

1 H.494

2 Introduced by Committee on Corrections and Institutions

3 Date:

4 Subject: Capital construction; capital appropriations; State bonding

5 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to authorize  
6 bonding, appropriate capital funds, and address miscellaneous related items.

7 An act relating to capital construction and State bonding

8 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

9 \* \* \* Legislative Intent \* \* \*

10 Sec. 1. LEGISLATIVE INTENT

11 (a) It is the intent of the General Assembly that of the \$111,965,288.44  
12 authorized in this act, not more than \$61,614,761.44 shall be appropriated in  
13 the first year of the biennium, and the remainder shall be appropriated in the  
14 second year.

15 (b) It is the intent of the General Assembly that in the second year of the  
16 biennium, any amendments to the appropriations or authorities granted in this  
17 act shall take the form of the Capital Construction and State Bonding  
18 Adjustment Bill. It is the intent of the General Assembly that unless otherwise  
19 indicated, all appropriations in this act are subject to capital budget adjustment.

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(b) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2026:

(2) Statewide, three-acre parcel stormwater compliance: \$1,500,000.00

<u>(4) Rutland, Asa Bloomer Building roof repair and sewage system</u>	
Costs:	\$1,500,000.00

(6) Middlesex, Print and Postal uninterruptable power supply upgrade:

\$58,279.44

\$2,000,000.00

(c) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2027:

(1) Statewide, major maintenance:	\$8,500,000.00
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1	<u>(2) Statewide, planning, reuse, and contingency:</u>	<u>\$250,000.00</u>
2	<u>(3) Statewide, physical security enhancements:</u>	<u>\$250,000.00</u>
3	<u>(4) Statewide, three-acre parcel stormwater compliance:</u>	<u>\$1,100,000.00</u>
4	<u>(5) Statewide, Art in State Buildings Program:</u>	<u>\$75,000.00</u>
5	<u>(6) Pittsford, Academy firing range upgrades:</u>	<u>\$200,000.00</u>
6	<u>(7) Montpelier, State House replacement of historic interior finishes:</u>	
7		<u>\$50,000.00</u>
8	<u>(8) Montpelier, 120 State Street HVAC – steam lines interior</u>	
9	<u>renovation:</u>	<u>\$2,000,000.00</u>
10	<u>(9) Middlesex, Vermont State Archives roof replacement, main</u>	
11	<u>building:</u>	<u>\$1,000,000.00</u>
12	<u>(10) Waterbury, State Office Complex historic core roof replacement:</u>	
13		<u>\$2,000,000.00</u>
14	<u>(11) Burlington, 32 Cherry St. parking garage repairs:</u>	
15		<u>\$500,000.00</u>
16	<u>Appropriation – FY 2026</u>	<u>\$14,371,680.44</u>
17	<u>Appropriation – FY 2027</u>	<u>\$15,925,000.00</u>
18	<u>Total Appropriation – Section 2</u>	<u>\$30,296,680.44</u>

(2) Statewide, correctional facility safety and security upgrades:

\$200,000.00



1	<u>(1) Major maintenance at statewide historic sites:</u>	<u>\$550,000.00</u>
2	<u>(2) Vermont Underwater Historic Preserves:</u>	<u>\$46,000.00</u>
3	<u>(3) Roadside historic site markers:</u>	<u>\$25,000.00</u>
4	<u>(4) Bennington, Battle Monument, maintenance of safety fencing,</u>	
5	<u>restoration, planning, and design:</u>	<u>\$525,000.00</u>

6 (b) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2027 to the Agency of  
7 Commerce and Community Development for the following projects:

8	<u>(1) Major maintenance at statewide historic sites:</u>	<u>\$550,000.00</u>
9	<u>(2) Vermont Underwater Historic Preserves:</u>	<u>\$46,000.00</u>
10	<u>(3) Roadside historic site markers:</u>	<u>\$25,000.00</u>
11	<u>Appropriation – FY 2026</u>	<u>\$1,146,000.00</u>
12	<u>Appropriation – FY 2027</u>	<u>\$621,000.00</u>
13	<u>Total Appropriation – Section 4</u>	<u>\$1,767,000.00</u>

14 Sec. 5. GRANT PROGRAMS

15 (a) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2026 for the Building  
16 Communities Grants established in 24 V.S.A. chapter 137:

17	<u>(1) To the Agency of Commerce and Community Development,</u>	
18	<u>Division for Historic Preservation, for the Historic Preservation Grant</u>	
19	<u>Program:</u>	<u>\$300,000.00</u>

(b) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2027 for the Building Communities Grants established in 24 V.S.A. chapter 137:

(2) To the Agency of Commerce and Community Development,  
Division for Historic Preservation, for the Historic Barns Preservation Grant  
Program: \$300,000.00

12	<u>(4) To the Department of Buildings and General Services for the</u>	
13	<u>Recreational Facilities Grant Program:</u>	<u>\$300,000.00</u>

16                   (6) To the Department of Buildings and General Services for the  
17                   Regional Economic Development Grant Program:                   \$300,000.00

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(c) It is the intent of the General Assembly that the sums appropriated in subdivisions (a)(5) and (b)(5) of this section be equally allocated between grants for human services and grants for educational facilities.

<u>Appropriation – FY 2026</u>	<u>\$2,100,000.00</u>
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<u>Appropriation – FY 2027</u>	<u>\$2,100,000.00</u>
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<u>Total Appropriation – Section 5</u>	<u>\$4,200,000.00</u>
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Sec. 6. VETERANS' HOME

(a) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2026 to the Vermont Veterans' Home for the following projects:

<u>(1) Replacement of air handlers:</u>	<u>\$710,000.00</u>
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<u>(2) Expansion of laundry facilities:</u>	<u>\$340,000.00</u>
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(b) The Chief Executive Officer of the Vermont Veterans' Home is authorized to transfer any unexpended project balances between the amounts appropriated in subdivisions (a)(1)–(2) of this section.

<u>Appropriation – FY 2026</u>	<u>\$1,050,000.00</u>
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<u>Total Appropriation – Section 6</u>	<u>\$1,050,000.00</u>
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Sec. 7. UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

(a) The sum of \$1,500,000.00 is appropriated in FY 2026 to the University of Vermont for construction, renovations, and major maintenance.

(b) The sum of \$1,500,000.00 is appropriated in FY 2027 to the University of Vermont for the projects described in subsection (a) of this section.

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1      Sec. 9. NATURAL RESOURCES

2            (a) The sum of \$500,000.00 is appropriated in FY 2026 to the Agency of  
3            Natural Resources for the Department of Environmental Conservation for dam  
4            safety and hydrology projects.

5            (b) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2026 to the Agency of  
6            Natural Resources for the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation for the  
7            following projects:

8            (1) Park infrastructure and rehabilitation, improvement, and three-acre  
9            rule compliance: \$3,500,000.00

10           (2) Public lands access infrastructure: \$700,000.00

11           (c) The sum of \$1,105,000.00 is appropriated in FY 2026 to the Agency of  
12           Natural Resources for the Department of Fish and Wildlife for major  
13           maintenance and infrastructure projects.

14           (d) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2027 to the Agency of  
15           Natural Resources for the Department of Environmental Conservation for the  
16           following projects:

17           (1) State match, drinking water supply, Drinking Water State Revolving  
18           Fund: \$590,000.00

19           (2) Dam safety and hydrology projects: \$500,000.00



2 Housing and Conservation Board for the following projects:

4	<u>(B) Land conservation and water quality projects:</u>	<u>\$2,000,000.00</u>
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6 (A) shall not be considered a State grant under 6 V.S.A. chapter 215.

9 (B) may be used to satisfy a grant recipient's cost-share

11           (e) The sum of \$10,000,000.00 is appropriated in FY 2027 to the Agency  
12           of Natural Resources for the Department of Environmental Conservation for  
13           clean water implementation projects.

14           (f) In FY 2026 and FY 2027, any agency that receives funding from this  
15           section shall consult with the State Treasurer to ensure that the projects are  
16           capital eligible.

18	<u>Appropriation – FY 2027</u>	<u>\$10,000,000.00</u>
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19	<u>Total Appropriation – Section 10</u>	<u>\$20,000,000.00</u>
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1      Sec. 11. MILITARY

2            (a) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2026 to the Military

3            Department for the following projects:

4            (1) Major maintenance, renovations, and ADA compliance at State

5            armories: \$1,272,838.00

6            (2) Northwest Regional Readiness Center, planning and design:

7            \$1,343,333.00

8            (b) The sum of \$1,310,167.00 is appropriated in FY 2027 to the Military

9            Department for major maintenance, renovations, and ADA compliance at State

10           armories.

11           Appropriation – FY 2026 \$2,616,171.00

12           Appropriation – FY 2027 \$1,310,167.00

13           Total Appropriation – Section 11 \$3,926,338.00

14      Sec. 12. AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND MARKETS

15           (a) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2026 to the Department of

16           Buildings and General Services for the Agency of Agriculture, Food and

17           Markets for the following projects:

18           (1) Renovations to the Vermont Building at the Eastern States

19           Exposition: \$1,500,000.00

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(a) The sum of \$2,000,000.00 is appropriated in FY 2026 to the

(b) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2027 to the Department of

(1) Shaftsbury Field Station, land acquisition, planning, and design:

\$150,000.00

(2) Rutland Field Station:

\$2,000,000.00

Appropriation – FY 2026

\$2,000,000.00

Appropriation – FY 2027

\$2,150,000.00

Total Appropriation – Section 13

\$4,150,000.00

## Sec. 14. JUDICIARY

The following sums are appropriated in FY 2026 to the Judiciary for the

(1) Woodstock Courthouse, purchase and installation of backup power

system:

\$100,000.00

(2) Essex County Courthouse connector and security upgrades:

\$3,685,910.00



1	<u>(3) Lamoille County Courthouse, purchase and installation of backup</u>	
2	<u>power system:</u>	<u>\$190,000.00</u>
3	<u>Appropriation – FY 2026</u>	<u>\$3,975,910.00</u>
4	<u>Total Appropriation – Section 14</u>	<u>\$3,975,910.00</u>

5 Sec. 15. VERMONT RURAL FIRE PROTECTION

6 (a) The sum of \$125,000.00 is appropriated in FY 2026 to the Department  
7 of Public Safety for the Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force for the dry  
8 hydrant program.

9 (b) The sum of \$125,000.00 is appropriated in FY 2027 to the Department  
10 of Public Safety for the Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force for the  
11 project described in subsection (a) of this section.

12	<u>Appropriation – FY 2026</u>	<u>\$125,000.00</u>
13	<u>Appropriation – FY 2027</u>	<u>\$125,000.00</u>
14	<u>Total Appropriation – Section 12</u>	<u>\$250,000.00</u>

15 Sec. 16. VERMONT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

16 The sum of \$700,000.00 is appropriated in FY 2026 to the Vermont  
17 Historical Society to mitigate water infiltration at the roof, foundation, and  
18 basement of the Spaulding Building in Barre.

19	<u>Appropriation – FY 2026</u>	<u>\$700,000.00</u>
20	<u>Total Appropriation – Section 16</u>	<u>\$700,000.00</u>

\* \* \* Funding \* \* \*

Sec. 17. REALLOCATION OF FUNDS; TRANSFER OF FUNDS

(a) The following sums are reallocated to the Department of Buildings and General Services from prior capital appropriations to defray expenditures authorized in Secs. 2–16 of this act:

(1) of the amount appropriated in 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 42, Sec. 2(c)(5), as amended by 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 139, Sec. 1 (108 Cherry Street, parking garage repairs): \$399,803.36

(2) of the amount appropriated in 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 50, Sec. 2(c)(18), as amended by 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 180, Sec. 2 (108 Cherry Street, parking garage repairs): \$37,519.86

(3) of the amount appropriated in in 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 42, Sec. 13(a), as amended by 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 139, Sec. 9 (Middlesex Field Station): \$371.89

(4) of the amount appropriated in 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 50, Sec. 12(a)(2) (Middlesex Field Station): \$18,309.45

(5) of the amount appropriated in 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 50, Sec. 12(c), as amended by 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 180, Sec. 10, as further amended by 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 35 (Williston Public Safety Field Station): \$2,220,099.10

1           (6) of the amount appropriated in 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec.

2           2(b)(3) (statewide, planning, reuse, and contingency):                   \$425,000.00

3           (7) of the amount appropriated in 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec.

4           2(c)(7) (Northern State Correctional Facility, planning and construction for  
5           the boiler replacement):   \$1,000,000.00

6           (8) of the amount appropriated in 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec.

7           3(b)(5), as added by 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 162, Sec. 3 (South

8           Burlington, justice-involved men, feasibility study for reentry  
9           facility):   \$125,000.00

10           (9) of the amounts appropriated in 2015 Acts and Resolves No. 26,

11           Sec. 2(b) (various projects):   \$58,279.44

12           (10) of the amounts appropriated in 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84,

13           Sec. 2(b) (various projects):   \$23,237.47

14           (11) of the amounts appropriated in 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 42,

15           Sec. 2(b) (various projects):   \$73,784.44

16           (b) The following sums appropriated to the Agency of Commerce and  
17           Community Development from prior capital appropriations are reallocated to  
18           defray expenditures authorized in Secs. 2–16 of this act:

19           (1) of the amount appropriated in 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 42, Sec.

20           5(c)(3), as amended by 2020 Acts & Resolves No. 139, Sec. 3 (Highgate

21           Native American Cemetery):   \$12,042.00



1 \$115,000.00 is reallocated to defray expenditures authorized in Secs. 2–16 of  
2 this act.

3 (f) Of the amount appropriated to the Agency of Education in 2021 Acts  
4 and Resolves No. 50, Sec. 6(a) (funding emergency projects), \$19,549.00 is  
5 reallocated to defray expenditures authorized in Secs. 2–16 of this act.

6 (g) Of the amount appropriated to the Agency of Natural Resources for  
7 the Department of Environmental Conservation in 2017 Acts and Resolves  
8 No. 84, Sec. 11(b)(2) (ecosystem restoration and protection), \$249.01 is  
9 reallocated to defray expenditures authorized in Secs. 2–16 of this act.

10 (h) Of the amount appropriated from the Capital Infrastructure  
11 subaccount of the Cash Fund for Capital and Essential Investments to the  
12 Vermont Veterans' Home in 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec.  
13 B.1103(a)(7) and authorized in 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 18(d)(7)  
14 (design for the renovation of the Brandon and Cardinal units), \$1,500,000.00  
15 is reallocated to defray expenditures authorized in Sec. 19 of this act.

16 (i) Of the amount appropriated from the Capital Infrastructure subaccount  
17 of the Cash Fund for Capital and Essential Investments to the Department of  
18 Buildings and General Services in 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec.  
19 B.1103(a)(9) and authorized in 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec.  
20 18(d)(10) (111 State Street; renovation of the stack area), \$200,000.00 is  
21 reallocated to defray expenditures authorized in Sec. 19 of this act.

1        (j) Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 701a(c)(2), the Department of Buildings  
2        and General Services may retain for the same purposes the unexpended  
3        amounts not reallocated in this act that were appropriated in the following  
4        capital construction acts:

5                (1) 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 13(b)(2), as added by 2018  
6        Acts and Resolves No. 190, Sec. 10 (East Cottage); and

7                (2) 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 42, Sec. 2(b) (various projects).

8        (k) Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 701a(c)(2), the Agency of Agriculture,  
9        Food and Markets may retain for the same purposes the unexpended amount  
10       not reallocated in this act appropriated in 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84,  
11       Sec. 11(e)(1)(B), as added by 2018 Acts and Resolves No. 190, Sec. 8  
12       (phosphorus removal equipment).

13       (l) Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 701a(c)(2), the Department of  
14       Environmental Conservation may retain for the same purposes the  
15       unexpended amounts not reallocated in this act that were appropriated in the  
16       following capital construction acts:

17                (1) 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 11(f)(2)(A), as added by  
18       2018 Acts and Resolves No. 190, Sec. 8 (Standard EcoSystem Restoration  
19       and Protection programs);

20                (2) 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 42, Sec. 11(b) (pollution control); and

(m) Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 701a(c)(2), the Agency of Transportation may retain for the same purposes the unexpended amounts not reallocated in this act that were appropriated in the following capital construction acts:

(2) 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 11(l), as added by 2018 Acts  
and Resolves No. 190, Sec. 8 (Municipal Mitigation Program).

<u>Bonded Dollars</u>	<u>\$5,074,938.48</u>
<u>Cash</u>	<u>\$1,700,000.00</u>
Total Reallocations and Transfers – Section 17	\$6,774,938.48

(a) The State Treasurer is authorized to issue general obligation bonds in the amount of \$100,000,000.00 for the purpose of funding the appropriations made in Secs. 2–16 of this act. The State Treasurer, with the approval of the Governor, shall determine the appropriate form and maturity of the bonds authorized by this section consistent with the underlying nature of the appropriation to be funded.





17           (d) Authorizations; Other Infrastructure, Essential Investments, and  
18           Reserves subaccount. In FY 2026, spending authority is authorized from the  
19           Other Infrastructure, Essential Investments, and Reserves subaccount of the  
20           Cash Fund for Capital and Essential Investments to the Agency of Natural  
21           Resources for the Department of Environmental Conservation for the State

1 match to the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Drinking Water State  
2 Revolving Fund and Clean Water State Revolving Fund, in accordance with  
3 the provisions of 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. C.108(b), in the amount  
4 of \$14,500,000.00.

5 (e) Transfer. Notwithstanding 29 V.S.A. § 152(a)(20), the Commissioner  
6 of Buildings and General Services is authorized to transfer any unexpended  
7 project balances between the amount appropriated in subdivision (c)(7) of this  
8 section and the amounts appropriated in 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec.  
9 15(b)(1) (emergency generator and boiler plant replacement).

10 \* \* \* Policy \* \* \*

11 \* \* \* Capital Budgeting Process \* \* \*

12 Sec. 20. 32 V.S.A. § 701a is amended to read:

13 § 701a. CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION BILL

14 \* \* \*

15 (d)(1) On or before November 15 each year, the Commissioner of Finance  
16 and Management shall require each entity to which spending authority has  
17 been authorized by a capital construction act enacted in a legislative session  
18 that was two or more years prior to the current legislative session to submit a  
19 report on the current fund balances of each authorized project with unexpended  
20 funds. The report shall include plans for the unexpended funds, any projects or

1 contracts the funds are assigned to, and an anticipated timeline for expending  
2 the funds.

3 (2) On or before ~~December 15 each year~~ the third Tuesday of every  
4 annual session, the Commissioner of Finance and Management shall submit in  
5 a consolidated format the reports required by subdivision (1) of this subsection  
6 to the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate  
7 Committee on Institutions.

8 \* \* \*

9 Sec. 21. 32 V.S.A. § 310 is amended to read:

10 § 310. FORM OF ANNUAL CAPITAL BUDGET AND 10-YEAR  
11 CAPITAL PROGRAM PLAN

12 \* \* \*

13 (b) The capital budget request for the following biennium shall be  
14 presented as the next increment of the 10-year plan. Elements of the plan shall  
15 include:

16 \* \* \*

17 (2) Comprehensive cost and financing assessment.

18 (A) Amounts appropriated and expended for the current fiscal year  
19 and for the preceding fiscal year shall be indicated for capital programs and for  
20 individual projects. For the five fiscal years preceding these, the assessment  
21 shall include the aggregate amounts appropriated and expended for individual

1 projects, which amounts shall be categorized by funding type and presented in  
2 a format that concisely displays the funding stream and project phases for each  
3 individual project over time. The assessment shall indicate further the source  
4 of funds for any project that required additional funding and a description of  
5 any authorized projects that were delayed.

6 \* \* \*

7 Sec. 22. 32 V.S.A. § 1001b is amended to read:

8 § 1001b. CASH FUND FOR CAPITAL AND ESSENTIAL INVESTMENTS

9 \* \* \*

10 (e) Spending authority. Any entity authorized to make expenditures from  
11 the Capital Infrastructure subaccount shall have not more than ~~two~~ three years  
12 from the end of the legislative session in which the act authorizing the  
13 expenditure was enacted to encumber the funds. Any remaining  
14 unencumbered funds shall remain part of the Fund account.

15 \* \* \* Buildings and General Services \* \* \*

16 Sec. 23. TRANSFER OF RANDALL MEADOW PROPERTY IN THE  
17 TOWN OF WATERBURY

18 Notwithstanding 29 V.S.A. § 166(b), the Commissioner of Buildings and  
19 General Services is authorized to survey, subdivide, and transfer to the Town  
20 of Waterbury the portion of land in the Waterbury State Office Complex  
21 (Parcel ID # 69622111909 as designated on the Town of Waterbury's Tax

1 Parcel Maps) that is commonly referred to as the “Randall Meadow,” provided  
2 that the Commissioner may transfer the Randall Meadow property only once:

3 (1) the parcel has been subdivided to reflect stormwater management  
4 needs of the Waterbury State Office Complex to the satisfaction of the  
5 Commissioner;

6 (2) any permits required for transfer have been obtained; and

7 (3) the Commissioner and the Town of Waterbury have created a plan to  
8 align the transfer with the current lease for the parcel.

9 Sec. 24. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 162, Sec. 27 is amended to read:

10 Sec. 27. CAPITOL COMPLEX FLOOD RECOVERY; SPECIAL  
11 COMMITTEE

12 \* \* \*

13 (c) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services shall provide  
14 quarterly updates to the Special Committee on the planning process for Capitol  
15 Complex flood recovery and shall provide timely notification to the City of  
16 Montpelier and the Montpelier Commission for Recovery and Resilience of  
17 alterations to proposals and plans for Capitol Complex flood recovery.

18 \* \* \*

\* \* \* Human Services \* \* \*

Sec. 25. REPEAL

2024 Acts and Resolves No. 162, Sec. 31 (potential reuse of Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility Site; feasibility; report) is repealed.

\* \* \* Vermont Veterans' Home \* \* \*

Sec. 26. USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS; EMERGENCY GENERATOR AND  
BOILER REPLACEMENT; ELEVATOR UPGRADE

If the Commissioner of Finance and Management offsets any capital funds appropriated in 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 15 (b)(1)–(2) (emergency generator and boiler plant replacement; elevator upgrade) with federal funds, then any offset amounts shall be reused for future capital construction projects as part of the capital budget process.

\* \* \* Sergeant at Arms \* \* \*

Sec. 27. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 15b, as added by 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 162, Sec. 8, is amended to read:

Sec. 15b. SERGEANT AT ARMS

The sum of \$100,000.00 is appropriated in FY 2025 to the Sergeant at Arms for the following projects:

(1) the replacement of State House cafeteria furnishings; and  
(2) the purchase and installation at the State House of an X-ray machine designed to screen baggage.

3           This act shall take effect on passage.