceed
15 \$500,000 of the planning funds provided in Sec. D.100 of this act be used for
16 municipal bylaw modernization.

17 Sec. D.101 FUND TRANSFERS, REVERSIONS, AND RESERVES

18 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the
19 following amounts shall be transferred from the funds indicated:

20 (1) From the General Fund to:

21 (A) the Environmental Contingency Fund (21275): \$5,000,000;

1 (B) the Enhanced 911 Board Fund (21711): \$2,115,000:

2 (i) Of the funds transferred to the Enhanced 911 Board Fund in
3 this subdivision, \$815,000 shall be used to support necessary 911 system
4 upgrades beginning in fiscal year 2024;

5 (C) the Technology Modernization Special Fund (21951):
6 \$10,000,000;

7 (D) the Cash Fund for Capital and Essential Investments (21952):

8 (i) \$17,685,000 for the Capital Infrastructure subaccount for use
9 on capital projects as authorized in the capital bill and appropriated in this act;
10 and

11 (ii) \$49,540,000 for the Other Infrastructure, Essential
12 Investments, and Reserves subaccount for other expenditures and reserves as
13 authorized by the General Assembly.

14 (E) the Fire Prevention/Building Inspection Special Fund (21901):
15 \$1,500,000; and

16 (F) the Tax Computer System Modernization Fund (21909):
17 \$3,600,000.

18 (2) From the Education Fund to:

19 (A) the Tax Computer System Modernization Fund (21909):
20 \$1,300,000.

1 (3) From the Clean Water Fund (21932) established by 10 V.S.A.

2 § 1388 to:

3 (A) the Agricultural Water Quality Special Fund (21933) created
4 under 6 V.S.A. § 4803: \$6,684,880; and

5 (B) the Lake in Crisis Response Program Special Fund (21938)
6 created under 10 V.S.A. § 1315: \$120,000.

7 (4) From the Transportation Fund to:

8 (A) the Downtown Transportation and Related Capital Improvement
9 Fund (21575) established by 24 V.S.A. § 2796 to be used by the Vermont
10 Downtown Development Board for the purposes of the Fund: \$523,966.

11 (b) Notwithstanding any provisions of law to the contrary, in fiscal year
12 2024:

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

15	<u>22005</u>	<u>AHS Central Office Earned Federal Receipts</u>	<u>\$4,641,960</u>
16	<u>50300</u>	<u>Liquor Control Fund</u>	<u>\$21,200,000</u>
17		<u>Sports Wagering Fund</u>	<u>\$1,204,000</u>
18		<u>Caledonia Fair</u>	<u>\$5,000</u>
19		<u>North Country Hospital Loan Repayment</u>	<u>\$24,047</u>
20		<u>Springfield Hospital Promissory Note Repayment</u>	<u>\$121,416</u>

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

7	<u>21638</u>	<u>AG-Fees and reimbursement – Court order</u>	<u>\$1,000,000</u>
8	<u>621000</u>	<u>Unclaimed Property Fund</u>	<u>\$3,270,225</u>

9 (3) Notwithstanding 2016 Acts and Resolves No. 172, Sec. E.228,
10 \$60,044,000 of the unencumbered balances in the Insurance Regulatory and
11 Supervision Fund (21075), the Captive Insurance Regulatory and Supervision
12 Fund (21085), and the Securities Regulatory and Supervision Fund (21080)
13 shall be transferred to the General Fund.

14 (c) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, in fiscal year
15 2024, the following amounts shall revert to the General Fund from the
16 accounts indicated:

17	<u>3400004000</u>	<u>Agency of Human Services –</u>	
18		<u>Secretary’s Office – Global Commitment</u>	<u>\$15,103,683</u>

19 (d) Notwithstanding any provisions of law to the contrary, in fiscal year
20 2024 the following estimated General Fund reserves shall be made:

1 (1) Pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 308, an estimated amount of \$1,669,311
2 shall be unreserved from the General Fund Budget Stabilization Reserve.

3 Sec. D.102 27/53 RESERVE

4 (a) \$5,350,000 General Fund shall be reserved in the 27/53 reserve in fiscal
5 year 2023. This action is the fiscal year 2024 contribution to the reserve for
6 the 53rd week of Medicaid as required by 32 V.S.A. § 308e and the 27th
7 payroll reserve as required by 32 V.S.A. § 308e.

8 Sec. D.103 UNRESERVED; INCENTIVE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

9 (a) In fiscal year 2024, \$700,000 in general funds reserved per 2022 Act
10 and Resolves No. 185, Sec. C.107.2(b) are unreserved and available for
11 appropriation.

12 Sec. D.104 EDUCATION FUND RESERVE; FUTURE SUPPLEMENTAL
13 COST OF LIVING PAYMENTS

14 (a) In fiscal year 2024, notwithstanding any provision of 16 V.S.A. § 4025
15 to the contrary, the amount of \$9,100,000 is reserved in the Education Fund to
16 fund future supplemental cost of living payments to qualifying retired
17 members and beneficiaries of the Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System
18 or the present value of any changes made to the methodology for calculating
19 the postretirement adjustments allowance set forth in 16 V.S.A. § 1949, or
20 both.

21 Sec. D.105 UPDATE REPORT ON ARPA – SFR APPROPRIATIONS

- 1 (D) Department of Financial Regulation: two Insurance Examiners;
- 2 (E) Department of Human Resources:
- 3 (i) one Compensation Analyst;
- 4 (ii) one Configuration Analyst II;
- 5 (iii) one Employee Support Specialist;
- 6 (iv) one FMLI Manager;
- 7 (v) one HR Administrator III;
- 8 (vi) one HR Administrator IV;
- 9 (vii) one HR Manager; and
- 10 (viii) one Talent Coordinator;
- 11 (F) Department of Liquor and Lottery:
- 12 (i) one Financial Analyst; and
- 13 (ii) one Sports Betting Director;
- 14 (G) Department of Mental Health:
- 15 (i) one Crisis Program Director;
- 16 (ii) one Mental Health Analyst I;
- 17 (iii) one Operations Manager; and
- 18 (iv) one Training and Curriculum Development Supervisor; and
- 19 (v) one Quality and Program Specialist;
- 20 (H) Department of Taxes – State Appraisal and Litigation Assistance
- 21 Program:

- 1 (i) one Property Valuation and Review Program Manager;
- 2 (I) Office of the State Treasurer:
- 3 (i) one Program Technician;
- 4 (ii) one Administrative Services Coordinator;
- 5 (iii) one Financial Specialist III;
- 6 (iv) one Financial Manager I;
- 7 (v) one Financial Manager II; and
- 8 (vi) one Program Technician II;
- 9 (J) Enhanced 911 Board:
- 10 (i) one Program Technician I;
- 11 (K) Department of Motor Vehicles:
- 12 (i) three Motor Vehicle Inspectors;
- 13 (L) Office of the Defender General:
- 14 (i) one Financial Director;
- 15 (M) Agency of Natural Resources:
- 16 (i) one Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Specialist;
- 17 (N) Agency of Transportation – Highway Division:
- 18 (i) one Transportation Operations Technician III; and
- 19 (ii) one Transportation Technician IV;
- 20 (O) Agency of Human Services – Central Office:
- 21 (i) three Quality and Program Specialists;

1 (P) Vermont Pension Investment Commission:

2 (i) one Investment Accountant;

3 (Q) Agency of Education:

4 (i) one Afterschool and Summer Care Data Analyst; and

5 (ii) one Afterschool and Summer Care Grant Program

6 Administrator.

7 (2) Permanent exempt positions:

8 (A) Department of Taxes – State Appraisal and Litigation Assistance
9 Program: one Staff Attorney;

10 (B) Agency of Commerce and Community Development – Division
11 for Historic Preservation – Vermont Commission on Native American Affairs:
12 one Executive Director;

13 (C) Human Rights Commission – one Litigator;

14 (D) Office of the Attorney General – one Private Secretary;

15 (E) Department of State’s Attorneys and Sheriffs:

16 (i) five Deputy State’s Attorneys;

17 (ii) one Victim Advocate; and

18 (iii) two Legal Assistants;

19 (F) Office of the State Treasurer:

20 (i) one Director – VT Saves; and

21 (ii) one Communications and Outreach Manager – VT Saves

- 1 (G) Agency of Administration – Office of Health Equity
- 2 (i) one Director of Health Equity; and
- 3 (ii) one Private Secretary.
- 4 (b) The conversion of 49 limited service positions to classified permanent
- 5 status is authorized in fiscal year 2024 as follows:
- 6 (1) Department of Public Safety, State Police:
- 7 (A) one Victim Services Specialist;
- 8 (2) Department of Vermont Health Access, Blueprint for Health Unit:
- 9 (A) one HCR Integration Manager;
- 10 (3) Department of Vermont Health Access, Health Care Reform Unit:
- 11 (A) one Administrative Services Manager I;
- 12 (B) five DVHA Program Consultants;
- 13 (C) one DVHA Quality Control Manager;
- 14 (D) one Health Reform Enterprise Director I;
- 15 (E) two Medicaid Operations Administrators;
- 16 (F) one Project and Operations Director;
- 17 (G) one Project and Operations Specialist; and
- 18 (H) one Project Director;
- 19 (4) Department of Vermont Health Access, Medicaid Policy Fiscal and
- 20 Support Unit:
- 21 (A) two Audit Liaison – Internal Control positions;

- 1 (B) three DVHA Healthcare QC Auditors;
- 2 (C) one DVHA Healthcare QC CAP Auditor;
- 3 (D) two DVHA Program and Operations Auditors;
- 4 (E) one DVHA Program Consultant;
- 5 (F) one Health Reform Enterprise Director I; and
- 6 (G) one Nurse Auditor;
- 7 (5) Department of Vermont Health Access, Payment Reform Unit:
- 8 (A) one Admin HC Payment Reform Analytics position;
- 9 (B) three Change Management Practitioners;
- 10 (C) one Deputy Director of Payment Reform;
- 11 (D) one Director of Operations for ACO Programs;
- 12 (E) one Grant Programs Manager;
- 13 (F) one Health Care Project Director;
- 14 (G) one Payment Reform Special Project Lead; and
- 15 (H) one Senior Policy Advisor;
- 16 (6) Agency of Transportation – Aviation Program:
- 17 (A) nine Airport Maintenance Workers; and
- 18 (B) one Airport Operations Specialist; and
- 19 (7) Agency of Natural Resources – Central Office:
- 20 (A) one Environmental Justice and Civil Rights Director; and
- 21 (B) two Environmental Justice Coordinators.

1 (c) The establishment of 9 new classified limited service positions is
2 authorized in fiscal year 2024 as follows:

3 (1) Department for Children and Families for the Reach Ahead pilot
4 program:

5 (A) one Benefits Program Assistant Administrator; and

6 (B) two Reach Up Case Manager IIs;

7 (2) Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation:

8 (A) one Communications and Outreach Coordinator;

9 (B) one Climate Forester;

10 (C) three Forester IIs; and

11 (D) one Land Acquisition Coordinator.

12 (d) The establishment of 23 new exempt limited service positions is
13 authorized in fiscal year 2024 as follows:

14 (1) Department of State's Attorneys and Sheriffs:

15 (A) six Deputy State's Attorneys;

16 (B) six State's Attorney Legal Assistants;

17 (C) six State's Attorney Victim Advocates; and

18 (D) four State's Attorney Secretaries.

19 (2) Agency of Administration – Health Equity Advisory Commission:

20 (A) one Private Secretary.

1 Sec. E.100.1 HEALTH EQUITY ADVISORY COMMISSION; OFFICE OF
2 HEALTH EQUITY; ATTACHMENT FOR
3 ADMINISTRATION; REPORT

4 (a) On or before January 15, 2024, the Health Equity Advisory
5 Commission shall submit a written report to the House Committees on
6 Appropriations, on Government Operations and Military Affairs, and on
7 Health Care and the Senate Committees on Appropriations, on Government
8 Operations, and on Health and Welfare regarding the appropriate State entity
9 for the Office of Health Equity to be attached to for administrative purposes.
10 The report shall identify various State entities to which the Office could be
11 attached for administrative purposes in order to best position the Office to
12 align with, coordinate with, and complement the State's health equity efforts,
13 and shall examine the potential benefits and drawbacks of the Office being
14 attached to each of the entities identified. The report shall also include a
15 recommendation on how to administer community grants related to health
16 equity.

17 (b) The Agency of Administration is authorized to expend funds
18 appropriated to the Agency of Administration for the Health Equity Advisory
19 Commission to fund administrative positions to complete the work required by
20 this section or other legislation.

21 Sec. E.100.2 OFFICE OF HEALTH EQUITY POSITIONS

1

2 (a) \$250,000 of the funds appropriated in Sec. B.100 of this act are to fund
3 two positions in the Office of Health Equity. These funds may only be
4 expended, and the positions may only be filled, once the recommendation
5 required by Sec. E.100.1 of this act regarding the permanent administrative
6 location for the Office of Health Equity is provided.

7 Sec. E.104.1 DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT;

8 PENSION PLUS APPROPRIATION DIRECTIVE

9 (a) In fiscal year 2024, funds appropriated to the Department of Finance
10 and Management and the Agency of Administration in Sec. B.104.1 of this act
11 to fund additional payments to the Vermont State Retirement System made
12 pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 473(c)(8) shall be directly deposited in the Vermont
13 State Retirement System.

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

17 Sec. E.107 3 V.S.A. § 473 is amended to read:

18

* * *

19 (c)(8) Annually, the Board shall certify an amount to pay the annual
20 actuarially determined employer contribution, as calculated in this subsection,
21 and additional amounts as follows:

1 (A) in fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$9,000,000.00;

2 (B) in fiscal year 2025, the amount of \$12,000,000.00;

3 (C) in fiscal year 2026 and in any year thereafter when the Fund is
4 calculated to have a funded ratio of less than 90 percent, the amount of
5 \$15,000,000.00.

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

20 (1) the actuarially determined employer contribution to the Vermont
21 State Retirement System;

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

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

5 Sec. E.108 3 V.S.A. § 479 is amended to read:

6 § 479. GROUP INSURANCE

7 (a)(1) As provided under section 631 of this title, a member who is insured
8 by the respective group insurance plans immediately preceding the member's
9 effective date of retirement shall be entitled to continuation of group insurance
10 as follows:

11 ~~(A)~~(i) coverage in the group medical benefit plan provided by the
12 State of Vermont for active State employees; or

13 ~~(B)~~(ii) for a Group F and Group G plan member first included in the
14 membership of the system on or after July 1, 2008, coverage in the group
15 medical benefit plan offered by the State of Vermont for active State

16 employees and pursuant to the following, provided:

17 ~~(i)~~(I) a member who has completed five years and less than 10
18 years of creditable service at the member's retirement shall pay the full cost of
19 the premium;

1 ~~(ii)~~(II) a member who has completed 10 years and less than 15
2 years of creditable service at the member's retirement shall pay 60 percent of
3 the cost of the premium;

4 ~~(iii)~~(III) a member who has completed 15 years and less than 20
5 years of creditable service at ~~his or her~~ the member's retirement shall pay 40
6 percent of the cost of the premium;

7 ~~(iv)~~(IV) a member who has completed 20 years or more of
8 creditable service at ~~his or her~~ the member's retirement shall pay 20 percent of
9 the cost of the premium; and

10 ~~(2)~~(B) members who have completed 20 years of creditable service at
11 their effective date of retirement shall be entitled to the continuation of life
12 insurance in the amount of \$10,000.00.

13 (2) Notwithstanding any provision of subdivision (1)(A)(i) or (ii) of this
14 subsection to the contrary, a member may be offered health coverage other
15 than coverage in the group medical benefit plan provided by the State of
16 Vermont for active State employees if the following conditions are met:

17 (A) the alternative health coverage is substantially equivalent to the
18 coverage offered through the group medical benefit plan provided by the State
19 of Vermont for active State employees; and

20 (B) the alternative health coverage is mutually agreeable to:

21 (i) the State;

1 (ii) each employee organization that has been certified to represent
2 one or more bargaining units pursuant to chapters 27 and 28 of this title; and

3 (iii) the Vermont Retired State Employees' Association.

4 (b) As of July 1, 2007, members of the Group C plan who separate from
5 service prior to being eligible for retirement benefits under this chapter, who
6 have at least 20 years of creditable service, and who participated in the group
7 medical benefit plan at the time of separation from service shall have a one-
8 time option at the time retirement benefits commence to participate in the
9 group medical benefit plan provided by the State of Vermont for active State
10 employees or any alternative health coverage provided pursuant to subdivision
11 (a)(2) of this section. Premiums for the plan shall be prorated between the
12 retired member and the Retirement System pursuant to section 631 of this title.

13 (c) Premiums for coverage of retired members of the Group C plan and
14 their dependents in the group medical benefit plan or any alternative health
15 coverage provided pursuant to subdivision (a)(2) of this section shall be
16 prorated on the same basis as is provided for active employees by the current
17 collective bargaining agreement for the nonmanagement unit. The amounts
18 designated as the State's share of premium for the medical benefit plan and the
19 total premium for group life insurance provided under subdivision (a)(2) of this
20 section shall be paid by the Fund as an operating expense in accordance with
21 subsection 473(d) of this title.

1 (d) After January 1, 2007, the State Treasurer may offer and administer a
2 dental benefit plan for retired members, beneficiaries, eligible dependents, and
3 eligible retirees of special affiliated groups and the dependents of members of
4 those groups who are eligible for coverage in the State Employee Group
5 Medical Benefit Plan or any alternative health coverage provided pursuant to
6 subdivision (a)(2) of this section. The Plan shall be separate and apart from
7 any dental benefit plan offered to Vermont State employees. The original plan
8 of benefits, and any changes thereto, shall be determined by the State Treasurer
9 with due consideration of recommendations from the Retired Employees'
10 Committee on Insurance established in section 636 of this title.

11 * * *

12 (3) Dependent eligibility shall be determined in the manner applied to
13 determinations for coverage in the State Employee Medical Benefit Plan or any
14 alternative health coverage provided pursuant to subdivision (a)(2) of this
15 section.

16 (4) [Repealed.]

17 (e) As of January 1, 2007, and thereafter, upon retirement, members
18 entitled to prorated group medical benefit plan premium payments from the
19 Retirement System under the terms of this section shall have a one-time option
20 to reduce the percentage of premium payments from the Retirement System
21 during the member's life, with the provision that the Fund shall continue

1 making an equal percentage of premium payments after the member's death
2 for the life of the dependent beneficiary nominated by the member under
3 section 468 of this title, should such dependent beneficiary survive the
4 member. The Retirement Board, after consultation with its actuary, shall
5 establish reduced premium payment percentages that are as cost neutral to the
6 Fund as possible.

7 (f) [Repealed.]

8 (g) A member of the Group F or Group G plan who is first included in the
9 membership of the System on or after July 1, 2008, who separates from service
10 prior to being eligible for retirement benefits under this chapter, who has at
11 least 20 years of creditable service, and who participated in the group medical
12 benefit plan at the time of separation from service shall have a one-time option
13 at the time retirement benefits commence to reinstate the same level of
14 coverage, in the group medical benefit plan provided by the State of Vermont
15 for active State employees or any alternative health coverage provided
16 pursuant to subdivision (a)(2) of this section, that existed at the date of
17 separation from service. Premiums for the plan shall be prorated between the
18 retired member and the Retirement System pursuant to subsection 479(a) of
19 this title.

20 * * *

21 Sec. E.108.1 3 V.S.A. § 631 is amended to read:

1 § 631. GROUP INSURANCE FOR STATE EMPLOYEES; SALARY
2 DEDUCTIONS FOR INSURANCE, SAVINGS PLANS, AND
3 CREDIT UNIONS

4 (a)(1) The Secretary of Administration may contract on behalf of the State
5 with any insurance company or nonprofit association doing business in this
6 State to secure the benefits of franchise or group insurance. ~~Beginning July 1,~~
7 ~~1978, the~~ The terms of coverage under the policy shall be determined under
8 section 904 of this title, but it may include:

9 (A) life, disability, health, and accident insurance and benefits for
10 any class or classes of State employees; and

11 (B) hospital, surgical, and medical benefits for any class or classes of
12 State employees or for those employees and any class or classes of their
13 dependents.

14 (2)(A)(i) As used in this section, the term “employees” includes any
15 class or classes of elected or appointed officials, State’s Attorneys, sheriffs,
16 employees of State’s Attorneys’ offices whose compensation is administered
17 through the State of Vermont payroll system, except contractual and temporary
18 employees, and deputy sheriffs paid by the State of Vermont pursuant to 24
19 V.S.A. § 290(b). The term “employees” shall not include members of the
20 General Assembly as such, any person rendering service on a retainer or fee
21 basis, members of boards or commissions, or persons other than employees of

1 the Vermont Historical Society, the Vermont Film Corporation, the Vermont
2 State Employees' Credit Union, Vermont State Employees' Association, and
3 the Vermont Council on the Arts, whose compensation for service is not paid
4 from the State Treasury, or any elected or appointed official unless the official
5 is actively engaged in and devoting substantially full-time to the conduct of the
6 business of ~~his or her~~ the official's public office.

7 (ii) For purposes of group hospital-surgical-medical expense
8 insurance, the term "employees" shall include employees as defined in
9 subdivision (i) of this subdivision (2)(A) and former employees as defined in
10 this subdivision who are retired and are receiving a retirement allowance from
11 the Vermont State Retirement System or the State Teachers' Retirement
12 System of Vermont and, for the purposes of group life insurance only, are
13 retired on or after July 1, 1961; and have completed 20 creditable years of
14 service with the State before their retirement dates and are insured for group
15 life insurance on their retirement dates.

16 * * *

17 (10) The Secretary of Administration shall not contract for any group
18 hospital-surgical-medical expense insurance that provides a Medicare
19 Advantage plan or similar plan established pursuant to Title XVIII of the
20 Social Security Act without the explicit agreement of all employee
21 organizations certified pursuant to chapters 27 and 28 of this title.

1

* * *

2 Sec. E.108.2 3 V.S.A. § 925 is amended to read:

3 § 925. MEDIATION; FACT FINDING

4

* * *

5 (i)(1) In the case of the Vermont State Colleges or the University of
6 Vermont, if the dispute remains unresolved 20 days after transmittal of
7 findings and recommendations to the parties or within a time frame mutually
8 agreed upon by the parties that may be not more than an additional 30 days,
9 each party shall submit as a single package its last best offer on all disputed
10 issues to the Board. Each party's last best offer shall be filed with the Board
11 under seal and shall be unsealed and placed in the public record only when
12 both parties' last best offers are filed with the Board. The Board shall hold one
13 or more hearings. Within 30 days of the certifications, the Board shall select
14 between the last best offers of the parties, considered in their entirety without
15 amendment.

16 (2)(A) In the case of the State of Vermont or the Department of State's
17 Attorneys and Sheriffs, if the dispute remains unresolved 20 days after
18 transmittal of findings and recommendations to the parties or within a time
19 frame mutually agreed upon by the parties that may be not more than an
20 additional 30 days, each party shall submit as a single package its last best
21 offer on all disputed issues to the Board, or upon the request of either party, to

1 an arbitrator mutually agreed upon by the parties. If the parties cannot agree
2 on an arbitrator, the American Arbitration Association shall appoint a neutral
3 third party to act as arbitrator.

4 (B)(i) Each party's last best offer shall be filed with the Board or the
5 arbitrator under seal and shall be unsealed and placed in the public record only
6 when both parties' last best offers are filed with the Board or the arbitrator.

7 (ii) A party's last best offer shall not include a proposal to:

8 (I) provide alternative health coverage to retired State
9 employees that has not been agreed to pursuant to the provisions of subdivision
10 479(a)(2) of this title; or

11 (II) provide health coverage that includes a Medicare
12 Advantage plan or similar plan established pursuant to Title XVIII of the
13 Social Security Act unless the inclusion of the plan has been agreed to by both
14 parties.

15 (iii) The Board or the arbitrator shall hold one or more hearings.
16 Within 30 days of the certifications, the Board or the arbitrator shall select
17 between the last best offers of the parties, considered in their entirety without
18 amendment.

19 * * *

20 Sec. E.108.3 3 V.S.A. § 1018 is amended to read:

21 § 1018. MEDIATION; FACT-FINDING; LAST BEST OFFER

1

* * *

2 (i)(1) If the dispute remains unresolved 20 days after transmittal of findings
3 and recommendations or within a period of time mutually agreed upon by the
4 parties that may be not more than an additional 30 days, each party shall
5 submit to the Board or, upon the request of either party, to an arbitrator
6 mutually agreed upon by the parties its last best offer on all disputed issues as a
7 single package. If the parties cannot agree on an arbitrator, the American
8 Arbitration Association shall appoint a neutral third party to act as arbitrator.

9 (2) Each party's last best offer shall be:

10 (A) filed with the Board or the arbitrator under seal;

11 (B) certified to the Board or the arbitrator by the fact finder; and

12 (C) unsealed and placed in the public record only when both parties'
13 last best offers are filed with the Board or the arbitrator.

14 (3)(A) A party's last best offer shall not include a proposal to:

15 (i) provide alternative health coverage to retired State employees
16 that has not been agreed to pursuant to the provisions of subdivision 479(a)(2)
17 of this title; or

18 (ii) provide health coverage that includes a Medicare Advantage
19 plan or similar plan established pursuant to Title XVIII of the Social Security
20 Act unless the inclusion of the plan has been agreed to by both parties.

1 (b) The Fund shall receive annual transfers from the General Fund and the
2 Education Fund in amounts not to exceed 0.21 percent of total revenue
3 collected in the prior fiscal year by the Department of Taxes. The fund may
4 receive other receipts as directed or authorized by the General Assembly.

5 (c) The Fund shall be used for the development, implementation,
6 enhancement, and maintenance of information technology systems and
7 services for the administration of taxes and programs administered by the
8 Department. This shall include requests for proposal, business requirements,
9 analysis, implementation of new tax types, enhancements to existing systems,
10 and payments due to vendors of information technology systems and services.

11 (d) The Commissioner of Taxes shall submit an annual report on the
12 receipts, expenditures, and balances in the Tax Computer System
13 Modernization Fund to the Joint Fiscal Committee each year at or prior to the
14 Committee's November meeting each year.

15 Sec. E.111.2 TAX COMPUTER SYSTEM MODERNIZATION FUND

16 TRANSFER

17 (a) Any remaining funds on June 30, 2023 in the Tax Computer System
18 Modernization Fund established by 2007 Acts and Resolves No. 65, Sec. 282,
19 and amended from time to time, shall be deposited into the fund established by
20 32 V.S.A. § 3209.

1 Sec. E.111.3 24 V.S.A. § 138(c) is amended to read:

2 (c) Any tax imposed under the authority of this section shall be collected
3 and administered by the Department of Taxes, in accordance with State law
4 governing such State tax or taxes; provided, however, that a sales tax imposed
5 under this section shall be collected on each sale that is subject to the Vermont
6 sales tax using a destination basis for taxation. Except with respect to taxes
7 collected on the sale of aviation jet fuel, a per-return fee of \$5.96 shall be
8 assessed ~~to compensate the Department for the costs of administration and~~
9 ~~collection~~, 70 percent of which shall be borne by the municipality, and
10 30 percent of which shall be borne by the State to be paid from the PILOT
11 Special Fund. Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 603 or any other provision of law
12 or municipal charter to the contrary, revenue from the fee shall be used to
13 compensate the Department for the costs of administering and collecting the
14 local option tax and of administering the State appraisal and litigation program
15 established in 32 V.S.A. § 5413. The fee shall be subject to the provisions of
16 32 V.S.A. § 605.

17 Sec. E.124 2018 (Sp. Sess.) Acts and Resolves No. 9, Sec. 8 is amended to
18 read:

19 Sec. 8. REPEAL

20 ~~On June 30, 2024:~~

21 ~~(1) Sec. 3 of this act (creating the Executive Director of Racial Equity~~

1 ~~and Racial Equity Advisory Panel in 3 V.S.A. chapter 68) is repealed and the~~
2 ~~Executive Director position and Panel shall cease to exist; and~~

3 ~~(2) Sec. 4 of this act (authorization for the Executive Director of Racial~~
4 ~~Equity position) is repealed. [Repealed.]~~

5 Sec. E.124.1 COUNCIL ON HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS; INTENT

6 (a) It is the intent of the Vermont General Assembly to support the work of
7 the Governor's Council on Housing and Homelessness, focusing on strategies
8 for affordability and solving homelessness. The Council is encouraged to
9 review and inventory the affordable housing that has been developed since
10 January 2020, including the various public and private financing sources that
11 have been utilized. The Council is also encouraged to review and inventory
12 available housing assistance programs and funding levels.

13 Sec. E.125 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 126, Sec. 2 is amended to read:

14 Sec. 2. REPORT ON ACCESS TO CIVIL JUSTICE REMEDIES AND
15 LAW ENFORCEMENT QUALIFIED IMMUNITY IN
16 VERMONT

17 (a) On or before November 15, ~~2022~~ 2023, the Office of Legislative
18 Counsel shall submit a written legal analysis to the Senate Committee on
19 Judiciary, the House Committee on Judiciary, and the Joint Legislative Justice
20 Oversight Committee concerning the impact of the doctrine of qualified
21 immunity on access to civil justice remedies in the State of Vermont and the

1 U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. In particular, the analysis shall
2 identify:

3 * * *

4 Sec. E.125.1 REVIEW OF WORKFORCE INCENTIVES, LOANS, AND
5 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

6 (a) On or before January 15, 2024, the Office of Legislative Counsel and
7 the Joint Fiscal Office, in collaboration with the Agency of Human Services,
8 the Department of Mental Health, the Department of Health, the Department of
9 Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living, the Vermont Student Assistance
10 Corporation (VSAC), and the Office of Primary Care and Area Health
11 Education Centers (AHEC) Program at the University of Vermont Larner
12 College of Medicine shall issue a written report to the House and Senate
13 Committees on Appropriations including:

14 (1) a complete inventory of existing State programs that provide
15 workforce incentives in the form of scholarships, forgivable loans or loan
16 repayment grants for a specified service obligation or other incentives with the
17 objective of increasing the number of practitioners in health care and other
18 social service occupations in Vermont;

19 (2) a summary of the amount and sources of funds for each program,
20 both base and one-time, and any anticipated carryforward of unobligated
21 balances at the close of fiscal year 2023;

1 (3) recommendations for streamlining or restructuring the existing
2 programs with the goal of consolidating administration and making the
3 programs easily accessible to potential students and existing or potential staff.
4 There should be consideration of the level of program specificity that should
5 be included in statute or remain within the authority of the administering
6 entities. The report shall include the authorizing statute for each program and
7 necessary statutory amendments to accomplish the recommendations.

8 Sec. E.127 FISCAL YEAR 2024 FEE REPORT; NATURAL RESOURCES
9 AND HUMAN SERVICES; NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD;
10 VETERANS' HOME

11 (a) Fiscal Year 2024 Fee Information. The Secretary of Natural Resources,
12 the Secretary of Human Services, the Executive Director of the Natural
13 Resources Board, and the Chief Executive Officer of the Vermont Veterans'
14 Home shall, in collaboration with the Joint Fiscal Office, prepare a
15 comprehensive fee report for the Agency of Natural Resources, the Agency of
16 Human Services, the Natural Resources Board, and the Vermont Veterans'
17 Home, respectively, for each fee in existence on July 1, 2023. Each fee report
18 shall contain the following information:

19 (1) the statutory authorization and termination date, if any;
20 (2) the current rate or amount and date the fee was last set or adjusted by
21 the General Assembly or Joint Fiscal Committee;

1 (3) the Fund into which the fee revenues are deposited;

2 (4) the revenues derived from each fee in the previous five fiscal years;

3 (5) the number of instances that each fee was paid in the two most
4 recent fiscal years;

5 (6) a projection for fee revenues in the current fiscal year and the next
6 fiscal year;

7 (7) a description of the service or product provided or the regulatory
8 function performed;

9 (8) the relationship between the revenue raised and the cost of the
10 service, product, or regulatory function supported by the fee;

11 (9) the amount of the fee if it would have been adjusted by inflation
12 since the fee was last set;

13 (10) for any fees deposited in a special fund, the percent of the special
14 fund that the fee represents;

15 (11) whether any comparable fees exist in other jurisdictions;

16 (12) any policies that might affect the viability of the fee amount; and

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

18 (b) Reports.

19 (1) On or before October 15, 2023, the Secretary of Natural Resources,
20 the Secretary of Human Services, the Executive Director of the Natural
21 Resources Board, and the Chief Executive Officer of the Vermont Veterans'

1 Home shall each submit a written draft report of the fiscal year 2024 fee
2 information described in subsection (a) of this section to the Joint Fiscal Office
3 for review and feedback. The Secretary of Natural Resources, the Secretary of
4 Human Services, the Executive Director of the Natural Resources Board, and
5 the Chief Executive Officer of the Vermont Veterans' Home shall each work
6 with the Joint Fiscal Office to respond to feedback prior to submission of the
7 final report described in subdivision (2) of this subsection.

8 (2) On or before December 15, 2023, the Secretary of Natural
9 Resources, the Secretary of Human Services, the Executive Director of the
10 Natural Resources Board, and the Chief Executive Officer of the Vermont
11 Veterans' Home shall each submit a written final report of the fiscal year 2024
12 fee information described in subsection (a) of this section to the House
13 Committees on Appropriations and on Ways and Means and the Senate
14 Committees on Appropriations and on Finance.

15 (3) If any of the information on any fee that is requested in this section
16 cannot be provided, the Secretary of Natural Resources, the Secretary of
17 Human Services, the Executive Director of the Natural Resources Board, and
18 the Chief Executive Officer of the Vermont Veterans' Home shall include in
19 both the draft and final reports described in this subsection (b) a written
20 explanation for why the information is not available.

1 (c) Fee report moratorium. Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 605, in fiscal year
2 2024, the Governor shall not be required to submit the consolidated Executive
3 Branch fee report and request to the General Assembly.

4 Sec. E.128 OFFICE OF THE SERGEANT AT ARMS; NEW POSITIONS

5 (a) The establishment of two new permanent exempt Capitol Police Officer
6 positions in the Office of the Sergeant at Arms are authorized in fiscal year
7 2024.

8 Sec. E.128.1 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec. E.126a is amended to read:

9 Sec. E.126a LEGISLATIVE – HUMAN RESOURCES ASSOCIATE
10 POSITION

11 (a) One ~~limited service~~ permanent exempt position, Human Resources
12 ~~Associate Generalist~~, is authorized for establishment in fiscal year 2022.

13 Sec. E.128.2 FARMERS' NIGHT CONCERT SERIES; APPROPRIATION

14 (a) The Office of the Sergeant at Arms is authorized to use not more than
15 \$10,000 from resources available within the General Assembly's budget to
16 provide honoraria to speakers and performing groups who are invited to
17 participate in the 2024 Farmers' Night Concert Series and who are not
18 otherwise sponsored or compensated for their participation.

19 Sec. E.131 TREASURER CLIMATE INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING

20 COORDINATION

1 (a) The Treasurer may use funds appropriated in fiscal year 2024 to
2 coordinate the State’s climate infrastructure financing efforts. Use of funds
3 can include administrative costs and third-party consultation. The Treasurer
4 shall collaborate with, among others, the Vermont Climate Council, the
5 Agency of Natural Resources – Climate Action Office, the Public Service
6 Department, Vermont members of the Coalition for Green Capital, and the
7 three financial instrumentalities of the State to create a framework for effective
8 collaboration among Vermont organizations, agencies, and the financial
9 instrumentalities of the State to maximize the amount of federal Greenhouse
10 Gas Reduction Funds the State may receive and effectively coordinate the
11 deployment of these and other greenhouse gas reduction funds. The Treasurer
12 shall submit recommendations to the General Assembly regarding legislation
13 for Vermont’s climate infrastructure financing on or before January 15, 2024.

14 Sec. E.131.1 SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION AID TASK FORCE; REPORT

15 (a) Creation. The School Construction Aid Task Force is created to
16 examine, evaluate, and report on issues relating to school construction aid.

17 (b) Membership. The Task Force shall be composed of the following
18 members:

19 (1) two current members of the House of Representatives, who shall be
20 appointed by the Speaker of the House;

- 1 (2) two current members of the Senate, who shall be appointed by the
2 Committee on Committees;
- 3 (3) the State Treasurer or designee, who shall serve as co-chair;
- 4 (4) the Secretary of Education or designee, who shall serve as co-chair;
- 5 (5) the Executive Director of the Vermont National Education
6 Association or designee;
- 7 (6) the Executive Director of the Vermont Principals' Association or
8 designee;
- 9 (7) the Executive Director of the Vermont School Boards Association or
10 designee;
- 11 (8) the Executive Director of the Vermont Superintendents Association
12 or designee;
- 13 (9) the Executive Director of the Municipal Bond Bank or designee;
- 14 (10) the President of the Vermont School Custodians and Maintenance
15 Association or designee;
- 16 (11) a person with expertise in historic preservation, appointed by the
17 Governor;
- 18 (12) a person with expertise in the construction industry specializing in
19 school facilities projects, appointed by the Governor;
- 20 (13) a member of the American Industrial Hygiene Association,
21 appointed by the Governor; and;

1 (14) a person with expertise in school energy efficiency and energy
2 performance contracting, who shall be appointed by the Governor.

3 (c) Powers and duties. The Task Force shall review the results of the
4 statewide school facilities inventory and conditions assessment and the school
5 construction funding report required by 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 72 and
6 study the following issues relating to school construction aid:

7 (1) the needs, both programmatic and health and safety, of statewide
8 school construction projects;

9 (2) funding options for a statewide school construction program,
10 including any incentive plans;

11 (3) a governance structure for the oversight and management of a school
12 construction aid program;

13 (4) the appropriate state action level for response to polychlorinated
14 biphenyl contamination in a school; and

15 (5) criteria for prioritizing school construction funding.

16 (d) Assistance.

17 (1) The Task Force shall have the administrative, technical, and legal
18 assistance of the Agency of Education, the Department of Health, and the
19 Office of the State Treasurer.

20 (2) The Office of the State Treasurer is authorized to contract for
21 services for the Task Force for technical assistance from a school construction

1 expert and any administrative, technical, financial, or legal assistance required
2 by the Task Force.

3 (e) Report. On or before January 15, 2024, the Task Force shall submit a
4 written report to the House Committees on Corrections and Institutions, on
5 Education, and on Ways and Means and the Senate Committees on Education,
6 on Finance, and on Institutions with its findings and any recommendations for
7 legislative action, including a recommendation on how the State should expend
8 the funding in the Education Fund reserved for future school construction.

9 (f) Meetings.

10 (1) The State Treasurer shall call the first meeting of the Task Force to
11 occur on or before July 15, 2023.

12 (2) A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum.

13 (3) The Task Force shall cease to exist on July 1, 2024.

14 (g) Compensation and reimbursement.

15 (1) For attendance at meetings during adjournment of the General
16 Assembly, a legislative member of the Task Force serving in the member's
17 capacity as a legislator shall be entitled to per diem compensation and
18 reimbursement of expenses pursuant to 2 V.S.A. § 23 for not more than 10
19 meetings. These payments shall be made from monies appropriated to the
20 General Assembly.

1 (2) Other members of the Task Force shall be entitled to per diem
2 compensation and reimbursement of expenses as permitted under 32 V.S.A.
3 § 1010 for not more than 10 meetings. These payments shall be made from
4 monies appropriated to the Office of the State Treasurer.

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

8 (a) Of the \$2,990,679 appropriated in Sec. B.133 of this act, \$2,018,947
9 constitutes the Vermont State Employees' Retirement System operating
10 budget, and \$971,732 constitutes the portion of the Vermont Pension
11 Investment Commission's budget attributable to the Vermont State
12 Employees' Retirement System.

13 Sec. E.134 VERMONT MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT
14 SYSTEM AND VERMONT PENSION INVESTMENT
15 COMMISSION; OPERATING BUDGET, SOURCE OF FUNDS

16 (a) Of the \$1,721,823 appropriated in Sec. B.134 of this act, \$1,361,777
17 constitutes the Vermont Municipal Employees' Retirement System operating
18 budget, and \$360,046 constitutes the portion of the Vermont Pension
19 Investment Commission's budget attributable to the Vermont State
20 Employees' Retirement System.

1 Sec. E.134.1 PUBLIC PENSION FUNDS; CARBON FOOTPRINT;
2 REVIEW; VERMONT PENSION INVESTMENT
3 COMMISSION

4 (a) Review. The Vermont Pension Investment Commission, in
5 consultation with the Office of the State Treasurer, shall complete a review of
6 the carbon footprint of the holdings of the Vermont State Employees’
7 Retirement System, the Vermont State Teachers’ Retirement System, and the
8 Vermont Municipal Employees’ Retirement System. For purposes of the
9 review, “carbon footprint” means the extent to which the holdings are invested
10 in stocks, securities, or other obligations of any fossil fuel company or any
11 subsidiary, affiliate, or parent of any fossil fuel company.

12 (b) Report. On or before February 15, 2024, the Commission shall submit
13 a report on the review described in subsection (a) of this section to the House
14 Committees on Appropriations and on Government Operations and Military
15 Affairs, the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Government
16 Operations, and to the Joint Pension Oversight Committee. The report shall
17 include the definition of “fossil fuel company” that the Commission used for
18 purposes of conducting the review and whether there are any recommendations
19 for legislative action to divest from holdings that contain assets in the fossil
20 fuel industry.

21 Sec. E.139 GRAND LIST LITIGATION ASSISTANCE

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

8 Sec. E.142 PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES

9 (a) The appropriation in Sec. B.142 of this act is for State payments in lieu
10 of property taxes under 32 V.S.A. chapter 123, subchapter 4. The payments
11 shall be calculated in addition to and without regard to the appropriations for
12 PILOT for Montpelier and for correctional facilities elsewhere in this act.
13 Payments in lieu of taxes under this section shall be paid from the PILOT
14 Special Fund under 32 V.S.A. § 3709.

15 (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, the payments under this
16 section shall be adjusted so that the total payments made under Secs. E.142,
17 E.143, and E.144 of this act do not exceed 100 percent of the assessed value of
18 State buildings as defined by 32 V.S.A. § 3701(2).

19 Sec. E.143 PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES – MONTPELIER

20 (a) Payments in lieu of taxes under Sec. B.143 of this act shall be paid from
21 the PILOT Special Fund under 32 V.S.A. § 3709.

1 Sec. E.144 PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES – CORRECTIONAL
2 FACILITIES

3 (a) Payments in lieu of taxes under Sec. B.144 of this act shall be paid from
4 the PILOT Special Fund under 32 V.S.A. § 3709.

5 * * * Protection * * *

6 Sec. E.200 ATTORNEY GENERAL

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

14 (b) Of the revenue available to the Attorney General under 9 V.S.A.
15 § 2458(b)(4), \$1,545,393 is appropriated in Sec. B.200 of this act.

16 Sec. E.204 JUDICIARY; NEW POSITIONS

17 (a) The establishment of seven new permanent exempt positions at the
18 Judiciary are authorized in fiscal year 2024: five Judicial Assistants, one
19 Superior Judge, and one Law Clerk.

20 (b) The Superior Judge position created pursuant to this section:

1 (C) For any offense or violation committed after June 30, 2009, but
2 before July 1, 2013, \$41, of which ~~\$23.75~~ \$27.50 shall be deposited in the
3 Victims Compensation Special Fund created by section 5359 of this title, and
4 of which ~~\$10.00~~ \$13.50 shall be deposited in the Domestic and Sexual
5 Violence Special Fund created by section 5360 of this title.

6 (D) For any offense or violation committed after June 30, 2013,
7 \$47.00, of which ~~\$29.75~~ \$33.50 shall be deposited in the Victims
8 Compensation Special Fund created by section 5359 of this title, and of which
9 ~~\$10.00~~ \$13.50 shall be deposited in the Domestic and Sexual Violence Special
10 Fund created by section 5360 of this title.

11 * * *

12 (c) ~~\$H~~ SIU surcharge. In addition to any penalty or fine imposed by the
13 court or Judicial Bureau for a criminal offense committed after July 1, 2009,
14 the clerk of the court or Judicial Bureau shall levy an additional surcharge of
15 \$100.00 to be deposited in the General Fund, in support of the Specialized
16 Investigative Unit Grants Board created in 24 V.S.A. § 1940(c), and used to
17 pay for the costs of Specialized Investigative Units.

18 Sec. E.208 PUBLIC SAFETY – ADMINISTRATION

19 (a) The Commissioner of Public Safety may enter into a performance-based
20 contract with the Essex County Sheriff’s Department to provide law

1 enforcement service activities agreed upon by both the Commissioner of
2 Public Safety and the Essex County Sheriff.

3 Sec. E.209 PUBLIC SAFETY – STATE POLICE

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

9 (b) Of the General Fund appropriation in Sec. B.209 of this act, \$405,000 is
10 allocated for grants in support of the Drug Task Force. Of this amount,
11 \$190,000 shall be used by the Vermont Drug Task Force to fund three town
12 Task Force officers. These town Task Force officers shall be dedicated to
13 enforcement efforts with respect to both regulated drugs as defined in 18
14 V.S.A. § 4201(29) and the diversion of legal prescription drugs. Any
15 unobligated funds may be allocated by the Commissioner to the Drug Task
16 Force or carried forward.

17 Sec. E.212 PUBLIC SAFETY – FIRE SAFETY

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

21 Sec. E.215 MILITARY – ADMINISTRATION

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(E) Each distinct plug-in connection point of electric vehicle supply equipment available to the public: \$25.00.

Sec. E.232 30 V.S.A. § 3085 is added to read:

§ 3085. CERTIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING

(a) A district may apply to the Secretary of State for a certificate of good standing.

(b) A certificate of good standing shall include:

(1) the official name of the district;

(2) that the district is duly formed pursuant to this chapter;

(3) the date of the district's formation;

(4) that the fee required by this section has been paid; and

(5) that a plan of dissolution for the district has not been approved pursuant to section 3083 of this chapter.

(c) Subject to any qualification stated in the certificate, a certificate of good standing issued by the Secretary of State may be:

(1) relied upon as conclusive evidence that the district is in existence and is authorized to deliver communications services and operate a communications plant pursuant to this chapter; and

(2) taken as prima facie evidence of the facts stated in the certificate.

1 (2) A three percent base increase for mental health services effective
2 July 1, 2023.

3 (A) The remaining mental health service fund increase shall be used
4 to provide payment equity across the provider agencies. These funds shall be
5 distributed as determined by the Agency of Human Services in the annual
6 agreements or appropriate valuation model allocations for providers. The
7 Agency shall report to the General Assembly in the fiscal year 2024 budget
8 adjustment process on the status of these payment changes.

9 Sec. E.300.2 BLUEPRINT FOR HEALTH HUB AND SPOKE PROGRAM

10 PILOT; FUND SOURCES

11 (a) The Agency of Human Services, in collaboration with the Departments
12 of Vermont Health Access and of Health, shall identify alternative fund
13 sources, including sales tax revenue from tobacco, cannabis, and liquor, for
14 ongoing funding of the Blueprint for Health Hub and Spoke program and shall
15 update the Joint Fiscal Committee on its findings on or before November 15,
16 2023.

17 Sec. E.301 SECRETARY'S OFFICE – GLOBAL COMMITMENT

18 (a) The Agency of Human Services shall use the funds appropriated in Sec.
19 B.301 of this act for payment of the actuarially certified premium required
20 under the intergovernmental agreement between the Agency of Human
21 Services and the managed care entity, the Department of Vermont Health

1 Access, as provided for in the Global Commitment to Health Section 1115
2 demonstration (Global Commitment) approved by the Centers for Medicare
3 and Medicaid Services under Section 1115 of the Social Security Act.

4 (b) In addition to the State funds appropriated in Sec. B.301 of this act, a
5 total estimated sum of \$25,231,644 is anticipated to be certified as State
6 matching funds under Global Commitment as follows:

7 (1) \$21,957,400 certified State match available from local education
8 agencies for eligible special education school-based Medicaid services under
9 Global Commitment. This amount, combined with \$28,542,600 of federal
10 funds appropriated in Sec. B.301 of this act, equals a total estimated
11 expenditure of \$50,500,000. An amount equal to the amount of the federal
12 matching funds for eligible special education school-based Medicaid services
13 under Global Commitment shall be transferred from the Global Commitment
14 Fund to the Medicaid Reimbursement Special Fund created in 16 V.S.A.
15 § 2959a.

16 (2) \$3,093,521 certified State match available from local designated
17 mental health and developmental services agencies for eligible mental health
18 services provided under Global Commitment.

19 (c) Up to \$4,034,170 is transferred from the AHS Federal Receipts Holding
20 Account to the Interdepartmental Transfer Fund consistent with the amount

1 appropriated in Sec. B.301, Secretary's Office – Global Commitment, of this
2 act.

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

5 (a) To facilitate the end-of-year closeout for fiscal year 2024, the Secretary
6 of Human Services, with approval from the Secretary of Administration, may
7 make transfers among the appropriations authorized for Medicaid and
8 Medicaid-waiver program expenses, including Global Commitment
9 appropriations outside the Agency of Human Services. At least three business
10 days prior to any transfer, the Agency of Human Services shall submit to the
11 Joint Fiscal Office a proposal of transfers to be made pursuant to this section.
12 A final report on all transfers made under this section shall be made to the Joint
13 Fiscal Committee for review at the Committee's September 2024 meeting.
14 The purpose of this section is to provide the Agency with limited authority to
15 modify the appropriations to comply with the terms and conditions of the
16 Global Commitment to Health Section 1115 demonstration approved by the
17 Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services under Section 1115 of the Social
18 Security Act.

19 Sec. E.301.2 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 83, Sec. 72a, as amended by 2022
20 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. C.105 is further amended to read:

1 Upon approval from CMS, the Agency of Human Services' Department of
2 Vermont Health Access, the University of Vermont, and the University of
3 Vermont Medical Center may enter into a mutual agreement on the
4 implementation of the HDP program.

5 (b) If CMS approves a Vermont HDP program within the State's Global
6 Commitment to Health Section 1115 Demonstration Waiver in fiscal year 2024
7 while the General Assembly is not in session, then, pursuant to 32 V.S.A.
8 § 511 and notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the
9 Department of Finance and Management is authorized to approve the Agency
10 of Human Services' allocation and expenditure of excess receipts for Global
11 Commitment Fund spending up to the amount approved by CMS for the
12 Vermont HDP program.

13 (c) In State fiscal year 2024, the Agency of Human Services is authorized,
14 to the extent permitted under federal law, to reasonably manage the timing of
15 federal fiscal year 2024 Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) payments to
16 hospitals due to the impact the Vermont HDP program payments received in
17 State fiscal year 2024 may have on hospitals' eligibility for DSH payments.

18 (d) The Agency of Human Services shall report on the status of the
19 Vermont HDP program, the expenditure of excess receipts, and the status of
20 the program's potential impacts on DSH payments at the September and
21 November 2023 meetings of the Joint Fiscal Committee.

1 Sec. E.306 VERMONT HEALTH BENEFIT EXCHANGE RULES

2 (a) The Agency of Human Services may adopt rules pursuant to 3 V.S.A.
3 chapter 25 to conform Vermont's rules regarding health care eligibility and
4 enrollment and the operation of the Vermont Health Benefit Exchange to State
5 and federal law and guidance. The Agency may use the emergency rules
6 process pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 844 prior to June 30, 2024, but only if new
7 State or federal law or guidance requires Vermont to amend or adopt its rules
8 in a time frame that cannot be accomplished under the traditional rulemaking
9 process. An emergency rule adopted under these exigent circumstances shall
10 be deemed to meet the standard for the adoption of emergency rules required
11 pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 844(a).

12 Sec. E.306.1 2013 Acts and Resolves No. 73, Sec. 60(10), as amended by
13 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 73, Sec. 14, 2018 Acts and Resolves No. 187,
14 Sec. 5, 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 71, Sec. 21, and 2021 Acts and Resolves
15 No. 73, Sec. 14, is further amended to read:

16 (10) Secs. 48–51 (health claims tax) shall take effect on July 1, 2013 and
17 Sec. 52 (Health IT-Fund; sunset) shall take effect on July 1, ~~2023~~ 2025.

18 Sec. E.306.2 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 6, Sec. 105, as amended by 2019
19 Acts and Resolves No. 71, Sec. 19 and 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 83, Sec.
20 75, is further amended to read:

1 Sec. 105. EFFECTIVE DATES

2 * * *

3 (b) Sec. 73 (further amending 32 V.S.A. § 10402) shall take effect on
4 July 1, ~~2023~~ 2025.

5 * * *

6 Sec. E.306.3 ADULT DAY PROGRAM; RATE REPORT

7 (a) On or before February 15, 2024, the Department of Vermont Health
8 Access, in collaboration with the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and
9 Independent Living and the Vermont Association of Adult Day Services, shall
10 report to the House Committees on Appropriations and on Human Services and
11 to the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Health and Welfare on
12 recommended payment methodologies that encourage increased enrollment or
13 attendance, or both, and provide predictable funding levels for adult day
14 programs.

15 Sec. E.307 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. E.334.1 is amended to read:

16 Sec. E.334.1 LONG-TERM CARE – PERSONAL NEEDS ALLOWANCE
17 INCREASE

18 (a) The amount of the State supplement for Medicaid beneficiaries who
19 reside in a nursing home and receive Supplemental Security Income shall
20 increase by 10 percent to the degree practicable effective January 1, 2023 but
21 not later than January 1, 2024.

1 Committees on Appropriations, or to the Joint Fiscal Committee if the General
2 Assembly is not in session, each time the Department adjusts the maximum.

3 * * *

4 Sec. E.307.2 DEPARTMENT OF VERMONT HEALTH ACCESS;

5 MEDICAID DENTAL SERVICES; REPORT

6 (a) On or before January 15, 2025, the Department of Vermont Health
7 Access shall report to the House Committee on Health Care, the Senate
8 Committee on Health and Welfare, and the House and Senate Committees on
9 Appropriations on its analysis of the impact of Medicaid dental provider rate
10 increases on the participation of dental providers in the Medicaid program, the
11 geographic and network adequacy of dental providers for the Medicaid
12 population, utilization of emergency dental services due to allowable
13 exceptional medical circumstances, and predictions on costs of increasing or
14 eliminating the dental cap.

15 Sec. E.312 HEALTH – PUBLIC HEALTH

16 (a) HIV/AIDS funding:

17 (1) In fiscal year 2024, the Department of Health shall provide grants in
18 the amount of \$475,000 in AIDS Medication Rebates special funds to Vermont
19 AIDS service and peer-support organizations for client-based support services.
20 The Department of Health AIDS Program shall meet at least quarterly with the
21 Community Advisory Group (CAG) with current information and data relating

1 to service initiatives. The funds shall be allocated according to an RFP
2 process.

3 (2) In fiscal year 2024, the Department of Health shall provide grants in
4 the amount of \$295,000 to the following organizations:

5 (A) Vermont CARES – \$140,000;

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

7 (C) HIV/HCV Resource Center – \$55,000.

8 (3) Ryan White Title II funds for AIDS services and the Vermont
9 Medication Assistance Program (VMAP) shall be distributed in accordance
10 with federal guidelines. The federal guidelines shall not apply to programs or
11 services funded solely by State general funds.

12 (A) The Secretary of Human Services shall immediately notify the
13 Joint Fiscal Committee if at any time there are insufficient funds in VMAP to
14 assist all eligible individuals. The Secretary shall work in collaboration with
15 persons living with HIV/AIDS to develop a plan to continue access to VMAP
16 medications until such time as the General Assembly can act.

17 (B) The Secretary of Human Services shall work in collaboration
18 with the VMAP Advisory Committee, which shall be composed of not less
19 than 50 percent of members who are living with HIV/AIDS. If a modification
20 to the program's eligibility requirements or benefit coverage is considered, the
21 Committee shall make recommendations regarding the program's formulary of

1 approved medication, related laboratory testing, nutritional supplements, and
2 eligibility for the program.

3 (4) In fiscal year 2024, the Department of Health shall provide grants in
4 the amount of \$100,000 in General Funds to Vermont AIDS service
5 organizations and other Vermont HIV/AIDS prevention providers for
6 community-based HIV prevention programs and services. These funds shall
7 be used for HIV/AIDS prevention purposes, including syringe exchange
8 programs; improving the availability of confidential and anonymous HIV
9 testing; prevention work with at-risk groups such as women, intravenous drug
10 users, and people of color; and anti-stigma campaigns. Not more than 15
11 percent of the funds may be used for the administration of such services by the
12 recipients of these funds. The method by which these prevention funds are
13 distributed shall be determined by mutual agreement of the Department of
14 Health and the Vermont AIDS service organizations and other Vermont
15 HIV/AIDS prevention providers.

16 (5) In fiscal year 2024, the Department of Health shall provide grants in
17 the amount of \$300,000 in General Funds to Vermont AIDS service
18 organizations and other Vermont HIV/AIDS prevention providers for syringe
19 exchange programs. The method by which these prevention funds are
20 distributed shall be determined by mutual agreement of the Department of
21 Health, the Vermont AIDS service organizations, and other Vermont

1 HIV/AIDS prevention providers. The performance period for these grants
2 shall be State fiscal year 2024. Grant reporting shall include outcomes and
3 results.

4 (6) In fiscal year 2024, the Department of Health shall not reduce any
5 grants to Vermont AIDS service and peer-support organizations or syringe
6 service programs from funds appropriated for HIV/AIDS services to levels
7 below those in fiscal year 2023 without receiving prior approval from the Joint
8 Fiscal Committee.

9 Sec. E.312.1 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH: EMERGENCY MEDICAL
10 SERVICES COORDINATION; REPORT

11 (a) The Commissioner of Health shall provide a report to the General
12 Assembly on or before January 15, 2024, on Emergency Medical Services in
13 Vermont.

14 (b) The Commissioner shall design and conduct a stakeholder engagement
15 process that ensures input and representation from all types of emergency
16 medical service providers serving Vermonters, as well as hospital and health
17 systems, public safety, and municipal government.

18 (c) The report shall identify issues and provide recommendations for
19 legislative consideration that will sustain and improve the provision of
20 emergency medical services for Vermonters. This may include:

21 (1) issues related to costs of service and existing funding models;

1 (2) issues related to coordination across agencies; and

2 (3) issues related to EMS District structure and authority, including

3 consideration of recommendations on the number and configuration of EMS

4 Districts and their powers, duties, and authority.

5 Sec. E.313 HEALTH; SUBSTANCE USE PROGRAMS

6 (a) In fiscal year 2024, the Department of Health shall provide additional

7 grants from the Global Commitment fund in the amount of \$1,850,000 to

8 Vermont's 12 recovery centers. The methods by which these funds are

9 distributed shall be determined by mutual agreement of the Department and the

10 recipients. The performance period of these grants shall be State fiscal year

11 2024. Recipients shall report outcomes to the Department.

12 (b) The Department of Health shall review and analyze the capital and

13 operating model for recovery residences. This shall include the portion of

14 capital investment for these facilities that is privately and publicly financed, a

15 description of the existing operating models of these facilities, existence and

16 content of sustainability plans, the current operating margins net of rental

17 income generated and the array of existing other operating funding available to

18 the facilities, and the annual amounts of depreciation claimed by investors

19 related to these facilities. The Department shall report to the General

20 Assembly on this analysis and any related recommendations.

21 Sec. E.316 STAKEHOLDER WORKING GROUP; FACILITY PLANNING

1 FOR JUSTICE-INVOLVED YOUTH

2 (a) The Department for Children and Families, in consultation with the
3 Department of Buildings and General Services, shall assemble a stakeholder
4 working group to provide regular input on the planning, design, development,
5 and implementation of the temporary stabilization facility for youth and on the
6 development of a long-term plan for the high-end system of care.

7 (b) The stakeholder working group, constituted as a subcommittee of, or
8 drawn from, existing groups or created as a separate group, may include
9 representatives from:

10 (1) the families of children in the Department's custody for delinquency
11 offenses;

12 (2) youth who have been in custody for juvenile offenses;

13 (3) the Juvenile Defender's Office;

14 (4) the Office of State's Attorneys;

15 (5) the Family Court;

16 (6) the Office of Racial Equity;

17 (7) the Vermont Family Network;

18 (8) the Vermont Federation of Families;

19 (9) the Children and Family Council for Prevention Programs;

20 (10) the Vermont Protection and Advocacy;

21 (11) the Department of Mental Health;

1 (12) the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living;

2 (13) the State Program Standing Committees for Developmental

3 Services, Children’s Mental Health, and Adult Mental Health; and

4 (14) any other groups the Department may select.

5 (c) The Department shall regularly present relevant information to the
6 stakeholder working group established pursuant to this section and review
7 recommendations from the working group regarding:

8 (1) facility design layout, programming, and policy development for the
9 temporary stabilization facility, including data on the number of cases and
10 types of case mix, as well as likely length of stay; and

11 (2) the Department’s data and assumptions for size, type of treatment,
12 and security levels for future permanent facilities included in the planning
13 process proposed in the fiscal year 2024 capital bill; optimal locations,
14 including whether a campus plan is appropriate; and any plans regarding the
15 use of outside contractors for facility operations, including State oversight of
16 appropriate quality of care.

17 (d) The stakeholder working group established in this section shall be
18 subject to the requirements of the Vermont Open Meeting Law.

19 (e) On or before January 15, 2024, the Commissioner of Children and
20 Families shall develop and submit a strategic plan to the House Committees on
21 Corrections and Institutions and on Human Services and to the Senate

1 Committees on Health and Welfare and Institutions, as part of the overall
2 planning process for development of the high-end system of care, for
3 preventing the disproportionality of youth who are Black, Indigenous, or
4 Persons of Color in staff- or building-secure facilities. The strategic plan shall
5 include mechanisms for collecting necessary data, and the process of
6 development shall include input from relevant public stakeholders.

7 (f) The stakeholder working group shall cease to exist on June 30, 2025.

8 Sec. E.321 GENERAL ASSISTANCE HOUSING: ADVERSE WEATHER
9 CONDITIONS

10 (a) The Commissioner for Children and Families may, by policy, provide
11 temporary housing for a limited duration in adverse weather conditions when
12 appropriate shelter space is not available.

13 Sec. E.323 33 V.S.A. § 1001 is amended to read:

14 § 1001. DEFINITIONS

15 As used in this chapter:

16 (1) ~~“Able to work” means to be free of any physical, emotional, or~~
17 ~~mental condition that would prevent the individual from engaging in any~~
18 ~~combination of the work activities for at least 35 hours per week. [Repealed.]~~

19 (2) ~~“Able to work part time” means having a physical, emotional, or~~
20 ~~mental condition that would allow the individual to engage in any combination~~
21 ~~of the work activities for at least 10 hours per week but would prevent the~~

1 ~~individual from engaging in such activities for 35 or more hours per week.~~

2 [Repealed.]

3 * * *

4 (25) ~~“Unable to work” means not able to work and not able to work part~~
5 ~~time.~~ [Repealed.]

6 (26) ~~“Work activities” means the following activities limited to the~~
7 ~~extent and degree that they are allowed and countable in accordance with Part~~
8 ~~A of Title IV of the Social Security Act:~~

9 (A) ~~unsubsidized employment;~~

10 (B) ~~subsidized private sector employment;~~

11 (C) ~~subsidized public sector employment;~~

12 (D) ~~work experience (including work associated with the refurbishing~~
13 ~~of publicly assisted housing) if sufficient private sector employment is not~~
14 ~~available;~~

15 (E) ~~on the job training;~~

16 (F) ~~job search and job readiness assistance;~~

17 (G) ~~community service programs;~~

18 (H) ~~vocational educational training (not to exceed 12 months with~~
19 ~~respect to any individual);~~

20 (I) ~~job skills training directly related to employment;~~

1 (c) For the purposes of calculating the payment, child support shall be
2 treated as income, except that the first ~~\$500.00~~ \$100.00 amount of child
3 support shall be disregarded from income.

4 Sec. E.323.2 33 V.S.A. § 1005(b)(8) is amended to read:

5 (8) ~~Assistance with obtaining documentation of an apparent or claimed~~
6 ~~physical, emotional, or mental condition that reasonably can be presumed to~~
7 ~~limit or eliminate the individual's capacity to engage in employment or other~~
8 ~~work activity. [Repealed.]~~

9 Sec. E.323.3 33 V.S.A. § 1006 is amended to read:

10 § 1006. CASE MANAGEMENT; FAMILY DEVELOPMENT PLANS;
11 COORDINATED SERVICES

12 * * *

13 (b) The family development plan shall include:

14 (1) Each ~~parent~~ parent's or caretaker's employment goal or plan to
15 engage in the program, to the best of the parent's or caretaker's ability.

16 * * *

17 Sec. E.323.4 33 V.S.A. § 1011 is amended to read:

18 § 1011. TRANSITION TO OTHER PROGRAMS

19 * * *

20 (b) ~~If a family finds employment meeting or exceeding the work~~
21 ~~requirements for Reach Up for the family's size and composition, but is~~

1 ~~financially eligible for Reach Up, the Department shall transfer the family to~~
2 ~~Reach Up, unless the family chooses not to participate. A family transferring~~
3 ~~from Reach First to Reach Up shall be treated as a recipient for the purposes of~~
4 ~~income calculation. [Repealed.]~~

5 (c) ~~If a family finds employment meeting or exceeding the work~~
6 ~~requirements for Reach Up for the family's size and composition, is not~~
7 ~~financially eligible for Reach Up, and is eligible for the Reach Ahead program,~~
8 ~~the Department shall transfer the family to Reach Ahead, unless the family~~
9 ~~chooses not to participate. A family transferring from Reach First to Reach~~
10 ~~Ahead shall be treated as a recipient for the purposes of income calculation.~~
11 ~~[Repealed.]~~

12 * * *

13 Sec. E.323.5 33 V.S.A. § 1203 is amended to read:

14 § 1203. ELIGIBILITY

15 A family shall be eligible for Reach Ahead if the family resides in Vermont
16 and:

17 (1) has left Reach Up or the postsecondary education program within the
18 prior six months for employment that meets the federal work requirements for
19 the ~~Reach Up~~ TANF program for the family's size and composition;

20 * * *

21 Sec. E.323.6 33 V.S.A. § 1212 is amended to read:

1 § 1212. TRANSITION TO OTHER PROGRAMS

2 If a family loses employment meeting or exceeding the work requirements
3 for ~~Reach Up~~ TANF for the family's size and composition and is financially
4 eligible for Reach Up, the family shall be transferred to Reach First or Reach
5 Up without an additional application process, unless the family chooses not to
6 participate. Verification of income or other documentation may be required as
7 provided for by rule.

8 Sec. E 323.7 REACH AHEAD PILOT PROGRAM

9 (a) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in 33 V.S.A. chapter 12,
10 funds appropriated to the Department for Children and Families for the Reach
11 Ahead Pilot Program in fiscal year 2024 shall be used to:

12 (1) enroll families that have left the Reach Up program or the
13 postsecondary education program within the prior 12 months for employment
14 that meets the federal work requirements for the Temporary Assistance for
15 Needy Families program for the family's size and composition;

16 (2) increase the amount of monthly food assistance from \$50 to \$100 in
17 the first 12 months of a family's participation in Reach Ahead;

18 (3) increase the amount of monthly food assistance from \$5 to \$50 in the
19 second 12 months of a family's participation in Reach Ahead; and

20 (4) provide incentive payments to participating families in the amounts
21 of:

1 (A) \$750, to be paid after participating in the Program for six
2 months;

3 (B) \$1,000, to be paid after participating in the Program for
4 12 months;

5 (C) \$1,000, to be paid after participating in the Program for 18
6 months; and

7 (D) \$1,000, to be paid after participating in the Program for 24
8 months.

9 (b) Funding for this program is provided for in Sec. B.1100(o)(1) of this act
10 and is only in effect for fiscal years 2024 and 2025, unless additional funding
11 is authorized.

12 Sec. E.323.8 REACH AHEAD PILOT PROGRAM

13 (a) The Department for Children and Families – Economic Services
14 Division shall collect and report data that measures outcomes for participants
15 of the Reach Ahead Pilot Program established in Sec. E.323.7 of this act; the
16 indicators used to measure participant and Pilot Program progress; and the
17 strategies that are implemented.

18 Sec. E.324 EXPEDITED CRISIS FUEL ASSISTANCE

19 (a) The Commissioner for Children and Families or designee may authorize
20 crisis fuel assistance to those income-eligible households that have applied for
21 an expedited seasonal fuel benefit but have not yet received it if the benefit

1 cannot be executed in time to prevent them from running out of fuel. The
2 crisis fuel grants authorized pursuant to this section count toward the one crisis
3 fuel grant allowed per household for the winter heating season pursuant to 33
4 V.S.A. § 2609(b).

5 Sec. E.325 DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES – OFFICE
6 OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

7 (a) Of the General Fund appropriation in Sec. B.325 of this act,
8 \$18,776,814 shall be granted to community agencies to assist individuals
9 experiencing homelessness by preserving existing services, increasing services,
10 or increasing resources available statewide. These funds may be granted alone
11 or in conjunction with federal Emergency Solutions Grants funds. Funds shall
12 be administered in consultation with the Vermont Coalition to End
13 Homelessness.

14 (b) Of the General Fund appropriation in Sec. B.325 of this act, \$170,301
15 shall be granted to community agencies for financial coaching.

16 Sec. E.325.1 CHILD CARE FACILITIES FINANCING PROGRAM

17 (a) 33 V.S.A. § 3521 (Child Care Facilities Financing Program established)
18 is repealed.

19 Sec. E.326 DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES – OFFICE
20 OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY – WEATHERIZATION
21 ASSISTANCE

1 Sec. E.333 DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES, AGING, AND
2 INDEPENDENT LIVING; QUALITY AND PROGRAM
3 PARTICIPANT SPECIALIST POSITIONS

4 (a) The five Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living
5 Quality and Program Participant Specialist positions created in Sec. E.100 of
6 this act shall be dedicated exclusively to the Developmental Disabilities
7 Services division of the Department to ensure that quality oversight on-site
8 visits for designated and specialized service agencies are performed at least
9 annually and that Home and Community Based Services quality standards are
10 implemented.

11 Sec. E.334 NURSING HOME RATE SETTING

12 (a) The Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living and the
13 Department of Vermont Health Access shall report to the House Committees
14 on Human Services and on Appropriations and the Senate Committees on
15 Health and Welfare and on Appropriations not later than December 15, 2023
16 on the budgetary impact of eliminating the minimum occupancy threshold in
17 the nursing home rate setting process and reducing the minimum occupancy
18 threshold to not more than 80 percent in the nursing home rate setting process.
19 The report shall include a recommendation on whether to eliminate or reduce
20 the minimum occupancy requirement, timeline, and next steps for

1 implementing the recommendation and anticipated impact on sustainability of
2 Vermont nursing homes.

3 Sec. E.335 28 V.S.A. § 126 is added to read:

4 § 126. DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS; PEER SUPPORT PROGRAM;

5 CONFIDENTIALITY

6 (a) As used in this section:

7 (1) “Department” has the same meaning as in subdivision 3(4) of this
8 title.

9 (2) “Participant” means a Department staff member who has been
10 involved in a traumatic incident by reason of employment at the Department
11 and who has agreed to participate in the Department’s peer support program.

12 (3) “Peer support” means appropriate support and services offered by a
13 peer support specialist to a participant.

14 (4) “Peer support program” means a program established by the
15 Department of Corrections to provide appropriate peer support services to
16 Department staff members.

17 (5) “Peer support session” means a peer support program session for a
18 Department staff member who has been involved in a traumatic incident by
19 reason of employment at the Department or related to other personal matters.

20 (6) “Peer support specialist” means a Department staff member who, by
21 reason of the staff member’s prior experience, training, or interest, has

1 expressed a desire and has been selected to provide appropriate peer support
2 services to a participant.

3 (7) “Staff member” means a supervising officer as defined in
4 subdivision 3(9) of this title, a correctional officer as defined in subdivision
5 3(10) of this title, and any other employee of the Department.

6 (b)(1) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, any
7 communication made by a participant or peer support specialist in a peer
8 support session of the peer support program, including any oral or written
9 information conveyed during a peer support session, shall not be disclosed by
10 any individual participating in the peer support session.

11 (2) Except as provided by subsection (d) of this section, any
12 communication relating to a peer support session between peer support
13 specialists, between peer support specialists and participants of the peer
14 support program, between participants of the peer support program, or between
15 any other Department staff member, including any oral or written information,
16 shall not be disclosed by any individual participating in the communication.

17 (3) Written communications described in this subsection, such as notes,
18 records, and reports related to a peer support session, are exempt from public
19 inspection and copying under the Public Records Act and shall be kept
20 confidential. The Public Records Act exemptions created in this section shall

1 not be subject to the provisions of 1 V.S.A. § 317(e) (repeal of Public Records
2 Act exemptions).

3 (c) Except as provided by subsection (d) of this section, any
4 communication made by a participant or peer support specialist in a peer
5 support session, including any oral or written communication, such as notes,
6 records, and reports related to the peer support session, shall not be admissible
7 in a judicial, administrative, or arbitration proceeding. Limitations on
8 disclosure imposed by this subsection include disclosure during any discovery
9 conducted as part of an adjudicatory proceeding. Limitations on disclosure
10 imposed by this subsection shall not include knowledge acquired by the
11 Department or staff members from observations made during the course of
12 employment or information acquired by the Department or staff members
13 during the course of employment that is otherwise subject to discovery or
14 introduction into evidence.

15 (d)(1) Confidentiality protections described in subsections (b) and (c) of
16 this section shall only apply to a peer support session conducted by an
17 individual who has:

18 (A) been designated by the Department or the peer support program
19 to act as a peer support specialist; and

20 (B) received and completed training in peer support and providing
21 emotional and moral support to Department staff members who have been

1 involved in emotionally traumatic incidents by reason of their employment or
2 other personal matters.

3 (2) Confidentiality protections described in subsections (b) and (c) of
4 this section shall not apply to the following information as it pertains to an
5 individual designated to receive such information in the normal course the
6 individual's professional responsibilities:

7 (A) any threat of suicide or homicide made by a participant of a peer
8 support session or any information conveyed in a peer support session relating
9 to a threat of suicide or homicide;

10 (B) any information relating to the abuse of a child or vulnerable
11 adult, or other information that is required to be reported by law;

12 (C) any admission of criminal conduct; or

13 (D) any admission of a plan to commit a crime.

14 (e) Nothing in this section shall prohibit any communications between peer
15 support specialists regarding a peer support session or between peer support
16 specialists and participants of the peer support program.

17 Sec. E.338 CORRECTIONS – CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

18 (a) Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 3709(a), the special funds appropriation of
19 \$152,000 for the supplemental facility payments to Newport and Springfield
20 shall be paid from the PILOT Special Fund under 32 V.S.A. § 3709.

1 Sec. E.338.1 13 V.S.A. § 7554b is amended to read:

2 § 7554b. HOME DETENTION PROGRAM

3 (a) Definition. As used in this section, “home detention” means a program
4 of confinement and supervision that restricts a defendant to a preapproved
5 residence continuously, except for authorized absences, and is enforced by
6 appropriate means of surveillance and electronic monitoring by the Department
7 of Corrections, including the use of passive electronic monitoring. The court
8 may authorize scheduled absences such as for work, school, or treatment. Any
9 changes in the schedule shall be solely at the discretion of the Department of
10 Corrections. A defendant who is on home detention shall remain in the
11 custody of the Commissioner of Corrections with conditions set by the court.

12 * * *

13 Sec. E.338.2 HOME DETENTION PROGRAM; REVIEW; REPORT

14 (a) The Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee shall review the
15 Home Detention Program under 13 V.S.A. § 7554b, including its historical and
16 current use, defendant eligibility criteria, and any potential changes to the types
17 of crimes for which it can be used.

18 (b) On or before November 15, 2023, the Committee shall submit any
19 findings resulting from its review in the form of proposed legislation to the
20 General Assembly.

1 Sec. E.338.3 REPEALS

2 (a) 13 V.S.A. § 7554(a)(1)(G) (Release prior to trial; reference to 13 V.S.A.
3 § 7554d) is repealed.

4 (b) 13 V.S.A. § 7554(a)(2)(F) (Release prior to trial; reference to 13 V.S.A.
5 § 7554d) is repealed.

6 (c) 13 V.S.A. § 7554d (Electronic Monitoring Pilot Program) is repealed.

7 Sec. E.338.4 28 V.S.A. chapter 11 is amended to read:

8 CHAPTER 11. SUPERVISION OF ADULT INMATES AT
9 THE CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

10 * * *

11 Subchapter 1A. Offender Reintegration

12 * * *

13 § 722. DEFINITIONS

14 As used in this subchapter:

15 (1) “Absconding” means:

16 (A) the offender has not met supervision requirements, cannot be
17 located with reasonable efforts, and has not made contact with Department
18 staff within three days if convicted of a listed crime as defined in 13 V.S.A. §
19 5301(7) or seven days if convicted of an unlisted crime;

20 (B) the offender flees from Department staff or law enforcement; or

21 (C) the offender left the State without Department authorization.

1 Sec. E.500 EDUCATION – FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

2 (a) The Global Commitment funds appropriated in Sec. B.500 of this act
3 shall be used for physician claims for determining medical necessity of
4 Individualized Education Programs (IEPs). These services are intended to
5 increase access to quality health care for uninsured persons, underinsured
6 persons, and Medicaid beneficiaries.

7 Sec. E.500.1 16 V.S.A. § 4018 is added to read:

8 § 4018. AFTERSCHOOL AND SUMMER LEARNING PROGRAMS

9 (a) Education Fund grants in an amount equal to the receipts from the sales
10 and use tax imposed by 32 V.S.A. chapter 233 on retail sales of cannabis or
11 cannabis products in this State, net of any administrative costs per subsection
12 (b)(4) of this section, shall be used to fund grant programs for the expansion of
13 summer and afterschool programs with an emphasis on increasing access in
14 underserved areas of the State.

15 (b) The Secretary of Education shall administer the grant programs, as
16 follows:

17 (1) Grants shall be used to support a mixed delivery system for
18 afterschool and summer programming. Eligible recipients can be public,
19 private, or nonprofit organizations.

20 (2) Grants may be used for technical assistance, program
21 implementation, program expansion, program sustainability, and related costs.

1 (3) Grants may be used to directly target communities with low existing
2 capacity to serve youth in afterschool and summer settings.

3 (4) The Agency may use up to \$500,000 for administrative costs to
4 allow for the support of the grant program and technical assistance to
5 communities. This could include subcontracts to support the grant programs.

6 (c) An Advisory Committee is created to support the Secretary of
7 Education in administering funds pursuant to this section. The Agency shall
8 provide administrative and technical support to the Committee. The
9 Committee is to be composed of:

10 (1) the State's Chief Prevention Officer;

11 (2) the Commissioner for Children and Families or designee;

12 (3) the Commissioner of Health or designee;

13 (4) the Commissioner of Mental Health or designee;

14 (5) the Secretary of Natural Resources or designee;

15 (6) the Secretary of Commerce and Community Development or

16 designee;

17 (7) the Vermont Afterschool Executive Director or designee; and

18 (8) a representative from the Governor's Office.

19 (d) On or before each November 15, the Agency of Education shall submit to
20 the General Assembly a plan to fund grants in furtherance of the purposes of
21 subsection (a) of this section and report outcomes data on the grants made

1 during the previous year. The Agency shall also report on the number of
2 programs, slots, weeks, or hours; geographic distribution; and what is known
3 about costs to families. The report should be inclusive of 21C programming.
4 The amount of grant funds awarded shall be in alignment with the actual
5 revenue collected from the sales and use tax imposed by 32 V.S.A. § 233 on
6 cannabis or cannabis products in this State. Discrepancies between the amount
7 of grant funds awarded and actual revenue shall be reconciled through the
8 budget adjustment process. The provisions of 2 V.S.A. § 20(d) (expiration of
9 required reports) shall not apply to the plan to be made under this subsection.

10 Sec. E.500.2 REPEALS

11 (a) 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 164, Secs. 17c (dedicated use of sales and
12 use tax on cannabis) and 17d (annual budgeting of sales and use tax revenue)
13 are repealed.

14 Sec. E.502 EDUCATION – SPECIAL EDUCATION: FORMULA GRANTS

15 (a) Of the appropriation authorized in Sec. B.502 of this act, and
16 notwithstanding any other provision of law, an amount not to exceed
17 \$4,195,600 shall be used by the Agency of Education in fiscal year 2024 as
18 funding for 16 V.S.A. § 2967(b)(2)–(6). In distributing such funds, the
19 Secretary will not be limited by the restrictions contained within 16 V.S.A. §
20 2969(c)–(d).

21 Sec. E.503 EDUCATION – STATE-PLACED STUDENTS

1 (a) The Independence Place Program of the Lund Family Center shall be
2 considered a 24-hour residential program for the purposes of reimbursement of
3 education costs.

4 Sec. E.504 ADULT BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY HSCP
5 STUDENT ACCESS STUDY; REPORT

6 (a) The High School Completion Program (HSCP) is experiencing
7 decreased enrollment due to the COVID-19 pandemic, policy changes within
8 the program, and lower literacy skills that limit acceptance into the program.
9 Adult basic education programs overall are experiencing funding reductions
10 due to decreased enrollment.

11 (b) There is created the Adult Education and Literacy HSCP Student
12 Access Study Committee to review and report on decreased HSCP enrollment
13 and subsequent adult basic education funding issues. The Committee shall
14 make recommendations to the Joint Fiscal Committee, the General Assembly,
15 and the Agency of Administration on or before January 15, 2024 to increase
16 enrollment in HSCP.

17 (c) Membership. The Committee shall be composed of the following
18 members:

19 (1) a current member of the House, who shall be appointed by the
20 Speaker of the House;

1 (2) a current member of the Senate, who shall be appointed by the
2 Committee on Committees;
3 (3) the Secretary of Education or designee;
4 (4) the Executive Director of Racial Equity or designee; and
5 (5) the Executive Director of Central Vermont Adult Basic Education or
6 designee.

7 (d) Powers and duties. The Committee shall review and make
8 recommendations to reduce barriers for vulnerable Vermonters, including
9 English learner applicants to Adult Education Programs, including any
10 discrepancies between admission and testing standards for English learner
11 applicants and all other applicants. The Committee shall provide
12 recommendations in its report to the Joint Fiscal Committee and the House and
13 Senate Committees on Education on how to increase equity and education
14 access to Adult Education Programs. The Committee shall include in its report
15 any administrative changes that could be made to help achieve these goals.

16 (e) Assistance. The Committee shall have the administrative, technical,
17 and legal assistance of the Agency of Education.

18 (f) The Committee shall submit a written report to the Joint Fiscal
19 Committee, the General Assembly, and the Agency of Administration on or
20 before January 15, 2024 with its findings and any recommendations for
21 legislative action based on the analysis conducted pursuant to subsection (d) of

1 this section. It is the intent of the General Assembly that the Committee report
2 be used to inform fiscal year 2025 budget considerations and that the
3 recommendations of the Committee be implemented to increase HSCP
4 enrollment.

5 (g) The Secretary of Education or designee shall call the first meeting of
6 the Committee. The Committee shall hold not more than five meetings, the
7 first of which shall be on or before September 15, 2023.

8 Sec. E.504.1 EDUCATION – FLEXIBLE PATHWAYS

9 (a) Of the appropriation in Sec. B.504 of this act, \$1,900,000 from the
10 Education Fund will be distributed to school districts for reimbursement of
11 high school completion services pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 943(c).

12 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of 16 V.S.A. § 4025 to the contrary, of
13 this Education Fund appropriation, the amount of:

14 (1) \$921,500 is available for dual enrollment programs notwithstanding
15 16 V.S.A. § 944(f)(2);

16 (2) \$2,000,000 is available to support the Vermont Virtual Learning
17 Cooperative at the River Valley Technical Center School District;

18 (3) \$400,000 is available for secondary school reform grants;

19 (4) \$4,000,000 is available for Early College pursuant to 16 V.S.A. §
20 946.

1 (c) Of the appropriation in Sec. B.504 of this act, \$921,500 from the
2 General Fund is available for dual enrollment programs.

3 Sec. E.511.1 MORATORIUM ON APPROVAL OF NEW APPROVED
4 INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

5 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the State Board
6 of Education shall be prohibited from approving an application for initial
7 approval of an approved independent school until further direction by the
8 General Assembly.

9 Sec. E.514 VERMONT STATE TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

10 (a) The total annual employer contribution to the Vermont State Teachers'
11 Retirement System (VSTRS) in fiscal year 2024 shall be \$203,281,051.

12 (b) In accordance with 16 V.S.A. § 1944(g)(2), the annual contribution to
13 the Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System (VSTRS) shall be
14 \$194,281,051 of which \$184,811,051 shall be the State's contribution and
15 \$9,470,000 shall be contributed from local school systems or educational
16 entities pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 1944(c).

17 (c) In accordance with 16 V.S.A. § 1944(c)(2), of the annual contribution,
18 \$34,825,673 is the "normal contribution," and \$159,455,378 is the "accrued
19 liability contribution."

1 (d) In accordance with 16 V.S.A. § 1944(c)(13)(A), \$9,000,000 shall be
2 contributed from the General Fund for a supplemental plus accrued liability
3 contribution.

4 Sec. E.514.1 VERMONT STATE TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
5 AND VERMONT PENSION INVESTMENT COMMISSION;
6 OPERATING BUDGET, SOURCE OF FUNDS

7 (a) Of the \$3,448,255 appropriated in Sec. B.514.1 of this act, \$2,401,835
8 constitutes the Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System operating budget,
9 and \$1,046,420 constitutes the portion of the Vermont Pension Investment
10 Commission's budget attributable to the Vermont State Teachers' Retirement
11 System.

12 Sec. E.514.2 VERMONT STATE TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM;
13 CALENDAR YEAR 2023–2024 SUPPLEMENTAL COST OF
14 LIVING PAYMENTS; INTENT; ACTUARIAL COST
15 ANALYSIS

16 (a) Intent. It is the intent of the General Assembly that:

17 (1) The maximum percentage value methodology set forth in 16 V.S.A.
18 § 1949 that applies to the postretirement adjustment allowances for the
19 Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System (VSTRS) shall be actuarially
20 evaluated to determine the cost required to revert to the methodology used
21 prior to the enactment of 2016 Acts and Resolves No. 114.

1 (2) The General Assembly further intends to make such a reversion by
2 future legislative action amending 16 V.S.A. § 1949, provided that the present
3 value of changes to the postretirement adjustment allowance methodology be
4 fully funded at the time the change is made and not increase the unfunded
5 liability in VSTRS.

6 (3) The General Assembly further intends that if the June 30, 2023,
7 change in the Consumer Price Index exceeds the statutory maximum
8 percentage values set forth in 16 V.S.A. § 1949 (b)(1), the General Assembly
9 will provide a sufficient appropriation in the 2024 Budget Adjustment Act to
10 make a one-time supplemental payment, similar in form to that described in
11 subsection (b) of this section, to qualifying VSTRS retired members and
12 beneficiaries in calendar year 2024.

13 (b) Calendar year 2023 supplemental payment. A one-time supplemental
14 payment during calendar year 2023 shall be made to VSTRS retired members
15 and beneficiaries who received a 2.5 percent postretirement adjustment
16 allowance in an amount equal to the net difference between what members
17 actually received in calendar year 2023 and what they would have received
18 under a 3.8 percent postretirement adjustment allowance.

19 (c) Actuarial cost analysis. Following the completion of the next
20 experience study, expected in fall 2023, the State Treasurer shall conduct an
21 actuarial analysis to evaluate the cost of changing the current methodology for

1 calculating the postretirement adjustment allowance for the Vermont State
2 Teachers' Retirement System to a methodology calculated by applying the
3 maximum percentage values set forth in 16 V.S.A. § 1949(b)(1) to the
4 postretirement adjustment allowance rather than applying the statutory
5 maximum percentage values to the net percentage change in the Consumer
6 Price Index. The actuarial analysis shall take into account any changes to
7 actuarial assumptions that may occur following the experience study to be
8 performed at the end of fiscal year 2023, as required by 16 V.S.A. § 1942.

9 (d) Report. Based on the actuarial cost analysis described in subsection (c)
10 of this section, on or before January 15, 2024, the State Treasurer shall submit
11 a report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations with an
12 actuarial cost estimate for changing the VSTRS postretirement adjustment
13 allowance methodology as set forth in subsection (c) of this section.

14 Sec. E.514.3 16 V.S.A. § 1944 is amended to read:

15 § 1944. VERMONT TEACHERS' RETIREMENT FUND

16 (a) Pension Fund. All of the assets of the System shall be credited to the
17 Vermont Teachers' Retirement Fund.

18 (b) Member contributions.

19 (1) Contributions deducted from the compensation of members shall be
20 accumulated in the Pension Fund and separately recorded for each member.

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(iii) ~~Beginning on July 1, 2024 and annually thereafter, a Group C member shall have an effective rate, rounded to the nearest hundredth of a percent, that is calculated based on the member's base salary as of July 1 each year, which equals the member's total earnable compensation, including compensation paid for absence as provided by subsection 1933(d) of this title, and any additional stipends identified as of July 1 for the next fiscal year. A member's effective rate shall not be adjusted during any fiscal year unless the member's full-time equivalency status changes, which shall require that the member's effective rate be recalculated and the new rate applied for the remainder of that fiscal year. For a member who works a part-time equivalency status, the effective rate shall apply to the member's total earnable compensation and not to an amount equal to an annualized base salary. If a member is employed on a part-time equivalency status with two or more employers, the highest effective rate shall be applied to the amounts deducted from each employer. Beginning on July 1, 2024, a Group C member shall have the rate set forth in this subdivision (b)(2)(B)(iii) applied to the member's total earnable compensation for the fiscal year, which shall include compensation paid for absence as provided by subsection 1933(d) of this title, and any additional stipends identified as of July 1. A member's rate shall not be adjusted during the fiscal year unless the member's full-time equivalency~~

1 status changes, which shall require that the member's rate be recalculated and
2 the new rate applied for the remainder of that fiscal year. For a member who
3 works a part-time equivalency status, the rate shall apply to the member's total
4 earnable compensation and not to an amount equal to an annualized base
5 salary. If a member is employed on a part-time equivalency status with two or
6 more employers, the highest rate shall be applied to the amounts deducted from
7 each employer. A member's ~~effective~~ rate shall be calculated according to the
8 following ~~marginal~~ rates and income brackets:

9 (I) if a member's base salary is at or below \$40,000.00, the rate
10 is ~~6.25~~ 6.15 percent;

11 (II) if a member's base salary is \$40,000.01 or more but not
12 more than ~~\$60,000.00~~, the rate is the equivalent of ~~\$2,900.00 on \$40,000.00~~
13 ~~and 6.75 percent of the member's salary that is \$40,000.01 or more~~
14 \$50,000.00, the rate is 6.20 percent;

15 (III) if a member's base salary is ~~\$60,000.01~~ \$50,000.01 or
16 more but not more than ~~\$80,000.00~~ \$60,000.00, the rate is the equivalent of
17 ~~\$3,850.00 on \$60,000.00 and 7.5 percent of the member's salary that is~~
18 ~~\$60,000.01 or more~~ 6.30 percent;

19 (IV) if a member's base salary is ~~\$80,000.01~~ \$60,000.01 or
20 more but not more than ~~\$100,000.00~~ \$70,000.00, the rate is the equivalent of

1 ~~\$5,350.00 on \$80,000.00 and 8.25 percent of the member's salary that is~~
2 ~~\$80,000.01 or more 6.40 percent; and~~

3 (V) if a member's base salary is ~~\$100,000.01~~ \$70,000.01 or
4 more but not more than \$80,000.00, the rate is ~~the equivalent of \$7,000.00 on~~
5 ~~\$100,000.00 and 9.0 percent of the member's salary that is \$100,000.01 or~~
6 ~~more 6.55 percent.~~

7 (VI) If a member's base salary is \$80,000.01 or more but not
8 more than \$90,000.00, the rate is 6.80 percent.

9 (VII) If a member's base salary is \$90,000.01 or more but not
10 more than \$100,000.00, the rate is 7.10 percent.

11 (VIII) If a member's base salary is \$100,000.01 or more, the
12 rate is 7.35 percent.

13 Sec. E.515 RETIRED TEACHERS' HEALTH CARE AND MEDICAL
14 BENEFITS

15 (a) In accordance with 16 V.S.A. § 1944b(b)(2), and 16 V.S.A.
16 § 1944b(h)(1), the annual contribution to the Retired Teachers' Health and
17 Medical Benefits plan shall be \$61,290,528, of which \$53,740,528 shall be the
18 State's contribution and \$7,550,000 shall be from the annual charge for teacher
19 health care contributed by employers pursuant to 16 V.S.A. §1944d. Of the
20 annual contribution, \$17,589,046 is the "normal contribution," and
21 \$43,701,482 is the "accrued liability contribution."

1 (b) The Vermont State Colleges shall use the Global Commitment funds
2 appropriated in Sec. B.603 of this act to support the dental hygiene, respiratory
3 therapy, and nursing programs that graduate approximately 315 health care
4 providers annually. These graduates deliver direct, high-quality health care
5 services to Medicaid beneficiaries or uninsured or underinsured persons.

6 Sec. E.605 VERMONT STUDENT ASSISTANCE CORPORATION

7 (a) Of the appropriation in Sec. B.605 of this act, \$25,000 is appropriated
8 from the General Fund to the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation
9 (VSAC) to be deposited into the Trust Fund established in 16 V.S.A. § 2845.

10 (b) Of this appropriation, not more than \$300,000 may be used by VSAC
11 for a student aspirational initiative to serve one or more high schools.

12 (c) Of the appropriated amount remaining after accounting for subsections
13 (a) and (b) of this section, not less than 93 percent of this appropriation shall be
14 used for direct student aid.

15 (d) Up to seven percent of the funds appropriated to VSAC in this act or
16 otherwise currently or previously appropriated to VSAC or provided to VSAC
17 by an agency or department of the State for the administration of a program or
18 initiative may be used by VSAC for its costs of administration. VSAC may
19 recoup its reasonable costs of collecting the forgivable loans in repayment.
20 Funds shall not be used for indirect costs. To the extent these are federal

1 funds, allocation for expenses associated with administering the funds shall be
2 consistent with federal grant requirements.

3 (e) \$1,000,000 of the General Fund appropriation in Sec. B.605 of this act
4 shall be used to continue operating the Vermont Trades Scholarship Program
5 in accordance with 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 183, Sec. 14.

6 Sec. E.605.1 NEED-BASED STIPEND FOR DUAL ENROLLMENT AND
7 EARLY COLLEGE STUDENTS

8 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of 16 V.S.A. § 4025 to the contrary, the
9 sum of \$41,225 in education funds and \$41,225 in general funds is
10 appropriated to the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation (VSAC) for dual
11 enrollment and need-based stipend purposes to fund a flat-rate, need-based
12 stipend or voucher program for financially needy students enrolled in a dual
13 enrollment course pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 944 or in early college pursuant to
14 16 V.S.A. § 946 to be used for the purchase of books, cost of transportation,
15 and payment of fees. The Vermont Student Assistance Corporation shall
16 establish the criteria for program eligibility. Funds shall be granted to eligible
17 students on a first-come, first-served basis until funds are depleted.

18 (b) On or before January 15, 2024, the Vermont Student Assistance
19 Corporation shall report on the program to the House Committees on
20 Appropriations and on Commerce and Economic Development and the Senate

1 Committees on Appropriations and on Economic Development, Housing and
2 General Affairs.

3 Sec. E.700 3 V.S.A. § 6006 is amended to read:

4 * * *

5 (d) Membership.

6 * * *

7 (7) Members of the Advisory Council who are not State employees shall
8 be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses for each
9 day spent in the performance of their duties, as permitted under 32 V.S.A. §
10 1010. These payments shall be made from monies appropriated to the Agency
11 of Natural Resources.

12 * * *

13 Sec. E.702 10 V.S.A. § 4829(a) is amended to read:

14 (a) A person engaged in the business of farming who suffers damage by
15 deer to the person's crops, fruit trees, or crop-bearing plants on land not posted
16 against the hunting of deer, or a person engaged in the business of farming who
17 suffers damage by black bear to the person's cattle, sheep, swine, poultry, or
18 bees or bee hives on land not posted against hunting or trapping of black bear
19 is entitled to reimbursement for the damage up to an amount not to exceed
20 \$5,000.00 per year, and may apply to the Department of Fish and Wildlife
21 within 72 hours of the occurrence of the damage for reimbursement for the

1 damage. As used in this section, “post” means any signage that would lead a
2 reasonable person to believe that hunting is prohibited on the land.

3 * * *

4 Sec. E.811 LAND ACCESS AND OPPORTUNITY BOARD;

5 ATTACHMENT FOR ADMINISTRATION; REPORT

6 (a) On or before December 15, 2024, the Land Access and Opportunity
7 Board shall submit a written report to the House Committees on
8 Appropriations and on Government Operations and Military Affairs and the
9 Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Government Operations
10 regarding the appropriate State entity for the Board to be attached to for
11 administrative purposes. The report shall, in consideration of the mission,
12 powers, and duties of the Board, identify various State entities to which the
13 Board could be attached for administrative purposes and shall examine the
14 potential benefits and drawbacks of the Board being attached to each of the
15 entities identified. The report shall consider the benefits and drawbacks of the
16 Board continuing to be attached to the Vermont Housing and Conservation
17 Board for administrative purposes.

18 Sec. E.900 TRANSPORTATION FUND RESERVE – REVERSIONS

19 EXCLUDED

20 (a) To calculate the fiscal year 2024 Transportation Fund Stabilization
21 Reserve requirement of five percent of prior year appropriations, reversions of

1 \$20,727,012 are excluded from the fiscal year 2023 total appropriations
2 amount.

3 Sec. E.1000 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 83 Sec. 53(b)(5)(B), as amended by
4 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. C.102, is further amended to read:

5 (B) \$20,000,000 shall be appropriated to the State Treasurer's Office
6 and used for redeeming State of Vermont general obligation bonds prior to
7 maturity. ~~Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. §1001b(c), beginning in fiscal year~~
8 ~~2024, to the extent bonds are redeemed, an amount equal to the reduction in~~
9 ~~payments for debt service required resulting from any redemption shall be~~
10 ~~transferred and reserved in the Capital Expenditure Cash Fund, as establish in~~
11 ~~32 V.S.A. §1001b created in Sec. E.106.1 of H.740 of 2022.~~

12 * * * Workforce and Economic Development Policies (H.484) * * *

13 Sec. F.1 TEACHER LICENSING FEES; SUSPENSION

14 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, peer review
15 process one-time licensure fee requirements under 16 V.S.A. § 1697(a)(7) are
16 suspended during fiscal years 2024 through 2029.

17 (b) In fiscal year 2024, the estimated fees that would have been collected
18 under 16 V.S.A. § 1697(a)(7) shall be accounted for through funds
19 appropriated to the Agency of Education from the General Fund.

20 Sec. F.2 EDUCATOR WORKFORCE DIVERSITY

1 (a) Educator demographics. In order to understand and improve the
2 longstanding and well-documented issue of underrepresentation in the
3 Vermont educator workforce, including underrepresentation of Black,
4 Indigenous, and Persons of Color; New Americans; and other historically
5 underrepresented communities, the Agency of Education shall collect
6 demographic information from educators and report such information in its
7 annual teacher and staff full-time equivalencies report. The Agency shall
8 submit the educator demographic information section of the report annually to
9 the General Assembly on or before each January 15.

10 Sec. F.3 18 V.S.A. § 39 is added to read:

11 § 39. VERMONT PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE

12 PRACTITIONER FORGIVABLE LOAN INCENTIVE PROGRAM

13 (a) As used in this section:

14 (1) “Corporation” means the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation
15 established in 16 V.S.A. § 2821.

16 (2) “Eligible individual” means an individual who satisfies the eligibility
17 requirements under this section for a forgivable loan.

18 (3) “Eligible school” means an approved postsecondary education
19 institution, as defined under 16 V.S.A. § 2822.

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

4 (5) “Program” means the Vermont Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse
5 Practitioner Forgivable Loan Incentive Program created under this section.

6 (b) The Vermont Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Forgivable
7 Loan Incentive Program is created and shall be administered by the
8 Corporation in collaboration with the Department of Health. The Program
9 provides forgivable loans to students enrolled in a master’s program at an
10 eligible school who commit to working as a psychiatric mental health nurse
11 practitioner in this State and who meet the eligibility requirements in
12 subsection (d) of this section.

13 (c) The Corporation shall disburse forgivable loan funds under the Program
14 on behalf of eligible individuals, subject to the appropriation of funds by the
15 General Assembly for this purpose.

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

19 (1) be enrolled at an eligible school in a program, whether through in-
20 person or remote instruction, that leads to a master’s degree or specialty in
21 psychiatric mental health;

1 (2) maintain good standing at the eligible school at which the individual
2 is enrolled;

3 (3) agree to work as a psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner in
4 Vermont for a minimum of one year following licensure for each year of
5 forgivable loan awarded;

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

10 (5) have completed the Program's application form and the Free
11 Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), in accordance with a schedule
12 determined by the Corporation; and

13 (6) have provided such other documentation as the Corporation may
14 require.

15 (e) If an eligible individual fails to serve as a psychiatric mental health
16 nurse practitioner in this State in compliance with the Program for a period that
17 would entitle the individual to the full forgivable loan benefit received by the
18 individual, other than for good cause as determined by the Corporation in
19 consultation with the Vermont Department of Health, then the individual shall
20 receive only partial loan forgiveness for a pro rata portion of the loan pursuant

1 to the terms of the interest-free reimbursement promissory note signed by the
2 individual at the time of entering the Program.

3 (f) The Corporation shall adopt policies, procedures, and guidelines
4 necessary to implement the provisions of this section, including maximum
5 forgivable loan amounts.

6 Sec. F.4 18 V.S.A. § 40 is added to read:

7 § 40. VERMONT DENTAL HYGIENIST FORGIVABLE LOAN

8 INCENTIVE PROGRAM

9 (a) As used in this section:

10 (1) “Corporation” means the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation
11 established in 16 V.S.A. § 2821.

12 (2) “Eligible individual” means an individual who satisfies the eligibility
13 requirements under this section for a forgivable loan.

14 (3) “Eligible school” means an approved postsecondary education
15 institution, as defined under 16 V.S.A. § 2822.

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

19 (5) “Program” means the Vermont Dental Hygienist Forgivable Loan
20 Incentive Program created under this section.

1 (b) The Vermont Dental Hygienist Forgivable Loan Incentive Program is
2 created and shall be administered by the Department of Health in collaboration
3 with the Corporation. The Program provides forgivable loans to students
4 enrolled in an eligible school who commit to working as a dental hygienist in
5 this State and who meet the eligibility requirements in subsection (d) of this
6 section.

7 (c) The Corporation shall disburse forgivable loan funds under the Program
8 on behalf of eligible individuals, subject to the appropriation of funds by the
9 General Assembly for this purpose.

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

13 (1) be enrolled at a dental hygienist program at an eligible school;

14 (2) maintain good standing at the eligible school at which the individual
15 is enrolled;

16 (3) agree to work as a dental hygienist in Vermont for a minimum of
17 one year following licensure for each year of forgivable loan awarded;

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

1 (5) have completed the Program’s application form, the Free
2 Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), and the Vermont grant
3 application each academic year of enrollment in accordance with a schedule
4 determined by the Corporation; and

5 (6) have provided such other documentation as the Corporation may
6 require.

7 (e) If an eligible individual fails to serve as a dental hygienist in this State
8 for a period that would entitle the individual to the full forgivable loan benefit
9 received by the individual, other than for good cause as determined by the
10 Corporation in consultation with the Vermont Department of Health, then the
11 individual shall receive only partial loan forgiveness for a pro rata portion of
12 the loan pursuant to the terms of the interest-free credit agreement or
13 promissory note signed by the individual at the time of entering the Program.

14 (f) There shall be no deadline to apply for a forgivable loan under this
15 section. Forgivable loans shall be awarded on a rolling basis as long as funds
16 are available, and any funds remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall roll over
17 and shall be available to the Department of Health and the Corporation in the
18 following fiscal year to award additional forgivable loans as set forth in this
19 section.

1 (g) The Corporation shall adopt policies, procedures, and guidelines
2 necessary to implement the provisions of this section, including maximum
3 forgivable loan amounts.

4 Sec. F.5 BROWNFIELDS FUNDING; USE IN FISCAL YEAR 2024

5 (a) The Department of Economic Development shall use the funds
6 appropriated in Sec. B.1101(f)(4) of this act for brownfields redevelopment for
7 the assessment, remediation, and redevelopment of brownfield sites to be used
8 in the same manner as the Brownfields Revitalization Fund established by 10
9 V.S.A. § 6654 except, notwithstanding the grant limitations in 10 V.S.A. §
10 6654, projects supported by this appropriation shall not be limited to a
11 maximum amount per site. The Agency of Commerce and Community
12 Development shall award the amount of \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2024 to
13 regional planning commissions for the purposes of brownfields assessment. In
14 awarding funds under this section, the Secretary, in consultation with the
15 Vermont Association of Planning and Development Agencies, shall select one
16 regional planning commission to administer these funds. To ensure statewide
17 availability, the selected regional planning commission shall subgrant to
18 regional planning commissions with brownfield programs, with not more than
19 10 percent of the funds being used for administrative purposes.

1 Sec. F.6 10 V.S.A. § 6654(e) is amended to read:

2 (e) A grant may be awarded by the Secretary of Commerce and
3 Community Development with the approval of the Secretary of Natural
4 Resources, provided that:

5 (1) A grant may not exceed \$50,000 for characterization and assessment
6 of a site.

7 (2) A grant may not exceed ~~\$200,000~~ \$500,000 for remediation of a site.

8 (3) A grant may be used by an applicant to purchase environmental
9 insurance relating to the performance of the characterization, assessment, or
10 remediation of a Brownfield site in accordance with a corrective action plan
11 approved by the Secretary of Natural Resources.

12 (4) Financial assistance may be provided to applicants by developing a
13 risk sharing pool, an indemnity pool, or other insurance mechanism designed
14 to help applicants.

15 (5) All reports generated by financial assistance from the Brownfield
16 Revitalization Fund, including site assessments, site investigations, feasibility
17 studies, corrective action plans, and completion reports shall be provided as
18 hard copies to the Secretaries of Commerce and Community Development and
19 of Natural Resources.

20 Sec. F.7 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec. H.18, as amended by 2022 Acts
21 and Resolves No. 183, Sec. 46, is further amended to read:

1 (C) leveraging of additional sources of funding from local, State, or
2 federal economic development programs; and

3 (D) an ability to manage the project, with requisite experience and a
4 plan for fiscal viability.

5 (3) The following are ineligible to apply for a grant:

6 (A) ~~a State or local government-operated business~~ [Repealed.]

7 (B) a business that, together with any affiliated business, owns or
8 operates more than 20 locations, regardless of whether those locations do
9 business under the same name or within the same industry; and

10 (C) a publicly traded company.

11 * * *

12 (k) Limited grants for operating support. Notwithstanding any provision of
13 this section or guidelines adopted pursuant to this subsection (j) of this section
14 to the contrary, the Secretary may award a grant of not more than
15 \$1,000,000.00 for operating support to an applicant that:

16 (1) is a nonprofit entity with a documented financial impact from the
17 COVID-19 pandemic;

18 (2) promotes community benefit through educational services,
19 agriculture, or food security;

20 (3) demonstrates a risk of losing at least 20 jobs if the operating support
21 is not received; and

- 1 (2) the ability of the proposed project to meet the site-specific needs of
2 businesses considering whether to expand or locate in this State;
- 3 (3) the funding that the applicant has identified, or secured, to leverage a
4 grant award; and
- 5 (4) the readiness of an applicant to move a project forward.
- 6 (c) Eligible applicants; priority.
- 7 (1) To be eligible for a grant, an applicant must be a local development
8 corporation, as defined in subdivision 212(10) of this title, located within this
9 State.
- 10 (2) The Secretary of Commerce and Community Development may
11 designate projects and agreements as first priority based on rural communities
12 that continue to experience insufficient economic and grand list growth.
- 13 (d) Eligible activities. A grant recipient may use funding for the following:
- 14 (1) to purchase land for potential industrial use;
- 15 (2) for the costs of site development, permitting, or providing
16 infrastructure for property the recipient owns;
- 17 (3) for the equity investment required for a loan transaction through the
18 Vermont Economic Development Authority under 10 V.S.A. chapter 12,
19 subchapter 3; or
- 20 (4) for the matching requirement of another State or federal grant
21 consistent with this section.

1 (e) Application; market assessment.

2 (1) An applicant shall include in its application a local and regional
3 market assessment that demonstrates reasonable need for the proposed
4 development and identifies imminent, potential, or existing business growth
5 opportunities.

6 (2) An applicant shall submit the following to demonstrate a readiness to
7 begin and complete the proposed project:

8 (A) community and regional support for the project;

9 (B) that grant funding is needed to complete the proposed project;

10 (C) an ability to manage the project, with requisite experience and a
11 plan for fiscal viability; and

12 (D) a description of the permitting required to proceed with the
13 project and a plan for obtaining the permits.

14 (f) Awards; amount.

15 (1) An award shall not exceed the lesser of \$1,000,000 or 20 percent of
16 the total project cost.

17 (2) A recipient may combine grant funds with funding from other
18 sources.

19 (3) The Agency shall release grant funds upon determining that the
20 applicant has met all application conditions and requirements.

1 (4) A grant recipient may apply for additional grant funds if future
2 amounts are appropriated for the Program and the funds are for a separate but
3 eligible use.

4 (g) Deed restrictions; property sales. The Agency shall include deed
5 restrictions that require the return of the principal amount to the state and may
6 require the payment of a percentage of the sales profit.

7 Sec. F.9 24 V.S.A. § 2799 is amended to read:

8 § 2799. BETTER PLACES PROGRAM; CROWD GRANTING

9 (a)(1) There is created the Better Places Program within the Department of
10 Housing and Community Development, and the Better Places Fund, which the
11 Department shall manage pursuant to 32 V.S.A. chapter 7, subchapter 5.

12 (2) The purpose of the Program is to utilize crowdfunding to spark
13 community revitalization through collaborative grantmaking for projects that
14 create, activate, or revitalize public spaces.

15 (3) The Department may administer the Program in coordination with
16 and support from other State agencies and nonprofit and philanthropic partners.

17 (b) The Fund is composed of the following:

18 (1) State or federal funds appropriated by the General Assembly;

19 (2) gifts, grants, or other contributions to the Fund; and

20 (3) any interest earned by the Fund.

1 (c) As used in this section, “public space” means an area or place that is
2 open and accessible to all people with no charge for admission and includes
3 village greens, squares, parks, community centers, town halls, libraries, and
4 other publicly accessible buildings and connecting spaces such as sidewalks,
5 streets, alleys, and trails.

6 (d)(1) The Department of Housing and Community Development shall
7 establish an application process, eligibility criteria, and criteria for prioritizing
8 assistance for awarding grants through the Program.

9 (2) The Department may award a grant to a municipality, a nonprofit
10 organization, or a community group with a fiscal sponsor for a project that is
11 located in or serves a designated downtown, village center, new town center, or
12 neighborhood development area that will create a new public space or
13 revitalize or activate an existing public space.

14 (3) The Department may award a grant to not more than ~~one project~~
15 three projects per calendar year within a municipality.

16 (4) The minimum amount of a grant award is \$5,000, and the maximum
17 amount of a grant award is \$40,000.

18 (5) The Department shall develop matching grant eligibility
19 requirements to ensure a broad base of community and financial support for
20 the project, subject to the following:

1 (A) A project shall include in-kind support and matching funds raised
2 through a crowdfunding approach that includes multiple donors.

3 (B) An applicant may not donate to its own crowdfunding campaign.

4 (C) A donor may not contribute more than \$10,000 or 35 percent of
5 the campaign goal, whichever is less.

6 (D) An applicant shall provide matching funds raised through
7 crowdfunding of not less than 33 percent of the grant award.

8 (e) The Department of Housing and Community Development, with the
9 assistance of a fiscal agent, shall distribute funds under this section in a manner
10 that provides funding for projects of various sizes in as many geographical
11 areas of the State as possible.

12 (f) The Department of Housing and Community Development may use up
13 to 15 percent of any appropriation to the Fund from the General Fund to assist
14 with crowdfunding, administration, training, and technological needs of the
15 Program.

16 Sec. F.10 24 V.S.A. § 2792(d) is amended to read:

17 (d) The Department shall provide staff and administrative support to the
18 State Board ~~and~~, shall produce guidelines to direct municipalities seeking to
19 obtain designation under this chapter, and shall pay per diem compensation for
20 board members pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 1010(b).

21 Sec. F.11 24 V.S.A. § 2793(b) is amended to read:

1 (b) ~~Within 45 days of receipt of a completed application~~ At the first
2 meeting of the State Board held after 45 days of receipt of a completed
3 application, the State Board shall designate a downtown development district if
4 the State Board finds in its written decision that the municipality has:

5 * * *

6 Sec. F.12 24 V.S.A. § 2793a(b) is amended to read:

7 (b) ~~Within 45 days of receipt of a completed application~~ At the first
8 meeting of the State Board held after 45 days of receipt of a completed
9 application, the State Board shall designate a village center if the State Board
10 finds the applicant has met the requirements of subsection (a) of this section.

11 Sec. F.13 24 V.S.A. § 2793b(b) is amended to read:

12 (b) ~~Within 45 days of receipt of a completed application~~ At the first
13 meeting of the State Board held after 45 days of receipt of a completed
14 application, the State Board shall designate a new town center development
15 district if the State Board finds, with respect to that district, the municipality
16 has:

17 * * *

18 Sec. F.14 24 V.S.A. § 2793e(d) is amended to read:

19 (d) ~~Within 45 days of receipt of a completed application~~ Upon the first
20 meeting of the State Board held after 45 days of receipt of a completed
21 application, for designation of a neighborhood development area, the State

1 Board, after opportunity for public comment, shall approve a neighborhood
2 development area if the Board determines that the applicant has met the
3 requirements of this section.

4 Sec. F.15 2018 Acts and Resolves No. 196, Sec. 1, as amended by 2019 Acts
5 and Resolves No. 80, Sec. 13, is further amended to read:

6 Sec. 1. SIMPLIFYING GOVERNMENT FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

7 (a) The Secretary of ~~State~~ Digital Services shall serve as the chair of a
8 steering committee, composed of the Secretary of State, the Secretary of
9 Commerce and Community Development, the Secretary of Administration,
10 and the Secretary of Digital Services or their designees.

11 (b) The ~~Secretary of State, in collaboration with the~~ steering committee,
12 and in collaboration with other State agencies and departments and interested
13 stakeholders ~~as necessary~~, shall:

14 (1) review and consider the necessary procedural and substantive steps
15 to enhance the Secretary of State's one-stop business portal for businesses,
16 entrepreneurs, and citizens to provide information about starting and operating
17 a business in Vermont; and

18 (2) submit on or before December 15, ~~2019~~ 2023:

19 (A) a design proposal that includes a project scope, timeline,
20 roadmap, and cost projections;

1 (B) any statutory or regulatory changes needed to implement the
2 proposal; and

3 (C) a sustainable funding model for the portal.

4 (c) The steering committee shall evaluate the cost and efficacy, and
5 integrate into the current one-stop portal to the extent feasible, features that:

6 (1) enhance State websites to simplify registrations and provide a ~~clear~~
7 comprehensive, one-stop compilation of other State business requirements,
8 including permits and licenses;

9 (2) implement a data collection component that offers the registrant the
10 option to self-identify, and make available to the public through the business
11 search function, demographic information concerning ownership of the
12 business, including whether the business is woman-owned, veteran-owned,
13 BIPOC-owned, LGBTQ-owned, or minority-owned;

14 (3) simplify the mechanism for making payments to the State by
15 allowing a person to pay amounts ~~he or she~~ the person owes to the State for
16 taxes, fees, or other charges to a single recipient within State government;

17 (3)(4) simplify annual filing requirements by allowing a person to make
18 a single filing to a single recipient within State government and check a box if
19 nothing substantive has changed from the prior year;

20 (4)(5) provide guidance, assistance with navigation, and other support to
21 persons who are forming or operating a small business;

1 ~~(5)~~(6) after registration, provide information about additional and
2 ongoing State requirements and a point of contact to discuss questions or
3 explore any assistance needed;

4 ~~(6)~~(7) provide guidance and information about State and federal
5 programs and initiatives, as well as State partner organizations and Vermont-
6 based businesses of interest; and

7 ~~(7)~~(8) map communication channels for project updates, including
8 digital channels such as e-mail, social media, and other communications.

9 (d) All State agencies and departments shall designate a single employee or
10 team of employees who are charged with the duty to provide assistance to the
11 steering committee upon its request.

12 (e) The steering committee shall focus its review on providing services
13 through the one-stop business portal primarily for the benefit of businesses
14 with 20 or fewer employees.

15 (f) The Agency of Digital Services shall assign a project manager or
16 business analyst to report directly to the Secretary of State to assist with the
17 implementation of this act through June 30, ~~2020~~ 2025 for the purpose of
18 developing and implementing a one-stop navigable portal for businesses,
19 entrepreneurs, and citizens to access information about starting a business in
20 Vermont, and to provide ongoing support to businesses interfacing with State
21 government.

1 Sec. F.16 DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS PROFESSIONAL
2 DEVELOPMENT; INTENT; CONTRACT

3 (a) It is the intent of the General Assembly to assist the Department of
4 Corrections to continue and further engage in a professional development
5 initiative to enhance supervisory effectiveness and strengthen leadership
6 development within the Department and among its employees. The
7 Department's enhanced supervisory training is part of its effort to address an
8 employee workforce crisis and strengthen workplace satisfaction.

9 (b) The Department of Corrections shall contract or expand an existing
10 contract with a vendor to provide supervisory and management professional
11 development services to the Department and among its employees.

12 (c) On or before March 15, 2024, the Department and the contracted
13 vendor shall testify before the General Assembly about the progress and
14 effectiveness of its professional development initiative. The Department shall
15 make management, supervisory, and frontline staff available to testify.

16 * * * Department of Motor Vehicles Fees and Motor Vehicle Purchase and Use

17 Tax * * *

18 * * * Enhanced Driver's License * * *

19 Sec. G.100 23 V.S.A. § 7 is amended to read:

20 § 7. ENHANCED DRIVER'S LICENSE; MAINTENANCE OF DATABASE
21 INFORMATION; FEE

1 * * *

2 (d) The fee for an enhanced license shall be ~~\$30.00~~ \$36.00 in addition to
3 the fees otherwise established by this title.

4 * * *

5 * * * Department of Motor Vehicles; Miscellaneous Transactions * * *

6 Sec. G.101 23 V.S.A. § 114 is amended to read:

7 § 114. FEES

8 (a) The Commissioner shall be paid the following fees for miscellaneous
9 transactions:

- | | | |
|----|--|---|
| 10 | (1) Listings of 1 through 4 registrations | \$8.00 <u>\$10.00</u> |
| 11 | (2) Certified copy of registration application | \$8.00 <u>\$10.00</u> |
| 12 | (3) Sample plates | \$18.00 <u>\$22.00</u> |
| 13 | (4) Lists of registered dealers, transporters, periodic inspection stations, | |
| 14 | fuel dealers, and distributors, including gallonage sold or delivered and rental | |
| 15 | vehicle companies | \$8.00 <u>\$10.00</u> per page |
| 16 | (5) [Repealed.] | |
| 17 | (6) Periodic inspection sticker record | \$8.00 <u>\$10.00</u> |
| 18 | (7) Certified copy individual crash report | \$12.00 <u>\$15.00</u> |
| 19 | (8) Certified copy police crash report | \$18.00 <u>\$22.00</u> |
| 20 | (9) Certified copy suspension notice | \$8.00 <u>\$10.00</u> |
| 21 | (10) Certified copy mail receipt | \$8.00 <u>\$10.00</u> |

1	(11) Certified copy proof of mailing	\$8.00 <u>\$10.00</u>
2	(12) Certified copy reinstatement notice	\$8.00 <u>\$10.00</u>
3	(13) Certified copy operator's license application	\$8.00 <u>\$10.00</u>
4	(14) Certified copy three-year operating record	\$14.00 <u>\$17.00</u>
5	(15) [Repealed.]	
6	(16) Government official photo identification card	\$6.00 <u>\$8.00</u>
7	(17) Listing of operator's licenses of 1 through 4	\$8.00 <u>\$10.00</u>
8	(18) Statistics and research	\$42.00 <u>\$51.00</u> per hour
9	(19) Insurance information on crash	\$8.00 <u>\$10.00</u>
10	(20) Certified copy complete operating record	\$20.00 <u>\$24.00</u>
11	(21) Records not otherwise specified	\$8.00 <u>\$10.00</u> per page
12	(22) Public records request for Department records requiring custom	
13	computer programming	\$100.00 per hour, but not less than
14	\$500.00	
15	(23) Public records request for Department records requiring custom	
16	computer programming (updated)	\$119.00 <u>\$143.00</u>

17 * * *

18 Sec. G.102. 23 V.S.A. § 115 is amended to read:

19 § 115. NONDRIVER IDENTIFICATION CARDS

20 (a) Any Vermont resident may make application to the Commissioner and
21 be issued an identification card that is attested by the Commissioner as to true

1 name, correct age, residential address unless the listing of another address is
2 requested by the applicant or is otherwise authorized by law, and any other
3 identifying data as the Commissioner may require that shall include, in the case
4 of minor applicants, the written consent of the applicant's parent, guardian, or
5 other person standing in loco parentis. Every application for an identification
6 card shall be signed by the applicant and shall contain such evidence of age
7 and identity as the Commissioner may require, consistent with subsection (l) of
8 this section. New and renewal application forms shall include a space for the
9 applicant to request that a "veteran" designation be placed on the applicant's
10 identification card. If a veteran, as defined in 38 U.S.C. § 101(2), requests a
11 veteran designation and provides a Department of Defense Form 214 or other
12 proof of veteran status specified by the Commissioner, and the Office of
13 Veterans Affairs confirms the veteran's status as an honorably discharged
14 veteran or a veteran discharged under honorable conditions, the identification
15 card shall include the term "veteran" on its face. The Commissioner shall
16 require payment of a fee of ~~\$24.00~~ \$29.00 at the time application for an
17 identification card is made, except that an initial nondriver identification card
18 shall be issued at no charge to an individual who surrenders ~~his or her~~ the
19 individual's license in connection with a suspension or revocation under
20 subsection 636(b) of this title due to a physical or mental condition.

1 (b) Every identification card shall expire, unless earlier canceled, at 12:00
2 midnight on the eve of the fourth anniversary of the date of birth of the
3 cardholder following the date of original issue, and may be renewed every four
4 years upon payment of a ~~\$24.00~~ \$29.00 fee. A renewed identification card
5 shall expire, unless earlier canceled, at 12:00 midnight on the eve of the fourth
6 anniversary of the date of birth of the cardholder following the expiration of
7 the card being renewed. At least 30 days before an identification card will
8 expire, the Commissioner shall mail first-class to the cardholder or send the
9 cardholder electronically an application to renew the identification card; a
10 cardholder shall be sent the renewal notice by mail unless the cardholder opts
11 in to receive electronic notification. An individual born on February 29 shall,
12 for the purposes of this section, be considered as born on March 1.

13 (c) In the event an identification card is lost, destroyed, mutilated, or a new
14 name is acquired, a replacement may be obtained upon furnishing satisfactory
15 proof to the Commissioner and paying a ~~\$20.00~~ \$24.00 fee.

16 * * *

17 * * * Registration; General Provisions * * *

18 Sec. G.103 23 V.S.A. § 304 is amended to read:

19 § 304. REGISTRATION CERTIFICATES; NUMBER PLATES; VANITY
20 AND OTHER SPECIAL PLATES

21 * * *

1 (b) The authority to issue vanity motor vehicle number plates or special
2 number plates for safety organizations and service organizations shall reside
3 with the Commissioner. Determination of compliance with the criteria
4 contained in this section shall be within the discretion of the Commissioner.
5 Series of number plates for safety and service organizations that are authorized
6 by the Commissioner shall be issued in order of approval, subject to the
7 operating considerations in the Department as determined by the
8 Commissioner. The Commissioner shall issue vanity and special organization
9 number plates in the following manner:

10 (1) Vanity plates. Subject to the restrictions of this section, vanity plates
11 shall be issued at the request of the registrant of a motor vehicle unless the
12 vehicle is registered under the International Registration Plan, upon application
13 and upon payment of an annual fee of ~~\$48.00~~ \$58.00 in addition to the annual
14 fee for registration. The Commissioner shall not issue two sets of plates
15 bearing the same initials or letters unless the plates also contain a
16 distinguishing number. Vanity plates are subject to reassignment if not
17 renewed within 60 days of expiration of the registration.

18 (2) Special organization plates.

19 * * *

20 (B) The officer of a safety organization or service organization may
21 apply to the Commissioner to approve special plates indicating membership in

1 a qualifying organization to be issued to organization members for a ~~\$17.00~~
2 \$21.00 special fee for each set of plates in addition to the annual fee for
3 registration. The application shall include designation of an officer or member
4 to serve as the principal contact with the Department and a distinctive name or
5 emblem, or both, for use on the proposed special plate. The name and emblem
6 shall not be objectively obscene or confusing to the general public and shall
7 not promote, advertise, or endorse a product, brand, or service provided for
8 sale. The organization's name and emblem must not infringe on or violate a
9 trademark, trade name, service mark, copyright, or other proprietary or
10 property right, and the organization must have the right to use the name and
11 emblem. After consulting with the principal contact, the Commissioner shall
12 determine the design of the special plate on the basis that the primary purpose
13 of motor vehicle number plates is vehicle identification. An organization may
14 have only one design, regardless of the number of individual organizational
15 units, squads, or departments within the State that may conduct the same or
16 substantially similar activities.

17 (C) After the plate design is finalized and an officer or the principal
18 contact provides the Commissioner a written statement authorizing issuance of
19 the plates, the organization shall deposit ~~\$2,200.00~~ \$2,600.00 with the
20 Commissioner. Of this deposit, \$500.00 shall be retained by the Department to
21 recover costs of developing the organization plate. Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A.

1 § 502, the Commissioner may charge the actual costs of production of the
2 plates against the fees collected and the balance shall be deposited in the
3 Transportation Fund. Upon application, special plates shall be issued to a
4 registrant of a vehicle registered at the pleasure car rate or of a truck registered
5 for less than 26,001 pounds (but excluding trucks registered under the
6 International Registration Plan) who furnishes the Commissioner satisfactory
7 proof that ~~he or she~~ the registrant is a member of an organization that has
8 satisfied the requirements of this subdivision (b)(2). For each of the first 100
9 applicants to whom sets of plates are issued, the ~~\$17.00~~ \$21.00 special plate
10 fee shall not be collected and shall be subtracted from the balance of the
11 deposit. When the ~~\$1,700.00~~ \$2,100.00 balance of the deposit is depleted,
12 applicants shall be required to pay the ~~\$17.00~~ \$21.00 fee as provided for in
13 subdivision (2)(B) of this subsection. No organization shall charge its
14 members any additional fee or premium charge for the authorization, right, or
15 privilege to display special number plates, but any organization may recover
16 up to ~~\$1,700.00~~ \$2,100.00 from applicants for the special plates.

17 * * *

18 (f) Upon the request of a registrant of a motor vehicle with the previous
19 issue number plates, the Commissioner shall issue current issue number plates
20 bearing the same number as shown on the previous issue plates that are being
21 replaced. The initial one-time fee for the plates shall be ~~\$24.00~~ \$29.00 in

1 addition to the regular registration fee. Official plates and plates with numbers
2 of 9999 or lower are specifically exempted.

3 * * *

4 Sec. G.104 23 V.S.A. § 304b is amended to read:

5 § 304b. CONSERVATION MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION PLATES

6 (a) The Commissioner shall, upon application, issue conservation
7 registration plates for use only on vehicles registered at the pleasure car rate,
8 on trucks registered for less than 26,001 pounds, and on vehicles registered to
9 State agencies under section 376 of this title, but excluding vehicles registered
10 under the International Registration Plan. Plates so acquired shall be mounted
11 on the front and rear of the vehicle. The Commissioners of Motor Vehicles
12 and of Fish and Wildlife shall determine the graphic design of the special
13 plates in a manner that serves to enhance the public awareness of the State's
14 interest in restoring and protecting its wildlife and major watershed areas. The
15 Commissioners of Motor Vehicles and of Fish and Wildlife may alter the
16 graphic design of these special plates, provided that plates in use at the time of
17 a design alteration shall remain valid subject to the operator's payment of the
18 annual registration fee. Applicants shall apply on forms prescribed by the
19 Commissioner and shall pay an initial fee of ~~\$26.00~~ \$32.00 in addition to the
20 annual fee for registration. In following years, in addition to the annual
21 registration fee, the holder of a conservation plate shall pay a renewal fee of

1 ~~\$26.00~~ \$32.00. The Commissioner may adopt rules under 3 V.S.A. chapter 25
2 to implement the provisions of this subsection.

3 * * *

4 Sec. G.105 23 V.S.A. § 304c is amended to read:

5 § 304c. MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION PLATES: BUILDING

6 BRIGHT SPACES FOR BRIGHT FUTURES FUND

7 (a) The Commissioner shall, upon application, issue “Building Bright
8 Spaces for Bright Futures Fund,” referred to as “the Bright Futures Fund,”
9 registration plates for use only on vehicles registered at the pleasure car rate,
10 on trucks registered for less than 26,001 pounds, on vehicles registered to State
11 agencies under section 376 of this title, and excluding vehicles registered under
12 the International Registration Plan. Plates so acquired shall be mounted on the
13 front and rear of the vehicle. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall
14 utilize the graphic design recommended by the Commissioner for Children and
15 Families for the special plates to enhance the public awareness of the State’s
16 interest in supporting children’s services. Applicants shall apply on forms
17 prescribed by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles and shall pay an initial fee
18 of ~~\$24.00~~ \$29.00 in addition to the annual fee for registration. In following
19 years, in addition to the annual registration fee, the holder of a Bright Futures
20 Fund plate shall pay a renewal fee of ~~\$24.00~~ \$29.00. The Commissioner of

1 Motor Vehicles shall adopt rules under 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 to implement the
2 provisions of this subsection.

3 * * *

4 Sec. G.106 23 V.S.A. § 307 is amended to read:

5 § 307. CARRYING OF REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE; REPLACEMENT
6 AND CORRECTED CERTIFICATES

7 * * *

8 (b) In case of the loss, mutilation, or destruction of a certificate, the owner
9 of the vehicle described in it shall forthwith notify the Commissioner and remit
10 a fee of ~~\$16.00~~ \$20.00, upon receipt of which the Commissioner shall furnish
11 the owner with a duplicate certificate.

12 (c) A corrected registration certificate shall be furnished by the
13 Commissioner upon request and receipt of a fee of ~~\$16.00~~ \$20.00.

14 (d) An operator cited for violating subsection (a) of this section with
15 respect to a pleasure car, motorcycle, or truck that could be registered for less
16 than 26,001 pounds shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more than \$5.00,
17 which penalty shall be exempt from surcharges under 13 V.S.A. § 7282(a), if
18 ~~he or she~~ the operator is cited within the 14 days following the expiration of
19 the motor vehicle's registration.

20 Sec. G.107 23 V.S.A. § 323 is amended to read:

21 § 323. TRANSFER FEES

1 A person who transfers the ownership of a registered motor vehicle to
2 another, upon the filing of a new application and upon the payment of a fee of
3 ~~\$25.00~~ \$30.00, may have registered in ~~his or her~~ the person's name another
4 motor vehicle for the remainder of the registration period without payment of
5 any additional registration fee, provided the proper registration fee of the
6 motor vehicle sought to be registered is the same as the registration fee of the
7 transferred motor vehicle. However, if the proper registration fee of the motor
8 vehicle sought to be registered by such person is greater than the registration
9 fee of the transferred motor vehicle, the applicant shall pay, in addition to such
10 fee of ~~\$25.00~~ \$30.00, the difference between the registration fee of the motor
11 vehicle previously registered and the proper fee for the registration of the
12 motor vehicle sought to be registered.

13 * * * Registration; Fees and Exemptions * * *

14 Sec. G.108 23 V.S.A. § 361 is amended to read:

15 § 361. PLEASURE CARS

16 The annual registration fee for ~~registration of any motor vehicle of the a~~
17 ~~pleasure car type, as defined in subdivision 4(28) of this title,~~ and all vehicles
18 powered by electricity, shall be ~~\$74.00~~ \$89.00, and the biennial fee shall be
19 ~~\$136.00~~ \$163.00.

20 Sec. G.109 23 V.S.A. § 364 is amended to read:

21 § 364. MOTORCYCLES

1 tractors, truck-tractors, or motor trucks with trailers or semi-trailers attached,
2 except trailers or semi-trailers with a gross weight of less than 6,000 pounds,
3 the fee shall be based upon the weight of the tractor, truck-tractor, or motor
4 truck, the weight of the trailer or semi-trailer, and the weight of the heaviest
5 load to be carried by the combined vehicles. In addition to the fee set out in
6 the following schedule, the fee for vehicles weighing between 10,000 and
7 25,999 pounds inclusive shall be an additional ~~\$35.50~~ \$42.53, the fee for
8 vehicles weighing between 26,000 and 39,999 pounds inclusive shall be an
9 additional ~~\$70.98~~ \$85.03, the fee for vehicles weighing between 40,000 and
10 59,999 pounds inclusive shall be an additional ~~\$248.48~~ \$297.68, and the fee
11 for vehicles 60,000 pounds and over shall be an additional ~~\$390.48~~ \$467.80.
12 The fee shall be computed at the following rates per 1,000 pounds of weight
13 determined pursuant to this subdivision and rounded up to the nearest whole
14 dollar; the minimum fee for registering a tractor, truck-tractor, or motor truck
15 to 6,000 pounds shall be the same as for the pleasure car type:

16 ~~\$15.20~~ \$18.21 when the weight exceeds 6,000 pounds but does not
17 exceed 8,000 pounds.

18 ~~\$17.39~~ \$20.83 when the weight exceeds 8,000 pounds but does not
19 exceed 12,000 pounds.

20 ~~\$19.17~~ \$22.97 when the weight exceeds 12,000 pounds but does not
21 exceed 16,000 pounds.

1 Sec. G.113 23 V.S.A. § 371 is amended to read:

2 § 371. TRAILER AND SEMI-TRAILER

3 (a)(1) The one-year and two-year fees for registration of a trailer or semi-
4 trailer, except a contractor's trailer or farm trailer, shall be as follows:

5 (A) ~~\$27.00~~ \$33.00 and ~~\$51.00~~ \$62.00, respectively, when such trailer
6 or semi-trailer has a gross weight of trailer and load of 1,500 pounds or less;

7 (B) ~~\$52.00~~ \$63.00 and ~~\$102.00~~ \$123.00, respectively, when such
8 trailer or semi-trailer has a gross weight of trailer and load of more than 1,500
9 pounds and is drawn by a vehicle of the pleasure car type;

10 (C) ~~\$52.00~~ \$63.00 and ~~\$102.00~~ \$123.00, respectively, when such
11 trailer or semi-trailer is drawn by a motor truck or tractor, when such trailer or
12 semi-trailer has a gross weight of more than 1,500 pounds but less than 3,000
13 pounds;

14 (D) ~~\$52.00~~ \$63.00 and ~~\$102.00~~ \$123.00, respectively, when such
15 trailer or semi-trailer is used in combination with a truck-tractor or motor truck
16 registered at the fee provided for combined vehicles under section 367 of this
17 title. Excepting for the fees, the provisions of this subdivision shall not apply
18 to trailer coaches as defined in section 4 of this title nor to modular homes
19 being transported by trailer or semi-trailer.

20 (2) The one-year and two-year fees for registration of a contractor's
21 trailer shall be ~~\$197.00~~ \$237.00 and ~~\$394.00~~ \$473.00, respectively.

1

* * *

2 Sec. G.114 23 V.S.A. § 372 is amended to read:

3 § 372. MOTOR BUS

4 The annual fee for registration of a motor bus shall be based on the actual
5 weight of such bus, plus passenger carrying capacity at 150 pounds per person,
6 and shall be ~~\$2.00~~ \$2.40 per 100 pounds of such weight, except for motor
7 buses registered under section 372a or 376 of this title. Fractions of a hundred-
8 weight shall be disregarded. The minimum fee for the registration of any
9 motor bus shall be \$43.00.

10 Sec. G.115 23 V.S.A. § 372a is amended to read:

11 § 372a. LOCAL TRANSIT PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SERVICE

12 (a) The annual registration fee for any motor bus used in local transit or
13 public transportation service shall be ~~\$62.00~~ \$75.00, except for those vehicles
14 owned by a municipality for such service that are subject to the provisions of
15 section 376 of this title. In the event a bus registered for local transit or public
16 transportation service is subsequently registered for general use during the
17 same registration year, such fee shall be applied toward the fee for general
18 registration.

19

* * *

20 Sec. G.116 23 V.S.A. § 373 is amended to read:

21 § 373. EXHIBITION VEHICLES; YEAR OF MANUFACTURE PLATES

1 (a) The annual fee for the registration of a motor vehicle that is maintained
2 for use in exhibitions, club activities, parades, and other functions of public
3 interest and that is not used for general daily transportation of passengers or
4 property on any highway shall be ~~\$21.00~~ \$26.00, in lieu of fees otherwise
5 provided by law. Permitted use shall include:

6 * * *

7 Sec. G.117 23 V.S.A. § 376 is amended to read:

8 § 376. STATE, MUNICIPAL, FIRE DEPARTMENT, AND RESCUE
9 ORGANIZATION MOTOR VEHICLES

10 * * *

11 (b) The fee for registration of a motor vehicle owned by any municipality
12 in this State and used entirely by it or any other municipality for municipal
13 purposes shall be ~~\$12.00~~ \$15.00 in lieu of fees otherwise specified in this
14 chapter. ~~As used in~~ For purposes of this subsection, the term municipality
15 shall include county-owned vehicles. The Commissioner shall issue specially
16 designed registration plates for county-owned sheriffs' departments' vehicles.

17 (c) The registration fee for registration of a motor truck, trailer, ambulance,
18 or other motor vehicle, owned by a volunteer fire department or other
19 volunteer ~~fire fighting~~ firefighting organization or other organization
20 conducting rescue operations and used solely for fire fighting or rescue
21 purposes shall be ~~\$12.00~~ \$15.00 in lieu of fees otherwise specified in this

1 chapter. A motor vehicle or trailer registered under this section shall be plainly
2 marked on both sides of the body or cab to indicate its ownership.

3 * * *

4 (f) A replacement registration plate shall be provided by the Commissioner
5 upon the payment of a fee of ~~\$9.00~~ \$11.00.

6 (g)(1) The fee for registration of a motor vehicle obtained from the
7 government as excess government property, or a vehicle purchased with 100
8 percent federal funds and used for federally supported local programs, shall be
9 \$14.00, in lieu of fees otherwise specified in this chapter. The Commissioner
10 shall determine the eligibility as to whether or not the motor vehicle qualifies
11 for this registration and ownership of the vehicle shall be plainly marked on
12 both sides of the body or cab.

13 * * *

14 Sec. G.118 23 V.S.A. § 382 is amended to read:

15 § 382. DIESEL-POWERED PLEASURE CARS

16 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the annual registration fee for a
17 pleasure car or tractor, truck-tractor, or motor truck up to 6,000 pounds
18 powered by fuel as defined in section 3002 of this title shall be ~~\$74.00~~ \$89.00,
19 and the biennial fee shall be ~~\$136.00~~ \$163.00.

20 * * * Registration; Registration of Dealers and Transporters * * *

21 Sec. G.119 23 V.S.A. § 453 is amended to read:

1 § 453. FEES AND NUMBER PLATES

2 (a)(1) An application for registration as a dealer in new or used cars or
3 motor trucks shall be accompanied by a fee of ~~\$503.00~~ \$603.00 for each
4 certificate issued in such dealer's name. The Commissioner shall furnish free
5 of charge with each dealer's registration certificate three number plates
6 showing the distinguishing number assigned such dealer. The Commissioner
7 may furnish additional plates according to the volume of the dealer's sales in
8 the prior year or, in the case of an initial registration, according to the dealer's
9 reasonable estimate of expected sales, as follows:

10 * * *

11 (2) If the issuance of additional plates is authorized under subdivision
12 (1) of this subsection, up to two plates shall be provided free of charge, and the
13 Commissioner shall collect ~~\$55.00~~ \$66.00 for each additional plate thereafter.

14 (b) Application by a "dealer in farm tractors or other self-propelled farm
15 implements," which shall mean a person actively engaged in the business of
16 selling or exchanging new or used farm tractors or other self-propelled farm
17 implements, for such dealer registration shall annually be accompanied by a
18 fee of ~~\$78.00~~ \$94.00. The Commissioner shall furnish free of charge with
19 each such dealer registration certificate two sets of number plates showing the
20 distinguishing number assigned such dealer and in ~~his or her~~ the
21 Commissioner's discretion may furnish further sets of plates at a fee of \$12.00

1 per set; such number plates may, however, be displayed only upon a farm
2 tractor or other self-propelled farm implement.

3 (c) Application by a “dealer in motorized highway building equipment and
4 road making appliances,” which shall mean a person actively engaged in the
5 business of selling or exchanging new or used motorized highway building
6 equipment or road making appliances, for such dealer registration shall
7 annually be accompanied by a fee of ~~\$123.00~~ \$148.00. The Commissioner
8 shall furnish free of charge with each such dealer registration certificate two
9 sets of number plates showing the distinguishing number assigned such dealer
10 and in ~~his or her~~ the Commissioner’s discretion may furnish further sets of
11 plates at a fee of \$30.00 per set; such number plates may, however, be
12 displayed only upon motorized highway building equipment or road making
13 appliances.

14 (d) If a dealer is engaged only in the business of selling or exchanging
15 motorcycles or motor-driven cycles, the registration fee shall be ~~\$62.00~~
16 \$75.00, which shall include three number plates. The Commissioner may, in
17 ~~his or her~~ the Commissioner’s discretion, furnish further sets of plates at a fee
18 of \$10.00 for each set.

19 (e) If a dealer is engaged only in the business of selling or exchanging
20 trailers, semi-trailers, or trailer coaches, the registration fee shall be ~~\$123.00~~
21 \$148.00, which shall include three number plates; such number plates may,

1 however, be displayed only upon a trailer, semi-trailer, or trailer coach. The
2 Commissioner may, in ~~his or her~~ the Commissioner's discretion, furnish
3 further plates at a fee of \$10.00 for each such plate.

4 * * *

5 Sec. G.120 23 V.S.A. § 457 is amended to read:

6 § 457. TEMPORARY PLATES

7 At the time of the issuance of a registration certificate to a dealer as
8 provided in this chapter, the Commissioner shall furnish the dealer with a
9 sufficient number of number plates and temporary validation stickers,
10 temporary number plates, or temporary decals for use during the 60-day period
11 immediately following sale of a vehicle or motorboat by the dealer. The plates
12 and decals shall have the same general design as the plates or decals furnished
13 individual owners, but the plates and decals may be of a material and color as
14 the Commissioner may determine. The Commissioner shall collect a fee of
15 ~~\$5.00~~ \$6.00 for each temporary plate issued.

16 Sec. G.121 23 V.S.A. § 463 is amended to read:

17 § 463. SALE OF VEHICLE TO GO OUT OF STATE

18 A registered motor vehicle dealer is authorized to issue an in-transit
19 registration permit for the purpose of movement over the highways of certain
20 motor vehicles otherwise required to be registered when these vehicles are sold
21 in this State to be transported to and registered in another state or province.

1 The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall, upon request, provide registered
2 motor vehicle dealers with such numbers of applications and special in-transit
3 number plates for vehicles sold in this State to be transported to and registered
4 in another state or province as shall be necessary. The Commissioner is
5 authorized to charge a fee of ~~\$6.00~~ \$8.00 for the processing of the plate
6 application and the issuance of the plate. The dealer, upon the sale of a motor
7 vehicle to be transported to and registered in another state or province, shall
8 cause the application to be filled out and transmitted to the Commissioner and
9 shall attach to the vehicle the in-transit number plate corresponding to the
10 application. No registered motor vehicle dealer shall sell, exchange, give, or
11 transfer any application or in-transit plate to any person other than the person
12 to whom the dealer sells or exchanges a motor vehicle to be registered in
13 another state or province. The application shall be in a form prescribed and
14 furnished by the Commissioner. The special in-transit number plate to be
15 attached to the vehicle will be issued in the form and design as prescribed by
16 the Commissioner and shall be valid for a period of 30 days from the date of
17 issue.

18 Sec. G.122 23 V.S.A. § 476 is amended to read:

19 § 476. MOTOR VEHICLE WARRANTY FEE

20 A motor vehicle warranty fee of ~~\$6.00~~ \$8.00 is imposed on the registration
21 of each new motor vehicle in this State, not including trailers, tractors,

1 motorized highway building equipment, road-making appliances,
2 snowmobiles, motorcycles, motor-driven cycles, or trucks with a gross vehicle
3 weight over 12,000 pounds.

4 Sec. G.123 23 V.S.A. § 494 is amended to read:

5 § 494. FEES

6 The annual fee for a transporter's registration certificate, number plate, or
7 validation sticker is ~~\$123.00~~ \$148.00.

8 * * * Registration; Display of Number Plates * * *

9 Sec. G.124 23 V.S.A. § 514 is amended to read:

10 § 514. REPLACEMENT NUMBER PLATES

11 (a) In case of the loss of a number plate, the owner of the motor vehicle to
12 which it was assigned shall immediately notify the Commissioner of such loss,
13 and the Commissioner shall furnish such owner with a new plate. The fee
14 charged shall be ~~\$12.00~~ \$15.00 for each plate. The owner of a motor vehicle
15 who has lost one number plate may operate ~~his or her~~ the owner's vehicle with
16 only one number plate attached, until a new plate is furnished ~~him or her~~ to the
17 owner, provided ~~he or she~~ the owner notified the Commissioner as required
18 under this section.

19 (b) Any replacement number plate shall be issued at a fee of ~~\$12.00~~ \$15.00.

20 However, if the Commissioner, in ~~his or her~~ the Commissioner's discretion,
21 determines that a plate has become illegible as a result of deficiencies in the

1 manufacturing process or by use of faulty materials, the replacement fee shall
2 be waived.

3 Sec. G.125 23 V.S.A. § 516 is amended to read:

4 § 516. SALE OF VEHICLE TO GO OUT OF STATE BY A PERSON
5 OTHER THAN DEALER

6 The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles is authorized to issue an in-transit
7 registration permit for the purpose of movement over the highways of certain
8 motor vehicles otherwise required to be registered when the vehicles are sold
9 in this State by a person, other than a registered motor vehicle dealer, to be
10 transported to and registered in another state or province. The registration may
11 be obtained by submitting an application on a form prescribed and furnished
12 by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles. The Commissioner is authorized to
13 charge a fee of ~~\$6.00~~ \$8.00 for the processing of the application and the
14 issuance of the plate. The in-transit registration plate pursuant to this section
15 shall be valid for a period of 30 days from issuance and shall be in the form
16 and design prescribed by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles. Issuance of an
17 in-transit plate for vehicles sold by a registered motor vehicle dealer to a
18 person to be transported to and registered in another state or province shall be
19 governed by the provisions of section 463 of this title.

20 Sec. G.126 23 V.S.A. § 517 is amended to read:

21 § 517. INTRASTATE IN-TRANSIT PERMIT

1 The Commissioner may issue an intrastate in-transit registration permit to
2 authorize the movement within Vermont of a motor vehicle otherwise required
3 to be registered, if the vehicle is sold in this State by a person other than a
4 registered motor vehicle dealer. The permit may be obtained after submission
5 of an application on a form prescribed and furnished by the Commissioner and
6 payment of a ~~\$6.00~~ \$8.00 fee. The permit shall be valid for a period of 10 days
7 from the date of issuance and shall be in the form and design prescribed by the
8 Commissioner.

9 * * * Operator's License; General Provisions * * *

10 Sec. G.127 23 V.S.A. § 608 is amended to read:

11 § 608. FEES

12 (a) The four-year fee required to be paid the Commissioner for licensing an
13 operator of motor vehicles or for issuing an operator's privilege card shall be
14 ~~\$51.00~~ \$62.00. The two-year fee required to be paid the Commissioner for
15 licensing an operator or for issuing an operator's privilege card shall be ~~\$32.00~~
16 \$39.00, and the two-year fee for licensing a junior operator or for issuing a
17 junior operator's privilege card shall be ~~\$32.00~~ \$39.00.

18 (b) An additional fee of ~~\$3.00~~ \$4.00 per year shall be paid for a motorcycle
19 endorsement. The endorsement may be obtained for either a two-year or four-
20 year period, to be coincidental with the length of the operator's license.

21 Sec. G.128 23 V.S.A. § 613 is amended to read:

1 § 613. REPLACEMENT LICENSE

2 (a) In case of the loss, mutilation, or destruction of a license or error in a
3 license, the licensee shall forthwith notify the Commissioner who shall furnish
4 such licensee with a replacement on receipt of ~~\$20.00~~ \$24.00.

5 * * *

6 Sec. G.129 23 V.S.A. § 617 is amended to read:

7 § 617. LEARNER'S PERMIT

8 * * *

9 (b)(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, any
10 licensed person may apply to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles for a
11 learner's permit for the operation of a motorcycle in the form prescribed by the
12 Commissioner. The Commissioner shall offer both a motorcycle learner's
13 permit that authorizes the operation of three-wheeled motorcycles only and a
14 motorcycle learner's permit that authorizes the operation of any motorcycle.
15 The Commissioner shall require payment of a fee of ~~\$20.00~~ \$24.00 at the time
16 application is made.

17 (2) After the applicant has successfully passed all parts of the applicable
18 motorcycle endorsement examination, other than a skill test, the Commissioner
19 may issue to the applicant a learner's permit that entitles the applicant, subject
20 to subsection 615(a) of this title, to operate a three-wheeled motorcycle only,
21 or to operate any motorcycle, upon the public highways for a period of 120

1 days from the date of issuance. The fee for the examination shall be ~~\$9.00~~
2 \$11.00.

3 (3) A motorcycle learner's permit may be renewed only twice upon
4 payment of a ~~\$20.00~~ \$24.00 fee. If, during the original permit period and two
5 renewals the permittee has not successfully passed the applicable skill test or
6 motorcycle rider training course, ~~he or she~~ the permittee may not obtain
7 another motorcycle learner's permit for a period of 12 months from the
8 expiration of the permit unless:

9 * * *

10 (d) An applicant shall pay ~~\$20.00~~ \$24.00 to the Commissioner for each
11 learner's permit or a duplicate or renewal thereof.

12 * * *

13 Sec. G.130 23 V.S.A. § 634 is amended to read:

14 § 634. FEE FOR EXAMINATION

15 (a) The fee for an examination for a learner's permit shall be ~~\$32.00~~
16 \$39.00. The fee for an examination to obtain an operator's license when the
17 applicant is required to pass an examination pursuant to section 632 of this title
18 shall be ~~\$19.00~~ \$23.00. The fee for a motorcycle skill test to obtain a
19 motorcycle endorsement shall be ~~\$19.00~~ \$23.00.

20 (b) A scheduling fee of ~~\$24.00~~ \$29.00 shall be paid by the applicant before
21 ~~he or she~~ the applicant may schedule the road test required under section 632

1 of this title. Unless an applicant gives the Department at least 48 hours' notice
2 of cancellation, if the applicant does not appear as scheduled, the ~~\$24.00~~
3 \$29.00 scheduling fee is forfeited. If the applicant appears for the scheduled
4 road test, the fee shall be applied toward the license examination fee. The
5 Commissioner may waive the scheduling fee until the Department is capable of
6 administering the fee electronically.

7 * * *

8 * * * Operator's License; Suspension and Revocation * * *

9 Sec. G.131 23 V.S.A. § 675 is amended to read:

10 § 675. FEE PRIOR TO TERMINATION OR REINSTATEMENT OF
11 SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF LICENSE

12 (a) Before a suspension or revocation issued by the Commissioner of a
13 person's operator's license or privilege of operating a motor vehicle may be
14 terminated or before a person's operator's license or privilege of operating a
15 motor vehicle may be reinstated, there shall be paid to the Commissioner a fee
16 of ~~\$80.00~~ \$96.00 in addition to any other fee required by statute. This section
17 shall not apply to suspensions issued under the provisions of chapter 11 of this
18 title nor suspensions issued for physical disabilities or failing to pass
19 reexamination. The Commissioner shall not reinstate the license of a driver
20 whose license was suspended pursuant to section 1205 of this title until the

1 Commissioner receives certification from the court that the costs due the State
2 have been paid.

3 * * *

4 * * * Operator's License; Driver Training School Licenses * * *

5 Sec. G.132 23 V.S.A. § 702 is amended to read:

6 § 702. TRAINING SCHOOL AND INSTRUCTOR'S LICENSES

7 A person shall not operate a driver training school or act as an instructor
8 unless the person has secured a license from the Commissioner. Applications
9 for such licenses may be filed with the Commissioner and shall contain the
10 information and shall be on the forms the Commissioner may prescribe. Each
11 application for a driver's training school license shall be accompanied by an
12 application fee of ~~\$150.00~~ \$180.00, which shall not be refunded. If the
13 application is approved by the Commissioner, the applicant upon payment of
14 an additional fee of ~~\$225.00~~ \$270.00 shall be granted a license, which shall
15 become void two years after the first day of the month of issue unless sooner
16 revoked as provided in this subchapter. The renewal fee shall be ~~\$225.00~~
17 \$270.00. Each application for an instructor's license shall be accompanied by
18 an application fee of ~~\$105.00~~ \$126.00, which shall not be refunded. If the
19 application is approved by the Commissioner, the applicant upon payment of
20 an additional fee of ~~\$75.00~~ \$90.00 shall be granted a license, which shall
21 become void two years after the first day of the month of issue unless sooner

1 revoked as provided in this subchapter. The renewal fee shall be ~~\$75.00~~
2 \$90.00.

3 Sec. G.133 23 V.S.A. § 703 is amended to read:

4 § 703. POSSESSION OF LICENSE

5 Each person granted a driver's training school license shall display the same
6 conspicuously on the school premises. Each person granted an instructor's
7 license shall carry the same in ~~his or her~~ the person's possession while engaged
8 in giving driver training. In case of loss, mutilation, or destruction of a license
9 certificate, the Commissioner shall issue a duplicate certificate upon payment
10 of a fee of ~~\$8.00~~ \$10.00.

11 * * * Operation of Vehicles; Equipment * * *

12 Sec. G.134 23 V.S.A. § 1230 is amended to read:

13 § 1230. CHARGE

14 For each inspection certificate issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles,
15 the Commissioner shall be paid ~~\$6.00~~ \$8.00, provided that State and municipal
16 inspection stations that inspect only State or municipally owned and registered
17 vehicles shall not be required to pay a fee. All vehicle inspection certificate
18 charge revenue shall be allocated to the Transportation Fund with one-half
19 reserved for bridge maintenance activities.

20 * * * Operation of Vehicles; Weight, Size, Loads * * *

21 Sec. G.135 23 V.S.A. § 1392 is amended to read:

1 § 1392. GROSS WEIGHT LIMITS ON HIGHWAYS

2 Except as provided in section 1400 of this title, a person ~~or corporation~~ shall
3 not operate or cause to be operated a motor vehicle in excess of the total
4 weight, including vehicle, object, or contrivance and load, of:

5 * * *

6 (13) Despite the axle-load provisions of section 1391 of this title and the
7 maximum gross load of subdivision (4) of this section, a special annual permit,
8 which shall expire with the vehicle's registration, except for vehicles not
9 registered in Vermont in which case the permit shall become void on January 1
10 following date of issue, may be issued to a person operating on designated
11 routes on the State Highway System for a fee of ~~\$382.00~~ \$458.00 for each
12 vehicle registered for a weight of 80,000 pounds. This special permit shall be
13 issued only for a combination of vehicle and semi-trailer or trailer equipped
14 with five or more axles, with a distance between axles that meets the minimum
15 requirements of registering the vehicle to 80,000 pounds as allowed under
16 subdivision (4) of this section. The maximum gross load under this special
17 permit shall be 90,000 pounds. Unless authorized by federal law, this
18 subdivision shall not apply to operation on the Dwight D. Eisenhower National
19 System of Interstate and Defense Highways.

20 (14) Despite the axle-load provisions of section 1391 of this title and the
21 axle spacing and maximum gross load provisions of subdivision (4) of this

1 section, a special annual permit, which shall expire with the vehicle's
2 registration, except for vehicles not registered in Vermont in which case the
3 permit shall become void on January 1 following date of issue, may be issued
4 to a person transporting loads on vehicles on designated routes on the State
5 Highway System for the following fees for each vehicle unit. Unless
6 authorized by federal law, the provisions of this subdivision regarding weight
7 limits or tolerances, or both, shall not apply to operation on the Dwight D.
8 Eisenhower National System of Interstate and Defense Highways. This special
9 permit shall be issued for the following vehicles and conditions:

10 (A) 3-axle trucks with a single steering axle and a rear tandem axle
11 that have a maximum gross weight of not more than 60,000 pounds when
12 registered for a minimum gross weight of not more than 55,000 pounds, the
13 permit fee shall be ~~\$156.00~~ \$187.00.

14 (B) 4-axle trucks with a single steering axle and a rear tri-axle unit
15 that have a maximum gross weight of not more than 69,000 pounds when
16 registered for a minimum weight of 60,000 pounds, the permit fee shall be
17 ~~\$352.00~~ \$422.00.

18 (C) 4-axle tractor semi-trailer or truck trailer combination with a
19 maximum gross weight of not more than 72,000 pounds, provided the distance
20 between the second axle of the tractor and the rear axle of the trailer is at least
21 24 feet measured to the nearest foot. For each foot or fraction of a foot less

1 than 24 feet, measured to the nearest foot, a reduction of 2,000 pounds in the
2 maximum gross weight shall be made. The permit fee shall be ~~\$15.00~~ \$18.00.

3 (D) 5- or more axle tractor semi-trailer or truck trailer combination
4 with a maximum gross weight of not more than 76,000 pounds, provided that
5 the distance between the first and last axle of two consecutive sets of tandem
6 axles is at least 24 feet measured to the nearest foot. For each foot or fraction
7 of a foot less than 24 feet, measured to the nearest foot, a reduction of 2,000
8 pounds in the maximum gross weight shall be made. The permit fee shall be
9 ~~\$15.00~~ \$18.00.

10 * * *

11 (17) Notwithstanding the gross vehicle weight provisions of subdivision
12 (4) of this section, a truck trailer combination or truck tractor, semi-trailer
13 combination with six or more load-bearing axles registered for 80,000 pounds
14 shall be allowed to bear a maximum of 99,000 pounds by special annual
15 permit, which shall expire with the vehicle's registration, except for vehicles
16 not registered in Vermont in which case the permit shall become void on
17 January 1 following the date of issue, for operating on designated routes on
18 State and town highways, subject to the following:

19 * * *

1 (F) The fee for the annual permit as provided in this subdivision (17)
2 shall be ~~\$382.00~~ \$458.00 for vehicles bearing up to 90,000 pounds and
3 ~~\$560.00~~ \$671.00 for vehicles bearing up to 99,000 pounds.

4 * * *

5 Sec. G.136 23 V.S.A. § 1402 is amended to read:

6 § 1402. OVERWEIGHT, WIDTH, HEIGHT, AND LENGTH PERMITS;

7 FEES

8 (a) Overweight, overwidth, indivisible overlength, and overheight permits.
9 Overweight, overwidth, indivisible overlength, and overheight permits shall be
10 signed by the Commissioner or by ~~his or her~~ the Commissioner's agent and a
11 copy shall be kept in the office of the Commissioner or in a location approved
12 by the Commissioner. Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, a
13 copy shall also be available in the towing vehicle and must be available for
14 inspection on demand of a law enforcement officer. Before operating a
15 traction engine, tractor, trailer, motor truck, or other motor vehicle, the person
16 to whom a permit to operate in excess of the weight, width, indivisible
17 overlength, and height limits established by this title is granted shall pay a fee
18 of ~~\$40.00~~ \$48.00 for each single trip permit or ~~\$112.00~~ \$135.00 for a blanket
19 permit, except that the fee for a fleet blanket permit shall be ~~\$112.00~~ \$135.00
20 for the first unit and ~~\$6.00~~ \$8.00 for each unit thereafter. At the option of a
21 carrier, an annual permit for the entire fleet, to operate over any approved

1 route, may be obtained for ~~\$112.00~~ \$135.00 for the first tractor and ~~\$6.00~~
2 \$8.00 for each additional tractor, up to a maximum fee of \$1,000.00. The fee
3 for a fleet permit shall be based on the entire number of tractors owned by the
4 applicant. An applicant for a fleet permit may apply for any number of
5 specific routes, each of which shall be reviewed with regard to the
6 characteristics of the route and the type of equipment operated by the
7 applicant. When the weight or size of the vehicle-load are considered
8 sufficiently excessive for the routing requested, the Agency of Transportation
9 shall, on request of the Commissioner, conduct an engineering inspection of
10 the vehicle-load and route, for which a fee of \$300.00 will be added to the cost
11 of the permit if the load is a manufactured home. For all other loads of any
12 size or with gross weight limits less than 150,000 pounds, the fee shall be
13 \$800.00 for any engineering inspection that requires up to eight hours to
14 conduct. If the inspection requires more than eight hours to conduct, the fee
15 shall be \$800.00 plus \$60.00 per hour for each additional hour required. If the
16 vehicle and load weigh 150,000 pounds or more but not more than 200,000
17 pounds, the engineering inspection fee shall be \$2,000.00. If the vehicle and
18 load weigh more than 200,000 pounds but not more than 250,000 pounds, the
19 engineering inspection fee shall be \$5,000.00. If the vehicle and load weigh
20 more than 250,000 pounds, the engineering inspection fee shall be \$10,000.00.
21 The study must be completed prior to the permit being issued. Prior to the

1 issuance of a permit, an applicant whose vehicle weighs 150,000 pounds or
2 more, or is 15 or more feet in width or height, shall file with the Commissioner
3 a special certificate of insurance showing minimum coverage of \$250,000.00
4 for death or injury to one person, \$500,000.00 for death or injury to two or
5 more persons, and \$250,000.00 for property damage, all arising out of any one
6 crash.

7 (b) Overlength permits. Except as provided in subsections 1432(c) and (e)
8 of this title, it shall be necessary to obtain an overlength permit as follows:

9 (1) For vehicles with a trailer or semitrailer longer than 75 feet,
10 anywhere in the State on highways approved by the Agency of Transportation.
11 In such cases, the vehicle may be operated with a single trip overlength permit
12 issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles for a fee of ~~\$28.00~~ \$34.00. If the
13 vehicle is 100 feet or more in length, the permit applicant shall file with the
14 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles a special certificate of insurance showing
15 minimum coverage of \$250,000.00 for death or injury to one person,
16 \$500,000.00 for death or injury to two or more persons, and \$250,000.00 for
17 property damage, all arising out of any one crash.

18 * * *

19 * * * Title to Motor Vehicles; General Provisions * * *

20 Sec. G.137 23 V.S.A. § 2002 is amended to read:

21 § 2002. FEES

- 1 (a) The Commissioner shall be paid the following fees:
- 2 (1) for any certificate of title, including a salvage certificate of title, or
3 an exempt vehicle title, ~~\$35.00~~ \$42.00;
- 4 (2) for each security interest noted upon a certificate of title, including a
5 salvage certificate of title, ~~\$11.00~~ \$14.00;
- 6 (3) for a certificate of title after a transfer, ~~\$35.00~~ \$42.00;
- 7 (4) for each assignment of a security interest noted upon a certificate of
8 title, ~~\$11.00~~ \$14.00;
- 9 (5) for a duplicate certificate of title, including a salvage certificate of
10 title, ~~\$35.00~~ \$42.00;
- 11 (6) for an ordinary certificate of title issued upon surrender of a
12 distinctive certificate, ~~\$35.00~~ \$42.00;
- 13 (7) for filing a notice of security interest, ~~\$11.00~~ \$14.00;
- 14 (8) for a certificate of search of the records of the Department of Motor
15 Vehicles, for each motor vehicle searched against, ~~\$22.00~~ \$27.00;
- 16 (9) for filing an assignment of a security interest, ~~\$11.00~~ \$14.00;
- 17 (10) for a certificate of title after a security interest has been released,
18 ~~\$35.00~~ \$42.00;
- 19 (11) for a certificate of title for a motor vehicle acquired by a veteran
20 with financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and
21 exempt from registration fees pursuant to section 378 of this title, no fee;

1 (12) for a corrected certificate of title, ~~\$35.00~~ \$42.00.

2 * * *

3 * * * Titling of Vessels, Snowmobiles, and All-terrain Vehicles * * *

4 Sec. G.138. 23 V.S.A. § 3802 is amended to read:

5 § 3802. FEES

6 (a) The Commissioner shall be paid the following fees:

7 (1) for filing an application for a first certificate of title, ~~\$22.00~~ \$27.00;

8 (2) for each security interest noted upon a certificate of title, ~~\$11.00~~

9 \$14.00;

10 (3) for a certificate of title after a transfer, ~~\$22.00~~ \$27.00;

11 (4) for each assignment of a security interest noted upon a certificate of
12 title, ~~\$11.00~~ \$14.00;

13 (5) for a duplicate certificate of title, ~~\$22.00~~ \$27.00;

14 (6) for an ordinary certificate of title issued upon surrender of a
15 distinctive certificate, ~~\$22.00~~ \$27.00;

16 (7) for filing a notice of security interest, ~~\$11.00~~ \$14.00;

17 (8) for a certificate of search of the records of the Department of Motor
18 Vehicles for each vessel, snowmobile, or all-terrain vehicle searched against,
19 ~~\$22.00~~ \$27.00;

20 (9) for filing an assignment of a security interest, ~~\$11.00~~ \$14.00;

1 (10) for a certificate of clear title after the security interest or interests
2 have been released, ~~\$22.00~~ \$27.00;

3 (11) for a corrected certificate of title, ~~\$22.00~~ \$27.00.

4 * * *

5 * * * Commercial Driver's License Act * * *

6 Sec. G.139 23 V.S.A. § 4108 is amended to read:

7 § 4108. COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE, COMMERCIAL

8 LEARNER'S PERMIT QUALIFICATION STANDARDS

9 * * *

10 (f) The fee for a knowledge test and the fee for a skills test shall each be
11 ~~\$32.00~~ \$39.00. The fee for an endorsement test shall be ~~\$14.00~~ \$17.00. In the
12 event that an applicant fails a test three times, ~~he or she~~ the applicant may not
13 take the test again for at least six months. A fee of ~~\$24.00~~ \$29.00 shall be paid
14 by the applicant before ~~he or she~~ the applicant may schedule a skills test. If an
15 applicant does not appear for the scheduled skills test, the ~~\$24.00~~ \$29.00
16 scheduling fee is forfeited, unless the applicant has given the Department of
17 Motor Vehicles at least 48 hours' notice of cancellation of the test. If the
18 applicant appears for the skills test, the ~~\$24.00~~ \$29.00 scheduling fee for that
19 test will be used as part of the test fee. Use of an interpreter is prohibited
20 during the administration of the knowledge or skills tests.

21 * * *

1 Sec. G.140 23 V.S.A. § 4110 is amended to read:

2 § 4110. APPLICATION FOR COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE OR
3 COMMERCIAL LEARNER'S PERMIT

4 * * *

5 (8) The proper fee.

6 (A) The four-year fee for a commercial driver's license shall be
7 ~~\$90.00~~ \$108.00. The two-year fee shall be ~~\$60.00~~ \$72.00. In those instances
8 where the applicant surrenders a valid Vermont Class D license, the total fees
9 due shall be reduced by:

10 * * *

11 (B) The fee for a commercial learner's permit is ~~\$15.00~~ \$18.00.

12 * * *

13 (b) When a licensee or permittee changes ~~his or her~~ the licensee's or
14 permittee's name, mailing address, or residence or in the case of the loss,
15 mutilation, or destruction of a license or permit, the licensee or permittee shall
16 forthwith notify the Commissioner and apply in person for a duplicate license
17 or permit in the same manner as set forth in subsection (a) of this section. The
18 fee for a duplicate license or permit shall be ~~\$15.00~~ \$18.00.

19 * * *

1 leased, or otherwise acquired for use in short-term rentals, in which case the
2 vehicle shall be subject to taxation under subsection (d) of this section.

3 * * *

4 * * * Effective Dates * * *

5 Sec. H.100 EFFECTIVE DATES

6 (a) This section and Secs. C.100 through C.126 (fiscal year 2023
7 adjustments, appropriations, and amendments) shall take effect upon passage.

8 (b) Sections G.100 through G.141 (Department of Motor Vehicles fee
9 increases and Motor Vehicle Purchase and Use Tax increase) shall take
10 effect on January 1, 2024.

11 (c) All remaining sections shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

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