
This act summary is provided for the convenience of the public and members of the General Assembly. It is intended to provide a general summary of the act and may not be exhaustive. It has been prepared by the staff of the Office of Legislative Counsel without input from members of the General Assembly. It is not intended to aid in the interpretation of legislation or to serve as a source of legislative intent.

Act No. 33 (H.494). An act relating to capital construction and State bonding

Subjects: Capital construction; capital appropriations; State bonding

This act sets out the State's fiscal year 2026 and fiscal year 2027 capital budget and authorizes the State to issue general obligation bonds in the amount of \$106,890,350.00, including \$6,890,350.00 in general obligation bonds that were previously appropriated but unissued under the capital bill for the preceding biennium. This act reallocates \$6,774,938.48 from prior capital appropriations, including \$5,074,938.48 in bonded dollars and \$1,700,000.00 in cash. This act also authorizes spending in fiscal year 2026 from the Cash Fund for Capital and Essential Investments in the amount of \$27,936,099.00, including \$13,436,099.00 from the Capital Infrastructure subaccount and \$14,500,000.00 from the Other Infrastructure, Essential Investments, and Reserves subaccount. It additionally provides that there will be a budget adjustment process in the second year of the biennium and that fiscal year 2026 appropriations are subject to budget adjustment unless otherwise specified.

Appropriations (General Obligation Bonding). This act appropriates capital funds in the amount of \$111,965,288.44 over the biennium for capital construction projects, including the following:

- \$29,651,680.44 for State Buildings
- \$13,025,000.00 for Human Services
- \$1,667,000.00 for Commerce and Community Development
- \$4,200,000.00 for Grant Programs
- \$1,050,000.00 for Veterans' Home
- \$3,000,000.00 for University of Vermont
- \$8,000,000.00 for Vermont State Colleges
- \$11,124,360.00 for Natural Resources
- \$20,000,000.00 for Clean Water Initiatives
- \$3,926,338.00 for Military
- \$6,500,000.00 for Agriculture, Food and Markets
- \$3,795,000.00 for Public Safety
- \$5,075,910.00 for Judiciary
- \$250,000.00 for Vermont Rural Fire Protection
- \$700,000.00 for Vermont Historical Society

Capital Budgeting Process. This act aligns the deadline for presentation of the capital construction budget with the deadline for presentation of the budget report to the General Assembly. It requires that the 10-year capital program plan include greater historical detail in a concise format. This act additionally delays by one year the claw-back of spending authority from the Cash Fund for Capital and Essential Investments and requires the Joint Fiscal Office to report by December 15, 2025, on the Cash Fund.

Buildings and General Services; Human Services. This act authorizes the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services to transfer the Randall Meadow property to the Town of Waterbury once certain conditions have been met. It requires the Commissioner to provide timely notification to the City of Montpelier and the Montpelier Commission for Recovery and Resilience of updates to plans for the Capitol Complex flood recovery. This act additionally repeals the requirement for the Commissioner to conduct a feasibility study of the use of the Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility as a reentry facility for eligible justice-involved men following the construction of replacement facilities for justice-involved women.

Sergeant at Arms. This act provides that a fiscal year 2025 capital appropriation of \$100,000.00 to the Sergeant at Arms may additionally be used for the purchase and installation at the State House of an X-ray machine designed to screen baggage.

Effective Date: May 22, 2025