

Journal of the House

Friday, May 2, 2025

At nine o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon, the Speaker called the House to order.

Devotional Exercises

Devotional exercises were conducted by Josh Compton of Windsor.

Ceremonial Reading

H.C.R. 64

Offered by Representatives McCann of Montpelier, Austin of Colchester, Berbeco of Winooski, Bishop of Colchester, Bluemle of Burlington, Bos-Lun of Westminster, Burke of Brattleboro, Burkhardt of South Burlington, Casey of Montpelier, Cina of Burlington, Coffin of Cavendish, Cole of Hartford, Dolan of Essex Junction, Duke of Burlington, Eastes of Guilford, Garofano of Essex, Goldman of Rockingham, Goslant of Northfield, Graning of Jericho, Greer of Bennington, Gregoire of Fairfield, Hango of Berkshire, Harrison of Chittenden, Headrick of Burlington, Holcombe of Norwich, Houghton of Essex Junction, Howard of Rutland City, James of Manchester, McGill of Bridport, Minier of South Burlington, Morris of Springfield, Mrowicki of Putney, Nugent of South Burlington, Ode of Burlington, Page of Newport City, Priestley of Bradford, Sibilis of Dover, Sweeney of Shelburne, Tomlinson of Winooski, Torre of Moretown, and Waszazak of Barre City

Offered by Senators Bongartz, Cummings, Gulick, Perchlik, Vyhovsky, Watson, and Weeks

House concurrent resolution congratulating Caitlin MacLeod-Bluver of Winooski High School on her selection as the 2025 Vermont Teacher of the Year and Jeremy DeMink of Edmunds Middle School in Burlington and Sonya Shedd of Wolcott Elementary School on their recognition as Distinguished Finalists

Whereas, since 1964, the Agency of Education has honored an outstanding educator as the Vermont Teacher of the Year, and

Whereas, for 2025, the Agency is pleased to bestow this honor on Caitlin MacLeod-Bluver, a teacher of English and history and a reading specialist at Winooski High School, who also serves as an adjunct faculty member at the University of Vermont and previously taught in Boston, Massachusetts, and Juneau, Alaska, and

Whereas, her academic and professional credentials are extremely impressive as she is a graduate of Wesleyan University; earned a master's degree from the University of Massachusetts at Boston, an advanced certificate in literacy and language from Massachusetts General Hospital's Institute of Health Professions, and an advanced certificate in leadership from the Peronne-Sizer Institute for Creative Leadership; and served at the National Geographic Society as a Grosvenor Teaching Fellow and summer teaching fellow, and at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration as a planetary steward, and

Whereas, she adeptly applies her experience working with refugee and immigrant students in Boston, Massachusetts, to her multilingual and multinational Winooski classroom, developing a curriculum reflective of their diverse backgrounds, and she is an exceptional educator who inspires her students and makes them feel respected and valued, and

Whereas, Distinguished Finalists Jeremy DeMink and Sonya Shedd are outstanding educators who enrich their classrooms, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Caitlin MacLeod-Bluver of Winooski High School on her selection as the 2025 Vermont Teacher of the Year and Jeremy DeMink of Edmunds Middle School in Burlington and Sonya Shedd of Wolcott Elementary School on their recognition as Distinguished Finalists, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to each of these honored teachers.

Having been adopted in concurrence on Friday, March 28, 2025 in accord with Joint Rule 16b, was read.

Ceremonial Reading

H.C.R. 117

Offered by Representatives McCann of Montpelier, Brady of Williston, Brown of Richmond, Conlon of Cornwall, Dodge of Essex, Dolan of Essex Junction, Garofano of Essex, Harple of Glover, Houghton of Essex Junction, Hunter of Manchester, and Long of Newfane

House concurrent resolution congratulating Essex Middle School science teacher Andrew Kasprisin on his designation as the 2025 Vermont finalist for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching

Whereas, since Congress established this program in 1983, the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST), which the National Science Foundation (NSF) administers on behalf of the Office of the President and the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), has been the federal government's highest recognition for K–12 math and science teachers, and

Whereas, PAEMST recognizes the importance of elementary and secondary school educators in encouraging students to pursue mathematics, engineering, computer science, and natural science education in the classroom and as a potential career, and

Whereas, jurisdictional finalists for this prestigious honor are selected through a rigorous review process in each state, the District of Columbia, American territories, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and

Whereas, the 2025 PAEMST Vermont finalist is Essex Middle School science teacher Andrew Kasprisin, a distinguished public educator, whose teaching excellence at the Vermont Academy of Science and Engineering has been previously recognized, and

Whereas, Andrew Kasprisin directs his students to examine topics as if they were scientists and not merely reading information from a book, and he poses questions to the students that guide them through an innovative applied learning process, incorporating real-world phenomena, and

Whereas, this exemplary practitioner of secondary school science pedagogy is a superb choice for designation as the Vermont finalist, and

Whereas, once the jurisdictional finalists are selected, the NSF convenes a national selection committee; the committee then evaluates the finalists and recommends two per jurisdiction (assuming the jurisdiction had a minimum of two finalists) to the OSTP for national finalist recognition; and the national finalists attend a special conference in Washington, DC, which has historically featured a presidential event, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Essex Middle School science teacher Andrew Kasprisin on his designation as the 2025 Vermont finalist for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Andrew Kasprisin.

Having been adopted in concurrence on Friday, April 25, 2025 in accord with Joint Rule 16b, was read.

Ceremonial Reading**H.C.R. 118**

Offered by Representatives Burrows of West Windsor, Coffin of Cavendish, Austin of Colchester, Bailey of Hyde Park, Bartholomew of Hartland, Bartley of Fairfax, Bishop of Colchester, Bosch of Clarendon, Boutin of Barre City, Branagan of Georgia, Burditt of West Rutland, Burkhardt of South Burlington, Burt of Cabot, Canfield of Fair Haven, Casey of Hubbardton, Chapin of East Montpelier, Charlton of Chester, Demar of Enosburgh, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Dobrovich of Williamstown, Dodge of Essex, Dolan of Essex Junction, Dolgin of St. Johnsbury, Donahue of Northfield, Feltus of Lyndon, Galfetti of Barre Town, Goslant of Northfield, Gregoire of Fairfield, Hango of Berkshire, Harrison of Chittenden, Harvey of Castleton, Headrick of Burlington, Higley of Lowell, Holcombe of Norwich, Howard of Rutland City, Howland of Rutland Town, Kascenska of Burke, Keyser of Rutland City, Labor of Morgan, LaMont of Morristown, Laroche of Franklin, Luneau of St. Albans City, Maguire of Rutland City, Marcotte of Coventry, McCann of Montpelier, McCoy of Poultney, McFaun of Barre Town, McGill of Bridport, Micklus of Milton, Mihaly of Calais, Morgan, L. of Milton, Morgan, M. of Milton, Morrissey of Bennington, Nelson of Derby, Nielsen of Brandon, North of Ferrisburgh, Oliver of Sheldon, Olson of Starksboro, Page of Newport City, Parsons of Newbury, Pezzo of Colchester, Pinsonault of Dorset, Powers of Waterford, Pritchard of Pawlet, Quimby of Lyndon, Sibia of Dover, Southworth of Walden, Steady of Milton, Sweeney of Shelburne, Tagliavia of Corinth, Taylor of Milton, Toof of St. Albans Town, Walker of Swanton, Wells of Brownington, Winter of Ludlow, and Yacovone of Morristown

House concurrent resolution commending Team Trumie and Truman Compton for their advocacy, community engagement, and fostering of public awareness and acceptance of autism

Whereas, shortly before his second birthday in 2017, Truman Compton was diagnosed with autism, and shortly thereafter, the informal community of family and friends known as “Team Trumie” was established to provide love and support for Truman and to foster community awareness and acceptance of autism, and

Whereas, Team Trumie, now more than 50 volunteers strong, has raised funds for the Special Needs Support Center of the Upper Valley, participated in community walks, donated books about autism or featuring characters with autism to Windsor County classrooms and libraries, and donated sensory kits to the Windsor Fire and Police Departments for first responders’ use, and

Whereas, this special support group has designed unique shirts, celebrated Truman's personal milestones, and created the slogan "let's learn more about autism, together," and the international distribution of Team Trumie postcards, featuring this unifying slogan, has sparked worldwide conversations, and

Whereas, the efforts of Team Trumie reflect a profound desire to create a world where disability and differences are not hidden but embraced, and

Whereas, Truman and his family have actively engaged with their local community through their presence at public venues, established an initiative to improve support for students with special needs through the installation of outdoor picture-based communication boards on school playgrounds, and launched a project to establish a parent-caregiver special education advisory committee in Windsor County, and

Whereas, Truman has bravely and effectively participated in classroom presentations alongside his family, sharing personal insights about autism, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commends Team Trumie and Truman Compton for their advocacy, community engagement, and fostering of public awareness and acceptance of autism, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Compton family and to Team Trumie.

Having been adopted in concurrence on Friday, April 25, 2025 in accord with Joint Rule 16b, was read.

Third Reading; Resolution Adopted in Concurrence

J.R.S. 15

House Resolution, entitled

Joint resolution supporting Vermont's transgender and non-binary community and declaring Vermont's commitment to fighting discrimination and treating all citizens with respect and dignity

Was taken up, read the third time, and adopted in concurrence.

Action on Bill Postponed

H. 86

House bill, entitled

An act relating to establishing the Chloride Contamination Reduction Program at the Agency of Natural Resources

Was taken up and, pending second reading, on motion of **Rep. Chapin of East Montpelier**, action on the bill was postponed until May 6, 2025.

Action on Bill Postponed

H. 248

House bill, entitled

An act relating to supplemental child care grants and the Child Care Financial Assistance Program

Was taken up and, pending second reading on motion of **Rep. Cole of Hartford**, action on the bill was postponed until May 8, 2025.

Senate Proposal of Amendment Concurred in

H. 96

The Senate proposed to the House to amend House bill, entitled

An act relating to increasing the monetary thresholds for certificates of need

The Senate proposed to the House to amend the bill by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 18 V.S.A. § 9434 is amended to read:

§ 9434. CERTIFICATE OF NEED; GENERAL RULES

(a) A health care facility ~~other than a hospital~~ shall not develop or have developed on its behalf a new health care project without issuance of a certificate of need by the Board. For purposes of this subsection, a “new health care project” ~~includes~~ means any of the following:

(1) The construction, development, purchase, renovation, or other establishment of a health care facility, or any capital expenditure by or on behalf of a health care facility, for which the capital cost exceeds ~~\$1,500,000.00~~ \$10,000,000.00.

(2) A change from one licensing period to the next in the number of licensed beds of a health care facility through addition or conversion, or through relocation from one physical facility or site to another.

(3) The offering of any home health service, or the transfer or conveyance of more than a 50 percent ownership interest in a health care facility other than a hospital or nursing home.

(4) The purchase, lease, or other comparable arrangement of a single piece of diagnostic and therapeutic equipment for which the cost, or in the case of a donation the value, is in excess of ~~\$1,000,000.00~~ \$5,000,000.00. For purposes of this subdivision, the purchase or lease of one or more articles of diagnostic or therapeutic equipment that are necessarily interdependent in the performance of their ordinary functions or that would constitute any health care facility included under subdivision 9432(8)(B) of this title, as determined by the Board, shall be considered together in calculating the amount of an expenditure. The Board's determination of functional interdependence of items of equipment under this subdivision shall have the effect of a final decision and is subject to appeal under section 9381 of this title.

(5) The offering of a health care service or technology having an annual operating expense that exceeds ~~\$500,000.00~~ \$3,000,000.00 for either of the next two budgeted fiscal years, if the service or technology was not offered or employed, either on a fixed or a mobile basis, by the health care facility within the previous three fiscal years.

(6) ~~The construction, development, purchase, lease, or other establishment of an ambulatory surgical center. [Repealed.]~~

(b) ~~A hospital shall not develop or have developed on its behalf a new health care project without issuance of a certificate of need by the Board. For purposes of this subsection, a "new health care project" includes the following:~~

(1) ~~The construction, development, purchase, renovation, or other establishment of a health care facility, or any capital expenditure by or on behalf of a hospital, for which the capital cost exceeds \$3,000,000.00.~~

(2) ~~The purchase, lease, or other comparable arrangement of a single piece of diagnostic and therapeutic equipment for which the cost, or in the case of a donation the value, is in excess of \$1,500,000.00. For purposes of this subdivision, the purchase or lease of one or more articles of diagnostic or therapeutic equipment that are necessarily interdependent in the performance of their ordinary functions or that would constitute any health care facility included under subdivision 9432(8)(B) of this title, as determined by the Board, shall be considered together in calculating the amount of an expenditure. The Board's determination of functional interdependence of items of equipment under this subdivision shall have the effect of a final decision and is subject to appeal under section 9381 of this title.~~

(3) ~~The offering of a health care service or technology having an annual operating expense that exceeds \$1,000,000.00 for either of the next two budgeted fiscal years, if the service or technology was not offered or~~

~~employed, either on a fixed or a mobile basis, by the hospital within the previous three fiscal years.~~

~~(4) A change from one licensing period to the next in the number of licensed beds of a health care facility through addition or conversion, or through relocation from one physical facility or site to another.~~

~~(5) The offering of any home health service. [Repealed.]~~

(c) In the case of a project that requires a certificate of need under this section, expenditures for which are anticipated to be in excess of ~~\$30,000,000.00~~ \$50,000,000.00, the applicant first shall secure a conceptual development phase certificate of need, in accordance with the standards and procedures established in this subchapter, that permits the applicant to make expenditures for architectural services, engineering design services, or any other planning services, as defined by the Board, needed in connection with the project. Upon completion of the conceptual development phase of the project, and before offering or further developing the project, the applicant shall secure a final certificate of need in accordance with the standards and procedures established in this subchapter. Applicants shall not be subject to sanctions for failure to comply with the provisions of this subsection if such failure is solely the result of good faith reliance on verified project cost estimates issued by qualified persons, which cost estimates would have led a reasonable person to conclude the project was not anticipated to be in excess of ~~\$30,000,000.00~~ \$50,000,000.00 and therefore not subject to this subsection. The provisions of this subsection notwithstanding, expenditures may be made in preparation for obtaining a conceptual development phase certificate of need, which expenditures shall not exceed ~~\$1,500,000.00 for non-hospitals or \$3,000,000.00 for hospitals~~ \$10,000,000.00.

(d) If the Board determines that a person required to obtain a certificate of need under this subchapter has separated a single project into components in order to avoid cost thresholds or other requirements under this subchapter, the person shall be required to submit an application for a certificate of need for the entire project, and the Board may proceed under section 9445 of this title. The Board's determination under this subsection shall have the effect of a final decision and is subject to appeal under section 9381 of this title.

(e) The Board may periodically adjust the monetary jurisdictional thresholds contained in this section. In doing so, the Board shall reflect the same categories of health care facilities, services, and programs recognized in this section. Any adjustment by the Board shall not exceed an amount calculated using the cumulative Consumer Price Index rate of inflation.

Sec. 2. 18 V.S.A. § 9435 is amended to read:

§ 9435. EXCLUSIONS

* * *

(f)(1) Excluded from this subchapter are routine replacements of:

(A) medical equipment that is fully depreciated; and

(B) nonmedical equipment and fixtures, including furnaces, boilers, refrigeration units, kitchen equipment, heating and cooling units, and similar items, regardless of their remaining useful life.

(2) These The replacements described in subdivision (1) of this subsection and purchased by a hospital shall be included in the hospital's budget and may be reviewed in the budget process set forth in subchapter 7 of this chapter.

* * *

(i) Excluded from this subchapter are emergency and nonemergency ground ambulance services, affiliated agencies, and equipment and supplies used by emergency medical personnel, as those terms are defined in 24 V.S.A. § 2651.

(j) Excluded from this subchapter are the offering of a health care service, or the construction, development, purchase, renovation, or other establishment of a health care facility, that is owned or operated by the State of Vermont or is funded in whole or in substantial part by a contract or grant awarded by the State of Vermont; provided, however, that the State agency sponsoring the project or awarding the contract or grant shall inform the Green Mountain Care Board prior to commencing the project or within 30 days following the execution of the contract or grant.

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage and shall apply to all new health care projects initiated on or after that date. For applications for a certificate of need that are already in process on the date of passage of this act for which one or more persons have been granted interested party status, the jurisdictional thresholds and exclusions in place at the time the application was filed shall continue to apply until a final decision is made on the application. For applications for a certificate of need that are already in process on the date of passage of this act for which no person has been granted interested party status, the applicant may withdraw the application in accordance with Board rules.

Which proposal of amendment was considered and concurred in.

**Senate Proposal of Amendment to House Proposal of Amendment
Concurred in**

S. 27

The Senate concurred in House proposal of amendment with further proposal of amendment on Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to medical debt relief and excluding medical debt from credit reports

The Senate has concurred in the House proposal of amendment with further proposal of amendment thereto by striking out Sec. 2, which further amends 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 83, Sec. 53(b)(5)(B), as amended by 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. C.102 and 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. E.1000, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 2 to read as follows:

Sec. 2. [Deleted.]

Which proposal of amendment was considered and concurred in.

**Rules Suspended, Immediate Consideration; Senate Proposal of
Amendment Not Concurred in; Committee of Conference Requested and
Appointed; Rules Suspended, Messaged to Senate Forthwith**

H. 493

Appearing on the Notice Calendar, on motion of **Rep. Toof of St. Albans Town**, the rules were suspended and House bill, entitled

An act relating to making appropriations for the support of the government
Was taken up for immediate consideration.

The Senate proposed to the House to amend the bill by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

* * * Purpose, Definitions, Legend * * *

Sec. A.100 SHORT TITLE

(a) This bill may be referred to as the “BIG BILL – Fiscal Year 2026 Appropriations Act”.

Sec. A.101 PURPOSE; LEGISLATIVE INTENT

(a) The purpose of this act is to provide appropriations for the operations of State government and for capital appropriations not funded with bond proceeds during fiscal year 2026. It is the express intent of the General Assembly that activities of the various agencies, departments, divisions, boards, offices, and commissions be limited to those that can be supported by

funds appropriated in this act or other acts passed prior to June 30, 2025. Agency and department heads are directed to implement staffing and service levels at the beginning of fiscal year 2026 so as to meet this condition unless otherwise directed by specific language in this act or other acts of the General Assembly.

(b) It is the intent of the General Assembly that any interim budget and appropriation adjustments made in accordance with 32 V.S.A. §§ 133 and 704 prioritize supporting the health, safety, and well-being of Vermonters; a robust education system; and a strong economy.

Sec. A.102 APPROPRIATIONS

(a) It is the intent of the General Assembly that this act serves as the primary source and reference for appropriations for the operations of State government and for capital appropriations not funded with bond proceeds in fiscal year 2026.

(b) The sums herein stated are appropriated for the purposes specified in the following sections of this act. When no time is expressly stated during which any of the operating appropriations are to continue, the appropriations are single-year appropriations and only for the purpose indicated and shall be paid from funds shown as the source of funds. Capital appropriations funded from the Capital Infrastructure Subaccount of the Cash Fund for Capital and Essential Investments Special Fund shall be subject to the provisions of 32 V.S.A. § 1001b(e). If in this act there is an error in either addition or subtraction, the totals shall be adjusted accordingly. Apparent errors in referring to section numbers of statutory titles within this act may be disregarded by the Commissioner of Finance and Management.

(c) Unless codified or otherwise specified, all narrative portions of this act apply only to the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2026.

Sec. A.103 DEFINITIONS

(a) As used in this act:

(1) “Encumbrances” means a portion of spending authority reserved for the subsequent payment of existing travel authorizations, purchase orders, grants, or contracts. The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall make final decisions on the appropriateness of encumbrances.

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

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

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

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

Sec. A.104 RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING LAWS

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

Sec. A.105 OFFSETTING APPROPRIATIONS

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

Sec. A.106 FEDERAL FUNDS

(a) In fiscal year 2026, the Governor, with the approval of the General Assembly or the Joint Fiscal Committee if the General Assembly is not in session, may accept federal funds available to the State of Vermont, including block grants in lieu of, or in addition to, funds herein designated as federal. The Governor, with the approval of the General Assembly or the Joint Fiscal Committee if the General Assembly is not in session, may allocate all or any portion of such federal funds for any purpose consistent with the purposes for which the basic appropriations in this act have been made.

(b) If, during fiscal year 2026, federal funds available to the State of Vermont and designated as federal in this and other acts of the 2025 session of the Vermont General Assembly are converted into block grants or are abolished under their current title in federal law and reestablished under a new title in federal law, the Governor may continue to accept such federal funds for any purpose consistent with the purposes for which the federal funds were appropriated. The Governor may spend such funds for such purposes for not more than 45 days prior to General Assembly or Joint Fiscal Committee approval. Notice shall be given to the Joint Fiscal Committee without delay if the Governor intends to use the authority granted by this section, and the Joint

Fiscal Committee shall meet in an expedited manner to review the Governor's request for approval.

Sec. A.107 NEW POSITIONS

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the total number of authorized State positions, both classified and exempt, excluding temporary positions as defined in 3 V.S.A. § 311(a)(11), shall not be increased during fiscal year 2026 except for new positions authorized by the General Assembly during the 2025 session. Limited service positions approved pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 5 shall not be subject to this restriction.

Sec. A.108 LEGEND

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

<u>B.100–B.199 and E.100–E.199</u>	<u>General Government</u>
<u>B.200–B.299 and E.200–E.299</u>	<u>Protection to Persons and Property</u>
<u>B.300–B.399 and E.300–E.399</u>	<u>Human Services</u>
<u>B.400–B.499 and E.400–E.499</u>	<u>Labor</u>
<u>B.500–B.599 and E.500–E.599</u>	<u>General Education</u>
<u>B.600–B.699 and E.600–E.699</u>	<u>Higher Education</u>
<u>B.700–B.799 and E.700–E.799</u>	<u>Natural Resources</u>
<u>B.800–B.899 and E.800–E.899</u>	<u>Commerce and Community Development</u>
<u>B.900–B.999 and E.900–E.999</u>	<u>Transportation</u>
<u>B.1000–B.1099 and E.1000–E.1099</u>	<u>Debt Service</u>
<u>B.1100–B.1199 and E.1100–E.1199</u>	<u>One-time and other appropriation actions</u>

(b) The C sections contain amendments to the current fiscal year; the D sections contain fund allocations, transfers, reversions, and reservations for the upcoming fiscal year; the F sections also contain amendments to the current fiscal year; and the G section contains effective dates.

* * * Fiscal Year 2026 Base Appropriations * * *

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

Personal services	2,532,305
Operating expenses	255,891
Grants	<u>755,000</u>
Total	3,543,196

Source of funds

General fund	1,762,509
Special funds	755,000
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,025,687</u>
Total	3,543,196

Sec. B.100.1 Secretary of administration - office of racial equity

Personal services	1,687,090
Operating expenses	<u>118,323</u>
Total	1,805,413

Source of funds

General fund	1,144,831
Internal service funds	534,462
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>126,120</u>
Total	1,805,413

Sec. B.101 Secretary of administration - finance

Personal services	1,523,066
Operating expenses	<u>168,424</u>
Total	1,691,490

Source of funds

Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,691,490</u>
Total	1,691,490

Sec. B.102 Secretary of administration - workers' compensation insurance

Personal services	871,453
Operating expenses	<u>100,387</u>
Total	971,840

Source of funds

Internal service funds	<u>971,840</u>
Total	971,840

Sec. B.103 Secretary of administration - general liability insurance

Personal services	406,346
Operating expenses	<u>65,072</u>
Total	471,418

Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>471,418</u>
Total	471,418
Sec. B.104 Secretary of administration - all other insurance	
Personal services	278,478
Operating expenses	<u>54,925</u>
Total	333,403
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>333,403</u>
Total	333,403
Sec. B.104.1 Retired state employees pension plus funding	
Grants	15,000,000
Total	15,000,000
Source of funds	
General fund	15,000,000
Total	15,000,000
Sec. B.105 Agency of digital services - communications and information technology	
Personal services	87,034,344
Operating expenses	<u>50,695,231</u>
Total	137,729,575
Source of funds	
General fund	233,207
Special funds	1,014,199
Internal service funds	<u>136,482,169</u>
Total	137,729,575
Sec. B.106 Finance and management - budget and management	
Personal services	1,843,264
Operating expenses	<u>342,676</u>
Total	2,185,940
Source of funds	
General fund	1,254,559
Internal service funds	688,359
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>243,022</u>
Total	2,185,940
Sec. B.107 Finance and management - financial operations	
Personal services	3,416,478
Operating expenses	<u>894,620</u>

Total	4,311,098
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	3,767,171
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>543,927</u>
Total	4,311,098
Sec. B.108 Human resources - operations	
Personal services	12,091,729
Operating expenses	<u>1,609,092</u>
Total	13,700,821
Source of funds	
General fund	1,931,766
Special funds	171,235
Internal service funds	10,811,922
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>785,898</u>
Total	13,700,821
Sec. B.108.1 Human resources - VTHR operations	
Personal services	2,259,639
Operating expenses	<u>922,339</u>
Total	3,181,978
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>3,181,978</u>
Total	3,181,978
Sec. B.109 Human resources - employee benefits & wellness	
Personal services	1,443,574
Operating expenses	<u>727,231</u>
Total	2,170,805
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>2,170,805</u>
Total	2,170,805
Sec. B.110 Libraries	
Personal services	3,071,139
Operating expenses	523,300
Grants	<u>267,993</u>
Total	3,862,432
Source of funds	
General fund	2,371,969
Special funds	96,994
Federal funds	1,273,020

Interdepartmental transfers	<u>120,449</u>
Total	3,862,432
Sec. B.111 Tax - administration/collection	
Personal services	30,188,806
Operating expenses	<u>7,007,735</u>
Total	37,196,541
Source of funds	
General fund	24,668,155
Special funds	12,413,386
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>115,000</u>
Total	37,196,541
Sec. B.112 Buildings and general services - administration	
Personal services	1,132,286
Operating expenses	<u>206,653</u>
Total	1,338,939
Source of funds	
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,338,939</u>
Total	1,338,939
Sec. B.113 Buildings and general services - engineering	
Personal services	47,165
Operating expenses	<u>1,116,280</u>
Total	1,163,445
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>1,163,445</u>
Total	1,163,445
Sec. B.113.1 Buildings and general services engineering - capital projects	
Personal services	3,225,944
Operating expenses	<u>500,000</u>
Total	3,725,944
Source of funds	
General fund	3,225,944
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>500,000</u>
Total	3,725,944
Sec. B.114 Buildings and general services - information centers	
Personal services	3,721,861
Operating expenses	<u>1,973,457</u>
Total	5,695,318
Source of funds	

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General fund		702,146
Transportation fund		4,542,959
Special funds		<u>450,213</u>
Total		5,695,318
Sec. B.115 Buildings and general services - purchasing		
Personal services		2,860,824
Operating expenses		<u>272,026</u>
Total		3,132,850
Source of funds		
General fund		1,697,210
Interdepartmental transfers		<u>1,435,640</u>
Total		3,132,850
Sec. B.116 Buildings and general services - postal services		
Personal services		846,111
Operating expenses		<u>188,303</u>
Total		1,034,414
Source of funds		
General fund		93,669
Internal service funds		<u>940,745</u>
Total		1,034,414
Sec. B.117 Buildings and general services - copy center		
Personal services		951,063
Operating expenses		<u>223,405</u>
Total		1,174,468
Source of funds		
Internal service funds		<u>1,174,468</u>
Total		1,174,468
Sec. B.118 Buildings and general services - fleet management services		
Personal services		1,020,985
Operating expenses		<u>247,895</u>
Total		1,268,880
Source of funds		
Internal service funds		1,201,997
Interdepartmental transfers		<u>66,883</u>
Total		1,268,880
Sec. B.119 Buildings and general services - federal surplus property		
Operating expenses		<u>4,427</u>
Total		4,427

Source of funds	
Enterprise funds	<u>4,427</u>
Total	4,427
Sec. B.120 Buildings and general services - state surplus property	
Personal services	365,056
Operating expenses	<u>175,786</u>
Total	540,842
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>540,842</u>
Total	540,842
Sec. B.121 Buildings and general services - property management	
Personal services	1,199,933
Operating expenses	<u>605,349</u>
Total	1,805,282
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>1,805,282</u>
Total	1,805,282
Sec. B.122 Buildings and general services - fee for space	
Personal services	21,826,541
Operating expenses	<u>17,638,201</u>
Total	39,464,742
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	39,360,459
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>104,283</u>
Total	39,464,742
Sec. B.124 Executive office - governor's office	
Personal services	1,957,078
Operating expenses	<u>567,607</u>
Total	2,524,685
Source of funds	
General fund	1,997,850
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>526,835</u>
Total	2,524,685
Sec. B.125 Legislative counsel	
Personal services	4,589,480
Operating expenses	<u>286,936</u>
Total	4,876,416
Source of funds	

General fund	<u>4,876,416</u>
Total	4,876,416
Sec. B.126 Legislature	
Personal services	6,957,653
Operating expenses	<u>5,329,448</u>
Total	12,287,101
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>12,287,101</u>
Total	12,287,101
Sec. B.126.1 Legislative information technology	
Personal services	1,504,560
Operating expenses	<u>912,661</u>
Total	2,417,221
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>2,417,221</u>
Total	2,417,221
Sec. B.127 Joint fiscal committee	
Personal services	2,959,862
Operating expenses	<u>197,907</u>
Total	3,157,769
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>3,157,769</u>
Total	3,157,769
Sec. B.128 Sergeant at arms	
Personal services	1,639,780
Operating expenses	<u>166,416</u>
Total	1,806,196
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>1,806,196</u>
Total	1,806,196
Sec. B.129 Lieutenant governor	
Personal services	296,158
Operating expenses	<u>51,993</u>
Total	348,151
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>348,151</u>
Total	348,151

Sec. B.130 Auditor of accounts

Personal services	4,775,026
Operating expenses	<u>143,505</u>
Total	4,918,531
Source of funds	
General fund	408,398
Special funds	53,145
Internal service funds	<u>4,456,988</u>
Total	4,918,531

Sec. B.131 State treasurer

Personal services	7,137,154
Operating expenses	<u>312,956</u>
Total	7,450,110
Source of funds	
General fund	2,729,084
Special funds	4,179,251
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>541,775</u>
Total	7,450,110

Sec. B.132 State treasurer - unclaimed property

Personal services	801,268
Operating expenses	<u>581,648</u>
Total	1,382,916
Source of funds	
Private purpose trust funds	<u>1,382,916</u>
Total	1,382,916

Sec. B.133 Vermont state retirement system

Personal services	221,251
Operating expenses	<u>3,066,842</u>
Total	3,288,093
Source of funds	
Pension trust funds	<u>3,288,093</u>
Total	3,288,093

Sec. B.134 Municipal employees' retirement system

Personal services	228,961
Operating expenses	<u>1,672,059</u>
Total	1,901,020
Source of funds	

Pension trust funds	<u>1,901,020</u>
Total	1,901,020
Sec. B.134.1 Vermont pension investment commission	
Personal services	2,234,198
Operating expenses	<u>303,904</u>
Total	2,538,102
Source of funds	
Special funds	2,538,102
Pension trust funds	<u>0</u>
Total	2,538,102
Sec. B.135 State labor relations board	
Personal services	545,157
Operating expenses	<u>66,136</u>
Total	611,293
Source of funds	
General fund	601,717
Special funds	6,788
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>2,788</u>
Total	611,293
Sec. B.136 VOSHA review board	
Personal services	109,521
Operating expenses	<u>25,734</u>
Total	135,255
Source of funds	
General fund	84,251
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>51,004</u>
Total	135,255
Sec. B.136.1 Ethics commission	
Personal services	183,787
Operating expenses	<u>39,775</u>
Total	223,562
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>223,562</u>
Total	223,562
Sec. B.137 Homeowner rebate	
Grants	<u>19,000,000</u>
Total	19,000,000
Source of funds	

General fund	<u>19,000,000</u>
Total	19,000,000
Sec. B.138 Renter rebate	
Grants	<u>9,500,000</u>
Total	9,500,000
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>9,500,000</u>
Total	9,500,000
Sec. B.139 Tax department - reappraisal and listing payments	
Grants	<u>3,410,000</u>
Total	3,410,000
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>3,410,000</u>
Total	3,410,000
Sec. B.140 Municipal current use	
Grants	<u>21,350,000</u>
Total	21,350,000
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>21,350,000</u>
Total	21,350,000
Sec. B.142 Payments in lieu of taxes	
Grants	<u>12,200,000</u>
Total	12,200,000
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>12,200,000</u>
Total	12,200,000
Sec. B.144 Payments in lieu of taxes - correctional facilities	
Grants	<u>40,000</u>
Total	40,000
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>40,00</u>
Total	40,000
Sec. B.145 Total general government	
Source of funds	
General fund	139,223,564
Transportation fund	4,542,959
Special funds	33,918,313
Federal funds	1,273,020

Internal service funds	209,117,870
Interdepartmental transfers	9,219,740
Enterprise funds	4,427
Pension trust funds	5,189,113
Private purpose trust funds	<u>1,382,916</u>
Total	403,871,922
Sec. B.200 Attorney general	
Personal services	15,608,060
Operating expenses	1,810,445
Grants	<u>20,000</u>
Total	17,438,505
Source of funds	
General fund	8,195,240
Special funds	2,468,889
Tobacco fund	434,660
Federal funds	1,809,676
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>4,530,040</u>
Total	17,438,505
Sec. B.201 Vermont court diversion	
Personal services	1,250
Grants	<u>5,024,343</u>
Total	5,025,593
Source of funds	
General fund	4,767,596
Special funds	<u>257,997</u>
Total	5,025,593
Sec. B.202 Defender general - public defense	
Personal services	18,955,131
Operating expenses	<u>1,650,926</u>
Total	20,606,057
Source of funds	
General fund	20,016,404
Special funds	<u>589,653</u>
Total	20,606,057
Sec. B.203 Defender general - assigned counsel	
Personal services	7,887,975
Operating expenses	<u>64,500</u>
Total	7,952,475
Source of funds	

General fund	<u>7,952,475</u>
Total	7,952,475
Sec. B.204 Judiciary	
Personal services	64,512,754
Operating expenses	13,865,672
Grants	<u>121,030</u>
Total	78,499,456
Source of funds	
General fund	72,601,728
Special funds	1,997,094
Federal funds	1,560,412
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>2,340,222</u>
Total	78,499,456
Sec. B.205 State's attorneys	
Personal services	19,010,284
Operating expenses	<u>2,115,052</u>
Total	21,125,336
Source of funds	
General fund	20,541,309
Federal funds	31,000
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>553,027</u>
Total	21,125,336
Sec. B.206 Special investigative unit	
Personal services	126,877
Operating expenses	27,835
Grants	<u>2,136,507</u>
Total	2,291,219
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>2,291,219</u>
Total	2,291,219
Sec. B.206.1 Crime victims advocates	
Personal services	3,221,461
Operating expenses	<u>117,870</u>
Total	3,339,331
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>3,339,331</u>
Total	3,339,331
Sec. B.207 Sheriffs	

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Personal services	6,092,392
Operating expenses	<u>446,237</u>
Total	6,538,629
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>6,538,629</u>
Total	6,538,629
Sec. B.208 Public safety - administration	
Personal services	6,289,651
Operating expenses	6,380,415
Grants	<u>278,285</u>
Total	12,948,351
Source of funds	
General fund	7,630,863
Special funds	4,105
Federal funds	1,089,155
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>4,224,228</u>
Total	12,948,351
Sec. B.209 Public safety - state police	
Personal services	83,279,417
Operating expenses	16,733,452
Grants	<u>1,813,523</u>
Total	101,826,392
Source of funds	
General fund	87,421,532
Special funds	3,223,793
Federal funds	9,734,790
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,446,277</u>
Total	101,826,392
Sec. B.210 Public safety - criminal justice services	
Personal services	5,116,729
Operating expenses	<u>2,098,944</u>
Total	7,215,673
Source of funds	
General fund	1,929,676
Special funds	4,483,740
Federal funds	<u>802,257</u>
Total	7,215,673
Sec. B.211 Public safety - emergency management	

Personal services	6,811,020
Operating expenses	1,018,043
Grants	<u>63,029,843</u>
Total	70,858,906
Source of funds	
General fund	2,145,622
Special funds	710,000
Federal funds	67,941,304
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>61,980</u>
Total	70,858,906
Sec. B.212 Public safety - fire safety	
Personal services	9,963,365
Operating expenses	3,674,954
Grants	<u>127,350</u>
Total	13,765,669
Source of funds	
General fund	1,795,530
Special funds	10,769,486
Federal funds	1,155,653
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>45,000</u>
Total	13,765,669
Sec. B.213 Public safety - forensic laboratory	
Personal services	4,388,176
Operating expenses	<u>1,356,042</u>
Total	5,744,218
Source of funds	
General fund	4,162,196
Special funds	81,774
Federal funds	951,794
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>548,454</u>
Total	5,744,218
Sec. B.215 Military - administration	
Personal services	1,142,600
Operating expenses	810,661
Grants	<u>1,319,834</u>
Total	3,273,095
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>3,273,095</u>
Total	3,273,095

Sec. B.216 Military - air service contract

Personal services	11,831,181
Operating expenses	<u>1,427,093</u>
Total	13,258,274
Source of funds	
General fund	818,486
Federal funds	<u>12,439,788</u>
Total	13,258,274

Sec. B.217 Military - army service contract

Personal services	51,243,591
Operating expenses	<u>8,227,725</u>
Total	59,471,316
Source of funds	
Federal funds	<u>59,471,316</u>
Total	59,471,316

Sec. B.218 Military - building maintenance

Personal services	906,250
Operating expenses	<u>908,538</u>
Total	1,814,788
Source of funds	
General fund	1,752,288
Special funds	<u>62,500</u>
Total	1,814,788

Sec. B.219 Military - veterans' affairs

Personal services	1,382,555
Operating expenses	193,170
Grants	<u>27,500</u>
Total	1,603,225
Source of funds	
General fund	1,259,653
Special funds	222,717
Federal funds	<u>120,855</u>
Total	1,603,225

Sec. B.220 Center for crime victim services

Personal services	2,371,733
Operating expenses	321,928
Grants	<u>8,573,370</u>
Total	11,267,031

Source of funds	
General fund	1,650,091
Special funds	4,465,489
Federal funds	<u>5,151,451</u>
Total	11,267,031
Sec. B.221 Criminal justice council	
Personal services	2,508,514
Operating expenses	<u>2,142,603</u>
Total	4,651,117
Source of funds	
General fund	4,260,265
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>390,852</u>
Total	4,651,117
Sec. B.222 Agriculture, food and markets - administration	
Personal services	3,384,273
Operating expenses	<u>353,580</u>
Total	3,737,853
Source of funds	
General fund	1,519,601
Special funds	1,695,613
Federal funds	<u>522,639</u>
Total	3,737,853
Sec. B.223 Agriculture, food and markets - food safety and consumer protection	
Personal services	5,680,286
Operating expenses	1,109,650
Grants	<u>2,810,000</u>
Total	9,599,936
Source of funds	
General fund	3,663,441
Special funds	4,048,844
Federal funds	1,875,651
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>12,000</u>
Total	9,599,936
Sec. B.224 Agriculture, food and markets - agricultural development	
Personal services	6,358,750
Operating expenses	746,926
Grants	<u>15,633,200</u>

Total	22,738,876
Source of funds	
General fund	3,157,499
Special funds	646,995
Federal funds	<u>18,934,382</u>
Total	22,738,876
Sec. B.225 Agriculture, food and markets - agricultural resource management and environmental stewardship	
Personal services	3,053,693
Operating expenses	845,696
Grants	<u>247,000</u>
Total	4,146,389
Source of funds	
General fund	822,914
Special funds	2,473,045
Federal funds	482,577
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>367,853</u>
Total	4,146,389
Sec. B.225.1 Agriculture, food and markets - Vermont agriculture and environmental lab	
Personal services	2,058,524
Operating expenses	<u>1,359,556</u>
Total	3,418,080
Source of funds	
General fund	1,698,826
Special funds	1,647,441
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>71,813</u>
Total	3,418,080
Sec. B.225.2 Agriculture, food and markets - clean water	
Personal services	4,120,365
Operating expenses	857,888
Grants	<u>11,487,000</u>
Total	16,465,253
Source of funds	
General fund	1,975,832
Special funds	10,511,241
Federal funds	2,171,588
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,806,592</u>
Total	16,465,253

Sec. B.226 Financial regulation - administration

Personal services	3,011,702
Operating expenses	103,565
Grants	<u>100,000</u>
Total	3,215,267
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>3,215,267</u>
Total	3,215,267

Sec. B.227 Financial regulation - banking

Personal services	2,483,666
Operating expenses	<u>482,337</u>
Total	2,966,003
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>2,966,003</u>
Total	2,966,003

Sec. B.228 Financial regulation - insurance

Personal services	5,825,682
Operating expenses	<u>578,524</u>
Total	6,404,206
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>6,404,206</u>
Total	6,404,206

Sec. B.229 Financial regulation - captive insurance

Personal services	5,998,278
Operating expenses	<u>591,092</u>
Total	6,589,370
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>6,589,370</u>
Total	6,589,370

Sec. B.230 Financial regulation - securities

Personal services	1,375,414
Operating expenses	<u>242,541</u>
Total	1,617,955
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>1,617,955</u>
Total	1,617,955

Sec. B.232 Secretary of state

Personal services	21,619,186
Operating expenses	4,242,952
Grants	<u>1,350,000</u>
Total	27,212,138
Source of funds	
General fund	1,350,000
Special funds	19,155,734
Federal funds	<u>6,706,404</u>
Total	27,212,138

Sec. B.233 Public service - regulation and energy

Personal services	12,790,401
Operating expenses	2,615,047
Grants	<u>25,000</u>
Total	15,430,448
Source of funds	
Special funds	12,152,225
Federal funds	2,439,257
ARRA funds	6,627
Interdepartmental transfers	821,491
Enterprise funds	<u>10,848</u>
Total	15,430,448

Sec. B.233.1 VT Community broadband board

Personal services	1,978,960
Operating expenses	571,368
Grants	<u>43,000,000</u>
Total	45,550,328
Source of funds	
Special funds	1,589,990
Federal funds	<u>43,960,338</u>
Total	45,550,328

Sec. B.234 Public utility commission

Personal services	4,565,693
Operating expenses	<u>578,746</u>
Total	5,144,439
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>5,144,439</u>
Total	5,144,439

Sec. B.235 Enhanced 9-1-1 board

Personal services	4,700,016
Operating expenses	<u>697,379</u>
Total	5,397,395
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>5,397,395</u>
Total	5,397,395

Sec. B.236 Human rights commission

Personal services	1,243,420
Operating expenses	<u>142,164</u>
Total	1,385,584
Source of funds	
General fund	1,292,811
Federal funds	<u>92,773</u>
Total	1,385,584

Sec. B.236.1 Liquor and lottery commission

Personal services	10,866,788
Operating expenses	<u>7,415,512</u>
Total	18,282,300
Source of funds	
Special funds	125,000
Tobacco fund	250,579
Interdepartmental transfers	70,000
Enterprise funds	<u>17,836,721</u>
Total	18,282,300

Sec. B.240 Cannabis control board

Personal services	4,466,288
Operating expenses	2,053,382
Grants	<u>10,000</u>
Total	6,529,670
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>6,529,670</u>
Total	6,529,670

Sec. B.241 Total protection to persons and property

Source of funds	
General fund	279,824,152
Special funds	121,247,670
Tobacco fund	685,239

Federal funds	239,445,060
ARRA funds	6,627
Interdepartmental transfers	17,289,829
Enterprise funds	<u>17,847,569</u>
Total	676,346,146
Sec. B.300 Human services - agency of human services - secretary's office	
Personal services	17,333,398
Operating expenses	11,231,120
Grants	<u>3,795,202</u>
Total	32,359,720
Source of funds	
General fund	15,569,598
Special funds	135,517
Federal funds	14,023,964
Global Commitment fund	2,510,857
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>119,784</u>
Total	32,359,720
Sec. B.301 Secretary's office - global commitment	
Grants	<u>2,207,280,248</u>
Total	2,207,280,248
Source of funds	
General fund	712,815,861
Special funds	31,339,852
Tobacco fund	21,049,373
State health care resources fund	31,074,772
Federal funds	1,406,003,180
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>4,997,210</u>
Total	2,207,280,248
Sec. B.303 Developmental disabilities council	
Personal services	513,359
Operating expenses	96,185
Grants	<u>191,595</u>
Total	801,139
Source of funds	
Special funds	12,000
Federal funds	<u>789,139</u>
Total	801,139

Sec. B.304 Human services board

Personal services	823,371
Operating expenses	<u>90,892</u>
Total	914,263
Source of funds	
General fund	538,324
Federal funds	<u>375,939</u>
Total	914,263

Sec. B.305 AHS - administrative fund

Personal services	330,000
Operating expenses	<u>13,170,000</u>
Total	13,500,000
Source of funds	
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>13,500,000</u>
Total	13,500,000

Sec. B.306 Department of Vermont health access - administration

Personal services	142,860,018
Operating expenses	36,310,876
Grants	<u>3,112,301</u>
Total	182,283,195
Source of funds	
General fund	43,820,359
Special funds	4,760,237
Federal funds	126,141,154
Global Commitment fund	4,382,601
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>3,178,844</u>
Total	182,283,195

Sec. B.307 Department of Vermont health access - Medicaid program - global commitment

Grants	<u>979,554,012</u>
Total	979,554,01
Source of funds	
Global Commitment fund	<u>979,554,012</u>
Total	979,554,012

Sec. B.309 Department of Vermont health access - Medicaid program - state only

Grants	<u>67,605,443</u>
Total	67,605,443

Source of funds	
General fund	62,133,605
Global Commitment fund	<u>5,471,838</u>
Total	67,605,443
Sec. B.310 Department of Vermont health access - Medicaid non-waiver matched	
Grants	<u>44,034,870</u>
Total	44,034,870
Source of funds	
General fund	13,467,770
Federal funds	<u>30,567,100</u>
Total	44,034,870
Sec. B.311 Health - administration and support	
Personal services	9,163,996
Operating expenses	8,043,463
Grants	<u>7,985,727</u>
Total	25,193,186
Source of funds	
General fund	4,298,710
Special funds	2,423,587
Federal funds	10,954,085
Global Commitment fund	7,361,523
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>155,281</u>
Total	25,193,186
Sec. B.312 Health - public health	
Personal services	71,272,453
Operating expenses	10,371,654
Grants	<u>48,496,832</u>
Total	130,140,939
Source of funds	
General fund	15,160,817
Special funds	25,398,124
Tobacco fund	1,088,918
Federal funds	64,355,699
Global Commitment fund	18,457,507
Interdepartmental transfers	5,654,874
Permanent trust funds	<u>25,000</u>
Total	130,140,939

Sec. B.313 Health - substance use programs

Personal services	7,036,556
Operating expenses	381,500
Grants	<u>61,624,360</u>
Total	69,042,416
Source of funds	
General fund	4,795,744
Special funds	7,972,399
Tobacco fund	949,917
Federal funds	15,928,439
Global Commitment fund	<u>39,395,917</u>
Total	69,042,416

Sec. B.314 Mental health - mental health

Personal services	12,456,526
Operating expenses	2,420,029
Grants	<u>279,691,678</u>
Total	294,568,233
Source of funds	
General fund	13,127,716
Special funds	6,836
Federal funds	13,158,032
Global Commitment fund	266,967,840
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,307,809</u>
Total	294,568,233

Sec. B.315 Department of mental health - mental health facilities

Personal services	40,937,117
Operating expenses	<u>3,393,946</u>
Total	44,331,063
Source of funds	
General fund	18,868,124
Special funds	1,711,256
Global Commitment fund	<u>23,751,683</u>
Total	44,331,063

Sec. B.316 Department for children and families - administration & support services

Personal services	50,609,972
Operating expenses	17,876,453
Grants	<u>5,914,175</u>
Total	74,400,600

Source of funds	
General fund	43,680,871
Special funds	2,954,500
Federal funds	24,518,288
Global Commitment fund	2,780,636
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>466,305</u>
Total	74,400,600
Sec. B.317 Department for children and families - family services	
Personal services	49,175,153
Operating expenses	5,497,038
Grants	<u>100,541,760</u>
Total	155,213,951
Source of funds	
General fund	63,680,993
Special funds	729,150
Federal funds	37,407,542
Global Commitment fund	53,381,266
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>15,000</u>
Total	155,213,951
Sec. B.318 Department for children and families - child development	
Personal services	6,563,807
Operating expenses	783,604
Grants	<u>228,228,202</u>
Total	235,575,613
Source of funds	
General fund	80,715,345
Special funds	96,409,671
Federal funds	42,924,133
Global Commitment fund	<u>15,526,464</u>
Total	235,575,613
Sec. B.319 Department for children and families - office of child support	
Personal services	14,186,272
Operating expenses	<u>3,738,844</u>
Total	17,925,116
Source of funds	
General fund	5,598,669
Special funds	454,219
Federal funds	11,484,628

Interdepartmental transfers	<u>387,600</u>
Total	17,925,116
Sec. B.320 Department for children and families - aid to aged, blind and disabled	
Personal services	2,558,460
Grants	<u>10,418,567</u>
Total	12,977,027
Source of funds	
General fund	7,470,372
Global Commitment fund	<u>5,506,655</u>
Total	12,977,027
Sec. B.321 Department for children and families - general assistance	
Personal services	15,000
Grants	<u>10,415,779</u>
Total	10,430,779
Source of funds	
General fund	10,189,157
Federal funds	11,098
Global Commitment fund	<u>230,524</u>
Total	10,430,779
Sec. B.322 Department for children and families - 3SquaresVT	
Grants	<u>51,077,812</u>
Total	51,077,812
Source of funds	
Federal funds	<u>51,077,812</u>
Total	51,077,812
Sec. B.323 Department for children and families - reach up	
Operating expenses	23,821
Grants	<u>36,532,863</u>
Total	36,556,684
Source of funds	
General fund	24,035,417
Special funds	5,970,229
Federal funds	2,806,330
Global Commitment fund	<u>3,744,708</u>
Total	36,556,684

Sec. B.324 Department for children and families - home heating fuel assistance/LIHEAP

Grants	<u>16,019,953</u>
Total	16,019,953
Source of funds	
Special funds	1,480,395
Federal funds	<u>14,539,558</u>
Total	16,019,953

Sec. B.325 Department for children and families - office of economic opportunity

Personal services	1,376,425
Operating expenses	159,458
Grants	<u>39,165,356</u>
Total	40,701,239
Source of funds	
General fund	32,312,474
Special funds	83,135
Federal funds	5,118,329
Global Commitment fund	<u>3,187,301</u>
Total	40,701,239

Sec. B.326 Department for children and families - OEO - weatherization assistance

Personal services	498,837
Operating expenses	275,322
Grants	<u>15,147,885</u>
Total	15,922,044
Source of funds	
Special funds	7,757,091
Federal funds	<u>8,164,953</u>
Total	15,922,044

Sec. B.327 Department for children and families - secure residential treatment

Personal services	258,100
Operating expenses	38,775
Grants	<u>3,476,862</u>
Total	3,773,737
Source of funds	
General fund	3,743,737
Global Commitment fund	<u>30,000</u>
Total	3,773,737

Sec. B.328 Department for children and families - disability determination services

Personal services	8,322,170
Operating expenses	<u>495,934</u>
Total	8,818,104
Source of funds	
General fund	130,556
Federal funds	<u>8,687,548</u>
Total	8,818,104

Sec. B.329 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - administration & support

Personal services	48,973,454
Operating expenses	<u>6,544,338</u>
Total	55,517,792
Source of funds	
General fund	25,692,412
Special funds	1,390,457
Federal funds	27,258,639
Global Commitment fund	110,000
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,066,284</u>
Total	55,517,792

Sec. B.330 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - advocacy and independent living grants

Grants	<u>24,909,492</u>
Total	24,909,492
Source of funds	
General fund	8,585,909
Federal funds	7,321,114
Global Commitment fund	<u>9,002,469</u>
Total	24,909,492

Sec. B.331 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - blind and visually impaired

Grants	<u>3,407,604</u>
Total	3,407,604
Source of funds	
General fund	489,154
Special funds	223,450
Federal funds	2,390,000

Global Commitment fund	<u>305,000</u>
Total	3,407,604
Sec. B.332 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - vocational rehabilitation	
Grants	<u>10,179,845</u>
Total	<u>10,179,845</u>
Source of funds	
General fund	371,845
Federal funds	8,558,000
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,250,000</u>
Total	10,179,845
Sec. B.333 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - developmental services	
Grants	<u>349,987,467</u>
Total	<u>349,987,467</u>
Source of funds	
General fund	132,732
Special funds	15,463
Federal funds	403,573
Global Commitment fund	349,385,699
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>50,000</u>
Total	349,987,467
Sec. B.334 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - TBI home and community based waiver	
Grants	<u>7,540,256</u>
Total	<u>7,540,256</u>
Source of funds	
Global Commitment fund	<u>7,540,256</u>
Total	<u>7,540,256</u>
Sec. B.334.1 Disabilities, aging and independent living - long term care	
Grants	<u>346,858,094</u>
Total	<u>346,858,094</u>
Source of funds	
General fund	498,579
Federal funds	2,450,000
Global Commitment fund	<u>343,909,515</u>
Total	<u>346,858,094</u>

Sec. B.335 Corrections - administration

Personal services	5,601,461
Operating expenses	<u>269,950</u>
Total	5,871,411
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>5,871,411</u>
Total	5,871,411

Sec. B.336 Corrections - parole board

Personal services	551,497
Operating expenses	<u>60,112</u>
Total	611,609
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>611,609</u>
Total	611,609

Sec. B.337 Corrections - correctional education

Personal services	3,900,732
Operating expenses	<u>255,399</u>
Total	4,156,131
Source of funds	
General fund	4,006,975
Federal funds	372
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>148,784</u>
Total	4,156,131

Sec. B.338 Corrections - correctional services

Personal services	177,107,933
Operating expenses	25,571,966
Grants	<u>801,823</u>
Total	203,481,722
Source of funds	
General fund	198,084,766
Special funds	935,963
Federal funds	516,600
Global Commitment fund	3,548,078
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>396,315</u>
Total	203,481,722

Sec. B.338.1 Corrections - justice reinvestment II

Grants	<u>11,055,849</u>
Total	11,055,849

Source of funds	
General fund	8,478,161
Federal funds	13,147
Global Commitment fund	<u>2,564,541</u>
Total	11,055,849
Sec. B.339 Corrections - correctional services - out of state beds	
Personal services	<u>4,130,378</u>
Total	4,130,378
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>4,130,378</u>
Total	4,130,378
Sec. B.340 Corrections - correctional facilities - recreation	
Personal services	708,510
Operating expenses	<u>457,555</u>
Total	1,166,065
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>1,166,065</u>
Total	1,166,065
Sec. B.341 Corrections - Vermont offender work program	
Personal services	243,283
Operating expenses	<u>160,570</u>
Total	403,853
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>403,853</u>
Total	403,853
Sec. B.342 Vermont veterans' home - care and support services	
Personal services	24,048,875
Operating expenses	<u>6,913,887</u>
Total	30,962,762
Source of funds	
General fund	10,033,214
Special funds	12,799,530
Federal funds	<u>8,130,018</u>
Total	30,962,762
Sec. B.343 Commission on women	
Personal services	432,073
Operating expenses	<u>89,355</u>
Total	521,428

Source of funds	
General fund	516,773
Special funds	<u>4,655</u>
Total	521,428
Sec. B.344 Retired senior volunteer program	
Grants	<u>164,960</u>
Total	164,960
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>164,960</u>
Total	164,960
Sec. B.345 Green mountain care board	
Personal services	10,362,452
Operating expenses	<u>416,874</u>
Total	10,779,326
Source of funds	
General fund	4,482,574
Special funds	<u>6,296,752</u>
Total	10,779,326
Sec. B.346 Office of the child, youth, and family advocate	
Personal services	386,033
Operating expenses	<u>71,330</u>
Total	457,363
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>457,363</u>
Total	457,363
Sec. B.347 Total human services	
Source of funds	
General fund	1,448,763,034
Special funds	212,430,533
Tobacco fund	23,088,208
State health care resources fund	31,074,772
Federal funds	1,946,078,413
Global Commitment fund	2,148,606,890
Internal service funds	403,853
Interdepartmental transfers	32,694,090
Permanent trust funds	<u>25,000</u>
Total	5,843,156,793

Sec. B.400 Labor - programs

Personal services	39,454,824
Operating expenses	5,462,457
Grants	<u>5,870,493</u>
Total	50,787,774
Source of funds	
General fund	11,313,657
Special funds	9,710,673
Federal funds	29,640,603
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>122,841</u>
Total	50,787,774

Sec. B.401 Total labor

Source of funds	
General fund	11,313,657
Special funds	9,710,673
Federal funds	29,640,603
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>122,841</u>
Total	50,787,774

Sec. B.500 Education - finance and administration

Personal services	17,203,356
Operating expenses	4,699,787
Grants	<u>17,772,840</u>
Total	39,675,983
Source of funds	
General fund	8,994,162
Special funds	19,793,553
Education fund	3,606,201
Federal funds	6,217,482
Global Commitment fund	260,000
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>804,585</u>
Total	39,675,983

Sec. B.501 Education - education services

Personal services	18,418,946
Operating expenses	1,185,388
Grants	<u>192,117,080</u>
Total	211,721,414
Source of funds	
General fund	6,894,415
Special funds	3,266,001

Tobacco fund	750,388
Federal funds	199,239,149
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,571,461</u>
Total	211,721,414
Sec. B.502 Education - special education: formula grants	
Grants	<u>270,736,200</u>
Total	270,736,200
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>270,736,200</u>
Total	270,736,200
Sec. B.503 Education - state-placed students	
Grants	<u>17,200,000</u>
Total	17,200,000
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>17,200,000</u>
Total	17,200,000
Sec. B.504 Education - adult education and literacy	
Grants	<u>4,899,009</u>
Total	4,899,009
Source of funds	
General fund	3,958,344
Federal funds	<u>940,665</u>
Total	4,899,009
Sec. B.504.1 Education - Flexible Pathways	
Grants	<u>11,481,896</u>
Total	11,481,896
Source of funds	
General fund	921,500
Education fund	<u>10,560,396</u>
Total	11,481,896
Sec. B.505 Education - adjusted education payment	
Grants	<u>1,991,143,238</u>
Total	1,991,143,238
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>1,991,143,238</u>
Total	1,991,143,238

Sec. B.506 Education - transportation

Grants	<u>26,115,792</u>
Total	26,115,792
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>26,115,792</u>
Total	26,115,792

Sec. B.507 Education - merger support grants

Grants	<u>1,800,000</u>
Total	1,800,000
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>1,800,000</u>
Total	1,800,000

Sec. B.507.1 Education - EL categorical aid

Grants	<u>2,250,000</u>
Total	2,250,000
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>2,250,000</u>
Total	2,250,000

Sec. B.508 Education - nutrition

Grants	<u>18,500,000</u>
Total	18,500,000
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>18,500,000</u>
Total	18,500,000

Sec. B.509 Education - afterschool grant program

Personal services	500,000
Grants	<u>9,140,000</u>
Total	9,640,000
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>9,640,000</u>
Total	9,640,000

Sec. B.510 Education - essential early education grant

Grants	<u>8,977,737</u>
Total	8,977,737
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>8,977,737</u>
Total	8,977,737

Sec. B.511 Education - technical education

Grants	<u>18,737,850</u>
Total	18,737,850
Source of funds	
Education fund	<u>18,737,850</u>
Total	18,737,850

Sec. B.511.1 State board of education

Personal services	54,208
Operating expenses	<u>16,500</u>
Total	70,708
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>70,708</u>
Total	70,708

Sec. B.513 Retired teachers pension plus funding

Grants	<u>15,000,000</u>
Total	15,000,000
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>15,000,000</u>
Total	15,000,000

Sec. B.514 State teachers' retirement system

Grants	<u>199,377,627</u>
Total	199,377,627
Source of funds	
General fund	160,566,569
Education fund	<u>38,811,058</u>
Total	199,377,627

Sec. B.514.1 State teachers' retirement system administration

Personal services	345,352
Operating expenses	<u>3,465,303</u>
Total	3,810,655
Source of funds	
Pension trust funds	<u>3,810,655</u>
Total	3,810,655

Sec. B.515 Retired teachers' health care and medical benefits

Grants	<u>71,052,589</u>
Total	71,052,589
Source of funds	

General fund	49,091,090
Education fund	<u>21,961,499</u>
Total	71,052,589
Sec. B.516 Total general education	
Source of funds	
General fund	245,496,788
Special funds	32,699,554
Tobacco fund	750,388
Education fund	2,430,399,971
Federal funds	206,397,296
Global Commitment fund	260,000
Interdepartmental transfers	2,376,046
Pension trust funds	<u>3,810,655</u>
Total	2,922,190,698
Sec. B.600 University of Vermont	
Grants	<u>57,378,104</u>
Total	57,378,104
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>57,378,104</u>
Total	57,378,104
Sec. B.602 Vermont state colleges	
Grants	<u>52,468,692</u>
Total	52,468,692
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>52,468,692</u>
Total	52,468,692
Sec. B.603 Vermont state colleges - allied health	
Grants	<u>1,797,087</u>
Total	1,797,087
Source of funds	
General fund	297,087
Global Commitment fund	<u>1,500,000</u>
Total	1,797,087
Sec. B.605 Vermont student assistance corporation	
Grants	<u>27,084,946</u>
Total	27,084,946
Source of funds	

General fund	<u>27,084,946</u>
Total	27,084,946
Sec. B.605.1 VSAC - flexible pathways stipend	
Grants	<u>82,450</u>
Total	82,450
Source of funds	
General fund	41,225
Education fund	<u>41,225</u>
Total	82,450
Sec. B.606 New England higher education compact	
Grants	<u>86,520</u>
Total	86,520
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>86,520</u>
Total	86,520
Sec. B.607 University of Vermont - morgan horse farm	
Grants	<u>1</u>
Total	1
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>1</u>
Total	1
Sec. B.608 Total higher education	
Source of funds	
General fund	137,356,575
Education fund	41,225
Global Commitment fund	<u>1,500,000</u>
Total	138,897,800
Sec. B.700 Natural resources - agency of natural resources - administration	
Personal services	6,436,257
Operating expenses	<u>1,265,146</u>
Total	7,701,403
Source of funds	
General fund	5,344,094
Special funds	722,828
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,634,481</u>
Total	7,701,403

Sec. B.701 Natural resources - state land local property tax assessment

Operating expenses	<u>2,705,834</u>
Total	2,705,834
Source of funds	
General fund	2,284,334
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>421,500</u>
Total	2,705,834

Sec. B.702 Fish and wildlife - support and field services

Personal services	23,876,543
Operating expenses	6,738,504
Grants	<u>833,630</u>
Total	31,448,677
Source of funds	
General fund	9,532,865
Special funds	364,696
Fish and wildlife fund	10,097,060
Federal funds	9,927,754
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,526,302</u>
Total	31,448,677

Sec. B.703 Forests, parks and recreation - administration

Personal services	1,564,253
Operating expenses	<u>1,796,785</u>
Total	3,361,038
Source of funds	
General fund	3,130,308
Special funds	143,765
Federal funds	<u>86,965</u>
Total	3,361,038

Sec. B.704 Forests, parks and recreation - forestry

Personal services	11,026,473
Operating expenses	1,122,371
Grants	<u>1,408,910</u>
Total	13,557,754
Source of funds	
General fund	6,839,753
Special funds	1,204,005
Federal funds	4,326,877
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,187,119</u>
Total	13,557,754

Sec. B.705 Forests, parks and recreation - state parks

Personal services	13,707,058
Operating expenses	4,936,482
Grants	<u>550,000</u>
Total	19,193,540
Source of funds	
General fund	2,061,995
Special funds	<u>17,131,545</u>
Total	19,193,540

Sec. B.706 Forests, parks and recreation - lands administration and recreation

Personal services	3,818,270
Operating expenses	8,667,107
Grants	<u>6,015,019</u>
Total	18,500,396
Source of funds	
General fund	1,324,880
Special funds	2,794,948
Federal funds	13,755,832
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>624,736</u>
Total	18,500,396

Sec. B.708 Forests, parks and recreation - forest and parks access roads

Personal services	130,000
Operating expenses	<u>99,925</u>
Total	229,925
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>229,925</u>
Total	229,925

Sec. B.709 Environmental conservation - management and support services

Personal services	9,655,674
Operating expenses	5,226,877
Grants	<u>188,303</u>
Total	15,070,854
Source of funds	
General fund	2,462,770
Special funds	1,452,358
Federal funds	2,563,636
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>8,592,090</u>
Total	15,070,854

Sec. B.710 Environmental conservation - air and waste management

Personal services	26,481,647
Operating expenses	9,958,684
Grants	<u>4,343,000</u>
Total	40,783,331
Source of funds	
General fund	305,347
Special funds	27,825,978
Federal funds	12,531,023
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>120,983</u>
Total	40,783,331

Sec. B.711 Environmental conservation - office of water programs

Personal services	44,324,028
Operating expenses	8,531,648
Grants	<u>136,489,044</u>
Total	189,344,720
Source of funds	
General fund	12,980,443
Special funds	33,801,176
Federal funds	141,693,623
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>869,478</u>
Total	189,344,720

Sec. B.713 Land use review board

Personal services	5,001,041
Operating expenses	<u>537,905</u>
Total	5,538,946
Source of funds	
General fund	4,169,020
Special funds	<u>1,369,926</u>
Total	5,538,946

Sec. B.714 Total natural resources

Source of funds	
General fund	50,665,734
Special funds	86,811,225
Fish and wildlife fund	10,097,060
Federal funds	184,885,710
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>14,976,689</u>
Total	347,436,418

Sec. B.800 Commerce and community development - agency of commerce
and community development - administration

Personal services	2,515,577
Operating expenses	872,866
Grants	<u>389,320</u>
Total	3,777,763
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>3,777,763</u>
Total	3,777,763

Sec. B.801 Economic development

Personal services	4,396,254
Operating expenses	1,199,682
Grants	<u>9,106,544</u>
Total	14,702,480
Source of funds	
General fund	6,087,190
Special funds	3,150,350
Federal funds	5,264,940
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>200,000</u>
Total	14,702,480

Sec. B.802 Housing and community development

Personal services	2,669,883
Operating expenses	1,528,070
Grants	<u>27,139,431</u>
Total	31,337,384
Source of funds	
General fund	7,806,505
Special funds	10,144,339
Federal funds	10,957,973
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>2,428,567</u>
Total	31,337,384

Sec. B.806 Tourism and marketing

Personal services	3,453,707
Operating expenses	4,569,290
Grants	<u>700,000</u>
Total	8,722,997
Source of funds	
General fund	4,640,125
Federal funds	4,007,872

Interdepartmental transfers	<u>75,000</u>
Total	8,722,997
Sec. B.808 Vermont council on the arts	
Grants	<u>1,003,063</u>
Total	1,003,063
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>1,003,063</u>
Total	1,003,063
Sec. B.809 Vermont symphony orchestra	
Grants	<u>154,170</u>
Total	154,170
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>154,170</u>
Total	154,170
Sec. B.810 Vermont historical society	
Grants	<u>1,202,564</u>
Total	1,202,564
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>1,202,564</u>
Total	1,202,564
Sec. B.811 Vermont housing and conservation board	
Grants	<u>109,284,304</u>
Total	109,284,304
Source of funds	
General fund	1,631,582
Special funds	40,490,082
Federal funds	<u>67,162,640</u>
Total	109,284,304
Sec. B.812 Vermont humanities council	
Grants	<u>318,270</u>
Total	318,270
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>318,270</u>
Total	318,270
Sec. B.813 Total commerce and community development	
Source of funds	
General fund	26,621,232

Special funds	53,784,771
Federal funds	87,393,425
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>2,703,567</u>
Total	170,502,995
Sec. B.900 Transportation - finance and administration	
Personal services	19,914,359
Operating expenses	6,581,104
Grants	<u>50,000</u>
Total	26,545,463
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	25,152,473
Federal funds	<u>1,392,990</u>
Total	26,545,463
Sec. B.901 Transportation - aviation	
Personal services	4,770,561
Operating expenses	8,456,904
Grants	<u>190,000</u>
Total	13,417,465
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	7,474,433
Federal funds	<u>5,943,032</u>
Total	13,417,465
Sec. B.902 Transportation - buildings	
Personal services	1,000,000
Operating expenses	<u>1,500,000</u>
Total	2,500,000
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	2,200,000
TIB fund	<u>300,000</u>
Total	2,500,000
Sec. B.903 Transportation - program development	
Personal services	83,759,860
Operating expenses	281,446,274
Grants	<u>46,104,466</u>
Total	411,310,600
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	62,005,434
TIB fund	15,103,017
Special funds	280,000

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Federal funds	308,679,500
Interdepartmental transfers	15,722,027
Local match	<u>9,520,622</u>
Total	411,310,600
Sec. B.904 Transportation - rest areas construction	
Personal services	398,500
Operating expenses	<u>791,746</u>
Total	1,190,246
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	119,025
Federal funds	<u>1,071,221</u>
Total	1,190,246
Sec. B.905 Transportation - maintenance state system	
Personal services	48,113,208
Operating expenses	<u>69,113,835</u>
Total	117,227,043
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	110,349,507
Federal funds	932,014
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>5,945,522</u>
Total	117,227,043
Sec. B.906 Transportation - policy and planning	
Personal services	3,411,138
Operating expenses	1,290,442
Grants	<u>10,346,035</u>
Total	15,047,615
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	3,742,314
Federal funds	11,223,301
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>82,000</u>
Total	15,047,615
Sec. B.906.1 Transportation - environmental policy and sustainability	
Personal services	8,114,291
Operating expenses	67,686
Grants	<u>1,332,030</u>
Total	9,514,007
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	389,377
Federal funds	8,150,226

Interdepartmental transfers	21,860
Local match	<u>952,544</u>
Total	9,514,007
Sec. B.907 Transportation - rail	
Personal services	18,493,101
Operating expenses	<u>43,394,247</u>
Total	61,887,348
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	15,067,669
Federal funds	31,894,435
Interdepartmental transfers	8,228,363
Local match	<u>6,696,881</u>
Total	61,887,348
Sec. B.908 Transportation - public transit	
Personal services	1,026,301
Operating expenses	81,224
Grants	<u>51,587,709</u>
Total	52,695,234
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	10,007,534
Federal funds	42,547,700
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>140,000</u>
Total	52,695,234
Sec. B.909 Transportation - central garage	
Personal services	5,957,587
Operating expenses	<u>19,696,966</u>
Total	25,654,553
Source of funds	
Internal service funds	<u>25,654,553</u>
Total	25,654,553
Sec. B.910 Department of motor vehicles	
Personal services	36,447,934
Operating expenses	<u>13,070,367</u>
Total	49,518,301
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	46,709,524
Federal funds	2,687,081
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>121,696</u>
Total	49,518,301

Sec. B.911 Transportation - town highway structures

Grants	<u>7,200,000</u>
Total	7,200,000
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	<u>7,200,000</u>
Total	7,200,000

Sec. B.912 Transportation - town highway local technical assistance program

Personal services	449,763
Operating expenses	<u>31,689</u>
Total	481,452
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	121,452
Federal funds	<u>360,000</u>
Total	481,452

Sec. B.913 Transportation - town highway class 2 roadway

Grants	<u>8,600,000</u>
Total	8,600,000
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	<u>8,600,000</u>
Total	8,600,000

Sec. B.914 Transportation - town highway bridges

Personal services	10,034,000
Operating expenses	<u>27,759,406</u>
Total	37,793,406
Source of funds	
TIB fund	3,596,983
Federal funds	31,716,311
Local match	<u>2,480,112</u>
Total	37,793,406

Sec. B.915 Transportation - town highway aid program

Grants	<u>30,418,736</u>
Total	30,418,736
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	<u>30,418,736</u>
Total	30,418,736

Sec. B.916 Transportation - town highway class 1 supplemental grants

Grants	<u>128,750</u>
Total	128,750
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	<u>128,750</u>
Total	128,750

Sec. B.917 Transportation - town highway: state aid for nonfederal disasters

Grants	<u>1,150,000</u>
Total	1,150,000
Source of funds	
Special funds	<u>1,150,000</u>
Total	1,150,000

Sec. B.918 Transportation - town highway: state aid for federal disasters

Grants	<u>4,000,000</u>
Total	4,000,000
Source of funds	
Federal funds	<u>4,000,00</u>
Total	4,000,000

Sec. B.919 Transportation - municipal mitigation assistance program

Personal services	100,000
Operating expenses	325,500
Grants	<u>6,467,500</u>
Total	6,893,000
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	715,000
Special funds	4,750,000
Federal funds	<u>1,428,000</u>
Total	6,893,000

Sec. B.921 Transportation board

Personal services	181,233
Operating expenses	<u>22,938</u>
Total	204,171
Source of funds	
Transportation fund	<u>204,171</u>
Total	204,171

Sec. B.922 Total transportation

Source of funds	
Transportation fund	330,605,399
TIB fund	19,000,000
Special funds	6,180,000
Federal funds	452,025,811
Internal service funds	25,654,553
Interdepartmental transfers	30,261,468
Local match	<u>19,650,159</u>
Total	883,377,390

Sec. B.1000 Debt service

Operating expenses	<u>675,000</u>
Total	675,000
Source of funds	
General fund	<u>675,000</u>
Total	675,000

Sec. B.1001 Total debt service

Source of funds	
General fund	<u>675,000</u>
Total	675,000

* * * Fiscal Year 2026 One-Time Appropriations * * *

Sec. B.1100 MISCELLANEOUS FISCAL YEAR 2026 ONE-TIME
APPROPRIATIONS

(a) Agency of Administration Secretary's Office. In fiscal year 2026, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) \$1,100,000 General Fund for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission;

(2) \$220,000 General Fund for the Office of Racial Equity to continue the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Action, Leadership Vermont program an additional two years; and

(3) Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 3709(a), \$1,000,000 PILOT Special Fund for the Municipal Technical Assistance Program as established by 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 3, Sec. 95.

(b) Department of Human Resources. In fiscal year 2026, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) \$1,575,000 General Fund for the Classification Modernization project.

(c) Department of Taxes. In fiscal year 2026, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) \$1,000,000 PILOT Special Fund for the Municipal Grand List Stabilization Program as established per Sec. E.142.2 of this act. These funds shall carry forward each fiscal year until fully expended or reverted.

(d) Department of Public Safety. In fiscal year 2026, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) \$600,000 General Fund for State match for federal cybersecurity grant funds;

(2) \$800,000 General Fund for the purchase of mobile and portable radio equipment; and

(3) \$150,000 General Fund for the Vermont Community Radio Grant Program established in Sec. E.208.2 of this act.

(e) Agency of Human Services Secretary's Office. In fiscal year 2026, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) \$4,448,520 General Fund and \$6,351,480 federal funds for the Department of Vermont Health Access' Global Commitment appropriation for the Support and Services at Home program, the Primary Care Medical Home, and Community Health Team services under the Blueprint for Health;

(2) \$2,250,000 General Fund for feasibility analysis and transformation plan development with hospitals, designated agencies, primary care organizations, and other community-based providers;

(3) \$125,000 General Fund for the development of quality and access measures, targets, and monitoring strategies for a statewide population health plan;

(4) \$125,000 General Fund for the development of hospital global budgets and other alternative payment models for Medicare; and

(5) \$6,200 General Fund for per diems and expense reimbursement for members of the Office of New Americans Study Committee.

(f) Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation. In fiscal year 2026, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) \$500,000 General Fund for the Vermont Serve, Learn, and Earn Program.

(g) Department of Health. In fiscal year 2026, funds are appropriated for the following:

- (1) \$240,000 General Fund for Polychlorinated Biphenyl testing;
- (2) \$40,000 General Fund for a grant to Empty Arms Vermont;
- (3) \$300,000 Substance Misuse Prevention Special Fund for recovery residences certified by the Vermont Alliance for Recovery Residences;
- (4) \$800,000 Substance Misuse Prevention Special Fund for recovery centers;
- (5) \$200,000 Substance Misuse Prevention Special Fund for grants to youth mentoring programs; and
- (6) \$500,000 Tobacco Litigation Settlement Special Fund for grants to Parent Child Centers for smoking cessation initiatives.

(h) Department for Children and Families. In fiscal year 2026, funds are appropriated for the following:

- (1) \$2,000,000 General Fund for shelter capacity expansion;
- (2) \$30,500,000 General Fund for the General Assistance Emergency Housing Program;
- (3) \$1,000,000 General Fund for direct aid to the Vermont Foodbank's network partner food shelves and pantries through an equitable statewide distribution of food or subgrants or both;
- (4) \$500,000 General Fund for the Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity Community Resource Center; and
- (5) \$156,000 General Fund for the Child Care Apprenticeship Program.

(i) Department of Corrections. In fiscal year 2026, funds are appropriated for the following:

- (1) \$250,000 General Fund to retain a consultant and develop an implementation plan to transition the Northeast Correctional Complex or the Caledonia County Work Camp or parts of either or of both to a treatment-focused facility for incarcerated Vermonters.

(j) Agency of Education. In fiscal year 2026, funds are appropriated for the following:

- (1) \$150,000 General Fund for administrative costs relating to home-based child care meals.

(k) Vermont State Colleges. In fiscal year 2026, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) \$5,000,000 General Fund for the final transformation bridge financing payment.

(l) Department of Fish and Wildlife. In fiscal year 2026, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) \$185,000 Fish and Wildlife Nondedicated Special Fund to sustain current operations as the Department undergoes a financial restructuring. These funds shall carry forward each fiscal year until fully expended or reverted;

(2) \$80,000 General Fund for the purchase of mobile and portable radio equipment; and

(3) \$30,000 General Fund for the Lake Champlain International Fishing Derby.

(m) Department of Environmental Conservation. In fiscal year 2026, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) \$50,000 General Fund for Municipal Wastewater Connections database;

(2) \$850,000 General Fund for the Concentrated Animals Feeding Operation database project and contractor support;

(3) \$9,520,000 Environmental Contingency Fund For Polychlorinated Biphenyl testing and remediation in schools. These funds shall carry forward each fiscal year until fully expended or reverted; and

(4) \$14,500,000 Other Infrastructure, Essential Investments, and Reserves Fund for the State match to the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Drinking Water State Revolving Fund and Clean Water State Revolving Fund, in accordance with the provisions of 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. C.108(b).

(n) Department of Housing and Community Development. In fiscal year 2026, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) \$9,100,000 General Fund for the Vermont Bond Bank Vermont Infrastructure Sustainability Fund;

(2) \$14,500,000 General Fund for the Vermont Housing Finance Agency Rental Revolving Loan Fund, the Middle-Income Homeownership Development Program, and the First Generation Homebuyer Program. No less than \$1,000,000 of these funds shall be for the First Generation Homebuyer Program;

(3) \$4,300,000 General Fund for the Vermont Housing Improvement Program 2.0 and for staff to support the Program; and

(4) \$15,000 General Fund for the Residential Universal Design Study Committee.

(o) Department of Economic Development. In fiscal year 2026, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) \$200,000 General Fund for the Vermont Professionals of Color Network;

(2) \$780,000 General Fund for the Small Business Technical Assistance Exchange;

(3) \$15,000 General Fund for the Vermont-Ireland Trade Commission; and

(4) \$1,000,000 General Fund for the Brownfields Revitalization Fund.

(p) Vermont Housing and Conservation Board. In fiscal year 2026, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) \$5,000,000 General Fund to provide support and enhance capacity for the production and preservation of affordable mixed-income rental housing and homeownership units, including improvements to manufactured homes and communities; permanent homes and emergency shelter for those experiencing homelessness; recovery residences; and housing available to farm workers, refugees, and individuals who are eligible to receive Medicaid-funded home and community-based services.

(q) Office of the State Treasurer. In fiscal year 2026, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) \$148,000 General Fund for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program; and

(2) \$700,000 General Fund for financial modeling. In fiscal year 2026, the Office of the State Treasurer may, through an interdepartmental transfer, transfer up to \$700,000 to the Agency of Natural Resources for the Climate Superfund Cost Recovery Program Fund.

(r) Department of Vermont Health Access. In fiscal year 2026, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) \$835,420 General Fund for the Payment Reform Unit;

(2) \$3,119,310 General Fund for the OneCare primary care model transition; and

(3) \$10,800,000 Global Commitment for the Support and Services at Home program, the Primary Care Medical Home, and Community Health Team services under the Blueprint for Health.

(s) University of Vermont. In fiscal year 2026, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) \$750,000 General Fund for the Vermont Gallium Nitride Tech Hub.

(t) Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets. In fiscal year 2026, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) \$450,000 General Fund for a grant to the Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont for the Crop Cash and Crop Cash Plus programs;

(2) \$500,000 General Fund for a grant to Vermont Foodbank for the Vermonters Feeding Vermonters Program;

(3) \$1,000,000 General Fund to offer Vermont Local Food for Schools and Child Care grants within the Rozo McLaughlin Farm to School Grants Program to fund grants for the purchase and distribution of local food to schools and registered or licensed child care programs; and

(4) \$500,000 General Fund to support Vermont's 14 Natural Resources Conservation Districts.

(u) Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living. In fiscal year 2026, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) \$235,000 General Fund for a grant to HomeShare Vermont; and

(2) \$500,000 General Fund for grants to skilled nursing facilities to increase the pipeline of employed licensed nursing assistants, including increasing the capacity of new and existing facility-based training programs, and developing or expanding collaborations with other programs, including career and technical education programs. Grants may support training program costs, paid internships, student support, and recruitment and retention bonuses.

(A) Of the funds appropriated in subdivision (u)(2) of this section, \$150,000 shall be for grants of \$30,000 or less.

(B) Of the funds appropriated in subdivision (u)(2) of this section, \$350,000 shall be for up to three grants.

(v) Vermont Student Assistance Corporation. In fiscal year 2026, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) \$1,500,000 General Fund for Freedom and Unity grants.

(w) Military Department. In fiscal year 2026, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) \$10,000 General Fund for the USS Vermont Support Group.

(x) Vermont Council on the Arts. In fiscal year 2026, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) \$68,737 General Fund for State match for federal funds.

(y) Agency of Transportation. In fiscal year 2026, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) \$1,400,000 Transportation Fund for transfer to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development for programs to increase access to level 1 and 2 Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment charging ports at workplaces or multiunit dwellings, or both; and

(2) \$600,000 Transportation Fund for the purpose of providing grants to the public transit agencies to hire volunteer coordinators who shall be responsible for the identification, recruitment, and retention of volunteers to provide transportation services to individuals enrolled in the State's demand response transportation programs.

(z) Department of Labor. In fiscal year 2026, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) \$150,000 General Fund for a grant to Advance Vermont.

(aa) Office of the Secretary of State. In fiscal year 2026, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) \$50,000 General Fund for grants to support local civic journalism;

(2) \$306,210 General Fund for staff and IT costs at the Office of Professional Regulation relating to the implementation of S.119 of 2025;

(3) \$963,681 General Fund for fee waivers relating to the implementation of S.119 of 2025; and

(4) \$25,000 General Fund for staff and IT costs at the Office of Professional Regulation relating to the implementation of certifications of perinatal doulas and birthing centers.

(bb) Green Mountain Care Board. In fiscal year 2026, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) \$500,000 General Fund for contracts, including contracts for assistance with implementing reference-based pricing; and

(2) Notwithstanding any provision of 32 V.S.A. § 10301 to the contrary, \$150,000 Vermont Health Information Technology Special Fund for expenses associated with increased standardization of electronic hospital budget data submissions.

(cc) Office of the Defender General. In fiscal year 2026, funds are appropriated for the following:

- (1) \$30,000 General Fund to enhance IT server capacity;
- (2) \$87,500 General Fund for the Orleans County staff office; and
- (3) \$20,000 General Fund for the Addison County staff office.

(dd) Land Use Review Board. In fiscal year 2026, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) \$100,000 General Fund for development of digital infrastructure relating to regional planning commission mapping projects.

Sec. B.1101 FISCAL YEAR 2025 CLOSEOUT

(a) As part of the fiscal year 2025 closeout, the Department of Finance and Management shall execute the requirements of 32 V.S.A. § 308. If any balance remains after meeting these requirements, then, notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 308c, the Department of Finance and Management shall designate the first \$138,970,000 as unallocated carryforward for use in meeting the requirements of the fiscal year 2026 appropriations act as passed by the General Assembly. The Department of Finance and Management shall then, notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 308c, calculate the maximum number of contingent transactions that can be funded, in the order provided in subsection (b) of this section, and designate that money to remain unallocated for such purpose in fiscal year 2026. Any residual balance remaining after such designations shall be reserved in accordance with 32 V.S.A. § 308c.

(b) In fiscal year 2026, the following contingent transactions shall be executed in the following order from the designated unallocated balance as determined in subsection (a) of this section:

(1) \$5,000,000 is transferred to the Communications and Information Technology Special Fund to cover the costs of transitioning billable services from a service level agreement model to a core enterprise services model.

(2) \$45,000,000 is appropriated to the Agency of Administration to be transferred by the Emergency Board pursuant to 32 V.S.A. §133 if federal funds are reduced while the General Assembly is not in session.

Sec. B.1103 CASH FUND FOR CAPITAL AND ESSENTIAL
INVESTMENTS; FISCAL YEAR 2026 ONE-TIME CAPITAL
APPROPRIATIONS

(a) In fiscal year 2026, \$14,061,099 is appropriated from the Capital Infrastructure subaccount in the Cash Fund for Capital and Essential Investments for the following:

(1) Department of Buildings and General Services:

(A) \$861,599 for statewide major maintenance;

(B) \$250,000 for statewide planning, reuse, and contingency;

(C) \$250,000 for statewide physical security enhancements;

(D) \$219,500 for State House repointing;

(E) \$250,000 for an uninterruptable power supply system for the Middlesex print and postal facility; and

(F) \$6,900,000 for the Judiciary for renovations at the Windsor County Courthouse in White River Junction.

(2) Vermont Veterans' Home:

(A) \$1,500,000 for the design and construction of the American Unit.

(3) Department of Housing and Community Development:

(A) \$1,100,000 for Bennington, high school redevelopment housing infrastructure;

(B) \$1,000,000 for Barre, Prospect Heights housing infrastructure;

(C) \$1,000,000 for Brattleboro, Winston Prouty Center housing infrastructure;

(D) \$100,000 for a grant to the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission to support a site study focused on economic development, parking, housing, and flood mitigation for the 1.6-acre parcel at 87 State Street and parcels at 89 State Street and 42 Court Street; and

(E) \$250,000 for a competitive grant to establish a new recovery residence, per the criteria of the Vermont Recovery Housing Program Action Plan.

(4) Department of Forest, Parks and Recreation:

(A) \$275,000 for the purchase of a fire apparatus.

(5) Department of Fish and Wildlife:

(A) \$25,000 for the Lake Champlain Walleye Association, Inc. to upgrade and repair the Walleye rearing, restoration, and stocking infrastructure.

(6) Department of Public Safety:

(A) \$35,000 for the Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force for the dry hydrant program.

(7) Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets:

(A) \$45,000 for the Bennington Veterans Incubator Farm at the Vermont Veterans' Home.

* * * Fiscal Year 2025 Adjustments, Appropriations, and Amendments * * *

Sec. C.100 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.209 is amended to read:

Sec. B.209 Public safety - state police

Personal services	74,755,468	<u>76,655,468</u>
Operating expenses		15,992,094
Grants		1,137,841
Total	91,885,403	<u>93,785,403</u>
Source of funds		
General fund	57,891,409	<u>59,791,409</u>
Transportation fund		20,250,000
Special funds		3,170,328
Federal funds		8,967,252
Interdepartmental transfers		1,606,414
Total	91,885,403	<u>93,785,403</u>

Sec. C.101 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.702 is amended to read:

Sec. B.702 Fish and wildlife - support and field services

Personal services	22,597,844	<u>22,887,844</u>
Operating expenses		6,843,095
Grants		853,066
Total	30,294,005	<u>30,584,005</u>
Source of funds		
General fund	8,267,967	<u>8,557,967</u>
Special funds		365,427
Fish and wildlife fund		10,418,331
Federal funds		9,751,683
Interdepartmental transfers		1,490,597
Total	30,294,005	<u>30,584,005</u>

Sec. C.102 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. D.101 is amended to read:

Sec. D.101 FUND TRANSFERS

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the following amounts are transferred from the funds indicated:

(1) From the General Fund to the:

(A) General Obligation Bonds Debt Service Fund (#35100):
~~\$73,212,880~~ \$78,235,088.34.

* * *

(J) Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund (#21555): ~~\$830,000~~
\$6,500,000.

(K) Education Fund (#20205): \$25,000,000.

(L) Medical Insurance Fund (#55100): \$18,500,000.

(M) Correctional Industries Fund (#59100): \$3,135,443.

(N) Act 250 Permit Fund (#21260): \$900,000.

(O) State Liability Self-Insurance Fund (#56200): \$3,000,000.

(P) Emergency Personnel Survivor's Benefit Fund (#21884):
\$220,000.

(2) From the Transportation Fund to the:

(A) ~~Vermont Recreational Trails Fund (#21455): \$370,000~~.

~~(B)~~ Downtown Transportation and Related Capital Improvements
Fund (#21575): \$523,966.

~~(C)~~(B) General Obligation Bonds Debt Service Fund (#35100):
\$316,745.

(C) Transportation Infrastructure Bond Fund (#20191): \$900,000.

(D) Notwithstanding 19 V.S.A. § 13(c), the Transportation Fund
transfer to the Central Garage fund in fiscal year 2025 shall be \$0.

* * *

(b) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, in fiscal year
2025:

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

(A) Cannabis Regulation Fund (#21998): ~~\$12,000,000~~
\$15,417,084.32.

(B) AHS Central Office Earned Federal Receipts (#22005): \$4,641,960.

(C) Sports Wagering Enterprise Fund (#50250): ~~\$7,000,000~~
\$6,139,162.

(D) Liquor Control Fund (#50300): ~~\$21,100,000~~ \$9,543,353.

(E) ~~Tobacco Litigation Settlement Fund (#21370):~~ ~~\$3,000,000.~~

(F) Financial Institutions Supervision Fund (#21065): \$1,100,000.

(F) Workforce Education and Training Fund (#21913):
\$2,598,921.75.

(G) Vermont Traumatic Brain Injury Fund (#21994): the balance of the fund at the close of fiscal year 2025.

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

(A) AG-Fees & Reimbursements-Court Order Fund (#21638): \$2,000,000.

(B) Unclaimed Property Fund (#62100): ~~\$6,500,000~~ \$8,242,871.

(3) ~~\$66,935,000~~ \$65,260,450.50 of the net unencumbered fund balances in the Insurance Regulatory and Supervision Fund (#21075), the Captive Insurance Regulatory and Supervision Fund (#21085), and the Securities Regulatory and Supervision Fund (#21080) shall be transferred to the General Fund.

(c)(1) Notwithstanding Sec. 1.4.3 of the Rules for State Matching Funds under the Federal Public Assistance Program, in fiscal year 2025, the Secretary of Administration may provide funding from the Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund that was transferred pursuant to subdivision (a)(1)(J) of this section to subgrantees prior to the completion of a project. In ~~fiscal year~~ years 2025 and 2026, up to 70 percent of the State funding match on the nonfederal share of an approved project for municipalities that were impacted by ~~the August and December 2023 and 2024~~ the August and December 2023 and 2024 flooding events in counties that are eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency Public Assistance funds under federal disaster declarations DR-4744-VT and, DR-4762-VT, DR-4810-

VT, DR-4816-VT, and DR-4826-VT may be advanced at the request of a municipality.

(2) Notwithstanding Sec. 1.4.1 of the Rules for State Matching Funds Under the Federal Public Assistance Program, the Secretary of Administration shall increase the standard State funding match on the nonfederal share of an approved project to the highest percentage possible given available funding for municipalities in counties that were impacted by ~~the August and December 2023~~ and 2024 flooding events and are eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency Public Assistance funds under federal disaster declarations DR-4744-VT ~~and~~, DR-4762-VT, DR-4810-VT, DR-4816-VT, and DR-4826-VT.

* * *

Sec. C.103 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.1100 is amended to read:

Sec. B.1100 MISCELLANEOUS FISCAL YEAR 2025 ONE-TIME
APPROPRIATIONS

* * *

(d) Department of Health. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

* * *

(8) \$835,073 General Fund for the Bridges to Health Program; ~~and~~

(9) ~~\$400,000~~ \$550,000 General Fund for the Vermont Household Health Insurance Survey; ~~and~~

(10) \$500,000 General Fund for community grants related to health equity.

(e) Department for Children and Families. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) \$16,500,000 General Fund for the General Assistance Emergency Housing program; ~~and~~

(2) \$1,034,065 General Fund to extend 10 Economic Services Division limited service positions, including associated operating costs, in support of the General Assistance Emergency Housing program; ~~and~~

(3) \$332,000 General Fund for a 2-1-1 service line contract to operate 24 hours seven days per week;

(4) \$340,000 General Fund and \$660,000 federal funds for the Office of Child Support mainframe transition planning. Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A.

§ 703, unless otherwise reverted by a future act of the General Assembly, these appropriations shall carry forward until fully expended; and

(5) \$1,800,000 General Fund shall be added to the appropriation made in Sec. B.1102(b)(4) of this act for the Comprehensive Child Welfare Information System.

* * *

(n) Agency of Human Services Secretary's Office. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) ~~\$3,913,200~~ \$5,586,324 General Fund and ~~\$5,366,383~~ \$7,713,259 federal funds to be used for Global Commitment match for the Medicaid Global Payment Program. To the extent that at a future date the Global Payment Program ceases to operate as a program or changes methodology to a retrospective payment program, any resulting one-time General Fund spending authority remaining at that time shall be reverted. If the Human Services Caseload Reserve established in 32 V.S.A. § 308b has not been replenished in accordance with subdivision (b)(21) of Sec. B.1102 of this act, the remaining unallocated General Fund balance shall be reserved in the Human Services Caseload Reserve established in 32 V.S.A. § 308b up to the amount appropriated in this subdivision.

(o) Department of Vermont Health Access. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) ~~\$9,279,583~~ \$13,299,583 Global Commitment for the Medicaid Global Payment Program;

(2) \$150,000 General Fund to conduct a technical analysis of Vermont's health insurance markets; ~~and~~

(3) \$100,000 General Fund to implement the expansion of Medicare Savings Programs eligibility;

(4) \$10,000,000 General Fund for Provider Stabilization Grants; and

(5) \$11,000,000 General Fund for an alternative payment model reconciliation payment to Brattleboro Retreat. All or a portion of these funds may also be used as matching funds to the Agency of Human Services Global Commitment Program to provide State match. If funds are used as matching funds to the Agency of Human Services Global Commitment Program to provide State match, the commensurate amount of Global Commitment Fund spending authority may be requested during the Global Commitment Transfer process pursuant to Sec. E.301.1 of this act.

* * *

(v) Agency of Administration. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

~~(1) \$200,000 General Fund for local economic damage grants to municipalities that were impacted by the August and December 2023 flooding events in counties that are eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency Public Assistance funds under federal disaster declarations DR-4744-VT and DR-4762-VT. It is the intent of the General Assembly that these local economic damage grants be distributed to municipalities throughout the State to address the secondary economic impacts of the August and December 2023 flooding events. Monies from these grants shall not be expended on Federal Emergency Management Agency-related projects~~ \$1,800,000 General Fund for local economic damage grants to municipalities in counties that are eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency Public Assistance funds under federal disaster declarations DR-4810-VT and DR-4744-VT. It is the intent of the General Assembly that these local economic damage grants be distributed to municipalities throughout the State to address the secondary economic impacts of 2023 and 2024 flooding events. Monies from these grants shall not be expended on Federal Emergency Management Agency-related projects.

(A) The funds appropriated in this subdivision (v)(1) for local economic damage grants shall be distributed as follows:

(i) \$75,000 to each municipality that as of June 1, 2025 has at least \$5,000,000 in estimated reported damages to public infrastructure relating to 2023 and 2024 flooding events.

(ii) \$50,000 to each municipality that as of June 1, 2025 has less than \$5,000,000 and at least \$2,000,000 in estimated reported damages to public infrastructure relating to 2023 and 2024 flooding events.

(iii) \$30,000 to each municipality that as of June 1, 2025 has less than \$2,000,000 and at least \$1,000,000 in estimated reported damages to public infrastructure relating to 2023 and 2024 flooding events.

(iv) \$20,000 to each municipality that as of June 1, 2025 has less than \$1,000,000 and at least \$250,000 in estimated reported damages to public infrastructure relating to 2023 and 2024 flooding events.

(v) \$10,000 to each municipality that as of June 1, 2025 has less than \$250,000 and at least \$100,000 in estimated reported damages to public infrastructure relating to 2023 and 2024 flooding events.

(B) To the extent that the funds appropriated in this subdivision (v)(1) have not been granted on or before September 30, 2025, they shall revert to the General Fund and be transferred to the Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund.

(C) To the extent that the funds appropriated in this subdivision (v)(1) are insufficient to distribute grants to all eligible municipalities in their full amount, the Commissioner of Finance and Management shall, pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 511, utilize excess receipt authority to establish spending authority from the PILOT Special Fund for this purpose.

(w) Vermont Housing and Conservation Board. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) \$2,800,000 General Fund to complete pilot projects identified pursuant to 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 186.

(x) Judiciary. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) \$800,000 General Fund to upgrade the network wiring and security systems in county court houses; and

(2) \$50,000 General Fund to upgrade or construct bathrooms in the Essex Meeting House that are compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Sec. C.104 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. B.1100, as amended by 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 87, Sec. 40, is further amended to read:

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

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

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

(2) \$15,000,000 General Fund to be used to offset the cost of denied claims for ~~Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)~~ federal reimbursement related to presidentially declared disasters in fiscal year 2024 or 2025, or to fund unanticipated statewide costs related to recovery efforts from declared disasters or administering programs created by funds from the American Rescue Plan Act – State Fiscal Recovery Fund, including the costs of related limited-service positions, and contracting for programs and services.

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

(4) \$30,000,000 General Fund to be used as ~~Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) matching funds~~ nonfederal share related to disaster spending for costs incurred due to the ~~July 2023 flooding event~~ federally declared disasters in fiscal years 2024 and 2025.

* * *

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

* * *

(2) \$8,834,000 General Fund and \$11,483,302 Federal Revenue Fund #22005 for a ~~two-year~~ pilot to expand the Blueprint for Health Hub and Spoke program. Funds shall be used to expand the substances covered by the program, include mental health and pediatric screenings, and make strategic investments with community partners; unexpended appropriations shall carry forward into subsequent fiscal years and remain available for this purpose;

* * *

(m) Department of Vermont Health Access. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) \$366,066 General Fund and \$372,048 Federal Revenue Fund #22005 for a ~~two-year~~ pilot to expand the Blueprint for Health Hub and Spoke program; unexpended appropriations shall carry forward into subsequent fiscal years and remain available for this purpose;

(2) \$15,583,352 Global Commitment Fund #20405 for a ~~two-year~~ pilot to expand the Blueprint for Health Hub and Spoke program; unexpended appropriations shall carry forward into subsequent fiscal years and remain available for this purpose; and

* * *

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

(1) \$4,595,448 Global Commitment Fund #20405 to the Division of Substance Use Programs for a ~~two-year~~ pilot to expand the Blueprint for Health Hub and Spoke program; unexpended appropriations shall carry forward into subsequent fiscal years and remain available for this purpose;

* * *

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

(1) ~~\$250,000 for per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses for members of the Task Force on Economic Development Incentives and for consulting services approved by the Task Force~~ consulting services related to legislative needs identified in the 2025–2026 biennium, including analysis of legislative staff compensation and organizational structure and implementation of adjustments in accordance with policies adopted by the Joint Legislative Management Committee.

* * *

Sec. C.105 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. C.110 is amended to read:

Sec. C.110 EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM;
REVERSION AND REALLOCATION

(a) The Secretary of Administration ~~shall revert~~ may reimburse up to \$5,000,000 \$14,300,000 of prior fiscal year federal funds ~~appropriated expended~~ through the Emergency Rental Assistance Program, as approved by the Joint Fiscal Committee pursuant to Grant Request #3034. ~~An amount of spending authority equal to these reversions shall be provided, pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 511, to existing State programs that meet the eligibility criteria established by the U.S. Treasury~~ with new General Fund appropriations transferred from existing State programs that meet the eligibility criteria established by the U.S. Treasury. These programs shall receive an amount of funds from the Emergency Rental Assistance Program equal to the amount of General Fund appropriation transferred.

Sec. C.106 [Deleted.]

Sec. C.107 BUSINESS EMERGENCY GAP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM;
VERMONT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
GRANT

(a) Of the \$7,000,000 General Fund authorized by unanimous vote of the Emergency Board on August 12, 2024 for the Business Emergency Gap Assistance Program, \$2,000,000 shall be used for a grant to the Vermont Economic Development Authority to establish a disaster relief fund for use by businesses following a natural disaster.

* * * Fiscal Year 2026 Fund Transfers and Reserve Allocations * * *

Sec. D.100 PROPERTY TRANSFER TAX ALLOCATIONS

(a) This act contains the following amounts allocated to special funds that receive revenue from the property transfer tax. These allocations shall not exceed available revenues.

(1) The sum of \$591,137 is allocated from the Current Use Administration Special Fund to the Department of Taxes for administration of the Use Tax Reimbursement Program. Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 9610(c), amounts in excess of \$591,137 from the property transfer tax deposited into the Current Use Administration Special Fund shall be transferred to the General Fund.

(2) Notwithstanding 10 V.S.A. § 312, amounts in excess of \$36,964,250 from the property transfer tax and the surcharge established by 32 V.S.A. § 9602a deposited into the Vermont Housing and Conservation Trust Fund shall be transferred to the General Fund.

(A) The dedication of \$2,500,000 in revenue from the property transfer tax pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 9610(d) for the debt payments on the affordable housing bond pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 314 shall be offset by the reduction of \$1,500,000 in the appropriation to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board and \$1,000,000 from the surcharge established by 32 V.S.A. § 9602a. The fiscal year 2026 appropriation of \$36,964,250 to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board reflects the \$1,500,000 reduction. The affordable housing bond and related property transfer tax and surcharge provisions are repealed after the life of the bond on July 1, 2039. Once the bond is retired, the \$1,500,000 reduction in the appropriation to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board shall be restored.

(3) Notwithstanding 24 V.S.A. § 4306(a)(2), amounts in excess of \$10,000,705 from the property transfer tax deposited into the Municipal and Regional Planning and Resilience Fund shall be transferred into the General Fund. Notwithstanding 24 V.S.A. § 4306(a)(3), the \$10,000,705 shall be allocated as follows:

(A) \$7,740,546 for disbursement to regional planning commissions in a manner consistent with 24 V.S.A. § 4306(b);

(B) \$1,260,089 for disbursement to municipalities in a manner consistent with 24 V.S.A. § 4306(b); and

(C) \$1,000,070 to the Agency of Digital Services for the Vermont Center for Geographic Information.

Sec. D.101 FUND TRANSFERS

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

(1) From the General Fund (#10000) to the:

(A) General Obligation Bonds Debt Service Fund (#35100): \$81,155,462.

(B) Capital Infrastructure Fund (#21952): \$10,272,469.

(C) Tax Computer System Modernization Fund (#21909): \$4,300,000.

(D) Fish and Wildlife Fund – Nondedicated (#20305): \$185,000.

(E) Education Fund (#20205): \$77,200,000.

(F) Communications and Information Technology Fund (#58100): \$10,000,000.

(G) Environmental Contingency Fund (#21275): \$9,520,000.

(H) Domestic and Sexual Violence Fund (#21926): \$450,000.

(I) Farm Security Special Fund: \$1,000,000.

(2) From the Transportation Fund (#20105) to the:

(A) General Obligation Bonds Debt Service Fund (#35100): \$305,825.

(B) Downtown Transportation and Related Capital Improvements Fund (#21575): \$523,966.

(3) From the Education Fund (#20205) to the:

(A) Tax Computer System Modernization Fund (#21909): \$1,500,000.

(4) From the Clean Water Fund (#21932) to the:

(A) Agricultural Water Quality Special Fund (#21933): \$11,000,000.

(B) Lake in Crisis Response Program Special Fund (#21938): \$120,000.

(5) From the Other Infrastructure, Essential Investments and Reserves Subaccount in the Cash Fund for Capital and Essential Investments (#21953) to the:

(A) Transportation Fund (#20105): \$12,500,000.

(B) Capital Infrastructure Subaccount in the Cash Fund for Capital and Essential Investments Fund (#21952): \$1,000,000.

(6) From the Agency of Human Services Central Office Earned Federal Receipts (#22005) to the:

(A) General Fund (#10000): \$4,641,960.

(7) From the Attorney General Fees and Reimbursement Court Order Fund (#21638) to the:

(A) General Fund (#10000): \$2,000,000.

(8) From the Cannabis Regulation Fund (#21998) to the:

(A) General Fund (#10000): 70 percent of the unencumbered and unexpended balance of the fund in excess of \$4,035,000 following the close of fiscal year 2025. The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall report the amount of this transfer to the Joint Fiscal Committee at its July 2025 meeting. For purposes of developing the fiscal year 2026 budget, this amount is estimated to be \$8,900,000.

(B) Substance Misuse Prevention Special Fund (#21995): 30 percent of the unencumbered and unexpended balance of the fund in excess of \$4,035,000 following the close of fiscal year 2025. The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall report the amount of this transfer to the Joint Fiscal Committee at its July 2025 meeting. For purposes of developing the fiscal year 2026 budget, this amount is estimated to be \$3,800,000.

(b) The following transfers shall be in accordance with the citations provided. Transfer estimates are for purposes of developing the fiscal year 2026 budget and do not supersede the actual year-end transfer amounts.

(1) To the General Fund (#10000) from the:

(A) 8 V.S.A. § 80(d). Insurance Regulatory and Supervision Fund (#21075): \$46,204,523.

(B) 9 V.S.A. § 5613(c). Securities Regulatory and Supervision Fund (#21085): \$21,745,635.

(C) 27 V.S.A. § 1543. Unclaimed Property Fund (#62100): \$6,541,757.

(2) To the Captive Insurance Regulatory and Supervision Fund (#21085) from the:

(A) General Fund (#10000): \$1,053,073

(c) Transfers from the following enterprise funds to the General Fund (#10000) shall not exceed the actual fiscal year end profits earned by the enterprise net of any amount necessary to absolve the fund of a deficit. The following estimated transfers are for purposes of developing the fiscal year 2026 budget only.

(1) From the Sports Wagering Enterprise Fund (#50250): \$7,600,000.

(2) From the Liquor Control Fund (#50300): \$14,849,754.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary in fiscal year 2026, \$19,000,000 shall be transferred from the Child Care Contribution Special Fund to the General Fund.

Sec. D.102 REVERSIONS

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, in fiscal year 2026, the following amounts shall revert to the General Fund from the accounts indicated:

<u>1100892208 AOA – VHFA</u>	<u>\$2,000,000.00</u>
<u>1210892201 LEG – Pension Benefit Consul</u>	<u>\$8,821.25</u>
<u>1220891803 VT Tax Structure Comm</u>	<u>\$59,673.09</u>
<u>1220891901 Contract Services for Research</u>	<u>\$25,000.00</u>
<u>1220892201 JFO – AAHC Task Force Consult</u>	<u>\$7,155.00</u>
<u>1220892301 JFO – Studies and Reports</u>	<u>\$21,125.50</u>
<u>1230891301 Security</u>	<u>\$39.10</u>
<u>1230892301 SAA – Capitol Police</u>	<u>\$0.99</u>
<u>1260892201 TRE – Bond Redemption</u>	<u>\$6,000,000.00</u>

Sec. D.103 RESERVES

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, in fiscal year 2026, the following reserve transactions shall be implemented for the funds provided:

(1) General Fund.

(A) The General Fund Budget Stabilization Reserve shall be adjusted in accordance with 32 V.S.A. § 308. For purposes of developing this budget, \$1,875,385 is expected to be unreserved in fiscal year 2026.

(B) The General Fund Human Services Caseload Reserve shall be adjusted in accordance with 32 V.S.A. § 308b. For purposes of developing this budget, \$2,721,375 is expected to be unreserved in fiscal year 2026.

(C) The General Fund 27/53 Reserve shall be adjusted in accordance with 32 V.S.A. § 308e. For purposes of developing this budget, \$5,700,000 is expected to be reserved in fiscal year 2026.

(2) Other Infrastructure, Essential Investments and Reserves Subaccount in the Cash for Capital and Essential Investments Fund.

(A) \$12,500,000 is unreserved for transfer to the Transportation Fund for use by the Agency of Transportation in accordance with the

provisions for which the funds were originally reserved in 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.1102(b)(17).

(B) \$14,500,000 is unreserved for use by the Department of Environmental Conservation in accordance with the provisions for which the funds were originally reserved in 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. C.108(b).

(3) Transportation Fund.

(A) For the purpose of calculating the fiscal year 2026 Transportation Fund Stabilization Reserve's requirement of five percent of prior year appropriations, fiscal year 2025 Transportation Fund reversions are deducted from the fiscal year 2025 total appropriations amount.

(b) In fiscal year 2025, \$5,000,000 shall be reserved within the Child Care Contribution Special Fund. If in fiscal year 2026 the Child Care Contribution Special Fund is found to have an undesignated fund deficit, these funds shall be unreserved and used to the extent necessary to offset the deficit as determined by Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. If these funds are used in fiscal year 2026, the Commissioner of Finance and Management shall report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, or the Joint Fiscal Committee when the General Assembly is not in session, on the amount used.

* * * General Government * * *

Sec. E.100 POSITIONS

(a) The establishment of 12 permanent positions is authorized in fiscal year 2026 for the following:

(1) Permanent classified positions:

(A) Office of the Attorney General:

(i) one Pre-charge Administrator.

(B) Office of the Secretary of State:

(i) one Administrative Services Coordinator IV.

(C) Green Mountain Care Board:

(i) one Reference-based Pricing Director;

(ii) one Reference-based Pricing Project Manager; and

(iii) one Operations, Procurement, and Contractual Oversight Manager.

(D) Department of Fish and Wildlife:

(i) one Fish and Wildlife Specialist.

(2) Permanent exempt positions:

(A) State Labor Relations Board:

(i) one Staff Attorney; and

(ii) one Labor Relations IT Staff.

(B) Office of the Attorney General:

(i) one Assistant Attorney General.

(C) Department of State's Attorneys and Sheriffs:

(i) one Financial and IT Specialist; and

(ii) two Transport Deputies.

(b) The establishment of four permanent positions to be established through existing vacant positions is authorized in fiscal year 2026 for the following:

(1) Permanent classified positions:

(A) Criminal Justice Council:

(i) one Canine Head Trainer.

(B) Cannabis Control Board:

(i) one Compliance and Enforcement Attorney.

(2) Permanent exempt positions:

(A) Human Rights Commission:

(i) one Intake Specialist; and

(ii) one Staff Attorney Investigator.

(c) The establishment of one classified limited service position is authorized in fiscal year 2026:

(1) Office of the State Treasurer:

(A) one Climate Superfund Specialist.

(d) The conversion of 11 limited service positions to permanent exempt status is authorized in fiscal year 2026 as follows:

(1) Land Use Review Board:

(A) two District Coordinators.

(2) Department of State's Attorneys and Sheriffs:

(A) six Deputy State's Attorneys;

(B) two Legal Assistants; and

(C) one Victim Advocate.

Sec. E.100.1 [Deleted.]

Sec. E.100.2 SECRETARY OF ADMINISTRATION; REPORT ON
STATUS OF FEDERAL FUNDS

(a) The Secretary of Administration shall report to the Joint Fiscal Committee at its July, September, and November 2025 meetings, and at other meetings as requested, on any reductions to federal revenues to the State and the status of any appropriations impacted by such reductions.

Sec. E.100.3 AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT; CORONAVIRUS STATE
FISCAL RECOVERY FUND APPROPRIATIONS;
REPORTING

(a) In fiscal year 2026, the Secretary of Administration shall report to the Joint Fiscal Committee on a quarterly basis, and upon the request of the Committee, on the status of appropriations made from the American Rescue Plan Act – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund.

(1) Reports shall include information on:

(A) the original amounts appropriated;

(B) outstanding obligations against appropriations; and

(C) any remaining spending authority.

(b) In fiscal year 2026, the Secretary of Administration shall report to the Joint Fiscal Committee on a quarterly basis, and upon the request of the Committee, on the status of any new spending authority established pursuant to 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. E.106.

(1) Reports shall include information on:

(A) the original amounts appropriated;

(B) outstanding obligations against appropriations; and

(C) any remaining spending authority.

(c) Any spending authority established pursuant to 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. E.106(a) and (c) that remains unexpended and unencumbered on December 31, 2027 shall revert to the General Fund. Any unallocated balance resulting from this reversion shall be reserved in the General Fund Balance Reserve.

(d) The Secretary of Administration shall report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on or before January 15, 2028 on the amount reverted to the General Fund and reserved in the General Fund Balance Reserve pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

Sec. E.105 AGENCY OF DIGITAL SERVICES; COMMUNICATIONS
AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FUND TRANSFER

(a) In fiscal year 2026, the Agency of Digital Services shall utilize from the Internal Service Fund appropriation in Sec. B.105 of this act an amount of funds equal to that transferred from the General Fund to the Communications and Information Technology Fund in this act to cover the costs of transitioning billable services from a service level agreement model to a core enterprise services model. To the extent to which these funds are insufficient to complete this transition, the Agency shall, as part of its fiscal year 2026 budget adjustment presentation, request an additional appropriation or transfer of funds and shall not bill other agencies or departments to cover the costs of the transition.

Sec. E.111 32 V.S.A. § 5824 is amended to read:

§ 5824. ADOPTION OF FEDERAL INCOME TAX LAWS

The statutes of the United States relating to the federal income tax, as in effect on December 31, ~~2023~~ 2024, but without regard to federal income tax rates under 26 U.S.C. § 1, are hereby adopted for the purpose of computing the tax liability under this chapter and shall continue in effect as adopted until amended, repealed, or replaced by act of the General Assembly.

Sec. E.111.1 32 V.S.A. § 7402 is amended to read:

§ 7402. DEFINITIONS

As used in this chapter unless the context requires otherwise:

* * *

(8) “Laws of the United States” means the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended through December 31, ~~2023~~ 2024. As used in this chapter, “Internal Revenue Code” has the same meaning as “laws of the United States” as defined in this subdivision. The date through which amendments to the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986 are adopted under this subdivision shall continue in effect until amended, repealed, or replaced by act of the General Assembly.

* * *

Sec. E.111.2 32 V.S.A. § 5861(c) is amended to read:

(c) Spouses or a surviving spouse ~~may~~ shall file a joint Vermont personal income tax return for any taxable year for which the spouses file or the surviving spouse ~~are permitted to file~~ files a joint federal income tax return under the laws of the United States, unless the Commissioner allows a different filing status.

Sec. E.111.3 TAX EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS; TAX YEAR 2025

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, for purposes of determining the tax-exempt status of an organization, Vermont tax laws for tax year 2025 shall follow 26 U.S.C. §§ 501–506 and all other federal statutory provisions, federal regulations, and federal case law relating to the determination of an organization’s tax-exempt status for purposes of federal income taxation, as in effect on April 1, 2025, regardless of any amendments or other changes affecting implementation or interpretation of those sections between April 1, 2025 and December 31, 2025, whether due to an act of Congress, federal regulation, federal bulletin, federal guidance, presidential executive order, federal administrative or judicial decision, or other federal source.

Sec. E.127 32 V.S.A. § 704 is amended to read:

§ 704. INTERIM BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENTS

(a) The General Assembly recognizes that acts of appropriations and their sources of funding reflect the priorities for expenditures of public funds enacted by the General Assembly and that major reductions or transfers, when required by reduced State revenues or other reasons, ought to be made whenever possible by an act of the General Assembly reflecting its revisions of those priorities. Nevertheless, the General Assembly also recognizes that when it is not in session, it may be necessary to reduce authorized appropriations and their sources of funding, and funds may need to be transferred, to maintain a balanced State budget. Under these limited circumstances, it is the intent of the General Assembly that appropriations may be reduced and funds transferred when the General Assembly is not in session pursuant to the provisions of this section.

(b)(1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (f) of this section, in each instance that the official State revenue estimate for the General Fund, the Transportation Fund, or federal funds has been reduced by one percent or more from the estimates determined and assumed for purposes of the current fiscal year’s appropriations, the Secretary of Administration shall prepare an expenditure reduction plan for consideration and approval by the Joint Fiscal Committee pursuant to subsection (e) of this section, provided that any total

reductions in appropriations and transfers of funds are not greater than the reductions in the official State revenue estimate.

(2) In each instance that the official State revenue estimate for the General Fund, the Transportation Fund, or federal funds has been reduced by less than one percent from the estimates determined and assumed for purposes of the current fiscal year's appropriations, the Secretary of Administration may prepare and implement an expenditure reduction plan without the approval of the Joint Fiscal Committee, provided that any total reductions in appropriations and transfers of funds are not greater than the reductions in the official State revenue estimate. The Secretary may implement an expenditure reduction plan under this subdivision if plan reductions to the total amount appropriated in any section or subsection do not exceed five percent, the plan is designed to minimize any negative effects on the delivery of services to the public, and the plan does not have any unduly disproportionate effect on any single function, program, service, benefit, or county. Plans not requiring the approval of the Joint Fiscal Committee shall be filed with the Joint Fiscal Office prior to implementation. If the Secretary's plan consists of reductions greater than five percent to the total amount appropriated in any section or subsection, such plan shall only be implemented in the manner provided for in subdivision (1) of this subsection.

* * *

Sec. E.127.1 32 V.S.A. § 133 is amended to read:

§ 133. DUTIES

(a) The Board shall have authority to make expenditures necessitated by unforeseen emergencies and may draw on the State's General Fund and General Fund Balance Reserve for that purpose.

(b) Pursuant to section 706 of this title, the Board shall also have authority to transfer appropriations made to other agencies and to use the transferred amounts to make expenditures necessitated by unforeseen emergencies.

(c) In a fiscal year, the sum of the Board's expenditures under subsections (a) and (b) of this section shall not exceed two percent of the total General Fund appropriation for the year of the expenditures.

Sec. E.127.2 32 V.S.A. § 308c is amended to read:

§ 308c. GENERAL FUND AND TRANSPORTATION FUND BALANCE RESERVES

(a) There is hereby created within the General Fund a General Fund Balance Reserve, also known as the "Rainy Day Reserve." After satisfying the requirements of section 308 of this title, and after other reserve requirements

have been met, any remaining unreserved and undesignated end of fiscal year General Fund surplus shall be reserved in the General Fund Balance Reserve. The General Fund Balance Reserve shall not exceed ~~five~~ 10 percent of the appropriations from the General Fund for the prior fiscal year without legislative authorization.

(1), (2) [Repealed.]

(3) Of the funds that would otherwise be reserved in the General Fund Balance Reserve under this subsection, the following amounts shall be reserved as necessary and transferred from the General Fund as follows:

(A) 25 percent to the Vermont State Retirement Fund established by 3 V.S.A. § 473; and

(B) 25 percent to the Postretirement Adjustment Allowance Account established in 16 V.S.A. § 1949a.

(b)(1) The General Assembly may ~~specifically unreserve and appropriate the use of up to 50 percent of the amounts added in the prior fiscal year from or transfer an amount not to exceed 10 percent of~~ the General Fund Balance Reserve to fund unforeseen or emergency needs. It is the intent of the General Assembly that any General Fund Balance Reserve funds utilized in accordance with this section be replenished.

(2) If the official State revenue estimates of the Emergency Board for the General Fund, determined under section 305a of this title, have been reduced by two percent or more from the estimates determined and assumed for purposes of the ~~general~~ appropriations act or budget adjustment act, funds in the General Fund Balance Reserve may be unreserved and appropriated or transferred to compensate for a reduction of revenues.

(c) There is hereby created within the Transportation Fund a Transportation Fund Balance Reserve. After satisfying the requirements of section 308a of this title, and after other reserve requirements have been met, any remaining unreserved and undesignated end of fiscal year Transportation Fund surplus shall be reserved in the Transportation Fund Balance Reserve. Monies from this Reserve shall be available for appropriation by the General Assembly.

(d) Determination of the amounts of the General Fund and Transportation Fund Balance Reserves shall be made by the Commissioner of Finance and Management and reported, along with the amounts appropriated pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, to the legislative Joint Fiscal Committee at its first meeting following September 1 of each year.

Sec. E.127.3 FEDERAL FUNDING; CALCULATION OF
APPROPRIATION REDUCTION; SECRETARY OF
ADMINISTRATION; JOINT FISCAL COMMITTEE

(a) As used in this section:

(1) “Unduplicated appropriation” means the total appropriation set forth in this act for a governmental function excluding Global Commitment funds, Interdepartmental Transfer funds, and Internal Service funds. For purposes of this section, the determination of unduplicated appropriations shall not include Education Fund.

(2) “Governmental function unit” refers to the governmental function areas set forth in Sec. A.108 of this act.

(b) In each instance that a reduction in federal funds to the State results in:

(1) the unduplicated appropriation for each governmental function unit to decrease by less than one half of one percent, the Secretary of Administration shall notify the Joint Fiscal Committee.

(2) the unduplicated appropriation for any governmental function unit to decrease by one half to one percent:

(A) the Secretary of Administration shall prepare an expenditure reduction and transfer plan for consideration and approval by the Joint Fiscal Committee pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 704(e), provided that any total reductions in appropriations and transfers of funds are not greater than the reductions in federal funds; and

(B) to maintain a balanced State budget, minimize the impact to Vermonters and to abide by the legislative intent set forth by the General Assembly in this act, the Joint Fiscal Committee may make a recommendation to the Emergency Board to:

(i) pursuant to Sec. E.127.4 of this act, utilize the General Fund Balance Reserve or the appropriation set forth in Sec. B.1101(b)(2) of this act, or both, to support impacted programs at not more than the current fiscal year funding level until the General Assembly is in session;

(ii) revert any unexpended and unobligated funds; and

(iii) make such reductions or transfers in appropriations necessary to support the priorities of the General Assembly, and the recommended reduction is limited to not more than 10 percent of any fund or 10 percent of any appropriation.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, for the purpose of calculating any appropriation reduction that triggers the actions set

forth in this section, the baseline federal funding amounts shall be the federal funding set forth in this act. The Secretary of Administration shall monitor any changes in federal funding as the difference between the baseline federal funding amount for use in fiscal year 2026 and any updated State federal funds revenue forecast adopted by the Emergency Board and shall calculate the percent reduction of the unduplicated appropriations for each governmental function unit.

Sec. E.127.4 EMERGENCY BOARD; REPLENISH REDUCED SPENDING AUTHORITY

(a) The Emergency Board, in response to a declared emergency pursuant to 20 V.S.A. § 9 occurring while the General Assembly is not in session, or a reduction in State revenue estimates or federal funding pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 704(b) occurring while the General Assembly is not in session, may unreserve and make available an amount not to exceed 10 percent of the General Fund Balance Reserve to replenish the spending authority impacted by the declared emergency or reduction in funding in order to maintain a balanced State budget, minimize the impact to Vermonters, and to abide by the legislative intent set forth by the General Assembly in the most recent fiscal year appropriations act. In no event shall the amount provided to any agency or department under this section exceed the original amount appropriated by the General Assembly.

Sec. E.127.5 FISCAL YEAR 2026 FEE REPORT; GENERAL GOVERNMENT

(a) Fiscal year 2026 fee information. Agencies, departments, boards, and offices that receive appropriations in Secs. B.100-199, B.400-599, and B. 800-999 of this act shall, in collaboration with the Joint Fiscal Office, prepare a comprehensive fee report for each fee that is in effect in fiscal year 2026. The fee report shall contain the following information for each fee:

- (1) the statutory authorization and termination date, if any;
- (2) the current rate or amount of the fee and the date the fee was last set or adjusted by the General Assembly or Joint Fiscal Committee;
- (3) the Fund into which the fee revenues are deposited;
- (4) the amount of the revenues derived from the fee in each of the five fiscal years preceding fiscal year 2026;
- (5) the number of times that the fee was paid in each of the two fiscal years preceding fiscal year 2026;
- (6) a projection of the fee revenues in fiscal years 2026 and 2027;

(7) a description of the service or product provided or the regulatory function performed by the agency, department, board or office supported by the fee;

(8) the amount of the fee if adjusted for inflation from the last time the fee amount was modified using an appropriate index chosen in consultation with the Joint Fiscal Office. The inflation adjustment shall be calculated as the percentage change between the value of the index in the July of the year the fee was last adjusted by the General Assembly and July 2025;

(9) if any portion of the fee revenue is deposited into a special fund, the percentage of the special fund's revenues that the fee represents;

(10) any available information regarding comparable fees in other jurisdictions;

(11) any polices or trends that might affect the viability of the fee amount; and

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

(b) Reports.

(1) The Joint Fiscal Office shall provide guidance as necessary to the agencies, departments, boards, and offices described in subsection (a) of this section on the methodology to be used for compiling the information requested in the fee reports. On or before October 15, 2025, the agencies, departments, boards, and offices described in subsection (a) of this section shall submit a draft report of the information required in subdivisions (a)(1)–(12) of this section to the Joint Fiscal Office for review. Agencies, departments, boards, and offices shall work with the Joint Fiscal Office to finalize the report before submitting the final report described in subdivision (2) of this subsection.

(2) On or before December 15, 2025, the agencies, departments, boards, and offices described in subsection (a) shall submit a jointly prepared final report to the House Committees on Appropriations and on Ways and Means and the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Finance.

(3) If any of the information requested in this section cannot be provided for any reason, the agencies, departments, boards, and offices described in subsection (a) shall include in both the draft and final reports a written explanation for why the information cannot be provided.

(c) As used in this section, as it pertains to Executive Branch agencies, departments, boards, and offices, "fee" means any source of State revenue classified by the Department of Finance and Management Accounting System as "fees," "business licenses," "nonbusiness licenses," and "fines and penalties."

(d) Executive Branch fee report moratorium. Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 605, in fiscal year 2026, the Governor shall not be required to submit the consolidated Executive Branch fee annual report and request to the General Assembly.

Sec. E.131 3 V.S.A. chapter 18 is amended to read:

CHAPTER 18. VT VERMONT SAVES

§ 531. DEFINITIONS

As used in this chapter:

* * *

(3) “Covered employer” means a person, entity, or subsidiary engaged in a business, industry, profession, trade, or other enterprise in the State, whether for profit or not for profit, that ~~has~~ does ~~not offered~~ currently offer to an employee, or is within a control group that maintains or contributes to, ~~effective in form or operation at any time within the current calendar year or two preceding calendar years,~~ a specified tax-favored retirement plan. If an employer does not maintain a specified tax-favored retirement plan for a portion of a calendar year ending on or after the effective date of this chapter but does adopt such a plan for the remainder of that calendar year, the employer is not a covered employer for the remainder of the year. A covered employer does not include:

(A) the federal government, the State or any other state, any county or municipal corporation, or any of the State’s or any other state’s units or instrumentalities;

(B) any employer that has ~~not~~ only been in business during ~~both the current calendar year and the preceding calendar year.~~

(4) “ERISA” means the federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended, 29 U.S.C § 1001 et seq.

(5) “Internal Revenue Code” means the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

(6) “IRA” means a traditional IRA or a Roth IRA.

(7) “Participant” means an individual who has an IRA under the Program.

(8) “Payroll deduction IRA or payroll deduction IRA arrangement” means an arrangement by which an employer allows employees to contribute to an IRA by means of payroll deduction.

(9) “Program” means the ~~VT~~ Vermont Saves Program established in accordance with this chapter.

* * *

§ 532. ~~VT~~ VERMONT SAVES PROGRAM; ESTABLISHMENT

(a) Establishment; purpose. There is established the ~~VT~~ Vermont Saves Program (Program), administered by the Office of the State Treasurer, for the purpose of increasing financial security for Vermonters by providing access to an IRA for Vermont employees of companies that do not currently offer a retirement savings program. The Program shall be designed to facilitate portability of benefits through withdrawals, rollovers, and direct transfers from an IRA and achieve economies of scale and other efficiencies to minimize costs. The Program shall:

* * *

(b) Type of IRA. The type of IRA to which contributions are made pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall be a Roth IRA; provided, however, the Treasurer is authorized to add an option for all participants to:

(1) affirmatively elect to contribute to a traditional IRA instead of a Roth IRA; or

(2) open both a Roth IRA and a traditional IRA.

(c) Contributions.

(1) Unless otherwise specified by the covered employee, a covered employee shall automatically initially contribute five percent of the covered employee’s salary or wages to the Program. A covered employee may elect to opt out of the Program at any time or contribute at any higher or lower rate, expressed as a percentage of salary or wages, or, as permitted by the Treasurer, expressed as a flat dollar amount, subject in all cases to the IRA contribution and eligibility limits applicable under the Internal Revenue Code at no additional charge.

(2) The Treasurer shall provide for, on a uniform basis, an annual increase of each active participant’s contribution rate, by not less than one percent, but not more than eight percent, of salary or wages each year. Any such increases shall apply to active participants, including participants by default with an option to opt out or participants who are initiated by affirmative participant election, provided that any increase is subject to the IRA contribution and eligibility limits applicable under the Internal Revenue Code.

* * *

Sec. E.131.1 29 V.S.A. chapter 61 is amended to read:

CHAPTER 61. MUNICIPAL EQUIPMENT AND VEHICLE LOAN FUND

§ 1601. MUNICIPAL EQUIPMENT AND VEHICLE LOAN FUND

(a) There is hereby created the Municipal Equipment and Vehicle Loan Fund for the purpose of providing loans on favorable terms to municipalities for the purchase of ~~construction, fire, emergency, or heavy equipment or motorized highway building and maintenance equipment, heavy equipment, and authorized emergency vehicles as set forth in 23 V.S.A. § 4.~~

(b) The Municipal Equipment and Vehicle Loan Fund shall be administered by a committee composed of the State Treasurer and the State Traffic Committee established by 19 V.S.A. § 1(24), pursuant to policies and procedures approved by the Traffic ~~this Committee established by 19 V.S.A. § 1(24) with administrative support from the Office of the State Treasurer.~~ The Committee shall establish criteria for distribution of available loan funds among municipalities considering at least financial need, equitable geographic distribution, and ability to repay. The Fund shall be a revolving fund and all principal and interest earned on loans and the fund balance remaining in the Fund at the end of any fiscal year shall ~~not revert but be carried over in the Fund~~ available for use in the succeeding fiscal year. The Committee shall meet upon request of the Treasurer to consider applications.

§ 1602. APPLICATION; LOANS; CONDITIONS

(a) Application forms shall be furnished by the Committee on request. Upon Committee approval of an application of a municipality or two or more municipalities applying jointly for purchases as set forth in subsection 1601(a) of this title, the State Treasurer may loan money from the Fund to ~~that municipality or municipalities for the purchase of equipment. Purchases of equipment eligible for loans the applicants. Loans from the Fund shall have be used on equipment and vehicles with~~ a useful life of at least five years and a purchase price of at least \$20,000.00 ~~but shall not be eligible for loans in excess of \$150,000.00 from this Fund.~~

(b) The State Treasurer is authorized to establish terms and conditions, including repayment schedules of up to five years for loans from the Fund to ensure repayment of loans to the Fund. The amount of any loan shall be not more than 75 percent of the purchase price or \$150,000, whichever is lower. Before a municipality may receive a loan from the Fund, it shall give to the State Treasurer security for the repayment of the funds. The security shall be in such form and amount as the Treasurer may determine and may include a lien on the equipment or emergency vehicle financed by the loan.

(c) The rates of interest shall be as established by this section to assist municipalities in purchasing equipment upon terms more favorable than in the commercial market. Such rates shall be not more than two percent per annum for a loan to a single municipality, and loans shall bear no interest charge if made to two or more municipalities purchasing equipment jointly.

(d) In any fiscal year, new loans from the ~~Municipal Equipment Loan Fund~~ shall not exceed an aggregate of \$1,500,000.00. ~~The Treasurer shall put forth recommendations to the General Assembly on maximum loan amount every five years, commencing January 15, 2028, based on requests received and loans granted pursuant to this chapter.~~

(e) When a municipality suffers the destruction of more than one piece of equipment or a vehicle at or near the same time or suffers some unanticipated hardship relating to the equipment or vehicle and the Committee finds that replacement would place an undue financial hardship on the municipality, the Committee may waive one or both of the following loan limiting factors in subsection (b) of this section:

(1) the \$150,000 annual limitation on each municipality; or

(2) the 75 percent of the purchase price limitation.

(f) The State Treasurer shall put forth recommendations to the General Assembly on the maximum individual loan amount from the Fund every five years, commencing on January 15, 2028, based on requests received and loans granted pursuant to this chapter in the five preceding years.

* * *

Sec. E.131.2 32 V.S.A. § 1001 is amended to read:

§ 1001. CAPITAL DEBT AFFORDABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

* * *

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

* * *

(4) The criteria that recognized bond rating agencies use to judge the quality of issues of State bonds, including:

(A) existing and projected total debt service on net tax-supported debt as a percentage of combined General and Transportation Fund revenues, excluding surpluses in these revenues that may occur in an individual fiscal year; ~~and~~

(B) existing and projected total net tax-supported debt outstanding as a percentage of total State personal income;

(C) existing and projected pension and other postemployment benefit liability metrics; and

(D) other metrics at the Committee's discretion, including long-term liabilities not covered in subdivisions (A)–(C) of this subdivision (4).

(5) The principal amounts currently outstanding, and balances for the next fiscal year, and annually for the following nine fiscal years, of existing:

(A) obligations of instrumentalities of the State for which the State has a contingent or limited liability;

(B) any other long-term debt of instrumentalities of the State not secured by the full faith and credit of the State, or for which the General Assembly is permitted to replenish reserve funds; and

(C) to the maximum extent obtainable, all long-term debt of municipal governments in Vermont that is secured by general tax or user fee revenues.

(6) The impact of capital spending upon the economic conditions and outlook for the State.

(7) The cost-benefit of various levels of debt financing, types of debt, and maturity schedules.

(8) Any projections of capital needs authorized or prepared by the Agency of Transportation, the Joint Fiscal Office, or other agencies or departments.

(9) Any other factor that is relevant to:

(A) the ability of the State to meet its projected debt service requirements for the next five fiscal years; or

(B) the interest rate to be borne by the credit rating on, or other factors affecting the marketability of State bonds.

(10) The effect of authorizations of new State debt on each of the considerations of this section.

(11) The capital asset depreciation ratio reflecting unfunded capital maintenance costs.

* * *

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

(a) Of the \$3,288,093 appropriated in Sec. B.133 of this act, \$2,247,471 constitutes the Vermont State Employees' Retirement System operating budget, and \$1,040,622 constitutes the portion of the Vermont Pension Investment Commission's budget attributable to the Vermont State Employees' Retirement System.

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

(a) Of the \$1,901,020 appropriated in Sec. B.134 of this act, \$1,494,924 constitutes the Vermont Municipal Employees' Retirement System operating budget, and \$406,096 constitutes the portion of the Vermont Pension Investment Commission's budget attributable to the Vermont Municipal Employees' Retirement System.

Sec. E.134.1 [Deleted.]

Sec. E.134.2 [Deleted.]

Sec. E.139 GRAND LIST LITIGATION ASSISTANCE

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

Sec. E.142 PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES

(a) This appropriation is for State payments in lieu of property taxes under 32 V.S.A. chapter 123, subchapter 4, and the payments shall be calculated in addition to and without regard to the appropriations for correctional facilities

elsewhere in this act. Payments in lieu of taxes under this section shall be paid from the PILOT Special Fund under 32 V.S.A. § 3709.

Sec. E.142.1 32 V.S.A. § 3709 is amended to read:

§ 3709. PILOT SPECIAL FUND

(a) There is hereby established a PILOT Special Fund consisting of local option tax revenues paid to the Treasurer pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 138. This Fund shall be managed by the Commissioner of Taxes pursuant to chapter 7, subchapter 5 of this title. Notwithstanding subdivision 588(3) of this title, all interest earned on the Fund shall be retained in the Fund for use in meeting future obligations. The Fund shall be exclusively for payments required under chapter 123, ~~subchapter~~ subchapters 4 and 4C of this title, and for any additional State payments in lieu of taxes for correctional facilities ~~and to the City of Montpelier~~. The Commissioner of Finance and Management may draw warrants for disbursements from this Fund in anticipation of receipts.

* * *

Sec. E.142.2 32 V.S.A. chapter 123, subchapter 4C is added to read:

Subchapter 4C. Municipal Grand List Stabilization Program

§ 3710. MUNICIPAL GRAND LIST STABILIZATION PROGRAM

(a) There is established the Municipal Grand List Stabilization Program within the Department of Taxes to reimburse municipalities for municipal property taxes assessed under chapter 133 of this title for flood-prone properties acquired by a municipality pursuant to 20 V.S.A. § 51 or a prior voluntary buyout program operated by the Division of Emergency Management.

(b) On or before September 1 of each year, the Commissioner of Public Safety shall certify to the Commissioner of Taxes the properties eligible for the Municipal Grand List Stabilization Program and shall submit any other information required by the Commissioner of Taxes. To be eligible for the Program under this subchapter, a municipality must have acquired an eligible property on or after July 1, 2023 and preserved the property as open space with a deed restriction or covenant prohibiting development of the property. The Commissioner of Public Safety shall first certify properties to the Commissioner of Taxes pursuant to this subsection on or before September 1, 2025.

(c) Upon notification by the Commissioner of Public Safety, the Commissioner of Taxes shall certify the payment amounts and make an annual payment to each municipality for each eligible property to compensate for the loss of municipal property tax. The payment shall be calculated using the

grand list value of the acquired property for the year during which the property was either damaged by flooding or identified as flood-prone by the Commissioner of Public Safety, multiplied by the municipal tax rate, including any submunicipal tax rates, in effect each year. This payment shall be made on or before January 1 of each year for five years.

(d) A property shall not be eligible for reimbursement payments for more than 10 years. The Commissioner shall make an annual payment for the full amount calculated under subsection (c) of this section for five years. After a municipality has received payments for an eligible property for five consecutive years, the Commissioner shall make an annual payment to the municipality for any subsequent year of eligibility in an amount equal to one-half of the amount calculated under subsection (c) of this section.

(e) Payment under this section shall be calculated and issued from the PILOT Special Fund under section 3709 of this title only after all other grants under subchapter 4 of this chapter are calculated and issued. If the PILOT Special Fund balance is insufficient to pay the full amount of all payments authorized under this subchapter, then payments calculated under this section and due to each municipality for each property shall be reduced proportionately.

Sec. E.142.3 20 V.S.A. § 51 is added to read:

§ 51. FLOOD-PRONE PROPERTIES; ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

The Division of Emergency Management and the Agency of Commerce and Community Development shall establish and maintain the Voluntary Buyout Program for flood-prone properties. The Program shall allow a municipality, at the request of the owner of a flood-prone property, to apply for funding to cover the purchase price of the property. The purchase price shall be the full fair market value of the flood-prone property. The municipality shall maintain the acquired property as open space with a deed restriction or covenant prohibiting development of the property.

Sec. E.144 PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES; CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

(a) Payments in lieu of taxes under this section shall be paid from the PILOT Special Fund under 32 V.S.A. § 3709.

Sec. E.200 ATTORNEY GENERAL

(a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the Office of the Attorney General, Medicaid Fraud and Residential Abuse Unit, is authorized to retain, subject to appropriation, one-half of the State share of any recoveries from Medicaid fraud settlements, excluding interest, that exceed the State share of

restitution to the Medicaid Program. All such designated additional recoveries retained shall be used to finance Medicaid Fraud and Residential Abuse Unit activities.

(b) Of the revenue available to the Attorney General under 9 V.S.A. § 2458(b)(4), \$1,802,200 is appropriated in Sec. B.200 of this act.

Sec. E.200.1 9 V.S.A. § 2473 is amended to read:

§ 2473. NOTICE OF SOLICITATION

* * *

(f)(1) For each calendar year in which a paid fundraiser solicits in this State on behalf of a charitable organization, the paid fundraiser shall pay a registration fee of ~~\$500.00~~ \$675 to the Attorney General ~~no not~~ later than ~~ten~~ 10 days prior to its first solicitation in this State.

(2) Each notice of solicitation filed in accordance with this section shall be accompanied by a fee of ~~\$200.00~~ \$270. In the case of a campaign lasting more than 12 months, an additional ~~\$200.00~~ \$270 fee shall be paid annually on or before the date of the anniversary of the commencement of the campaign.

(3) Fees paid under this subsection shall be deposited in a special fund managed pursuant to 32 V.S.A. chapter 7, subchapter 5, and shall be available to the Attorney General for the costs of administering sections 2471–2479 of this title.

Sec. E.200.2 18 V.S.A. § 4632 is amended to read:

§ 4632. DISCLOSURE OF ALLOWABLE EXPENDITURES AND GIFTS
BY MANUFACTURERS OF PRESCRIBED PRODUCTS

* * *

(b)(1) Annually on or before April 1, the Office of the Attorney General shall collect a ~~\$500.00~~ \$765 fee from each manufacturer of prescribed products filing annual disclosures of expenditures greater than zero described in subsection (a) of this section.

(2) Fees collected under this section shall fund collection and analysis of information on activities related to the marketing of prescribed products under section 4631a of this title and under this section. The fees shall be collected in a special fund assigned to the Office.

* * *

Sec. E.208 PUBLIC SAFETY; ADMINISTRATION

(a) The Commissioner of Public Safety is authorized to enter into a performance-based contract with the Essex County Sheriff's Department to

provide law enforcement service activities agreed upon by both the Commissioner of Public Safety and the Sheriff.

Sec. E.208.1 PUBLIC SAFETY; CAPITAL PLAN

(a) As part of its fiscal year 2027 budget presentation, the Department of Public Safety shall submit a capital plan for the replacement of firearms and mobile and portable radio equipment to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

Sec. E.208.2 VERMONT COMMUNITY RADIO GRANT PROGRAM

(a) Findings. The General Assembly finds that:

(1) Vermont's seven active community radio stations currently serve over 200,000 Vermonters, many in rural and underserved areas.

(2) Community radio stations have consistently provided critical information during emergencies, including Tropical Storm Irene, recent severe flooding, and other natural disasters.

(3) These stations operate with small budgets, primarily relying on volunteer staff and listener donations, and are ineligible for federal funding through the Corporation for Public Broadcasting due to their size.

(4) Upcoming FCC-approved stations in Bristol, Richmond-Underhill-Jericho, and Ludlow will expand coverage to nearly all Vermont counties, increasing statewide accessibility to vital community radio services.

(5) Investment in these stations strengthens Vermont's public safety network and promotes civic engagement by providing local, hyper-focused content that commercial and statewide media cannot replicate.

(b) Intent. The intent of this section is to ensure Vermont's community radio stations remain resilient and prepared to serve as lifelines during emergencies while fostering local engagement and preserving Vermont's unique community fabric.

(c) Grant program.

(1) The Vermont Community Radio Grant Program is established to provide one-time funding to community radio stations for the purpose of:

(A) upgrading equipment and infrastructure necessary for reliable emergency broadcasting;

(B) procuring and installing backup generators; and

(C) enhancing operational sustainability through software improvements and technical training.

(2) The Program shall be administered by the Commissioner of Public Safety or designee in collaboration with the Vermont Association of Broadcasters.

(3) Grants shall be allocated as follows:

(A) up to \$25,000 per station for seven active community radio stations; and

(B) up to \$10,000 per station for three upcoming stations currently under construction.

(4) To be eligible for a grant under the Program, an applicant shall:

(A) be a nonprofit, noncommercial community radio station licensed in Vermont;

(B) demonstrate a history of providing emergency broadcasting services or show the capacity to provide those services upon funding; and

(C) submit a detailed implementation plan for the proposed use of grant funding.

(d) Report. On or before June 30, 2026, a community radio station that receives a grant under the Program shall provide to the Commissioner of Public Safety a report detailing the:

(1) use of grant funds, including itemized expenses;

(2) improvements achieved in emergency readiness and operational capacity; and

(3) impact on community service and engagement.

Sec. E.209 PUBLIC SAFETY; STATE POLICE

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

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

(c) Of the General Fund appropriation in Sec. B.209 of this act, \$2,100,000 is allocated exclusively for the purchase, outfitting, assignment, and disposal of State Police vehicles.

Sec. E.212 PUBLIC SAFETY; FIRE SAFETY

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

Sec. E.215 MILITARY; ADMINISTRATION

(a) The amount of \$1,319,834 shall be disbursed to the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation for the National Guard Tuition Benefit Program established in 16 V.S.A. § 2857.

Sec. E.219 MILITARY; VETERANS' AFFAIRS

(a) Of the funds appropriated in Sec. B.219 of this act, \$1,000 shall be used for continuation of the Vermont Medal Program; \$2,000 shall be used for the expenses of the Governor's Veterans Advisory Council; \$7,500 shall be used for the Veterans' Day parade; and \$10,000 shall be granted to the American Legion for the Boys' State and Girls' State programs.

Sec. E.232 SECRETARY OF STATE; VERMONT ACCESS NETWORK
BUDGET

(a) The Secretary of State shall grant the \$1,350,000 General Fund appropriation, provided in Section B.232 of this act, to the Vermont Access Network to maintain current operations and programming.

Sec. E.232.1 SECRETARY OF STATE; LOCAL CIVIC JOURNALISM
AWARDS

(a) As part of its civic engagement and education activities, the Office of the Secretary of State shall, in collaboration with the University of Vermont Center for Community News, make cash awards to local civic journalism organizations or businesses with funds appropriated to it in Sec. B.1100(aa)(1) of this act. The Office of the Secretary of State shall, in collaboration with the University of Vermont Center for Community News, establish award criteria and assemble a panel of three to five journalists, academics, and industry veterans who neither work for eligible organizations nor are eligible to receive awards themselves to determine award recipients. Awards shall be made in amounts between \$1,000 and \$10,000.

Sec. E.236.1 LIQUOR AND LOTTERY; APPROPRIATION; BUSINESS
-TO-BUSINESS WEBSITE

(a) Of the funds appropriated in Sec. B.236.1 of this act, \$1,820,000 Enterprise Fund shall be used for the business-to-business website design and implementation to improve the ordering and payment for on-premise licensees.

Sec. E.300 FUNDING FOR THE OFFICE OF THE HEALTH CARE
ADVOCATE, VERMONT LEGAL AID

(a) Of the funds appropriated in Sec. B.300 of this act:

(1) \$2,000,406 shall be used for the contract with the Office of the Health Care Advocate;

(2) \$1,717,994 for Vermont Legal Aid services, including the Poverty Law Project and mental health services; and

(3) \$650,000 is for the purposes of maintaining current Vermont Legal Aid program capacity and addressing increased requests for services, including eviction prevention and protection from foreclosure and consumer debt.

Sec. E.300.1 REPORT; RESIDENTIAL BEDS FOR YOUTH

(a) As part of their fiscal year 2027 budget presentations to the General Assembly, the Agency of Human Services and departments within the Agency of Human Services shall provide coordinated information regarding:

(1) the basis for the projected number of beds per facility to create 41 new beds for youth in high-end facilities under the Departments for Children and Families, of Mental Health, and of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living for inpatient, psychiatric residential, stabilization, and treatment services, including projected reductions in out-of-state placements;

(2) the status of capacity at lower level residential and crisis facilities and their capabilities in preventing higher level needs if investments would enable full capacity use; and

(3) a projected five-year operating budget across the Agency and departments for full utilization of the new high-end system components as currently planned, including:

(A) costs to the Department of Vermont Health Access' budget; and

(B) how these costs will impact the overall budgets for lower-level, community-based, prevention, and other services needed to prevent escalation to higher levels of care.

Sec. E.300.2 EVALUATION OF OPPORTUNITIES TO ACHIEVE
OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCIES AT COMMUNITY-BASED
SERVICE PROVIDERS; REPORT

(a) The Agency of Human Services shall evaluate the organizational and funding structures of certain community-based service providers to identify opportunities for coordinating and consolidating functions across providers in order to achieve operational efficiencies and cost savings.

(1) The community-based service providers that the Agency shall evaluate pursuant to this section may include area agencies on aging, community action agencies, designated and specialized service agencies, and parent-child centers.

(2) The functions that the Agency considers for potential coordination or consolidation may include human resources responsibilities, business processes, information technology systems, contracting and other legal services, and other functions that the Agency finds are being carried out by or on behalf of many community-based service providers in this State and that may be able to be performed more efficiently and cost-effectively across multiple service providers.

(b) On or before January 15, 2026, the Agency of Human Services shall report to the House Committees on Appropriations, Health Care, and Human Services and the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Health and Welfare with the results of its evaluation and its findings and recommendations for ways in which specific functions may be coordinated or consolidated across community-based service providers in order to achieve operational efficiencies and cost savings.

Sec. E.300.3 SETTLEMENT FUNDS; PRIMARY CARE; LEGISLATIVE
INTENT; REPORT

(a) On or before January 15, 2026, the Agency of Human Services shall report to the House Committees on Health Care and on Appropriations and the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Appropriations regarding the funding mechanism used to distribute \$11,000,000 from the University of Vermont Medical Center to non-hospital primary care providers pursuant to the Settlement Agreement entered into by the University of Vermont Medical Center, Inc., University of Vermont Health Network, Inc., and the Green Mountain Care Board in April 2025 and regarding the timing of the fund distribution.

(b) Following receipt of the report set forth in subsection (a) of this section, it is the intent of the General Assembly to identify funds appropriated by this act to address shortfalls in primary care investments in fiscal year 2026

that may be duplicated by the distribution of settlement funds described in subsection (a) of this section and that can be redirected through the fiscal year 2026 budget adjustment act to provide additional supports to providers of primary care, mental health, substance use disorder treatment, and other health care services in this State.

Sec. E.301 SECRETARY'S OFFICE; GLOBAL COMMITMENT

(a) The Agency of Human Services shall use the funds appropriated in Sec. B.301 of this act for payment required under the intergovernmental agreement between the Agency of Human Services and the managed care entity, the Department of Vermont Health Access, as provided for in the Global Commitment for Health Waiver approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services under Section 1115 of the Social Security Act.

(b) In addition to the State funds appropriated in Sec. B.301 of this act, a total estimated sum of \$27,887,533 is anticipated to be certified as State matching funds as follows:

(1) \$24,714,000 certified State match available from local education agencies for eligible special education school-based Medicaid services under Global Commitment. This amount, combined with \$35,286,000 of federal funds appropriated in Sec. B.301 of this act, equals a total estimated expenditure of \$60,000,000. An amount equal to the amount of the federal matching funds for eligible special education school-based Medicaid services under Global Commitment shall be transferred from the Global Commitment Fund to the Medicaid Reimbursement Special Fund established by 16 V.S.A. § 2959a.

(2) \$3,173,533 certified State match available from local designated mental health and developmental services agencies for eligible mental health services provided under Global Commitment.

(c) Up to \$4,997,210 is transferred from the Agency of Human Services Federal Receipts Holding Account to the Interdepartmental Transfer Fund consistent with the amount appropriated in Sec. B.301 of this act.

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

(a) To facilitate fiscal year 2026 closeout, the Secretary of Human Services, with the approval of the Secretary of Administration, may make transfers among the appropriations authorized for Medicaid and Medicaid waiver program expenses, including Global Commitment appropriations outside the Agency of Human Services. At least three business days prior to any transfer, the Agency of Human Services shall submit to the Joint Fiscal Office a proposal of transfers to be made pursuant to this section. A final

report on all transfers made under this section shall be made to the Joint Fiscal Committee for review at the Committee's September 2026 meeting. The purpose of this section is to provide the Agency with limited authority to modify the appropriations to comply with the terms and conditions of the Global Commitment section 1115 demonstration approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services under section 1115 of the Social Security Act.

Sec. E.301.2 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 83, Sec. 72a, as amended by 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. C.105, 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. E.301.2, and 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. E.300.2, is further amended to read:

Sec. 72a. MEDICAID HOME- AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES
(HCBS) PLAN

* * *

(f) The Global Commitment Fund appropriated in subsection (e) of this section obligated in fiscal years 2023, 2024, ~~and 2025, and 2026~~ for the purposes of bringing HCBS plan spending authority forward into fiscal year years 2024, and fiscal year 2025, and 2026, respectively. The funds appropriated in subsections (b), (c), and (e) of this section may be transferred on a net-neutral basis in fiscal years 2023, 2024, ~~and 2025, and 2026~~ in the same manner as the Global Commitment appropriations in 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. E.301. The Agency shall report to the Joint Fiscal Committee in September 2023, September 2024, ~~and September 2025, and September 2026,~~ respectively, on transfers of appropriations made and final amounts expended by each department in fiscal years 2023, 2024, ~~and 2025, and 2026,~~ respectively, and any obligated funds carried forward to be expended in fiscal year years 2024, and fiscal year 2025, and 2026, respectively.

Sec. E.301.3 GLOBAL COMMITMENT FUND; HOSPITAL DIRECTED
PAYMENT PROGRAM

(a) The Agency of Human Services may seek a State Directed Payment model with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. This payment model will be for a Hospital Directed Payment program. Upon approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the Agency of Human Services' Department of Vermont Health Access, the University of Vermont, and the University of Vermont Medical Center may enter into a mutual agreement on the implementation of the Hospital Directed Payment program.

(b) If the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services approves a Vermont Hospital Directed Payment program within the State's Global Commitment to

Health Section 1115 Demonstration Waiver in fiscal year 2026 while the General Assembly is not in session, then, pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 511 and notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the Department of Finance and Management may approve the Agency of Human Services' allocation and expenditure of excess receipts for Global Commitment Fund spending up to the amount approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for the Vermont Hospital Directed Payment program.

(c) In fiscal year 2026, the Agency of Human Services may, to the extent permitted under federal law, to reasonably manage the timing of federal fiscal year 2026 Disproportionate Share Hospital payments to hospitals due to the impact the Vermont Hospital Directed Payment program payments received in fiscal year 2026 may have on hospitals' eligibility for Disproportionate Share Hospital payments.

(d) The Agency of Human Services shall report on the status of the Vermont Hospital Directed Payment program, the expenditure of excess receipts, and the status of the program's potential impacts on Disproportionate Share Hospital payments at the September and November 2025 meetings of the Joint Fiscal Committee.

Sec. E.301.4 FISCAL YEAR 2026 RATE INCREASES; EFFECTIVE
DATES

(a) The appropriations made in Secs. B.301, B.307, B.313, B.314, B.330, B.333, B.334, and B.334.1 of this act for rate increases for community providers shall take effect on November 1, 2025.

(b) The appropriation made in Sec. B.307 of this act for rate increases for Federally Qualified Health Centers and Rural Health Clinics shall take effect on November 1, 2025.

Sec. E.306 NURSING HOMES; SKILLED NURSING FACILITIES;
EXTRAORDINARY FINANCIAL RELIEF

(a) On or before December 15, 2025, the Department of Vermont Health Access' Division of Rate Setting shall submit a report to the House Committee on Human Services and to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare containing proactive measures and targeted interventions that may be used to reduce the use and amount of future extraordinary financial relief for nursing homes.

(b) On or before January 15, 2026, the Departments of Vermont Health Access and of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living shall present to the House Committees on Appropriations and on Human Services and to the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Health and Welfare on the following:

(1) the number and name of all nursing homes in the State, including:

(A) whether a nursing home is a for-profit or nonprofit organization and the owner's contact information;

(B) the payer mix of each nursing home;

(C) the ratio of employees versus contracted traveler positions at each nursing home and the specific job titles of the contracted traveler positions; and

(D) the average length of patient stay at each nursing home;

(2) the number of skilled nursing facilities seeking extraordinary financial relief in fiscal years 2023, 2024, and 2025; and

(3) the number of skilled nursing facilities receiving extraordinary financial relief in fiscal years 2023, 2024, and 2025, including:

(A) the name of each skilled nursing facility;

(B) whether a skilled nursing facility receiving extraordinary financial relief is a for-profit or nonprofit organization;

(C) the amount of extraordinary financial relief received by each skilled nursing facility;

(D) the reason extraordinary financial relief was sought by each skilled nursing facility; and

(E) the reason extraordinary financial relief was awarded to each skilled nursing facility.

Sec. E.306.1 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. E.306.4 is amended to read:

Sec. E.306.4 MEDICARE SAVINGS PROGRAMS; INCOME
ELIGIBILITY

(a) The Agency of Human Services shall make the following changes to the Medicare Savings Programs:

(1) increase the Qualified Medicare Beneficiary Program income threshold to ~~145~~ 150 percent of the federal poverty level; and

(2) increase the Qualifying Individual Program income threshold to the maximum percent of the federal poverty level allowed under federal law based on the increase to the income threshold for the Qualified Medicare Beneficiary Program in subdivision (1) of this subsection.

Sec. E.306.2 OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR THE VERMONT HEALTH
BENEFIT EXCHANGE

(a) The Department of Vermont Health Access shall maintain open enrollment for the Vermont Health Benefit Exchange from November 1, 2025 through January 15, 2026. The Department of Vermont Health Access and registered carriers shall allow a period of one calendar month beyond the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' deadline of December 15, 2025 for 2026 plan selection in order to encourage enrollment and to allow enrollees to make plan selection changes.

Sec. E.306.3 33 V.S.A. § 1811 is amended to read:

§ 1811. HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS FOR INDIVIDUALS AND SMALL
EMPLOYERS

* * *

(m) A registered carrier shall allow for the enrollment through the Exchange of an individual, and of any individual who is eligible for coverage under the terms of the health benefit plan because of a relationship to the individual, who is eligible for advance payments of federal premium tax credits under 26 U.S.C. § 36B, and whose household income is expected to be no greater than 200 percent of the federal poverty level. Enrollment may take place at any time during the benefit year.

Sec. E.307 33 V.S.A. § 1902 is amended to read:

§ 1902. QUALIFICATION FOR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

* * *

(b) Workers with disabilities whose income is less than 250 percent of the federal poverty level shall be eligible for Medicaid. The income also must not exceed the Medicaid protected income level for one or the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payment level for two, whichever is higher, after disregarding the earnings of the working individual with disabilities; Social Security disability insurance benefits, including Social Security retirement benefits converted automatically from Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), if applicable; any veteran's disability benefits; and, if the working individual with disabilities is married, all income of the spouse. Earnings of the working individual with disabilities shall be documented by evidence of Federal Insurance Contributions Act tax payments, Self-Employment Contributions Act tax payments, or a written business plan approved and supported by a third-party investor or funding source. Vermont Medicaid shall verify earnings of the working individual with disabilities. The Agency shall adopt rules governing the verification of earned income of the working

individual with disabilities. The resource limit for this program shall be \$10,000-00 for an individual and \$15,000-00 for a couple at the time of enrollment in the program. Assets attributable to earnings made after enrollment in the program shall be disregarded.

Sec. E.307.1 MEDICAID PROGRAM EMERGENCY RULEMAKING

(a) The Agency of Human Services may adopt rules pursuant to 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 to amend Vermont's rules regarding the Medicaid program and the operation of the Vermont Health Benefit Exchange in response to state and federal law. The Agency may use the emergency rules process pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 844, but only in the event that new state or federal law require Vermont to amend or adopt its rules in a time frame that cannot be accomplished under the traditional rulemaking process. An emergency rule adopted under these exigent circumstances shall be deemed to meet the standard for the adoption of emergency rules required pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 844(a).

Sec. E.311 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 109, Sec. 4 is amended to read:

~~Sec. 4. SUNSET OF STATE YOUTH COUNCIL~~

~~3 V.S.A. § 3097 (State Youth Council) is repealed on February 1, 2026. [Repealed.]~~

Sec. E.312 HEALTH; PUBLIC HEALTH

(a) HIV/AIDS funding:

(1) In fiscal year 2026 and as provided in this section, the Department of Health shall provide grants in the amount of \$475,000 in AIDS Medication Rebates special funds to the Vermont AIDS service and peer-support organizations for client-based support services. The Department of Health AIDS Program shall meet at least quarterly with the Community Advisory Group with current information and data relating to service initiatives. The funds shall be allocated according to a Request for Proposal process.

(2) In fiscal year 2026, and as provided by this section, the Department of Health shall provide grants in the amount of \$295,000 from the General Fund for HIV and Harm Reduction Services to the following organizations:

(A) Vermont CARES: \$140,000;

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

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

(3) Ryan White Title II funds for AIDS services and the Vermont Medication Assistance Program shall be distributed in accordance with federal

guidelines. The federal guidelines shall not apply to programs or services funded solely by State General Fund.

(A) The Secretary of Human Services shall immediately notify the Joint Fiscal Committee if at any time there are insufficient funds in Vermont Medication Assistance Program to assist all eligible individuals. The Secretary shall work in collaboration with persons living with HIV/AIDS to develop a plan to continue access to Vermont Medication Assistance Program medications until such time as the General Assembly can take action.

(B) As provided in this section, the Secretary of Human Services shall work in collaboration with the Vermont Medication Assistance Program Advisory Committee, which shall be composed of not less than 50 percent of members who are living with HIV/AIDS. If a modification to the program's eligibility requirements or benefit coverage is considered, the Committee shall make recommendations regarding the program's formulary of approved medication, related laboratory testing, nutritional supplements, and eligibility for the program.

(4) In fiscal year 2026, the Department of Health shall provide grants in the amount of \$400,000 General Fund for HIV and Harm Reduction Services not later than September 1, 2025. The method by which these prevention funds are distributed shall be determined by mutual agreement of the Department of Health and the Vermont AIDS service organizations and other Vermont HIV/AIDS prevention providers.

(5) In fiscal year 2026, the Department of Health shall not reduce any grants to the Vermont AIDS service and peer-support organizations or syringe service programs from funds appropriated for HIV/AIDS services to levels below those in fiscal year 2025 without receiving prior approval from the Joint Fiscal Committee.

Sec. E.312.1 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. E.100, as amended by 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 87, Sec. 56, is further amended to read:

Sec. E.100 EXECUTIVE BRANCH POSITIONS

(a) The establishment of 75 permanent positions is authorized in fiscal year 2024 for the following:

* * *

(2) Permanent exempt positions:

* * *

(F) Office of the State Treasurer:

(i) one Director – ~~VT Saves~~ Economic Empowerment Division;
and

(ii) one Communications and Outreach Manager – ~~VT Saves~~ Economic Empowerment Division;

* * *

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

* * *

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

(A) one Private Secretary.

* * *

Sec. E.312.2 3 V.S.A. § 5003 is amended to read:

§ 5003. DUTIES OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF RACIAL EQUITY

(a) The Executive Director of Racial Equity (Director) shall work with the agencies and departments to implement a program of continuing coordination and improvement of activities in State government in order to combat systemic racial disparities and measure progress toward fair and impartial governance, including:

(1) overseeing a comprehensive organizational review to identify systemic racism in each of the three branches of State government and inventory systems in place that engender racial disparities;

(2) managing and overseeing the statewide collection of race-based data to determine the nature and scope of racial discrimination within all systems of State government; and

(3) developing a model fairness and diversity policy and reviewing and making recommendations regarding the fairness and diversity policies held by all State government systems; ~~and~~

(4) ~~temporarily overseeing the establishment of the Health Equity Advisory Commission established pursuant to 18 V.S.A. § 252 until the Office of Health Equity is established.~~

* * *

Sec. E.312.3 18 V.S.A. § 252 is amended to read:

§ 252. HEALTH EQUITY ADVISORY COMMISSION

* * *

(c) Powers and duties. The Advisory Commission shall:

(1) provide guidance on the development of the Office of Health Equity, ~~which shall be established based on the Advisory Commission's recommendations not later than January 1, 2023,~~ including on:

(A) the structure, responsibilities, and jurisdiction of the Office;

(B) whether the Office shall be independent and, if not, in which State agency or department it shall be situated;

(C) how the Office shall be staffed;

(D) the populations served and specific issues addressed by the Office; and

(E) the duties of the Office, including how grant funds shall be managed and distributed; and

~~(F) the time frame and necessary steps to establish the Office;~~

(2) provide advice and make recommendations to the Office of Health Equity, Commissioner, and General Assembly once established, including input on:

(A) any rules or policies proposed by the Office or Department of Health;

(B) the awarding of grants and the development of programs and services;

(C) the needs, priorities, programs, and policies relating to the health of individuals who are Black, Indigenous, and Persons of Color; individuals who are LGBTQ; and individuals with disabilities; and

(D) any other issue on which the Office of Health Equity, Department of Health, or General Assembly requests assistance from the Advisory Commission;

(3) review, monitor, and advise all State agencies regarding the impact of current and emerging State policies, procedures, practices, laws, and rules on the health of individuals who are Black, Indigenous, and Persons of Color; individuals who are LGBTQ; and individuals with disabilities;

(4) identify and examine the limitations and problems associated with existing laws, rules, programs, and services related to the health status of

individuals who are Black, Indigenous, and Persons of Color; individuals who are LGBTQ; and individuals with disabilities;

(5) advise the Department of Health and the General Assembly on any funding decisions relating to eliminating health disparities and promoting health equity, including the distribution of federal monies related to COVID-19;

(6) to the extent funds are available for the purpose, distribute grants that stimulate the development of community-based and neighborhood-based projects that will improve the health outcomes of individuals who are Black, Indigenous, and Persons of Color; individuals who are LGBTQ; and individuals with disabilities; and

(7) advise the General Assembly on efforts to improve cultural competency, cultural humility, and antiracism in the health care system through training and continuing education requirements for health care providers and other clinical professionals.

(d) Assistance. The Advisory Commission shall have the administrative, legal, and technical assistance of the ~~Agency of Administration at the request of the Executive Director of Racial Equity~~ Department of Health.

* * *

(f) Meetings.

(1) ~~The Executive Director of Racial Equity or designee shall call the first meeting of the Advisory Commission to occur on or before September 1, 2021.~~

(2) The Advisory Commission shall select a chair and vice chair at its first meeting and annually thereafter.

~~(3)~~(2) The Advisory Commission shall adopt procedures to govern its proceedings, including voting procedures and how the staggered terms shall be apportioned among members.

~~(4)~~(3) All meetings of the Advisory Commission and any subcommittees of the Advisory Commission shall be open to the public with opportunities for public comment provided on a regular basis.

* * *

(h) Compensation and reimbursement. Appointed members of the Advisory Commission shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses as permitted under 32 V.S.A. § 1010 for meetings ~~as deemed appropriate by the Advisory Commission within the appropriation~~

provided. These payments shall be made from monies appropriated to the Agency of Administration Department of Health.

Sec. E.312.4 18 V.S.A. § 254 is added to read:

§ 254. OFFICE OF HEALTH EQUITY

(a) There is established the Office of Health Equity within the Department of Health for the purpose of eliminating avoidable and unjust disparities in health among Vermonters. The Office shall use a systemic and comprehensive approach that addresses those social, economic, and environmental factors that influence health outcomes.

(b) The Office of Health Equity shall be directed by an Executive Director, an individual who shall be qualified by reason of education, expertise, and experience and who may have a professional degree in public health, social or environmental justice, or a related field. The Executive Director shall serve on a full-time basis and shall be exempt from classified service.

Sec. E.312.5 18 V.S.A. § 4812 is added to read:

§ 4812. SUBSTANCE MISUSE PREVENTION SPECIAL FUND

(a) The Substance Misuse Prevention Special Fund is established and managed by the Vermont Department of Health in accordance with 32 V.S.A. chapter 7, subchapter 5.

(b) Thirty percent of the revenues raised by the cannabis excise tax imposed pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 7902, not to exceed \$10,000,000 per fiscal year, shall be deposited into this fund for substance misuse prevention costs.

(c) Any unencumbered and unexpended spending authority reverted in accordance with 32 V.S.A. § 703 may be immediately re-established the following fiscal year in accordance with 32 V.S.A. § 511.

(d) Notwithstanding any provisions of 32 V.S.A. chapter 7, subchapter 5 to the contrary, all interest earned by this fund shall be retained by this fund.

Sec. E.312.6 SUBSTANCE MISUSE PREVENTION FUNDING; REPEAL

(a) 32 V.S.A. § 7909 (substance misuse prevention funding) is repealed.

Sec. E.312.7 PREVENTION EXPENDITURES; REPORT

(a) On or before January 15, 2026, the Department of Health shall, in consultation with other departments of the Agency of Human Services, provide a report to the House Committees on Health Care and on Human Services and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare with information on total or estimated expenditures made by the State on substance use prevention efforts in fiscal years 2024, 2025, and 2026.

(1) The report shall include information on the following:

(A) all State and federal funds, including special funds, monies have been appropriated from or otherwise designated for substance use prevention efforts;

(B) the total amounts appropriated from the funds specified in subdivision (1)(A) of this section or otherwise designated for substance use prevention efforts;

(C) the recipients of appropriations made from the funds specified in subdivision (1)(A) of this section or otherwise designated for substance use prevention efforts or the beneficiaries of grants or subgrants and how monies have been used both according to policy priorities and expenditure category;

(D) the amount of monies appropriated from the funds specified in subdivision (1)(A) of this section or otherwise designated for substance use prevention efforts that have been obligated;

(E) the amount of monies appropriated from the funds specified in subdivision (1)(A) of this section or otherwise designated for substance use prevention efforts that remain unencumbered or unexpended; and

(F) the extent to which monies appropriated from the funds specified in subdivision (1)(A) of this section or otherwise designated for substance use prevention efforts are subject to reversion or any federal obligation deadlines.

Sec. E.316 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. E.316 is amended to read:

Sec. E.316 STAKEHOLDER WORKING GROUP; FACILITY
PLANNING FOR JUSTICE-INVOLVED YOUTH

(a) The Department for Children and Families, in consultation with the Department of Buildings and General Services, shall assemble a stakeholder working group to provide regular input on the planning, design, development, and implementation of the temporary stabilization facility for youth and on the development of a long-term plan for the high-end system of care.

* * *

(f) The stakeholder working group shall cease to exist on June 30, 2025 2027.

Sec. E.316.1 33 V.S.A. § 125 is added to read:

§ 125. BUDGETARY INFLATION; DIRECT SERVICE PROVIDERS

Annually, as part of its budget presentation, the Department shall inform the House Committees on Appropriations and on Human Services and the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Health and Welfare the cost of adding a

one percent increase over the previous fiscal year's funding for community-contracted direct service providers.

Sec. E.316.2 SUPERVISED VISITATION PROGRAMS; REPORT

(a) On or before January 15, 2026, the Commissioner for Children and Families and the Chief Superior Judge shall jointly submit a report to the House Committees on Human Services and on Judiciary and the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Judiciary containing a proposal for funding supervised visitation programs. The proposal shall address and recommend sustainable funding for statewide coordination, equitable funding among supervised visitation locations, and access for residents of counties that do not currently provide supervised visitation services. The Commissioner and Chief Superior Judge shall consult the Center for Crime Victim Services, the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, and supervised visitation providers in the preparation of the report.

Sec. E.317 33 V.S.A. § 4922 is amended to read:

§ 4922. RULEMAKING

(a) On or before September 1, ~~2025~~ 2026, the Commissioner shall file proposed rules pursuant to 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 implementing the provisions of this subchapter to become effective on April 1, ~~2026~~ 2027. These shall include:

- (1) rules setting forth criteria for determining whether to conduct an assessment or an investigation;
- (2) rules setting out procedures for assessment and service delivery;
- (3) rules outlining procedures for investigations;
- (4) rules for conducting the administrative review conference;
- (5) rules regarding access to and maintenance of Department records of investigations, assessments, reviews, and responses;
- (6) rules regarding the tiered Registry as required by section 4916 of this title;
- (7) rules requiring notice and appeal procedures for alternatives to substantiation; and
- (8) rules implementing subsections 4916(c) and (e) of this title.

(b) The rules shall strike an appropriate balance between protecting children and respecting the rights of a parent or guardian, including a parent or guardian with disabilities, and shall recognize that persons with a disability can

be successful parents. The rules shall include the possible use of adaptive equipment and supports.

~~(e) These rules shall be adopted no later than July 1, 2009.~~

Sec. E.318 33 V.S.A. § 3505 is amended to read:

§ 3505. SUPPLEMENTAL CHILD CARE GRANTS

(a)(1) The Commissioner for Children and Families may ~~reserve~~ utilize up to one-half of one percent of ~~the child care family assistance program~~ funds appropriated for the Child Care Financial Assistance Program in a fiscal year for extraordinary financial relief to assist child care programs that are at risk of closing due to financial hardship. The Commissioner shall develop guidelines for providing assistance and shall prioritize extraordinary financial relief to child care programs in areas of the State with high poverty and low access to high quality child care. If the Commissioner determines a child care program is at risk of closure because its operations are not fiscally sustainable, ~~he or she~~ they may provide assistance to transition children served by the child care operator in an orderly fashion and to help secure other child care opportunities for children served by the program in an effort to minimize the disruption of services. The Commissioner has the authority to request tax returns and other financial documents to verify the financial hardship and ability to sustain operations.

* * *

Sec. E.321 GENERAL ASSISTANCE EMERGENCY HOUSING

(a) To the extent emergency housing is available and within the funds appropriated, the Commissioner for Children and Families shall ensure that General Assistance Emergency Housing is provided in fiscal year 2026 to households that attest to lack of a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and have a member who:

(1) is 65 years of age or older;

(2) has a disability that can be documented by:

(A) receipt of Supplemental Security Income or Social Security Disability Insurance; or

(B) a form developed by the Department as a means of documenting a qualifying disability or health condition that requires:

(i) the applicant's name, date of birth, and the last four digits of the applicant's Social Security number or other identifying number;

(ii) a description of the applicant's disability or health condition;

(iii) a description of the risk posed to the applicant's health, safety, or welfare if temporary emergency housing is not authorized pursuant to this section; and

(iv) a certification of a health care provider, as defined in 18 V.S.A. § 9481, that includes the provider's credentials, credential number, address, and phone number;

(3) is a child 19 years of age or under;

(4) is pregnant;

(5) has experienced the death of a spouse, domestic partner, or minor child that caused the household to lose its housing;

(6) has experienced a natural disaster, such as a flood, fire, or hurricane;

(7) is under a court-ordered eviction or constructive eviction due to circumstances over which the household has no control; or

(8) is experiencing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, human trafficking, hate violence, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions that relate to violence against the individual or a household member that caused the household to lose its housing.

(b)(1) General Assistance Emergency Housing shall be provided in a community-based shelter whenever possible. If there is inadequate community-based shelter space available within the Agency of Human Services district in which the household presents itself, the household shall be provided emergency housing in a hotel or motel within the district, if available, until adequate community-based shelter space becomes available in the district. The utilization of hotel and motel rooms pursuant to this subdivision shall be capped at 1,100 rooms per night between July 1, 2025 through November 30, 2025 and between April 1, 2026 through June 30, 2026.

(2) The maximum number of days that an eligible household receives emergency housing in a hotel or motel under this section, per 12-month period, shall not exceed 80 days.

(3) The Department shall provide emergency winter housing to households meeting the eligibility criteria in subsection (a) of this section between December 1, 2025 and March 31, 2026. Emergency housing in a hotel or motel provided pursuant to this subdivision shall not count toward the maximum days of eligibility per 12-month period provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection.

(4)(A) Notwithstanding any rule or law to the contrary, the Department shall require all households applying for or receiving General Assistance Emergency Housing to engage in their own search for and accept any available alternative housing placements. All applicants and eligible households shall regularly provide information to the Department, not less frequently than monthly, about their efforts to secure an alternative housing placement. If the Department determines that a household, at the time of application or during the term of the household's authorization, has not made efforts to secure an alternative housing placement, or has access to an alternative housing placement, the Department shall deny the application or terminate the authorization at the end of the current authorization period.

(B) For purposes of this subdivision (4), "alternative housing placements" may include shelter beds and pods; placements with family or friends; permanent housing solutions, including tiny homes, manufactured homes, and apartments; residential treatment beds for physical health, long-term care, substance use, or mental health; nursing home beds; and recovery homes.

(c) Emergency housing provided pursuant to this section shall replace the catastrophic and noncatastrophic categories previously adopted by the Department in rule.

(d) Emergency housing required pursuant to this section may be provided through approved community-based shelters, new unit generation, open units, licensed hotels or motels, or other appropriate shelter space. The Department shall, when available, prioritize emergency housing at housing or shelter placements other than hotels or motels.

(e) Case management services provided by case managers employed by or under contract with the Agency of Human Services or reimbursed through an Agency-funded grant shall include assisting clients with finding appropriate housing.

(f) The Commissioner for Children and Families shall apply the General Assistance Emergency Housing rules approved by the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules on March 13, 2025 for the administration of this section.

(g) On or before the last day of each month from July 2025 through June 2026, the Department for Children and Families, or other relevant agency or department, shall continue submitting a similar report to that due pursuant to 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 81, Sec. 6(b) to the Joint Fiscal Committee, House Committee on Human Services, and Senate Committee on Health and

Welfare. Additionally, this report shall include the Department's monthly expenditure on General Assistance Emergency Housing.

(h) For emergency housing provided in a hotel or motel beginning on July 1, 2024 and thereafter, the Department for Children and Families shall not pay a hotel or motel establishment more than the hotel's lowest advertised room rate and not more than \$80 a day per room to shelter a household experiencing homelessness. The Department for Children and Families may shelter a household in more than one hotel or motel room depending on the household's size and composition.

(i) The Department for Children and Families shall apply the following rules to participating hotels and motels:

(1) Section 2650.1 of the Department for Children and Families' General Assistance (CVR 13-170-260);

(2) Department of Health, Licensed Lodging Establishment Rule (CVR 13-140-023); and

(3) Department of Public Safety, Vermont Fire and Building Safety Code (CVR 28-070-001).

(j)(1) The Department for Children and Families may work with either a shelter provider or a community housing agency to enter into a full or partial facility lease or sales agreement with a hotel or motel provider. Any facility conversion under this section shall comply with the Office of Economic Opportunity's shelter standards.

(2) If the Department for Children and Families determines that a contractual agreement with a licensed hotel or motel operator to secure temporary emergency housing capacity is beneficial to improve the quality, cleanliness, or access to services for those households temporarily housed in the facility, the Department shall be authorized to enter into such an agreement in accordance with the per-room rate identified in subsection (h) of this section; provided, however, that in no event shall such an agreement cause a household to become unhoused. The Department for Children and Families may include provisions to address access to services or related needs within the contractual agreement.

(k) Of the amount appropriated to implement this section, not more than \$500,000 shall be used for security costs.

(l) As used in this section:

(1) "Community-based shelter" means a shelter that meets the Vermont Housing Opportunity Grant Program's Standards of Provision of Assistance.

(2) “Household” means an individual and any dependents for whom the individual is legally responsible and who live in Vermont. “Household” includes individuals who reside together as one economic unit, including those who are married, parties to a civil union, or unmarried.

Sec. E.321.1 CONTRACTING FOR EMERGENCY SHELTER
OPERATIONS AND SERVICES

(a) In contracting with emergency shelter organizations for operations and services, the Department for Children and Families shall prioritize contracts with organizations that are in close proximity to the community served to ensure that an organization familiar with the specific needs of a community serve its population of unhoused residents.

Sec. E.324 EXPEDITED CRISIS FUEL ASSISTANCE

(a) The Commissioner for Children and Families or designee may authorize crisis fuel assistance to those income-eligible households that have applied for an expedited seasonal fuel benefit but have not yet received it if the benefit cannot be executed in time to prevent them from running out of fuel. The crisis fuel grants authorized pursuant to this section count toward the crisis fuel grants allowed per household for the winter heating season pursuant to 33 V.S.A. § 2609(b).

Sec. E.325 DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES; OFFICE
OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

(a) Of the General Fund appropriation in Sec. B.325 of this act, \$29,343,655 shall be used by the Department for Children and Families’ Office of Economic Opportunity to issue grants to community agencies to assist individuals experiencing homelessness by preserving existing services, increasing services, or increasing resources available statewide. These funds may be granted alone or in conjunction with federal Emergency Solutions Grants funds. Grant decisions and the administration of funds shall be done in consultation with the two U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development-recognized continuum of care programs.

Sec. E. 326 DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES; OFFICE
OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY; WEATHERIZATION
ASSISTANCE

(a) Of the special fund appropriation in Sec. B.326 of this act, \$750,000 is for the replacement and repair of home heating equipment.

Sec. E.329 33 V.S.A. § 506 is added to read:

§ 506. BUDGETARY INFLATION; DIRECT SERVICE PROVIDERS

Annually, as part of its budget presentation, the Department shall inform the House Committees on Appropriations and on Human Services and the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Health and Welfare the cost of adding a one percent increase over the previous fiscal year's funding for community-contracted direct service providers.

Sec. E.333 DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY SERVICES; PAYMENT REFORM

(a) The Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living's payment reform process for developmental disability services shall not be implemented prior to July 1, 2026.

(b) Between July 1, 2025 and implementation of the payment reform process for developmental disability services, the Department shall align conflict-free case management with the existing payment model.

Sec. E.338 CORRECTIONS; CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

(a) Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 3709(a), the special fund appropriation of \$152,000 for the supplemental facility payments to Newport and Springfield shall be paid from the PILOT Special Fund under 32 V.S.A. § 3709.

Sec. E.338.1 [Deleted.]

Sec. E.338.2 CORRECTIONS; TREATMENT-FOCUSED FACILITY

(a) The \$250,000 General Fund appropriated to the Department of Corrections in Sec. B.1100(i)(1) of this act shall be used to retain a consultant and develop an implementation plan to transition the Northeast Correctional Complex or the Caledonia County Work Camp, or parts of either or of both, to a treatment-focused facility for incarcerated Vermonters.

(b) On or before December 1, 2025, the Department of Corrections shall submit a written report to the Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee concerning the consultant's findings and recommendations related to transitioning either the Northeast Correctional Complex or the Work Camp, or parts of either or of both, to a treatment-focused facility. The report shall contain the following:

(1) a detailed transition plan;

(2) expected outcomes and measures of success;

(3) an assessment of how transitioning either the Northeast Correctional Complex or Caledonia County Work Camp, or parts of either or of both, to a

treatment-focused facility aligns with best practices for residential treatment programs; and

(4) input from the Department's current medical providers, including an analysis of how the program developed would impact any contract with the Department's third-party medical provider.

Sec. E.345 18 V.S.A. § 9374(h) is amended to read:

(h)(1)(A) Except as otherwise provided in subdivisions (1)(C) and (2) of this subsection (h), the expenses of the Board shall be borne as follows:

(i) 40.0 percent by the State from State monies;

(ii) ~~28.8~~ 36.0 percent by the hospitals;

(iii) ~~23.2~~ 24.0 percent by nonprofit hospital and medical service corporations licensed under 8 V.S.A. chapter 123 or 125, health insurance companies licensed under 8 V.S.A. chapter 101, and health maintenance organizations licensed under 8 V.S.A. chapter 139; ~~and~~

~~(iv) 8.0 percent by accountable care organizations.~~

(B) Expenses under subdivision (A)(iii) of this subdivision (1) shall be allocated to persons licensed under Title 8 based on premiums paid for health care coverage, which for the purposes of this subdivision (1) shall include major medical, comprehensive medical, hospital or surgical coverage, and comprehensive health care services plans, but shall not include long-term care, limited benefits, disability, credit or stop loss, or excess loss insurance coverage.

(C) ~~Expenses~~ Amounts assessed pursuant to the provisions of ~~section~~ sections 9441 and 9382 of this title shall not be assessed in accordance with the formula set forth in subdivision (A) of this subdivision (1).

(2) The Board may determine the scope of the incurred expenses to be allocated pursuant to the formula set forth in subdivision (1) of this subsection if, in the Board's discretion, the expenses to be allocated are in the best interests of the regulated entities and of the State.

(3) If the amount of the proportional assessment to any entity calculated in accordance with the formula set forth in subdivision (1)(A) of this subsection would be less than \$150.00, the Board shall assess the entity a minimum fee of \$150.00. The Board shall apply the amounts collected based on the difference between each applicable entity's proportional assessment amount and \$150.00 to reduce the total amount assessed to the regulated entities pursuant to subdivisions (1)(A)(ii) ~~(iv)~~ (iii) of this subsection.

* * *

Sec. E.500 EDUCATION; FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

(a) The Global Commitment appropriation in Sec. B.500 of this act shall be used for physician claims for determining medical necessity of Individualized Education Programs. These services are intended to increase access to quality health care for uninsured persons, underinsured persons, and Medicaid beneficiaries.

Sec. E.500.1 AGENCY OF EDUCATION; EDUCATION
TRANSFORMATION FUNDING

(a) The \$1,000,000 General Fund appropriated to the Agency of Education in Sec. B.500 of this act is to provide additional resources during the State's education transformation. Prior to the expenditure of these funds, the Agency shall submit a detailed, unambiguous plan of expenditures related to the transformation of the public education system to the Joint Fiscal Committee, which shall consult with the chairs of the House and Senate Committees on Education when reviewing the Agency's plan.

Sec. E.502 EDUCATION; SPECIAL EDUCATION: FORMULA GRANTS

(a) Of the appropriation authorized in Sec. B.502 of this act, and notwithstanding any other provision of law, an amount not to exceed \$5,236,200 shall be used by the Agency of Education in fiscal year 2026 as funding for 16 V.S.A. § 2967(b)(2)-(6). In distributing such funds, the Secretary shall not be limited by the restrictions contained within 16 V.S.A. § 2969(c) and (d).

(b) Of the appropriation authorized in Sec. B.502 of this act, and notwithstanding any other provision of law, an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000 shall be used by the Agency of Education in fiscal year 2026 as funding for 16 V.S.A. § 2975. In distributing such funds, the Secretary shall not be limited by the restrictions contained within 16 V.S.A. § 2969(c) and (d).

Sec. E.503 EDUCATION; STATE-PLACED STUDENTS

(a) The Independence Place Program of ANEW Place shall be considered a 24-hour residential program for the purposes of reimbursement of education costs.

Sec. E.504 ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY

(a) Of the appropriation in Sec. B.504 of this act, \$3,958,344 General Fund shall be granted to adult education and literacy providers, pursuant to the Adult Education and Secondary Credential Program established in 16 V.S.A. § 945.

Sec. E.504.1 EDUCATION; FLEXIBLE PATHWAYS

(a) Notwithstanding 16 V.S.A. § 4025, of the Education Fund appropriation in Sec. B.504.1 of this act, the amount of:

(1) \$921,500 is available for dual enrollment programs notwithstanding 16 V.S.A. § 944(f)(2);

(2) \$2,400,000 is available to support the Vermont Virtual High School;

(3) \$400,000 is available for secondary school reform grants;

(4) \$4,200,000 is available for Early College pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 947(b); and

(5) \$2,638,896 is available for the Adult Education and Secondary Credential Program.

(b) Of the appropriation in Sec. B.504 of this act, \$921,500 from the General Fund is available for dual enrollment programs.

Sec. E.504.2 16 V.S.A. § 4011 is amended to read:

§ 4011. EDUCATION PAYMENTS

(a) Annually, the General Assembly shall appropriate funds to pay for statewide education spending and a portion of a base education amount for each adult education and secondary credential program student.

(b) For each fiscal year, the base education amount shall be \$6,800.00, increased by the most recent New England Economic Project Cumulative Price Index, as of November 15, for state and local government purchases of goods and services from fiscal year 2005 through the fiscal year for which the amount is being determined, plus an additional one-tenth of one percent.

* * *

(f) ~~Annually, the Secretary shall pay to a local adult education and literacy provider, as defined in section 942 of this title, that provides an adult education and secondary credential program from funds appropriated for this subsection to the Agency in an amount equal to 26 percent of the base education amount for each student who completes the diagnostic portions of the an adult education and secondary credential program, based on an average of the previous two years; 40, the Secretary shall pay to a local adult education and literacy provider, as defined in section 942 of this title, that provides an adult education and secondary credential program an amount that shall be calculated pursuant to the funding formula contained in the State Board of Education adult education rules. Forty percent of the payment required under this subsection shall be from State funds appropriated from the Education Fund~~

and 60 percent of the payment required under this subsection shall be from State funds appropriated from the General Fund.

* * *

Sec. E.504.3 ADULT EDUCATION; FUNDING; REPORT

(a) On or before December 1, 2025, the Agency of Administration and Agency of Education, in consultation with local adult education and literacy providers, shall jointly submit a written report to the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development, the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs, and the House and Senate Committees on Education and on Appropriations with recommendations to modernize adult education funding to ensure funds are distributed equitably across all regions of the State.

(b) On or before January 15, 2026, the Secretary of Administration shall make a recommendation to the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development, the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs, and the House and Senate Committees on Education and on Appropriations on any updates to the adult education funding formula pursuant to the recommendations made in the report in subsection (a) of this section. The Secretary of Administration shall also make a recommendation on any administrative changes to adult education, including which agency or department outside of the Agency of Education is best suited to manage adult education grants.

(c) For fiscal year 2026, the Agency of Education shall negotiate in good faith to extend the existing contracts with local adult education and literacy providers for a term of one year. The Agency of Education shall endeavor to maintain the terms of the existing contracts to the greatest extent possible.

Sec. E.507.1 ENGLISH LEARNER; CATEGORICAL AID

(a) The funds appropriated in Sec. B.507.1 of this act shall be used to provide categorical aid to school districts for English Learner services, pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 4013.

Sec. E.511 EDUCATION; TECHNICAL EDUCATION

(a) Notwithstanding 16 V.S.A. 1561(c) and (d) or any other provision of law to the contrary, in fiscal year 2026 career technical center supplemental assistance grants shall be calculated using the fiscal year 2025 base education amount.

Sec. E.514 STATE TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

(a) In accordance with 16 V.S.A. § 1944(g)(2), the annual contribution to the Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System shall be \$212,752,627, of which \$199,377,627 shall be the State's contribution and \$13,375,000 shall be contributed from local school systems or educational entities pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 1944c.

(b) In accordance with 16 V.S.A. § 1944(c)(2), of the annual contribution, \$41,414,649 is the "normal contribution" and \$171,337,978 is the "accrued liability contribution."

Sec. E.514.1 VERMONT STATE TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
AND VERMONT PENSION INVESTMENT COMMISSION;
OPERATING BUDGET; SOURCE OF FUNDS

(a) Of the \$3,810,655 appropriated in Sec. B.514.1 of this act, \$2,719,271 constitutes the Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System operating budget, and \$1,091,384 constitutes the portion of the Vermont Pension Investment Commission's budget attributable to the Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System.

Sec. E.515 RETIRED TEACHERS' HEALTH CARE AND MEDICAL
BENEFITS

(a) In accordance with 16 V.S.A. § 1944b(b)(2) and 16 V.S.A. § 1944b(h)(1), the annual contribution to the Retired Teachers' Health and Medical Benefits plan shall be \$79,952,589, of which \$71,052,589 shall be the State's contribution and \$8,900,000 shall be from the annual charge for teacher health care contributed by employers pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 1944d. Of the annual contribution, \$24,712,382 is the "normal contribution" and \$55,240,207 is the "accrued liability contribution."

Sec. E.600 UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

(a) The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall issue warrants to pay 1/12 of the appropriation in Sec. B.600 of this act to the University of Vermont on or about the 15th day of each calendar month of the year.

(b) Of this appropriation, \$380,362 shall be transferred to the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) to comply with State matching fund requirements necessary for the receipt of available federal or private funds, or both.

Sec. E.602 VERMONT STATE COLLEGES

(a) The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall issue warrants to pay 1/12 of the appropriation in Sec. B.602 of this act to the Vermont State Colleges on or about the 15th day of each calendar month of the year.

(b) Of this appropriation, \$427,898 shall be transferred to the Vermont Manufacturing Extension Center to comply with State matching fund requirements necessary for the receipt of available federal or private funds, or both.

Sec. E.602.1 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec. E.602.2, as amended by 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 83, Sec. 67, 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. C.101, and 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113 Sec. E.602.1, is further amended to read:

Sec. E.602.2 VERMONT STATE COLLEGES

(a) The Vermont State College (VSC) system shall transform itself into a fully integrated system that achieves financial stability in a responsible and sustainable way in order to meet each of these strategic priorities:

* * *

(b) VSC shall meet the following requirements during the transformation of its system required under subsection (a) of this section and shall accommodate the oversight of the General Assembly in so doing.

(1) VSC shall reduce its structural deficit by ~~\$5,000,000.00~~ per year for three years and by ~~\$3,500,000.00 per year~~ for the following ~~two years~~ year through a combination of annual operating expense reductions and increased enrollment revenues, for a total ~~\$22,000,000.00~~ \$18,500,000 by the end of fiscal year 2026. These reductions shall be structural in nature and shall not be met by use of one-time funds. The VSC Board of Trustees, through the Chancellor or designee, shall report the results of these structural reductions to the House and Senate Committees on Education and on Appropriations annually during the Chancellor's budget presentation.

* * *

Sec. E.603 VERMONT STATE COLLEGES; ALLIED HEALTH

(a) If Global Commitment Fund monies are unavailable, the total grant funding for the Vermont State Colleges shall be maintained through the General Fund or other State funding sources.

(b) The Vermont State Colleges shall use the Global Commitment appropriation in Sec. B.603 of this act to support the dental hygiene, respiratory therapy, and nursing programs that graduate approximately 315

health care providers annually. These graduates deliver direct, high-quality health care services to Medicaid beneficiaries or uninsured or underinsured persons.

Sec. E.605 VERMONT STUDENT ASSISTANCE CORPORATION

(a) Of the funds appropriated to the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation in Sec. B.605 of this act:

(1) \$25,000 shall be deposited into the Trust Fund established in 16 V.S.A. § 2845;

(2) not more than \$300,000 may be used by the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation for a student aspirational initiative to serve one or more high schools; and

(3) not less than \$1,000,000 shall be used to continue the Vermont Trades Scholarship Program established in 2022 Act and Resolves No. 183, Sec. 14.

(b) Of the funds appropriated to the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation in Sec. B.605 of this act that remain after accounting for the expenditures set forth in subsection (a) of this section, not less than 93 percent shall be used for direct student aid.

(c) After accounting for the expenditures set forth in subsection (a) of this section, up to seven percent of the funds appropriated to the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation in Sec. B.605 of this act or otherwise currently or previously appropriated to the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation or provided to the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation by an agency or department of the State for the administration of a program or initiative may be used by the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation for its costs of administration. The Vermont Student Assistance Corporation may recoup its reasonable costs of collecting the forgivable loans in repayment. Funds shall not be used for indirect costs. To the extent that any of these funds are federal funds, allocation for expenses associated with administering the funds shall be consistent with federal grant requirements.

Sec. E.605.1 NEED-BASED STIPEND FOR DUAL ENROLLMENT AND
EARLY COLLEGE STUDENTS

(a) Notwithstanding 16 V.S.A. § 4025, the sum of \$41,225 Education Fund and \$41,225 General Fund is appropriated to the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation for dual enrollment and need-based stipend purposes to fund a flat-rate, need-based stipend or voucher program for financially disadvantaged students enrolled in a dual enrollment course pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 944 or in early college pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 946 to be used for the purchase of books,

cost of transportation, and payment of fees. The Vermont Student Assistance Corporation shall establish the criteria for program eligibility. Funds shall be granted to eligible students on a first-come, first-served basis until funds are depleted.

(b) On or before January 15, 2026, the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation shall report on the program to the House Committees on Appropriations and on Commerce and Economic Development and to the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

Sec. E.715 REPEALS; SUNSET OF PROPERTY TRANSFER TAX
CLEAN WATER SURCHARGE

(a) 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 85, Sec. I.10 (sunset of clean water surcharge), as amended by 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 181, is repealed.

(b) 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 85, Sec. I.11(a)(5) (effective date of sunset of clean water surcharge) is repealed.

Sec. E.715.1 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 85, Sec. I.1(b) is amended to read:

(b) Purpose and intent.

(1) The purpose of Secs. I.1–I.12 of this act is to promote the development and improvement of housing for Vermonters.

(2) It is the intent of the General Assembly:

(A) to extend the clean water surcharge to provide ~~an interim~~ a source of revenue for addressing water quality issues throughout the State; and

(B) to continue its work on identifying a long-term funding source or sources that are sufficient in scope and targeted in design to address these water quality issues; and

~~(C) once one or more long-term funding sources are identified and enacted, but not later than July 1, 2027, to reduce the amount of the clean water surcharge to 0.04 percent.~~

Sec. E.715.2 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 85, Sec. I.12 is amended to read:

Sec. I.12. EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) Secs. I.1–I.12 shall take effect on July 1, 2017, ~~except that Sec. I.10 (allocating clean water surcharge revenue to Vermont Housing and Conservation Trust Fund) shall take effect on July 1, 2027.~~

Sec. E.715.3 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 85, Sec. I.7(d) is amended to read:

(d) To compensate for this reduction of available property transfer tax revenue, it is the intent of the General Assembly through this act to provide for the transfer of \$2,500,000.00 to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Trust Fund, as follows:

(1) Sec. D.100 of this act appropriates \$11,304,840.00 in fiscal year 2018 from the Vermont Housing and Conservation Trust Fund to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board. Upon the effective date of this act, \$1,500,000.00 shall revert to the Fund, resulting in a fiscal year 2018 total appropriation to the Board of \$9,804,840.00. In fiscal year 2018 only, the amount of \$1,500,000.00 from the Vermont Housing and Conservation Trust Fund shall be transferred to the General Fund.

(2) As provided in Sec. I.9 of this act, ~~from July 1, 2017 until July 1, 2027~~, pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 9602a, the first \$1,000,000.00 in revenue generated by the clean water surcharge of ~~0.2~~ 0.22 percent shall be transferred to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Trust Fund. In fiscal year 2018 only, the Commissioner shall transfer the amount of \$1,000,000.00 from the Vermont Housing and Conservation Trust Fund to the General Fund.

(3) ~~After July 1, 2027, pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 9602a as amended in Sec. I.10 of this act, \$1,000,000.00 in total revenue generated by the clean water surcharge of 0.04 percent shall be transferred to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Trust Fund. [Repealed.]~~

(4) ~~As provided in Sec. I.11 of this act, the clean water surcharge will be repealed in its entirety on July 1, 2039. [Repealed.]~~

Sec. E.900 19 V.S.A. § 11a is amended to read:

§ 11a. ~~TRANSPORTATION FUNDS APPROPRIATED FOR THE~~
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY FUND APPROPRIATIONS

(a) No transportation funds shall be appropriated for the support of government other than for the Agency, the Board, Transportation Pay Act Funds, construction of transportation capital facilities, transportation debt service, and the operation of information centers by the Department of Buildings and General Services, ~~and the Department of Public Safety. The amount of transportation funds appropriated to the Department of Public Safety shall not exceed:~~

(1) ~~\$25,250,000.00 in fiscal year 2014;~~

(2) ~~\$22,750,000.00 in fiscal years 2015 and 2016;~~

(3) ~~\$21,150,000.00 in fiscal year 2017; and~~

~~(4) \$20,250,000.00 in fiscal year 2018 and in succeeding fiscal years.~~

~~(b) In fiscal year 2018 and in succeeding fiscal years, of the funds appropriated to the Department of Public Safety pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, the amount of \$2,100,000.00 is allocated exclusively for the purchase, outfitting, assignment, and disposal of State Police vehicles. Any unexpended and unencumbered funds remaining in this allocation at the close of a fiscal year shall revert to the Transportation Fund. The Department of Public Safety may periodically recommend to the General Assembly that this allocation be adjusted to reflect market conditions for the vehicles and equipment.~~

Sec. E.917 TOWN HIGHWAY NON-FEDERAL DISASTERS; PILOT FUND

(a) Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 3709(a), the amount of \$1,150,000 is appropriated in fiscal year 2026 from the PILOT Special Fund established pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 3709 to the Agency of Transportation for the Town Highway Non-Federal Disasters Program.

(b) The amounts appropriated pursuant to this section shall only be spent for the purpose of providing grants in relation to non-federal disasters pursuant to the provisions of 19 V.S.A. § 306(d). Any amounts appropriated pursuant to this section that remain unused at the close of fiscal year 2026 shall revert to the PILOT Special Fund established pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 3709.

* * * Fiscal Year 2025 Adjustments, Appropriations, and Amendments * * *

Sec. F.100 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.105 is amended to read:

Sec. B.105 Agency of digital services - communications and information technology

Personal services	82,994,362	82,994,362
Operating expenses	<u>62,547,212</u>	<u>61,761,212</u>
Total	145,541,574	144,755,574
Source of funds		
General fund	209,808	209,808
Special funds	511,723	511,723
Internal service funds	<u>144,820,043</u>	<u>144,034,043</u>
Total	145,541,574	144,755,574

Sec. F.101 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.145 is amended to read:

Sec. B.145 Total general government

Source of funds		
General fund	117,405,610	117,405,610

Transportation fund	4,292,149	4,292,149
Special funds	31,882,209	31,882,209
Federal funds	1,467,374	1,467,374
Internal service funds	214,635,950	213,849,950
Interdepartmental transfers	7,053,789	7,053,789
Enterprise funds	4,298	4,298
Pension trust funds	4,800,305	4,800,305
Private purpose trust funds	<u>1,329,205</u>	<u>1,329,205</u>
Total	382,870,889	382,084,889

Sec. F.102 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.204 is amended to read:

Sec. B.204 Judiciary

Personal services	58,439,095	58,827,799
Operating expenses	12,479,384	14,640,960
Grants	<u>121,030</u>	<u>121,030</u>
Total	71,039,509	73,589,789
Source of funds		
General fund	63,414,698	65,964,978
Special funds	4,503,401	4,503,401
Federal funds	953,928	953,928
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>2,167,482</u>	<u>2,167,482</u>
Total	71,039,509	73,589,789

Sec. F.103 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.205 is amended to read:

Sec. B.205 State's attorneys

Personal services	17,309,679	17,548,979
Operating expenses	<u>2,034,016</u>	<u>2,202,516</u>
Total	19,343,695	19,751,495
Source of funds		
General fund	18,734,634	19,142,434
Federal funds	31,000	31,000
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>578,061</u>	<u>578,061</u>
Total	19,343,695	19,751,495

Sec. F.104 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.206.1 is amended to read:

Sec. B.206.1 Crime Victims Advocates

Personal services	3,016,156	3,016,156
Operating expenses	<u>104,396</u>	<u>142,396</u>
Total	3,120,552	3,158,552
Source of funds		
General fund	<u>3,120,552</u>	<u>3,158,552</u>

Total	3,120,552	3,158,552
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Sec. F.105 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.208 is amended to read:

Sec. B.208 Public safety - administration

Personal services	4,620,756	5,397,783
Operating expenses	<u>6,022,923</u>	<u>6,022,923</u>
Total	10,643,679	11,420,706
Source of funds		
General fund	6,179,193	8,092,770
Special funds	4,105	4,105
Federal funds	396,362	396,362
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>4,064,019</u>	<u>2,927,469</u>
Total	10,643,679	11,420,706

Sec. F.106 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.210 is amended to read:

Sec. B.210 Public safety - criminal justice services

Personal services	5,387,100	4,705,897
Operating expenses	<u>2,152,467</u>	<u>2,152,467</u>
Total	7,539,567	6,858,364
Source of funds		
General fund	1,829,099	2,172,295
Special funds	4,975,847	3,951,448
Federal funds	<u>734,621</u>	<u>734,621</u>
Total	7,539,567	6,858,364

Sec. F.107 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.236 is amended to read:

Sec. B.236 Human rights commission

Personal services	927,697	952,559
Operating expenses	<u>115,103</u>	<u>125,378</u>
Total	1,042,800	1,077,937
Source of funds		
General fund	953,800	988,937
Federal funds	<u>89,000</u>	<u>89,000</u>
Total	1,042,800	1,077,937

Sec. F.108 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.241 is amended to read:

Sec. B.241 Total protection to persons and property

Source of funds		
General fund	228,238,448	233,526,438
Transportation fund	20,250,000	20,250,000
Special funds	119,824,272	118,799,873

Tobacco fund	672,579	672,579
Federal funds	162,959,452	162,959,452
Interdepartmental transfers	16,031,869	14,895,319
Enterprise funds	<u>15,070,107</u>	<u>15,070,107</u>
Total	<u>563,046,727</u>	566,173,768

Sec. F.109 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.300 is amended to read:

Sec. B.300 Human services - agency of human services - secretary's office

Personal services	16,219,746	18,219,746
Operating expenses	7,220,486	6,062,286
Grants	<u>3,795,202</u>	<u>3,795,202</u>
Total	<u>27,235,434</u>	28,077,234

Source of funds

General fund	12,913,202	11,923,905
Special funds	135,517	135,517
Federal funds	13,565,080	11,606,177
Global Commitment fund	0	4,300,000
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>621,635</u>	<u>111,635</u>
Total	<u>27,235,434</u>	28,077,234

Sec. F.110 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.301 is amended to read:

Sec. B.301 Secretary's office - global commitment

Grants	<u>2,039,512,911</u>	<u>2,164,607,988</u>
Total	<u>2,039,512,911</u>	2,164,607,988

Source of funds

General fund	<u>668,380,623</u>	716,109,638
Special funds	32,047,905	32,047,905
Tobacco fund	21,049,373	21,049,373
State health care resources fund	28,053,557	28,053,557
Federal funds	<u>1,285,494,243</u>	1,363,223,270
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>4,487,210</u>	<u>4,124,245</u>
Total	<u>2,039,512,911</u>	2,164,607,988

Sec. F.111 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.305 is amended to read:

Sec. B.305 AHS - administrative fund

Personal services	330,000	330,000
Operating expenses	<u>13,170,000</u>	<u>16,870,000</u>
Total	<u>13,500,000</u>	17,200,000

Source of funds

Interdepartmental transfers	<u>13,500,000</u>	<u>17,200,000</u>
Total	<u>13,500,000</u>	17,200,000

Sec. F.112 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.306 is amended to read:

Sec. B.306 Department of Vermont health access - administration

Personal services	134,929,148	136,693,560
Operating expenses	44,171,193	39,250,661
Grants	<u>3,112,301</u>	<u>3,112,301</u>
Total	<u>182,212,642</u>	179,056,522
Source of funds		
General fund	39,872,315	42,023,781
Special funds	4,733,015	4,733,015
Federal funds	<u>128,790,580</u>	124,836,223
Global Commitment fund	4,308,574	4,308,574
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>4,508,158</u>	<u>3,154,929</u>
Total	<u>182,212,642</u>	179,056,522

Sec. F.113 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.307 is amended to read:

Sec. B.307 Department of Vermont health access - Medicaid program –
global commitment

Personal services	547,983	547,983
Grants	<u>899,550,794</u>	<u>964,407,046</u>
Total	<u>900,098,777</u>	964,955,029
Source of funds		
Global Commitment fund	<u>900,098,777</u>	<u>964,955,029</u>
Total	<u>900,098,777</u>	964,955,029

Sec. F.114 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.309 is amended to read:

Sec. B.309 Department of Vermont health access - Medicaid program –
state only

Grants	<u>63,033,948</u>	<u>67,780,595</u>
Total	<u>63,033,948</u>	67,780,595
Source of funds		
General fund	62,151,546	62,308,757
Global Commitment fund	<u>882,402</u>	<u>5,471,838</u>
Total	<u>63,033,948</u>	67,780,595

Sec. F.115 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.310 is amended to read:

Sec. B.310 Department of Vermont health access - Medicaid non-waiver
matched

Grants	<u>34,994,888</u>	<u>38,232,431</u>
Total	<u>34,994,888</u>	38,232,431
Source of funds		

General fund	<u>12,511,405</u>	13,459,034
Federal funds	<u>22,483,483</u>	<u>24,773,397</u>
Total	34,994,888	38,232,431

Sec. F.116 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.311 is amended to read:

Sec. B.311 Health - administration and support

Personal services	8,373,168	8,373,168
Operating expenses	<u>7,519,722</u>	8,166,662
Grants	<u>7,985,727</u>	<u>7,985,727</u>
Total	23,878,617	24,525,557

Source of funds

General fund	3,189,843	3,513,313
Special funds	2,308,186	2,308,186
Federal funds	<u>11,040,433</u>	11,363,903
Global Commitment fund	7,173,924	7,173,924
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>166,231</u>	<u>166,231</u>
Total	23,878,617	24,525,557

Sec. F.117 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.312 is amended to read:

Sec. B.312 Health - public health

Personal services	67,812,371	67,812,371
Operating expenses	11,025,497	11,025,497
Grants	<u>46,766,832</u>	<u>46,866,832</u>
Total	125,604,700	125,704,700

Source of funds

General fund	<u>12,908,892</u>	13,008,892
Special funds	24,906,804	24,906,804
Tobacco fund	1,088,918	1,088,918
Federal funds	64,038,301	64,038,301
Global Commitment fund	17,036,150	17,036,150
Interdepartmental transfers	5,600,635	5,600,635
Permanent trust funds	<u>25,000</u>	<u>25,000</u>
Total	125,604,700	125,704,700

Sec. F.118 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.313 is amended to read:

Sec. B.313 Health - substance use programs

Personal services	6,570,967	6,570,967
Operating expenses	511,500	511,500
Grants	<u>58,215,510</u>	<u>59,240,635</u>
Total	<u>65,297,977</u>	66,323,102

Source of funds

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General fund	6,672,061	7,697,186
Special funds	2,413,678	2,413,678
Tobacco fund	949,917	949,917
Federal funds	15,456,754	15,456,754
Global Commitment fund	<u>39,805,567</u>	<u>39,805,567</u>
Total	<u>65,297,977</u>	<u>66,323,102</u>

Sec. F.119 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.314 is amended to read:

Sec. B.314 Mental health - mental health

Personal services	50,191,086	50,191,086
Operating expenses	<u>5,517,999</u>	<u>5,709,973</u>
Grants	<u>270,625,138</u>	<u>272,536,080</u>
Total	<u>326,334,223</u>	<u>328,437,139</u>

Source of funds

General fund	25,555,311	26,279,270
Special funds	1,718,092	1,718,092
Federal funds	11,436,913	12,661,803
Global Commitment fund	<u>287,609,767</u>	<u>287,763,834</u>
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>14,140</u>	<u>14,140</u>
Total	<u>326,334,223</u>	<u>328,437,139</u>

Sec. F.120 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.316 is amended to read:

Sec. B.316 Department for children and families - administration & support services

Personal services	46,644,080	44,844,080
Operating expenses	<u>17,560,755</u>	<u>19,402,705</u>
Grants	<u>5,627,175</u>	<u>5,627,175</u>
Total	<u>69,832,010</u>	<u>69,873,960</u>

Source of funds

General fund	39,722,724	40,113,958
Special funds	2,781,912	2,781,912
Federal funds	<u>24,448,223</u>	<u>24,098,939</u>
Global Commitment fund	2,417,024	2,417,024
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>462,127</u>	<u>462,127</u>
Total	<u>69,832,010</u>	<u>69,873,960</u>

Sec. F.121 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.317 is amended to read:

Sec. B.317 Department for children and families - family services

Personal services	45,197,694	45,286,553
Operating expenses	5,315,309	5,315,309
Grants	<u>98,251,027</u>	<u>97,732,465</u>

Total	148,764,030	148,334,327
Source of funds		
General fund	58,838,741	59,984,059
Special funds	729,587	729,587
Federal funds	34,666,196	36,180,206
Global Commitment fund	54,514,506	51,425,475
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>15,000</u>	<u>15,000</u>
Total	148,764,030	148,334,327

Sec. F.122 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.318 is amended to read:

Sec. B.318 Department for children and families - child development

Personal services	5,908,038	5,908,038
Operating expenses	813,321	813,321
Grants	<u>223,329,336</u>	<u>211,815,836</u>
Total	230,050,695	218,537,195
Source of funds		
General fund	76,723,518	51,443,165
Special funds	96,312,000	109,512,000
Federal funds	43,511,414	42,902,383
Global Commitment fund	<u>13,503,763</u>	<u>14,679,647</u>
Total	230,050,695	218,537,195

Sec. F.123 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.319 is amended to read:

Sec. B.319 Department for children and families - office of child support

Personal services	13,157,660	13,061,794
Operating expenses	<u>3,759,992</u>	<u>3,759,992</u>
Total	16,917,652	16,821,786
Source of funds		
General fund	5,200,064	5,163,429
Special funds	455,719	455,719
Federal funds	10,874,269	10,815,038
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>387,600</u>	<u>387,600</u>
Total	16,917,652	16,821,786

Sec. F.124 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.320 is amended to read:

Sec. B.320 Department for children and families - aid to aged, blind and disabled

Personal services	2,252,206	2,481,741
Grants	<u>10,717,444</u>	<u>10,369,155</u>
Total	12,969,650	12,850,896
Source of funds		

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General fund	7,376,133	7,368,843
Global Commitment fund	<u>5,593,517</u>	<u>5,482,053</u>
Total	12,969,650	12,850,896

Sec. F.125 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.321 is amended to read:

Sec. B.321 Department for children and families - general assistance

Personal services	15,000	15,000
Grants	<u>11,054,252</u>	<u>10,702,625</u>
Total	11,069,252	10,717,625
Source of funds		
General fund	10,811,345	10,486,987
Federal funds	11,320	11,070
Global Commitment fund	<u>246,587</u>	<u>219,568</u>
Total	11,069,252	10,717,625

Sec. F.126 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.322 is amended to read:

Sec. B.322 Department for children and families - 3SquaresVT

Grants	<u>44,377,812</u>	<u>45,677,812</u>
Total	44,377,812	45,677,812
Source of funds		
Federal funds	<u>44,377,812</u>	<u>45,677,812</u>
Total	44,377,812	45,677,812

Sec. F.127 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.323 is amended to read:

Sec. B.323 Department for children and families - reach up

Operating expenses	23,821	23,821
Grants	<u>37,230,488</u>	<u>36,730,493</u>
Total	37,254,309	36,754,314
Source of funds		
General fund	24,733,042	24,233,047
Special funds	5,970,229	5,970,229
Federal funds	2,806,330	2,806,330
Global Commitment fund	<u>3,744,708</u>	<u>3,744,708</u>
Total	37,254,309	36,754,314

Sec. F.128 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.325 is amended to read:

Sec. B.325 Department for children and families - office of economic opportunity

Personal services	817,029	1,042,639
Operating expenses	100,407	100,407
Grants	<u>35,466,283</u>	<u>35,812,536</u>

Total	36,383,719	36,955,582
Source of funds		
General fund	28,178,010	28,687,068
Special funds	83,135	83,135
Federal funds	4,935,273	4,998,078
Global Commitment fund	<u>3,187,301</u>	<u>3,187,301</u>
Total	36,383,719	36,955,582

Sec. F.129 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.329 is amended to read:

Sec. B.329 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - administration & support

Personal services	45,217,977	46,217,977
Operating expenses	<u>6,472,558</u>	<u>6,714,680</u>
Total	51,690,535	52,932,657
Source of funds		
General fund	22,916,281	24,037,342
Special funds	1,390,457	1,390,457
Federal funds	26,063,097	26,184,158
Global Commitment fund	35,000	35,000
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,285,700</u>	<u>1,285,700</u>
Total	51,690,535	52,932,657

Sec. F.130 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.330 is amended to read:

Sec. B.330 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - advocacy and independent living grants

Grants	<u>24,571,060</u>	<u>24,781,798</u>
Total	24,571,060	24,781,798
Source of funds		
General fund	8,392,303	8,504,605
Federal funds	7,321,114	7,321,114
Global Commitment fund	<u>8,857,643</u>	<u>8,956,079</u>
Total	24,571,060	24,781,798

Sec. F.131 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.332 is amended to read:

Sec. B.332 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - vocational rehabilitation

Grants	<u>10,179,845</u>	<u>9,179,845</u>
Total	10,179,845	9,179,845
Source of funds		
General fund	1,371,845	371,845
Federal funds	7,558,000	7,558,000

Interdepartmental transfers	<u>1,250,000</u>	<u>1,250,000</u>
Total	10,179,845	9,179,845

Sec. F.132 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.333 is amended to read:

Sec. B.333 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - developmental services

Grants	<u>329,299,344</u>	<u>331,262,271</u>
Total	329,299,344	331,262,271
Source of funds		
General fund	132,732	132,732
Special funds	15,463	15,463
Federal funds	403,573	403,573
Global Commitment fund	328,697,576	330,660,503
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>50,000</u>	<u>50,000</u>
Total	329,299,344	331,262,271

Sec. F.133 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.334 is amended to read:

Sec. B.334 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - TBI home and community based waiver

Grants	<u>6,845,005</u>	<u>6,864,520</u>
Total	6,845,005	6,864,520
Source of funds		
Global Commitment fund	<u>6,845,005</u>	<u>6,864,520</u>
Total	6,845,005	6,864,520

Sec. F.134 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.334.1 is amended to read:

Sec. B.334.1 Disabilities, aging and independent living - Long Term Care

Grants	<u>293,584,545</u>	<u>347,376,122</u>
Total	293,584,545	347,376,122
Source of funds		
General fund	498,579	498,579
Federal funds	2,450,000	2,450,000
Global Commitment fund	<u>290,635,966</u>	<u>344,427,543</u>
Total	293,584,545	347,376,122

Sec. F.135 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.338 is amended to read:

Sec. B.338 Corrections - correctional services

Personal services	147,472,104	148,472,104
Operating expenses	<u>24,914,205</u>	<u>25,249,795</u>
Total	172,386,309	173,721,899
Source of funds		

General fund	162,807,888	163,643,478
Special funds	935,963	935,963
ARPA State Fiscal	5,000,000	5,000,000
Federal funds	499,888	999,888
Global Commitment fund	2,746,255	2,746,255
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>396,315</u>	<u>396,315</u>
Total	172,386,309	173,721,899

Sec. F.136 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.342 is amended to read:

Sec. B.342 Vermont veterans' home - care and support services

Personal services	17,631,222	17,595,290
Operating expenses	5,013,462	13,247,462
Grants	<u>0</u>	<u>1,583,157</u>
Total	22,644,684	32,425,909

Source of funds

General fund	4,320,687	11,224,018
Special funds	10,051,903	12,450,095
Federal funds	<u>8,272,094</u>	<u>8,751,796</u>
Total	22,644,684	32,425,909

Sec. F.137 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.347 is amended to read:

Sec. B.347 Total human services

Source of funds

General fund	1,328,118,806	1,364,156,647
Special funds	202,800,452	218,398,644
Tobacco fund	23,088,208	23,088,208
State health care resources fund	28,053,557	28,053,557
ARPA State Fiscal	5,000,000	5,000,000
Federal funds	1,803,398,922	1,882,012,745
Global Commitment fund	1,980,839,553	2,108,560,133
Internal service funds	490,853	490,853
Interdepartmental transfers	32,893,535	34,367,341
Permanent trust funds	<u>25,000</u>	<u>25,000</u>
Total	5,404,708,886	5,664,153,128

Sec. F.138 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.501 is amended to read:

Sec. B.501 Education - education services

Personal services	28,237,700	28,312,700
Operating expenses	1,134,912	1,134,912
Grants	<u>322,345,763</u>	<u>322,345,763</u>
Total	351,718,375	351,793,375

Source of funds		
General fund	6,387,955	6,462,955
Special funds	3,033,144	3,033,144
Tobacco fund	750,388	750,388
Federal funds	340,584,414	340,584,414
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>962,474</u>	<u>962,474</u>
Total	<u>351,718,375</u>	<u>351,793,375</u>

Sec. F.139 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.503 is amended to read:

Sec. B.503 Education - state-placed students

Grants	<u>20,000,000</u>	<u>19,000,000</u>
Total	<u>20,000,000</u>	<u>19,000,000</u>

Source of funds		
Education fund	<u>20,000,000</u>	<u>19,000,000</u>
Total	<u>20,000,000</u>	<u>19,000,000</u>

Sec. F.140 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.504 is amended to read:

Sec. B.504 Education - adult education and literacy

Grants	<u>4,694,183</u>	<u>4,997,820</u>
Total	<u>4,694,183</u>	<u>4,997,820</u>

Source of funds		
General fund	3,778,133	4,081,770
Federal funds	<u>916,050</u>	<u>916,050</u>
Total	<u>4,694,183</u>	<u>4,997,820</u>

Sec. F.141 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.504.1 is amended to read:

Sec. B.504.1 Education - Flexible Pathways

Grants	<u>11,361,755</u>	<u>11,564,179</u>
Total	<u>11,361,755</u>	<u>11,564,179</u>

Source of funds		
General fund	921,500	921,500
Education fund	<u>10,440,255</u>	<u>10,642,679</u>
Total	<u>11,361,755</u>	<u>11,564,179</u>

Sec. F.142 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.505 is amended to read:

Sec. B.505 Education - adjusted education payment

Grants	<u>1,893,267,394</u>	<u>1,882,267,394</u>
Total	<u>1,893,267,394</u>	<u>1,882,267,394</u>

Source of funds		
Education fund	<u>1,893,267,394</u>	<u>1,882,267,394</u>
Total	<u>1,893,267,394</u>	<u>1,882,267,394</u>

Sec. F.143 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.508 is amended to read:

Sec. B.508 Education - nutrition

Grants	<u>20,400,000</u>	<u>17,500,000</u>
Total	20,400,000	17,500,000
Source of funds		
Education fund	<u>20,400,000</u>	<u>17,500,000</u>
Total	20,400,000	17,500,000

Sec. F.144 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.516 is amended to read:

Sec. B.516 Total general education

Source of funds		
General fund	228,890,519	229,269,156
Special funds	23,651,687	23,651,687
Tobacco fund	750,388	750,388
Education fund	2,323,283,242	2,308,585,666
Federal funds	354,654,849	354,654,849
Global Commitment fund	260,000	260,000
Interdepartmental transfers	1,467,771	1,467,771
Pension trust funds	<u>3,572,780</u>	<u>3,572,780</u>
Total	2,936,531,236	2,922,212,297

Sec. F.145 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.704 is amended to read:

Sec. B.704 Forests, parks and recreation - forestry

Personal services	7,880,566	7,913,766
Operating expenses	1,005,046	1,005,046
Grants	<u>1,712,423</u>	<u>1,713,923</u>
Total	10,598,035	10,632,735
Source of funds		
General fund	6,299,512	6,334,212
Special funds	547,215	547,215
Federal funds	3,394,931	3,394,931
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>356,377</u>	<u>356,377</u>
Total	10,598,035	10,632,735

Sec. F.146 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.710 is amended to read:

Sec. B.710 Environmental conservation - air and waste management

Personal services	27,995,328	27,995,328
Operating expenses	10,788,954	10,816,954
Grants	<u>4,943,000</u>	<u>4,943,000</u>
Total	43,727,282	43,755,282
Source of funds		

General fund	<u>199,372</u>	227,372
Special funds	24,643,580	24,643,580
Federal funds	18,800,064	18,800,064
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>84,266</u>	<u>84,266</u>
Total	43,727,282	43,755,282

Sec. F.147 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.711 is amended to read:

Sec. B.711 Environmental conservation - office of water programs

Personal services	50,153,806	50,153,806
Operating expenses	<u>8,362,915</u>	8,370,915
Grants	<u>92,365,140</u>	<u>92,365,140</u>
Total	150,881,861	150,889,861

Source of funds

General fund	<u>11,887,629</u>	11,895,629
Special funds	30,967,150	30,967,150
Federal funds	107,154,542	107,154,542
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>872,540</u>	<u>872,540</u>
Total	150,881,861	150,889,861

Sec. F.148 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.714 is amended to read:

Sec. B.714 Total natural resources

Source of funds

General fund	<u>42,792,800</u>	42,863,500
Special funds	81,275,829	81,275,829
Fish and wildlife fund	10,418,331	10,418,331
Federal funds	152,068,301	152,068,301
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>14,131,324</u>	<u>14,131,324</u>
Total	300,686,585	300,757,285

Sec. F.149 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. D.100 is amended to read:

Sec. D.100 ALLOCATIONS; PROPERTY TRANSFER TAX

(a) This act contains the following amounts allocated to special funds that receive revenue from the property transfer tax. These allocations shall not exceed available revenues.

(1) The sum of \$575,662 is allocated from the Current Use Administration Special Fund to the Department of Taxes for administration of the Use Tax Reimbursement Program. Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 9610(c), amounts in excess of \$575,662 from the property transfer tax deposited into the Current Use Administration Special Fund shall be transferred into the General Fund.

(2) Notwithstanding 10 V.S.A. § 312, amounts in excess of ~~\$22,106,740~~ \$28,238,050 from the property transfer tax and surcharge established in 32 V.S.A. § 9602a deposited into the Vermont Housing and Conservation Trust Fund shall be transferred into the General Fund.

(A) The dedication of \$2,500,000 in revenue from the property transfer tax pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 9610(d) for the debt payments on the affordable housing bond pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 314 shall be offset by the reduction of \$1,500,000 in the appropriation to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board and \$1,000,000 from the surcharge established in 32 V.S.A. § 9602a. The fiscal year 2025 appropriation of ~~\$22,106,740~~ \$28,238,050 to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board reflects the \$1,500,000 reduction. The affordable housing bond and related property transfer tax and surcharge provisions are repealed after the life of the bond on July 1, 2039. Once the bond is retired, the \$1,500,000 reduction in the appropriation to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board shall be restored.

(3) Notwithstanding 24 V.S.A. § 4306(a), amounts in excess of ~~\$7,772,373~~ \$9,052,113 from the property transfer tax deposited into the Municipal and Regional Planning Fund shall be transferred into the General Fund. The ~~\$7,772,373~~ \$9,052,113 shall be allocated as follows:

(A) ~~\$6,404,540~~ \$7,300,358 for disbursement to regional planning commissions in a manner consistent with 24 V.S.A. § 4306(b);

(B) ~~\$931,773~~ \$1,187,721 for disbursement to municipalities in a manner consistent with 24 V.S.A. § 4306(b); and

(C) ~~\$436,060~~ \$564,034 to the Agency of Digital Services for the Vermont Center for Geographic Information.

Sec. F.150 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. D.102 is amended to read:

Sec. D.102 REVERSIONS

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, in fiscal year 2025, the following amounts shall revert to the General Fund from the accounts indicated:

* * *

3150892104 MH – Case Management Serv	\$350,000.00	<u>\$350,199.34</u>
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* * *

<u>1100892208 AOA – VT Housing Finance Agency</u>	<u>\$3,000,000.00</u>
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<u>1100892403 AOA – Health Equity Community Grants</u>	<u>\$500,000.00</u>
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<u>1120020000 Tuition Assistance Program</u>	<u>\$133,877.86</u>
<u>1120892401 DHR – New Position in DHR Ops</u>	<u>\$477,769.00</u>
<u>1120892402 DHR – New Position in VTHR Ops</u>	<u>\$40,726.07</u>
<u>1140010000 Tax Operation Costs</u>	<u>\$1,267,062.22</u>
<u>1140060000 Reappraisal and Listing Payments</u>	<u>\$35,270.75</u>
<u>1140070000 Use Tax Reimbursement Program</u>	<u>\$37,864.25</u>
<u>1140330000 Renter Rebates</u>	<u>\$2,186,940.33</u>
<u>1140892403 Tax – Child Care Contr Positions</u>	<u>\$3,591,823.02</u>
<u>1260980000 Debt Service</u>	<u>\$235,445.15</u>
<u>1266892401 VPIC – Pension System Assets</u>	<u>\$5,000.00</u>
<u>2100892201 AG – Racial Disparities</u>	<u>\$48,465.00</u>
<u>2120892203 JUD – County Court House HVAC</u>	<u>\$800,000.00</u>
<u>2120892402 JUD – Essex County Courthouse Reno</u>	<u>\$50,000.00</u>
<u>2130400000 SIUS Parent Account</u>	<u>\$395,749.64</u>
<u>2150010000 Mil Admin/TAGO</u>	<u>\$142,789.80</u>
<u>2150050000 Mil Vet Affairs Office</u>	<u>\$100,000.00</u>
<u>2160892201 CCVS – VT Forensic Nursing</u>	<u>\$246.43</u>
<u>2160892304 CCVS – Kurn Hattin Survivor</u>	<u>\$250.00</u>
<u>2200010000 Administration Division</u>	<u>\$167,222.00</u>
<u>3310000000 Commission on Women</u>	<u>\$25,390.43</u>
<u>3330892401 GMCB – VHCURES Database Implemen</u>	<u>\$545,782.90</u>
<u>3400892111 Supp New Americans Refugee</u>	<u>\$23,431.00</u>
<u>3400892301 AHSCO – Refugee Resettlement</u>	<u>\$1,293.00</u>
<u>3420892405 HD – Regional Emergency Med</u>	<u>\$8,295.01</u>
<u>3440050000 DCFS – AABD</u>	<u>\$35,310.73</u>
<u>3440892110 DCF – Grants to Reachup</u>	<u>\$5.10</u>
<u>3440892203 DCF – Parent Child Ctrs Cap Imp</u>	<u>\$20,708.22</u>
<u>3440892214 DCF – Child Care Provider Workfor</u>	<u>\$294.79</u>
<u>4100500000 VT Department of Labor</u>	<u>\$8,000,000.00</u>
<u>5100070000 Education Services</u>	<u>\$100,000.00</u>

<u>5100892101 AOE – VSC Committee Per Diem</u>	<u>\$16,295.33</u>
<u>5100892102 AOA – Advisory Group Per Diem</u>	<u>\$9,018.00</u>
<u>5100892103 AOE – ESESAG Per Diems</u>	<u>\$8,960.00</u>
<u>5100892201 AOE – Comm Pub Sch Emp Hlth Ben</u>	<u>\$29,050.00</u>
<u>5100892202 AOE – Task Force Equit Inclusive</u>	<u>\$6,150.00</u>
<u>5100892302 AOE – Ethnic&Social Equity Per D</u>	<u>\$14,386.24</u>
<u>6100010000 Administration Management and Planning</u>	<u>\$402,052.99</u>
<u>6100040000 Property Tax Assessment Approp</u>	<u>\$11,692.11</u>
<u>6140880005 152/00 State Asst Munic Poll Cont</u>	<u>\$126.26</u>
<u>7100892301 Everyone Eats</u>	<u>\$144,565.43</u>
<u>7120892304 DED – Relocated and Remote Worker</u>	<u>\$127,314.33</u>
<u>8100002100 Department of Motor Vehicles</u>	<u>\$2,482.81</u>

* * *

(c) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, in fiscal year 2025, the following amounts shall revert to the Education Fund from the accounts indicated:

<u>5100010000 Administration</u>	<u>\$301,041.03</u>
<u>5100050000 State-Placed Students</u>	<u>\$13,687,528.41</u>
<u>5100090000 Education Grant</u>	<u>\$359,570.31</u>
<u>5100110000 Small School Grant</u>	<u>\$593,700.00</u>
<u>5100200000 Education – Technical Education</u>	<u>\$1,802,347.44</u>
<u>5100210000 Education – Flexible Pathways</u>	<u>\$1,312,334.72</u>
<u>5100892405 AOE – Universal School Meals</u>	<u>\$6,201,479.69</u>

Sec. F.151 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. E.100 is amended to read:

Sec. E.100 POSITIONS

* * *

(d) The conversion of eight limited service positions to exempt permanent status is authorized in fiscal year 2025 as follows:

(1) Office of the Defender General:

(A) one Administrative Services Tech;

- (B) two DG IT Specialist II's;
- (C) one ODG Legal Assistant I;
- (D) two Staff Attorney I's;
- (E) one Financial Specialist III; and
- (F) one Admin Secretary.

* * *

Sec. F.152 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. E.301 is amended to read:

Sec. E.301 SECRETARY'S OFFICE; GLOBAL COMMITMENT

* * *

(b) In addition to the State funds appropriated in Sec. B.301 of this act, a total estimated sum of ~~\$24,301,185~~ \$28,307,335 is anticipated to be certified as State matching funds under Global Commitment as follows:

(1) ~~\$21,295,850~~ \$25,302,000 certified State match available from local education agencies for eligible special education school-based Medicaid services under Global Commitment. This amount, combined with ~~\$29,204,150~~ \$34,698,000 of federal funds appropriated in Sec. B.301 of this act, equals a total estimated expenditure of ~~\$50,500,000~~ \$60,000,000. An amount equal to the amount of the federal matching funds for eligible special education school-based Medicaid services under Global Commitment shall be transferred from the Global Commitment Fund to the Medicaid Reimbursement Special Fund created in 16 V.S.A. § 2959a.

(2) \$3,005,335 certified State match available from local designated mental health and developmental services agencies for eligible mental health services provided under Global Commitment.

(c) Up to ~~\$4,487,210~~ \$3,614,245 is transferred from the Agency of Human Services Federal Receipts Holding Account to the Interdepartmental Transfer Fund consistent with the amount appropriated in Sec. B.301 of this act.

Sec. F.153 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. G.109 is amended to read:

Sec. G.109 PAY ACT APPROPRIATIONS; FISCAL YEARS 2025 AND 2026

(a) Executive Branch. The first and second years of the two-year agreements between the State of Vermont and the Vermont State Employees' Association for the Defender General, Non-Management, Supervisory, and Corrections bargaining units, and, for the purpose of appropriation, the State's Attorneys' offices bargaining unit, for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2026; the collective bargaining agreement with the Vermont Troopers'

Association for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2026; and salary increases for employees in the Executive Branch not covered by the bargaining agreements shall be funded as follows:

(1) Fiscal year 2025.

* * *

(D) Transfers. With due regard to the possible availability of other funds, for fiscal year 2025, the Secretary of Administration may transfer from the various appropriations and various funds and from the receipts of the Liquor Control ~~Board~~ Fund such sums as the Secretary may determine to be necessary to carry out the purposes of this act to the various agencies supported by State funds.

* * *

(2) Fiscal year 2026.

* * *

(D) Transfers. With due regard to the possible availability of other funds, for fiscal year 2026, the Secretary of Administration may transfer from the various appropriations and various funds and from the receipts of the Liquor Control ~~Board~~ Fund such sums as the Secretary may determine to be necessary to carry out the purposes of this act to the various agencies supported by State funds.

* * *

Sec. F.154 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 145, Sec. 7 is amended to read:

Sec. 7. TELEPHONE TAX; REPEAL; TRANSITION

(a) 32 V.S.A. § 8521 (telephone personal property tax) is repealed on July 1, ~~2025~~ 2026. The final monthly installment payment of the telephone personal property tax under 32 V.S.A. § 8521 levied on the net book value of the taxpayer's personal property as of December 31, ~~2024~~ 2025 shall be due on or before July 25, ~~2025~~ 2026.

(b) 32 V.S.A. § 8522 (alternative telephone gross revenues tax) is repealed on January 1, ~~2026~~ 2027. The final quarterly payment of the alternative tax under 32 V.S.A. § 8522 shall be due on or before January 25, ~~2026~~ 2027.

(c) Any taxpayer who paid the alternative tax imposed by 32 V.S.A. § 8522 prior to the repeal of the tax on January 1, ~~2026~~ 2027 shall become subject to the income tax imposed under 32 V.S.A. chapter 151 beginning with the taxpayer's first income tax year starting on or after January 1, ~~2025~~ 2026. No alternative tax under 32 V.S.A. § 8522 shall be due for any period included in

the taxpayer's income tax filing for tax years starting on or after January 1, ~~2025~~ 2026.

(d) In fiscal year ~~2025~~ 2026, the Division of Property Valuation and Review of the Department of Taxes and all communications service providers with taxable communications property in Vermont shall be subject to the inventory and valuation provisions prescribed in 32 V.S.A. § 4452, as applicable.

Sec. F.155 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 145, Sec. 15 is amended to read:

Sec. 15. EFFECTIVE DATES

This act shall take effect on passage, except that:

* * *

(3) Secs. 8–12 (communications property tax) shall take effect on July 1, ~~2025~~ 2026 and shall apply to grand lists lodged on or after April 1, ~~2025~~ 2026.

Sec. F.156 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 166, Sec. 15 is amended to read:

Sec. 15. TRANSFER AND APPROPRIATION

Notwithstanding 7 V.S.A. § 845(c), in fiscal year 2025:

(1) ~~\$500,000.00~~ is transferred from the Cannabis Regulation Fund established pursuant to 7 V.S.A. § 845 to the Cannabis Business Development Fund established pursuant to 7 V.S.A. § 987; and

(2) ~~\$500,000.00~~ is appropriated from the Cannabis Business ~~49~~ Development Fund to the ~~Agency of Commerce and Community Development~~ Department of Economic Development to fund technical assistance and provide loans and grants pursuant to 7 V.S.A. § 987.

Sec. F.157 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 181, Sec. 78 is amended to read:

Sec. 78. ~~TRANSFERS; PROPERTY TRANSFER TAX~~

~~Notwithstanding 10 V.S.A. § 312, 24 V.S.A. § 4306(a), 32 V.S.A. § 9610(c), or any other provision of law to the contrary, amounts in excess of \$32,954,775.00 from the property transfer tax shall be transferred into the General Fund. Of this amount:~~

~~(1) \$6,106,335.00 shall be transferred from the General Fund into the Vermont Housing and Conservation Trust Fund.~~

~~(2) \$1,279,740.00 shall be transferred from the General Fund into the Municipal and Regional Planning Fund. [Repealed.]~~

Sec. F.158 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 181, Sec. 96 is amended to read:

Sec. 96. APPROPRIATION; RENT ARREARS ASSISTANCE FUND

The sum of \$2,500,000.00 is appropriated from the General Fund to the ~~Vermont State Housing Authority~~ Department of Housing and Community Development in fiscal year 2025 for the Rent Arrears Assistance Fund established by 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 47, Sec. 45.

Sec. F.159 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 182, Sec. 3, as amended by 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 3, Sec. 75, 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. C.119, and 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 181, Sec. 106, is further amended to read:

Sec. 3. MANUFACTURED HOME IMPROVEMENT AND
REPAIR PROGRAM

(a) ~~Amounts~~ Of the amounts available from the American Rescue Plan Act – State Fiscal Recovery funds, \$4,000,000 is appropriated to the Department of Housing and Community Development for the Manufactured Home Improvement and Repair Program and shall be used for one or more of the following purposes:

* * *

Sec. F.160 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 181, Sec. 113b is amended to read:

Sec. 113b. APPROPRIATION; ~~NATURAL RESOURCES~~ LAND USE
REVIEW BOARD

The sum of ~~\$1,300,000.00~~ \$400,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to the ~~Natural Resources~~ Land Use Review Board in fiscal year 2025.

Sec. F.161 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 183, Sec. 24a is amended to read:

Sec. 24a. COMPENSATION FOR OVERPAYMENT

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, ~~the sum of \$29,224.00~~ a \$29,224 credit shall be ~~transferred from the Education Fund to the Town of~~ applied to the Canaan Town School District's education spending, as defined per 16 V.S.A. § 4001(6), in fiscal year 2025 to compensate the homestead taxpayers of the ~~Town of Canaan Town School District~~ for an overpayment of education taxes in fiscal year 2024 due to erroneous accounting of certain students for the purposes of calculating average daily membership. ~~The transfer under this subsection shall be made directly to the Town of Canaan.~~

(b) ~~Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the sum of \$5,924.00 shall be transferred from the Education Fund to the Town of Bloomfield in fiscal year 2025 to compensate the homestead taxpayers of the~~

Town of Bloomfield for an overpayment of education taxes in fiscal year 2024 due to erroneous accounting of certain students for the purposes of calculating average daily membership. The transfer under this subsection shall be made directly to the Town of Bloomfield.

(c) ~~Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the sum of \$2,575.00 shall be transferred from the Education Fund to the Town of Brunswick in fiscal year 2025 to compensate the homestead taxpayers of the Town of Brunswick for an overpayment of education taxes in fiscal year 2024 due to erroneous accounting of certain students for the purposes of calculating average daily membership. The transfer under this subsection shall be made directly to the Town of Brunswick.~~

(d) ~~Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the sum of \$6,145.00 shall be transferred from the Education Fund to the Town of East Haven in fiscal year 2025 to compensate the homestead taxpayers of the Town of East Haven for an overpayment of education taxes in fiscal year 2024 due to erroneous accounting of certain students for the purposes of calculating average daily membership. The transfer under this subsection shall be made directly to the Town of East Haven.~~

(e) ~~Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the sum of \$2,046.00 shall be transferred from the Education Fund to the Town of Granby in fiscal year 2025 to compensate the homestead taxpayers of the Town of Granby for an overpayment of education taxes in fiscal year 2024 due to erroneous accounting of certain students for the purposes of calculating average daily membership. The transfer under this subsection shall be made directly to the Town of Granby.~~

(f) ~~Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the sum of \$10,034.00 shall be transferred from the Education Fund to the Town of Guildhall in fiscal year 2025 to compensate the homestead taxpayers of the Town of Guildhall for an overpayment of education taxes in fiscal year 2024 due to erroneous accounting of certain students for the purposes of calculating average daily membership. The transfer under this subsection shall be made directly to the Town of Guildhall.~~

(g) ~~Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the sum of \$20,536.00 shall be transferred from the Education Fund to the Town of Kirby in fiscal year 2025 to compensate the homestead taxpayers of the Town of Kirby for an overpayment of education taxes in fiscal year 2024 due to erroneous accounting of certain students for the purposes of calculating average daily membership. The transfer under this subsection shall be made directly to the Town of Kirby.~~

~~(h) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the sum of \$2,402.00 shall be transferred from the Education Fund to the Town of Lemington in fiscal year 2025 to compensate the homestead taxpayers of the Town of Lemington for an overpayment of education taxes in fiscal year 2024 due to erroneous accounting of certain students for the purposes of calculating average daily membership. The transfer under this subsection shall be made directly to the Town of Lemington.~~

~~(i) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the sum of \$11,464.00 shall be transferred from the Education Fund to the Town of Maidstone in fiscal year 2025 to compensate the homestead taxpayers of the Town of Maidstone for an overpayment of education taxes in fiscal year 2024 due to erroneous accounting of certain students for the purposes of calculating average daily membership. The transfer under this subsection shall be made directly to the Town of Maidstone.~~

~~(j) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the sum of \$4,349.00 shall be transferred from the Education Fund to the Town of Norton in fiscal year 2025 to compensate the homestead taxpayers of the Town of Norton for an overpayment of education taxes in fiscal year 2024 due to erroneous accounting of certain students for the purposes of calculating average daily membership. The transfer under this subsection shall be made directly to the Town of Norton.~~

~~(k) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the sum of \$2,657.00 shall be transferred from the Education Fund to the Town of Victory in fiscal year 2025 to compensate the homestead taxpayers of the Town of Victory for an overpayment of education taxes in fiscal year 2024 due to erroneous accounting of certain students for the purposes of calculating average daily membership. The transfer under this subsection shall be made directly to the Town of Victory.~~

Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, a \$68,132 credit shall be applied to the Northeast Kingdom Choice School District's education spending, as defined per 16 V.S.A. § 4001(6), in fiscal year 2025 to compensate the homestead taxpayers of the Northeast Kingdom Choice School District for an overpayment of education taxes in fiscal year 2024 due to erroneous accounting of certain students for the purposes of calculating average daily membership.

Sec. F.162 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. B.1102, as added by 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 3, Sec. 47, is amended to read:

Sec. B.1102 FISCAL YEAR 2023 ONE-TIME TECHNOLOGY
MODERNIZATION SPECIAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS

(a) In fiscal year 2023, funds are appropriated from the Technology Modernization Special Fund (21951) for new and ongoing initiatives as follows:

(1) \$40,010,000 to the Agency of Digital Services to be used as follows:

(A) \$11,800,000 for Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system upgrade of Human Capital Management and core statewide financial accounting system and integration with the Department of Labor and Agency of Transportation financial systems;

* * *

Sec. F.163 3 V.S.A. § 3306 is amended to read:

§ 3306. TECHNOLOGY MODERNIZATION SPECIAL FUND

* * *

(b) Funds. The Fund shall consist of:

(1) any amounts transferred ~~or appropriated~~ to it by the General Assembly; and

(2) any interest earned by the Fund.

* * *

Sec. F.164 WORKFORCE EDUCATION AND TRAINING FUND;
REPEAL

(a) 10 V.S.A. § 543 (Workforce Education and Training Fund) is repealed.

Sec. F.165 18 V.S.A. § 9502 is amended to read:

§ 9502. TOBACCO TRUST FUND

(a)(1) The Tobacco Trust Fund is established in the Office of the State Treasurer for the purposes of creating a self-sustaining, perpetual fund for tobacco cessation and prevention that is not dependent upon tobacco sales volume.

(2) The Trust Fund shall ~~comprise~~ be composed of:

(A) ~~appropriations~~ transfers made by the General Assembly; and

(B) ~~transfers from the Litigation Settlement Fund pursuant to subdivision (b) of this section; and~~

(C) contributions from any other source.

(3) The State Treasurer shall not disburse monies from the Trust Fund, except upon appropriation by the General Assembly. In any fiscal year, total

appropriations from the Trust Fund shall not exceed seven percent of the fair market value of the Fund at the end of the prior fiscal year.

(4) The Trust Fund shall be administered by the State Treasurer. The Treasurer may invest monies in the Fund in accordance with the provisions of 32 V.S.A. § 434. All balances in the Fund at the end of the fiscal year shall be carried forward. Interest earned shall remain in the Fund. The Treasurer's annual financial report to the Governor and the General Assembly shall contain an accounting of receipts, disbursements, and earnings of the Fund.

~~(b) Unless otherwise authorized by the General Assembly on or before June 30, 2000, and on June 30 of each subsequent fiscal year, any unencumbered balance in the Litigation Settlement Fund shall be transferred to the Trust Fund. [Repealed.]~~

Sec. F.166 32 V.S.A. § 5 is amended to read:

§ 5. ACCEPTANCE OF GRANTS

(a) Definitions. As used in this section:

(1) "Loan" means a loan that is interest free or below market value.

(2) "State agency" means an Executive Branch agency, department, commission, office, or board.

* * *

Sec. F.167 32 V.S.A. § 706 is amended to read:

§ 706. TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS

Notwithstanding any authority granted elsewhere, all transfers of appropriations shall be made pursuant to this section upon the initiative of the Governor or upon the request of a secretary or commissioner.

(1) With the approval of the Governor, the Commissioner of Finance and Management may transfer balances of appropriations not to exceed ~~\$50,000.00~~ \$100,000 made under any appropriation act for the support of the government from one component of an agency, department, or other unit of State government to any component of the same agency, department, or unit.

(2) Except as specified in ~~subdivisions~~ subdivision (1) ~~and (4)~~ of this section, the transfer of balances of appropriations may be made only with the approval of the Emergency Board.

(3) For the specific purpose of balancing and closing out fund accounts at the end of a fiscal year, the Commissioner of Finance and Management may adjust a balance within an account of an agency or department in an amount not to exceed ~~\$100.00~~ \$200.

* * *

Sec. F.168 32 V.S.A. § 902 is amended to read:

§ 902. AUTHORIZATION TO BORROW MONEY

* * *

(b) The State Treasurer shall pay the interest on, principal of and expenses of preparing, issuing, and marketing of such notes as the same fall due without further order or authority from the ~~General Fund or from the Transportation or other applicable funds or from the proceeds of bonds or notes~~ governmental debt service funds established in section 951a of this chapter. The authority hereby granted is in addition to and not in limitation of any other authority. Such notes shall be sold at public or private sale with or without published notice, as the State Treasurer may determine to be in the best interests of the State.

Sec. F.169 32 V.S.A. § 951a is amended to read:

§ 951a. DEBT SERVICE FUNDS

(a) Three governmental debt service funds are hereby established:

* * *

(b) Financial resources in each fund shall consist of ~~appropriations by the General Assembly to fulfill debt service obligations~~, the transfer of funding sources by the General Assembly to fulfill future debt service obligations, bond proceeds raised to fund a permanent reserve required by a trust agreement entered into to secure bonds, transfers of appropriations effected pursuant to section 706 of this title, investment income earned on balances held in trust agreement accounts as required by a trust agreement, and such other amounts as directed by the General Assembly or that are specifically authorized by provisions of this title. Each debt service fund shall account for the accumulation of resources and the fulfillment of debt service obligations within the current fiscal year and the accumulation of resources for debt service obligations maturing in future fiscal years.

* * *

Sec. F.170 32 V.S.A. § 954 is amended to read:

§ 954. PROCEEDS

(a) The proceeds arising from the sale of bonds, inclusive of any premiums, shall be applied to the purposes for which they were authorized, and the purposes ~~shall~~ may be considered to include ~~the expenses of preparing, issuing, and marketing the bonds and any notes issued under section 955 of~~

this title, and underwriters' fees and amounts for reserves, but no purchasers of the bonds shall be in any way bound to see to the proper application of the proceeds. The State Treasurer shall pay the interest on, principal of, investment return on, and maturity value of the bonds and notes as the same fall due or accrue without further order or authority. The State Treasurer, with the approval of the Governor, may establish sinking funds, reserve funds, or other special funds of the State as the State Treasurer may deem for the best interests of the State. To the extent not otherwise provided, the amount necessary each year to fulfill the maturing principal and interest of, investment return and maturity value of, and sinking fund installments on all the bonds then outstanding shall be included in and made a part of the annual appropriation bill for the expense of State government, and the principal and interest on, investment return and maturity value of, and sinking fund installments on the bonds as may come due before appropriations for their fulfillment have been made shall be fulfilled from the applicable debt service fund.

(b) ~~The State Treasurer is authorized to allocate the estimated cost of bond issuance or issuances to the entities to which funds are appropriated by a capital construction act and for which bonding is required as the source of funds. If estimated receipts are insufficient, the State Treasurer shall allocate additional costs to the entities. Any remaining receipts shall not be expended, but carried forward to be available for future capital construction acts. If the source of funds appropriated by a capital construction act is other than by issuance of bonds, the State Treasurer is authorized to allocate the estimated cost of ongoing debt management services to the entities to which those funds are appropriated shall be appropriated annually from the funds from which transfers are made to fund debt service costs.~~

* * *

Sec. F.171 VERMONT TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY FUND; REPEAL

(a) 33 V.S.A. chapter 78 (Vermont Traumatic Brain Injury Fund) is repealed.

Sec. F.172 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 47, Sec. 38 is amended to read:

Sec. 38. RENTAL HOUSING REVOLVING LOAN PROGRAM

(a) Creation; administration. The Vermont Housing Finance Agency shall design and implement a Rental Housing Revolving Loan Program and shall create and administer a revolving loan fund to provide subsidized loans for rental housing developments that serve middle-income households.

(b) Loans; eligibility; criteria.

* * *

(7) The Agency shall use one or more legal mechanisms to ensure that:

(A) a subsidized unit remains affordable to a household earning the applicable percent of area median income for the longer of:

(i) seven years; or

(ii) full repayment of the loan plus three years; and

(B) during the affordability period determined pursuant to subdivision (A) of this subdivision (7), the annual increase in rent for a subsidized unit does not exceed three percent or an amount otherwise authorized by the Agency.

* * *

Sec. F.173 32 V.S.A. § 308b is amended to read:

§ 308b. HUMAN SERVICES CASELOAD RESERVE

(a) There is created within the General Fund a Human Services Caseload Reserve. Expenditures from the Reserve shall be subject to an appropriation by the General Assembly or approval by the Emergency Board. Expenditures from the Reserve shall be limited to Agency of Human Services caseload-related needs primarily in the Departments for Children and Families, of Health, of Mental Health, of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living, of Vermont Health Access, and settlement costs associated with managing the Global Commitment waiver.

(b) The Secretary of Administration may transfer to the Human Services Caseload Reserve any General Fund ~~carry-forward~~ carryforward directly attributable to Agency of Human Services caseload reductions and the effective management of related federal receipts, with the exclusion of the Department of Corrections.

(c) The Human Services Caseload Reserve shall contain two ~~sub-accounts~~ subaccounts:

(1) A ~~sub-account~~ subaccount for incurred but not reported Medicaid expenses. Each fiscal year ~~beginning with fiscal year 2020~~, the Department of Finance and Management shall adjust the amount reserved for incurred but not reported Medicaid expenses to equal the amount specified in the ~~Comprehensive~~ Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the fiscal year occurring two years prior for the estimated amount of incurred but not reported Medicaid expenses associated with the current Medicaid Global Commitment waiver.

* * *

Sec. F.174 CHILD CARE CONTRIBUTION SPECIAL FUND;
UNALLOCATED AND UNRESERVED BALANCE

(a) In fiscal year 2025, the Secretary of Administration shall unreserve and transfer funds from the Human Services Caseload Reserve to the Child Care Contribution Special Fund established in 32 V.S.A. § 10554 as necessary to maintain a balance that appropriately supports the State's statutory obligations under the Child Care Financial Assistance Program established in 33 V.S.A. §§ 3512 and 3513.

(b) It is the intent of the General Assembly that any unreserved and unallocated balance in the Child Care Contribution Special Fund shall remain in the Fund to support the future establishment of a reserve for the Child Care Financial Assistance Program.

Sec. F.175 DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS; FACILITY WORK
PROGRAMS; STRATEGIC PLAN

(a) Findings and intent.

(1) The General Assembly finds that a significant budget deficit has developed within previously existing programs despite a wage structure that pays incarcerated individuals in Vermont at rates ranging from \$0.25 to \$1.35 per hour, significantly below the federal minimum wage.

(2) It is the intent of the General Assembly that all Department of Corrections facility work programs operate in a manner that is fiscally sustainable to the extent possible within current statutory limitations and effective in preparing offenders for meaningful employment upon release.

(b) Strategic plan. On or before December 15, 2025, the Department of Corrections shall, in consultation with the Department of Labor, submit a strategic plan with proposed benchmarks for improvement to the House Committees on Appropriations and on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committees on Appropriations, on Institutions, and on Judiciary. The strategic plan shall include:

(1) A business plan to improve program efficiency and self-sustainability to ensure all facility work programs, including Vermont Correctional Industries, vocational training programs, and other paid facility duties, operate without recurring deficits or to clearly identify funding sources to address the deficits.

(2) A comprehensive evaluation of the skills provided through facility work programs to determine if those skills are transferable to employment opportunities post-incarceration. The evaluation shall include consideration of

expanding technical training and certification opportunities that carry recognized value in the labor market.

(3) An analysis of facility work programs to determine if each program serves a sufficient portion of the incarcerated population to justify its administration. The analysis shall also consider whether participants gain meaningful and valuable work experiences.

(4) A review of wages paid to facility work program participants, the implications of wage structures on program outcomes, and the appropriate use of funds in relation to program objectives.

(c) In fiscal years 2025 and 2026, the Department of Corrections shall submit timely reports to the House Committees on Appropriations and on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committees on Appropriations, on Institutions, and on Judiciary, or the Joint Fiscal Committee and the Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee when the General Assembly is not in session, on the development of facility work program deficits. The Department shall include in these reports any financial or operational actions taken to address deficits, increase oversight, and prevent future deficits.

Sec. F.176 MEDICAID PROVIDERS WITH STABILIZATION NEEDS;
GRANT ELIGIBILITY

(a) All Vermont Medicaid participating providers with demonstrated stabilization needs and a plan to achieve sustainability shall be eligible to apply for funds appropriated pursuant to 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.1100(o)(4), including substance use residential treatment facilities, federally qualified health centers, residential mental health providers, and other providers of health care and human services.

(b) On or before December 15, 2025, the Department of Vermont Health Access shall submit a report to the House Committees on Health Care and on Appropriations and the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Appropriations. The report shall include:

(1) A detailed account of grants distributed pursuant to the appropriation made in 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.1100(o)(4), as added by this act. This shall include the dollar amount and recipient of each grant.

(2) A description of each grant recipient's financial status prior to receipt of the grant, a summary of the impact of the grant for each recipient, and a summary of a revised long-term sustainability plan for each grant recipient.

(3) An analysis of grant outcomes and any recommendations for enhancing the financial stability of Vermont Medicaid providers.

Sec. F.177 ADULT DIPLOMA PROGRAM AND HIGH SCHOOL
COMPLETION PROGRAM TRANSITIONAL STUDENTS

(a) Notwithstanding 16 V.S.A. § 945 and any other provision of law to the contrary, a high school may award a high school diploma to any student who meets the following criteria:

(1) Prior to July 1, 2024, the student was participating in the High School Completion Program as the program existed under 16 V.S.A. § 943 on June 30, 2024.

(2) The student has met the requirements of the student's individual graduation plan and would have been eligible to receive a diploma pursuant to the High School Completion Program as it existed under 16 V.S.A. § 943 on June 30, 2024.

Sec. F.178 SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM;
DISCRETIONARY EXEMPTIONS

(a) For the remainder of federal fiscal year 2025, the Department for Children and Families shall utilize the State's allocation of discretionary exemptions in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program to the extent permitted by federal regulation for the purposes of:

(1) extending benefits to Program participants who would otherwise experience a disruption of benefits; and

(2) ensuring that Program participants are not accruing any time-limited benefit work requirement countable months.

Sec. F.179 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 19, Secs. 5 and 6 are amended to read:

Sec. 5. [Deleted.]

Sec. 6. EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) Sec. 4 (marriage licenses; 32 V.S.A. § 1712) shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

~~(b) Sec. 5 (marriage licenses; 32 V.S.A. § 1712) shall take effect on July 1, 2025.~~

~~(c) All other sections shall take effect 30 calendar days after passage.~~

Sec. F.180 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 82, Sec. 1, as amended by 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 108, Sec. 3, is further amended to read:

Sec. 1. REIMBURSEMENT TO MUNICIPALITIES OF STATE
EDUCATION PROPERTY TAXES THAT WERE ABATED DUE
TO FLOODING

(a)(1) The Commissioner of Taxes may approve an application by a municipality for reimbursement of State education property tax payments owed under 32 V.S.A. § 5402(c) and 16 V.S.A. § 426. To be eligible for reimbursement under this section, prior to November 15, ~~2024~~ 2025, a municipality must have abated, in proportion to the abated municipal tax, under 24 V.S.A. § 1535 the State education property taxes that were assessed on eligible property, after application of any property tax credit allowed under 32 V.S.A. chapter 154.

(2) As used in this subsection, “eligible property” means property lost or destroyed due directly or indirectly to severe storms and flooding in an area that was declared a federal disaster between July 1, 2023 and ~~October 15, 2023~~ December 31, 2024, provided the loss or destruction resulted in one or more of the following:

(A) a 50 percent or greater loss in value to the primary structure on the property;

(B) loss of use by the property owner of the primary structure on the property for 60 days or more;

(C) loss of access by the property owner to utilities for the primary structure on the property for 60 days or more; or

(D) condemnation of the primary structure on the property under federal, State, or municipal law, as applicable.

(b) If a municipality demonstrates that, due to disruption to tax collections resulting from flooding in an area that was declared a federal disaster between July 1, 2023 and ~~October 15, 2023~~ December 31, 2024, the municipality incurred unanticipated interest expenses on funds borrowed to make State education property tax payments owed under 32 V.S.A. § 5402(c) and 16 V.S.A. § 426, the municipality may be reimbursed by an amount equal to its reasonable interest expenses under this subsection, provided the amount of reimbursed interest expenses shall not exceed eight percent.

* * *

Sec. F.181 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. E.106 is amended to read:

Sec. E.106 CORONAVIRUS STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND
APPROPRIATIONS; REVERSION AND ESTABLISHMENT
OF NEW SPENDING AUTHORITY

* * *

(b) The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall revert all unobligated American Rescue Plan Act – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund spending authority prior to December 31, 2024. The total amount of American Rescue Plan Act – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund spending authority reverted in accordance with this subsection shall equal the amount of new spending authority established pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 511 for the following purposes in the following order:

* * *

(3) \$30,000,000 to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board to provide support and enhance capacity for the production and preservation of: affordable mixed-income rental housing and homeownership units; including improvements to manufactured homes and communities; permanent homes and emergency shelter for those experiencing homelessness; recovery residences; and housing available to farm workers, refugees, and individuals who are eligible to receive Medicaid-funded home and community based services.

Sec. F.182 CARRYFORWARD AUTHORITY

(a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law and subject to the approval of the Secretary of Administration, General Fund, Transportation Fund, Transportation Infrastructure Bond Fund, Education Fund, Technology Modernization Special Fund (21951), Clean Water Fund (21932), and Agricultural Water Quality Fund (21933) appropriations remaining unexpended on June 30, 2025 in the Executive Branch shall be carried forward and shall be designated for expenditure.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law to the contrary, General Fund appropriations remaining unexpended on June 30, 2025 in the Legislative and Judicial Branches shall be carried forward and shall be designated for expenditure.

* * * Effective Dates * * *

Sec. G.100 EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) This section and Secs. B.1101, C.100, C.101, C.102, C.103, C.104, C.105, C.106, C.107, E.127.3, E.142.1, E.142.2, E.306.1, E.312.1, F.100, F.101, F.102, F.103, F.104, F.105, F.106, F.107, F.108, F.109, F.110, F.111, F.112, F.113, F.114, F.115, F.116, F.117, F.118, F.119, F.120, F.121, F.122, F.123, F.124, F.125, F.126, F.127, F.128, F.129, F.130, F.131, F.132, F.133, F.134, F.135, F.136, F.137, F.138, F.139, F.140, F.141, F.142, F.143, F.144, F.145, F.146, F.147, F.148, F.149, F.150, F.151, F.152, F.153, F.156, F.157,

F.158, F.159, F.160, F.162, F.163, F.164, F.165, F.166, F.167, F.168, F.169, F.170, F.171, F.172, F.173, F.174, F.175, F.176, F.177, F.178, F.179, F.181, and F.182 shall take effect on passage.

(b) Notwithstanding 1 V.S.A. § 214, Secs. E.111 and E.111.1 shall take effect retroactively on January 1, 2025 and shall apply to taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2024.

(c) Notwithstanding 1 V.S.A. § 214, Sec. E.111.2 shall take effect retroactively on January 1, 2025 and shall apply to taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2025.

(d) Notwithstanding 1 V.S.A. § 214, Sec. E.111.3 shall take effect retroactively on January 1, 2025 and shall apply to taxable years and periods beginning on and after January 1, 2025 and ending on or before December 31, 2025.

(e) Notwithstanding 1 V.S.A. § 214, Secs. F.154 and F.155 shall take effect retroactively on March 31, 2025.

(f) Notwithstanding 1 V.S.A. § 214, Sec. F.161 shall take effect retroactively on July 1, 2024.

(g) Notwithstanding 1 V.S.A. § 214, Sec. F.180 shall take effect retroactively on November 15, 2024.

(h) All remaining sections shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

And by renumbering all of the sections of the bill to be numerically correct (including internal references) and adjusting all of the totals to be arithmetically correct.

Pending the question, Shall the House concur in the Senate proposal of amendment?, **Rep. Scheu of Middlebury** moved that the House refuse to concur and ask for a Committee of Conference, which was agreed to, and the Speaker appointed as members of the Committee of Conference on the part of the House:

Rep. Scheu of Middlebury
Rep. Harrison of Chittenden
Reps. Bluemle of Burlington

On motion of **Rep. Toof of St. Albans Town**, the rules were suspended and House action on the bill was ordered messaged to the Senate forthwith.

**Rules Suspended, Immediate Consideration; Senate Proposal of
Amendment Not Concurred in; Committee of Conference Requested and
Appointed; Rules Suspended, Messaged to the Senate Forthwith**

H. 488

Appearing on the Notice Calendar, on motion of **Rep. Toof of St. Albans Town**, the rules were suspended and House bill, entitled

An act relating to the fiscal year 2026 Transportation Program and miscellaneous changes to laws related to transportation

Was taken up for immediate consideration.

The Senate proposed to the House to amend the bill by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

* * * Transportation Program Adopted as Amended; Definitions * * *

Sec. 1. TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM ADOPTED; DEFINITIONS

(a) Adoption. The Agency of Transportation's Proposed Fiscal Year 2026 Transportation Program appended to the Agency of Transportation's proposed fiscal year 2026 budget, as amended by this act, is adopted to the extent federal, State, and local funds are available.

(b) Definitions. As used in this act, unless otherwise indicated:

(1) "Agency" means the Agency of Transportation.

(2) "Candidate project" means a project approved by the General Assembly that is not anticipated to have significant expenditures for preliminary engineering or right-of-way expenditures, or both, during the budget year and funding for construction is not anticipated within a predictable time frame.

(3) "Development and evaluation (D&E) project" means a project approved by the General Assembly that is anticipated to have preliminary engineering expenditures or right-of-way expenditures, or both, during the budget year and that the Agency is committed to delivering to construction on a timeline driven by priority and available funding.

(4) "Electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE)" and "electric vehicle supply equipment available to the public" have the same meanings as in 30 V.S.A. § 201.

(5) "Front-of-book project" means a project approved by the General Assembly that is anticipated to have construction expenditures during the budget year or the following three years, or both, with expected expenditures shown over four years.

(6) “Mileage-based user fee” or “MBUF” means a fee for vehicle use of the public road system with distance, stated in miles, as the measure of use.

(7) “Plug-in electric vehicle (PEV),” “plug-in hybrid electric vehicle (PHEV),” and “battery electric vehicle (BEV)” have the same meanings as in 23 V.S.A. § 4(85).

(8) “Secretary” means the Secretary of Transportation.

(9) “TIB funds” means monies deposited in the Transportation Infrastructure Bond Fund in accordance with 19 V.S.A. § 11f.

(10) The table heading “As Proposed” means the Proposed Transportation Program referenced in subsection (a) of this section; the table heading “As Amended” means the amendments as made by this act; the table heading “Change” means the difference obtained by subtracting the “As Proposed” figure from the “As Amended” figure; the terms “change” or “changes” in the text refer to the project- and program-specific amendments, the aggregate sum of which equals the net “Change” in the applicable table heading; and “State” in any tables amending authorizations indicates that the source of funds is State monies in the Transportation Fund, unless otherwise specified.

* * * Summary of Transportation Investments * * *

Sec. 1a. FISCAL YEAR 2026 TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENTS
INTENDED TO REDUCE TRANSPORTATION-RELATED
GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS, REDUCE FOSSIL FUEL
USE, AND SAVE VERMONT HOUSEHOLDS MONEY

This act includes the State’s fiscal year 2026 transportation investments intended to reduce transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions, reduce fossil fuel use, and save Vermont households money in furtherance of the policies articulated in 19 V.S.A. § 10b and the goals of the Comprehensive Energy Plan and the Vermont Climate Action Plan and to satisfy the Executive and Legislative Branches’ commitments to the Paris Agreement climate goals. In fiscal year 2026, these efforts will include the following:

(1) Park and Ride Program. This act provides for a fiscal year expenditure of \$2,435,740.00, which will fund two construction projects to create new park-and-ride facilities, the construction of improvements to two existing park-and-ride facilities, funding for a municipal park-and-ride grant program, and paving projects for existing park-and-ride facilities. This year’s Park and Ride Program will create 60 new State-owned spaces. Specific additions and improvements include:

(A) Manchester—construction of 50 new spaces; and

(B) Sharon—design and construction of 10 new spaces.

(2) Bike and Pedestrian Facilities Program. This act provides for a fiscal year expenditure, including local match, of \$21,879,965.00, which will fund 33 bike and pedestrian construction projects; 17 bike and pedestrian design, right-of-way, or design and right-of way projects for construction in future fiscal years; and 10 scoping studies. The construction projects include the creation, improvement, or rehabilitation of walkways, sidewalks, shared-use paths, bike paths, and cycling lanes. Projects are funded in Arlington, Bakersfield, Bennington, Bethel, Brattleboro, Bristol, Burke, Burlington, Castleton, Chester, Danville, Enosburg Falls, Fairfax, Greensboro, Hardwick, Hartford, Highgate, Hinesburg, Huntington, Hyde Park, Irasburg, Jericho, Lyndonville, Middlebury, Montpelier, Moretown, Newfane, Newport City, Northfield, Pawlet, Randolph, Royalton, Rutland City, Rutland Town, Sheffield, Shelburne, Sheldon, South Burlington, Springfield, St. Albans City, St. Albans Town, Swanton, Wallingford, Waterbury, West Rutland, Williston, Wilmington, and Windsor. This act also provides funding for:

(A) some of Local Motion's operation costs to run the bike ferry on the Colchester Causeway, which is part of the Island Line Trail;

(B) a small-scale municipal bicycle and pedestrian grant program for projects to be selected during the fiscal year;

(C) projects funded through the Safe Routes to School Program; and

(D) community grants along the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail (LVRT).

(3) Transportation Alternatives Program. This act provides for a fiscal year expenditure of \$6,471,054.00, including local funds, which will fund 17 transportation alternatives construction projects; 26 transportation alternatives design, right-of-way, or design and right-of-way projects; and eight scoping studies. Of these 51 projects, 20 involve environmental mitigation related to clean water or stormwater concerns, or both clean water and stormwater concerns, and 32 involve bicycle and pedestrian facilities. Projects are funded in Athens, Barre City, Bennington, Brandon, Brattleboro, Bridgewater, Bristol, Burke, Burlington, Castleton, Derby, Enosburg Falls, Fairfax, Fairlee, Ferrisburgh, Grafton, Guilford, Hartford, Hinesburg, Hyde Park, Jericho, Londonderry, Lyndon, Montgomery, Newark, Proctor, Rockingham, Rutland City, Shoreham, South Burlington, Springfield, St. Albans Town, Swanton, Tinmouth, Warren, Williston, and Wilmington.

(4) Public Transit Program. This act provides for a fiscal year expenditure of \$52,695,234.00 for public transit uses throughout the State. Included in the authorization are:

(A) Go! Vermont, with an authorization of \$380,000.00. This authorization supports transportation demand management (TDM) strategies, including the State's Trip Planner and commuter services, to promote the use of carpools and vanpools.

(B) Mobility and Transportation Innovations (MTI) Grant Program, with an authorization of \$340,000.00, which includes \$315,000.00 in federal funds. This authorization continues to support projects that improve both mobility and access to services for transit-dependent Vermonters, reduce the use of single-occupancy vehicles, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

(5) Rail Program. This act provides for a fiscal year expenditure of \$61,887,348.00, including local funds and \$31,894,436.00 in federal funds, for intercity passenger rail service, including funding for the Ethan Allen Express and Vermonter Amtrak services, and rail infrastructure that supports freight rail as well. Moving freight by rail instead of trucks lowers greenhouse gas emissions by up to 75 percent, on average.

* * * Rail Program; Technical Correction * * *

Sec. 2. RAIL PROGRAM

(a) Within the Agency of Transportation's Proposed Fiscal Year 2026 Transportation Program for Rail the following project is deleted: Barre–Berlin–Montpelier 04-9038–WACR Subsidy.

(b) Within the Agency of Transportation's Proposed Fiscal Year 2026 Transportation Program for Rail, the following project is added: Hartford HRRD(1) 25G002–White River Junction Depot Repairs.

(c) Within the Agency of Transportation's Proposed Fiscal Year 2026 Transportation Program for Rail, spending authority for Hartford HRRD(1) 25G002–White River Junction Depot Repairs is authorized as follows:

<u>FY26</u>	<u>As Proposed</u>	<u>As Amended</u>	<u>Change</u>
Other	0	260,000	260,000
Total	0	260,000	260,000
<u>Sources of funds</u>			
State	0	260,000	260,000
Total	0	260,000	260,000

* * * Unobligated Fund Balance for Fiscal Year 2026 * * *

* * * Town Highway Non-Federal Disasters * * *

Sec. 2a. TOWN HIGHWAY NON-FEDERAL DISASTERS

(a) Within the Agency of Transportation's Proposed Fiscal Year 2026 Transportation Program for Town Highway Non-Federal Disasters, spending is authorized as follows:

<u>FY26</u>	<u>As Proposed</u>	<u>As Amended</u>	<u>Change</u>
Grants	1,150,000	1,150,000	0
Total	1,150,000	1,150,000	0
<u>Sources of funds</u>			
State	1,150,000	0	-1,150,000
Other	0	1,150,000	1,150,000
Total	1,150,000	1,150,000	0

(b) Within the Agency of Transportation's Proposed Fiscal Year 2026 Transportation Program for Town Highway Non-Federal Disasters, the following footnote is added: "Other funds of \$1,150,000 are amounts appropriated from the PILOT Special Fund established pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 3709."

Sec. 3. UNOBLIGATED TRANSPORTATION FUND BALANCE; FISCAL YEAR 2026

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Administration shall ensure an unobligated fund balance of at least \$686,000.00 exists in the Transportation Fund in fiscal year 2026 after the close of fiscal year 2025. It is the intent of the General Assembly that in the creation of the fiscal year 2026 budget adjustment proposal and the fiscal year 2027 budget proposal, the unobligated fund balance required pursuant to this section shall be utilized to offset estimated Transportation Fund revenue losses from fee and tax reductions enacted during the 2025 legislative session.

* * * State and Federal Funding Updates * * *

Sec. 4. STATE AND FEDERAL FUNDING UPDATES

(a) On or before September 30, 2025 and December 15, 2025, the Secretary of Transportation shall provide the Joint Transportation Oversight Committee with a briefing on the status of State Transportation Fund revenues and federal funding for the fiscal year 2026 Transportation Program, and any

impacts on the fiscal year 2026 Transportation Program. The briefing shall include:

(1) a summary of federal funding that has been received to date, federal funding that is anticipated later in the State fiscal year, federal funding that is delayed, and federal funding that has been reduced or subject to rescission;

(2) a summary of the Transportation Fund revenues to date in State fiscal year 2026;

(3) a summary of the impacts on the fiscal year 2026 Transportation Program that are caused by changes in State Transportation Fund revenues from the consensus forecast or delays or reductions in federal funding; and

(4) a summary of any legislative action that may be necessary to address reductions in State revenues or federal funding.

(b) Upon becoming aware of a significant change in State revenues or a reduction in federal funding, rescission of federal grants, or delay of anticipated federal funding that will impact the Agency's ability to carry out significant portions of the fiscal year 2026 Transportation Program, the Secretary of Transportation may request that the Joint Transportation Oversight Committee meet within 14 days to review the Agency's plan to address the reduction in funding.

(c) In the event of a decrease in overall State or federal funding for the fiscal year 2026 Transportation Program that is in excess of four percent, the Secretary shall submit to the Joint Transportation Oversight Committee a written report detailing the impact of the decrease on projects that are in the 2026 Transportation Program.

* * * Project Dashboard * * *

Sec. 5. 19 V.S.A. § 10g is amended to read:

§ 10g. ANNUAL REPORT; TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM;
ADVANCEMENTS, CANCELLATIONS, AND DELAYS

* * *

(q)(1) The Agency's annual proposed Transportation Program shall include the following information depicted in a graphical dashboard:

(A) the percentage of projects in each section of the Transportation Program that have been delayed by more than one year from the preliminary plan projected completion date; and

(B) the percentage of projects in each section of the Transportation Program whose cost has increased by more than 50 percent or \$5,000,000.00, whichever is less, from the preliminary plan cost estimate.

(2) The Agency shall provide the House and Senate Committees on Transportation with quarterly updates to the dashboard provided pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

Sec. 6. 19 V.S.A. § 10g(g) is amended to read:

~~(g) Project updates.—The Agency’s annual proposed Transportation Program shall include project updates referencing this section and listing the following:~~

~~(1) all proposed projects in the Program that would be new to the State Transportation Program;~~

~~(2) all projects for which total estimated costs have increased by more than \$5,000,000.00 from the estimate in the adopted Transportation Program for the prior fiscal year or by more than 75 percent from the estimate in the adopted Transportation Program for the prior fiscal year;~~

~~(3) all projects for which the total estimated costs have, for the first time, increased by more than \$10,000,000.00 from the Preliminary Plan estimate or by more than 100 percent from the Preliminary Plan estimate; and~~

~~(4) all projects funded for construction in the prior fiscal year’s adopted Transportation Program that are no longer funded in the proposed Transportation Program submitted to the General Assembly, the projected costs for such projects in the prior fiscal year’s adopted Transportation Program, and the total costs incurred over the life of each such project. [Repealed.]~~

* * * Relinquishment of Vermont Route 36 in the Town of St. Albans * * *

Sec. 7. RELINQUISHMENT OF VERMONT ROUTE 36 IN THE TOWN
OF ST. ALBANS

Pursuant to 19 V.S.A. § 15(a)(2), the General Assembly authorizes the Secretary of Transportation to enter into an agreement with the Town of St. Albans to relinquish a segment of the State highway in the Town of St. Albans known as Vermont Route 36. The segment authorized to be relinquished begins at mile marker 0.00, just east of the “Black Bridge” (B2), and continues 14,963 feet (approximately 2.834 miles) easterly to mile marker 2.834, where Vermont Route 36 meets the boundary of the City of St. Albans, and includes the 0.106-mile westbound section of Vermont Route 36 and approaches at the entrance to the St. Albans Bay Town Park.

* * * State-Owned Railroads; Rail Trails * * *

Sec. 8. 5 V.S.A. chapter 58 is redesignated to read:

CHAPTER 58. STATE ACQUISITION OF STATE-OWNED RAILROADS
AND RAIL TRAILS

Sec. 9. 5 V.S.A. § 3408 is amended to read:

§ 3408. RAILBANKING; NOTIFICATION

(a) If the Secretary finds that the continued operation of any State-owned railroad property is not economically feasible under present conditions, ~~he or she~~ the Secretary may place the line in railbanked status after giving advance notice of ~~such~~ the planned railbanking to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation when the General Assembly is in session, and when the General Assembly is not in session, to the Joint Transportation Oversight Committee. The Agency, on behalf of the State, shall continue to hold the right-of-way of a railbanked line for reactivation of railroad service or for other public purposes not inconsistent with future reactivation of railroad service. ~~Such~~ The railbanking shall not be treated, for purposes of any law or rule of law, as an abandonment of the use of the rights-of-way for railroad purposes.

* * *

(c)(1) The Secretary may, after consulting with municipalities, adopt rules consistent with the provisions of section 3408a of this chapter governing the interim trail use of State-owned railroad rights-of-way that have been placed in railbanked status.

(2) Signs indicating the rules shall be conspicuously posted in or near all areas affected.

(3) Any person who violates these rules adopted pursuant to this subsection shall be subject to a penalty of not more than \$300.00.

Sec. 10. 5 V.S.A. § 3408a is added to read:

§ 3408a. USE OF RAIL TRAILS

(a) Definitions. As used in this section:

(1) “Rail trail” means the right-of-way of a State-owned railroad line that has been authorized for railbanking and interim trail use pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 1247(d) or section 3408 of this chapter.

(2) “Trail sponsor” means the Agency of Transportation in the case of a rail trail maintained by the Agency or the municipality in the case of a rail trail maintained by a municipality.

(b) Use of rail trails. The following acts are prohibited within a rail trail right-of-way:

(1) Throwing, dropping, or discarding bottles, cans, paper, garbage, rubbish, sewage, or other material of any kind.

(2) Cutting, mutilating, or removing any tree, shrub, flower, plant, top soil, or sod or attempting to do so.

(3) Injury, defacement, removal, or destruction of the surface of the rail trail or a rail trail's structures, appurtenances, recreation facilities, or property.

(4) Except as authorized by the trail sponsor, erecting, placing, or displaying any advertising materials, posters, or placards of any kind. This prohibition shall not apply to official signs erected by the trail sponsor.

(5) Except as authorized by the trail sponsor, entering or remaining on the rail trail for the purpose of:

(A) selling, hiring, or leasing any goods or services; or

(B) distributing samples, pamphlets, or advertising materials, except for official information authorized by the trail sponsor.

(6) Parades, demonstrations, picnics, games, entertainment, or organizations, except at times and locations approved by the trail sponsor.

(7) Harassing or molesting wildlife, except for fishing.

(8) Using or discharging any firearms or other weapons or fireworks, except by a person authorized by the trail sponsor or as otherwise permitted by law.

(9) Igniting fires for any purpose, except in fireplaces or firepits at locations designated by the trail sponsor or for trail maintenance purposes.

(10) Soliciting alms or contributions.

(11) Use of motorized vehicles, except for:

(A) maintenance purposes;

(B) snowmobiles, subject to applicable State rules, when the Vermont Association of Snow Travelers, Inc. has declared the Statewide Snowmobile Trail System officially open;

(C) Other Power-Driven Mobility Devices (OPDMD) utilized by an individual with a disability as permitted by the Agency's Rail Trail Accessibility Policy;

(D) electric bicycles as permitted pursuant to applicable State rules;
and

(E) other circumstances that the trail sponsor determines are appropriate.

(12) Overnight camping, except at areas designated for that purpose by the trail sponsor.

(c) Penalty. Any person who violates the provisions of subsection (b) of this section shall be subject to a civil penalty pursuant to subdivision 3408(c)(3) of this chapter.

* * * Transportation Board * * *

Sec. 11. 19 V.S.A. § 3 is amended to read:

§ 3. TRANSPORTATION BOARD; CREATION; MEMBERS

~~A transportation board~~ The Transportation Board is formed to be attached to the Agency of Transportation. There shall be seven members of the Board, appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Governor shall so far as is possible appoint Board members whose interests and expertise lie in various areas of the transportation field. The Governor shall appoint the ~~chair~~ Chair, and the Board may vote to appoint other officers. The members of the Board shall be appointed for terms of three years. Board members may be appointed for two additional three-year terms but shall not be eligible for further reappointment. ~~No~~ Not more than four members of the Board shall belong to the same political party. No member of the Board shall:

* * *

Sec. 12. 19 V.S.A. § 5 is amended to read:

§ 5. TRANSPORTATION BOARD; POWERS AND DUTIES

* * *

(d) Specific duties and responsibilities. The Board shall:

* * *

(4) provide appellate review, when requested in writing, regarding legal disputes in the execution of contracts awarded by the Agency or by municipalities cooperating with the Agency to advance projects in the State's Transportation Program, except that the Agency shall provide appellate review relating to bids and the competitive negotiation process under 19 V.S.A. § 10a;

(5) provide appellate review, when requested in writing, of decisions of the Secretary in administering the provisions of Title 24, relating to ~~junkyards~~ salvage yards;

* * *

* * * Green Mountain Transit Authority * * *

Sec. 13. 24 App. V.S.A. chapter 801 is amended to read:

CHAPTER 801. GREEN MOUNTAIN TRANSIT AUTHORITY

* * *

§ 2. AREA OF OPERATION

(a) The area of operation shall be the urbanized area of Chittenden, Franklin, Grand Isle, and Washington Counties and the Towns of Orange, Washington, and Williamstown. The area of operation shall include Addison and Caledonia Counties and the Towns of Orange County other than Orange, Washington, and Williamstown, but only for the provision of commuter services. The area of operation shall include Lamoille County, but only for the provision of published scheduled services County as established by the U.S. Census Bureau. The Green Mountain Transit Authority may operate service outside the urbanized area of Chittenden County with approval from the Agency of Transportation. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent other transit providers from offering transit connecting to the urbanized area of Chittenden County, or providing on demand services in that area, with the approval of the Agency of Transportation.

* * *

§ 10. IMPLEMENTATION

* * *

(c) ~~Immediately upon joining the Authority, the municipality shall appoint two commissioners as provided herein. The initial terms of the commissioners of the initial members shall be arranged by the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission so that the terms of approximately one-third of the commissioners shall expire in each year. The initial terms of commissioners from municipalities joining after March 7, 1973, shall be set by the Board of Commissioners.~~

* * *

* * * Town Highways * * *

Sec. 14. 19 V.S.A. § 306 is amended to read:

§ 306. APPROPRIATION; STATE AID FOR TOWN HIGHWAYS

(a) General State aid to town highways.

(1) An annual appropriation to class 1, 2, and 3 town highways shall be made. This appropriation shall increase over the previous fiscal year's appropriation by the same percentage change as the following, whichever is

less, or shall remain at the previous fiscal year's appropriation if either of the following are negative or zero:

(A) the percentage change of the Agency's total appropriations funded by Transportation Fund revenues, excluding appropriations ~~for town highways~~ under this subsection (a) and subsections (e) and (h) of this section, for the most recently closed fiscal year as compared to the fiscal year immediately preceding the most recently closed fiscal year; or

* * *

(e) State aid for town highway structures.

(1) There shall be an annual appropriation for grants to municipalities for maintenance (including actions to extend life expectancy) and for construction of bridges and culverts; for maintenance and construction of other structures, including causeways and retaining walls, intended to preserve the integrity of the traveled portion of class 1, 2, and 3 town highways; and for alternatives that eliminate the need for a bridge, culvert, or other structure, such as the construction or reconstruction of a highway, the purchase of parcels of land that would be landlocked by closure of a bridge, the payment of damages for loss of highway access, and the substitution of other means of access. This appropriation shall increase over the previous fiscal year's appropriation by the same percentage change as the following, whichever is less, or shall remain at the previous fiscal year's appropriation if either of the following are negative or zero:

(A) the percentage change in the Agency's total appropriations funded by Transportation Fund revenues, excluding appropriations under this subsection (e) and subsections (a) and (h) of this section, for the most recently closed fiscal year as compared to the fiscal year immediately preceding the most recently closed fiscal year; or

(B) the percentage change in the Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U).

(2) For purposes of subdivision (1)(B) of this subsection, the percentage change in the CPI-U is calculated by determining the increase or decrease, to the nearest one-tenth of a percent, in the CPI-U for the month ending on June 30 in the calendar year one year prior to the first day of the fiscal year for which the appropriation will be made compared to the CPI-U for the month ending on June 30 in the calendar year two years prior to the first day of the fiscal year for which the appropriation will be made.

(3) Each fiscal year, the Agency shall approve qualifying projects with a total estimated State share cost of \$7,200,000.00 at a minimum as new grants. ~~The Agency's proposed appropriation for the Program shall take into account~~

~~the estimated amount of qualifying invoices submitted to the Agency with respect to project grants approved in prior years but not yet completed as well as with respect to new project grants to be approved in the fiscal year Beginning with State fiscal year 2027, the minimum total estimated State share cost for the approved grants shall increase over the prior fiscal year's minimum total estimated State share cost by the same percentage as the appropriation for State aid for town highway structures is increased pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection.~~

(4) In a given fiscal year, should expenditures in the Town Highway Structures Program exceed the amount appropriated, the Agency shall advise the Governor of the need to request a supplemental appropriation from the General Assembly to fund the additional project cost, provided that the Agency has previously committed to completing those projects.

(3)(5) Funds received as grants for State aid for town highway structures may be used by a municipality to satisfy a portion of the matching requirements for federal earmarks, subject to subsection 309b(c) of this title.

* * *

(h) Class 2 Town Highway Roadway Program.

(1) There shall be an annual appropriation for grants to municipalities for resurfacing, rehabilitation, or reconstruction of paved or unpaved class 2 town highways. ~~However, municipalities~~ Municipalities that have no State highways or class 1 town highways within their borders may use the grants for such activities with respect to both class 2 and class 3 town highways. ~~Each fiscal year, the Agency shall approve qualifying projects with a total estimated State share cost of \$8,600,000.00 at a minimum as new grants. The Agency's proposed appropriation for the Program shall take into account the estimated amount of qualifying invoices submitted to the Agency with respect to project grants approved in prior years but not yet completed as well as with respect to new project grants to be approved in the fiscal year. This appropriation shall increase over the previous fiscal year's appropriation by the same percentage change as the following, whichever is less, or shall remain at the previous fiscal year's appropriation if either of the following are negative or zero:~~

(A) the percentage change in the Agency's total appropriations funded by Transportation Fund revenues, excluding appropriations under this subsection (h) and subsections (a) and (e) of this section, for the most recently closed fiscal year as compared to the fiscal year immediately preceding the most recently closed fiscal year; or

(B) the percentage change in the Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U).

(2) For purposes of subdivision (1)(B) of this subsection, the percentage change in the CPI-U is calculated by determining the increase or decrease, to the nearest one-tenth of a percent, in the CPI-U for the month ending on June 30 in the calendar year one year prior to the first day of the fiscal year for which the appropriation will be made compared to the CPI-U for the month ending on June 30 in the calendar year two years prior to the first day of the fiscal year for which the appropriation will be made.

(3) Each fiscal year, the Agency shall approve qualifying projects with a total estimated State share cost of \$8,600,000.00 at a minimum as new grants. Beginning with State fiscal year 2027, the minimum total estimated State share cost for the approved grants shall increase over the prior fiscal year's minimum total estimated State share cost by the same percentage as the appropriation for the Class 2 Town Highway Roadway Program is increased pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection.

(4) In a given fiscal year, should expenditures in the Class 2 Town Highway Roadway Program exceed the amount appropriated, the Agency shall advise the Governor of the need to request a supplemental appropriation from the General Assembly to fund the additional project cost, provided that the Agency has previously committed to completing those projects. Funds received as grants for State aid under the Class 2 Town Highway Roadway Program may be used by a municipality to satisfy a portion of the matching requirements for federal earmarks, subject to subsection 309b(c) of this title.

* * *

Sec. 15. CANCELLATION OF LOCALLY MANAGED PROJECTS; PROCESS; IMPROVEMENTS; REPORT

The Agency of Transportation, in consultation with the Transportation Board, the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, and the Vermont Association of Planning and Development Agencies, shall engage a consultant to examine the requirements of 19 V.S.A. § 309c, cancellation of locally managed projects, to evaluate the obligations, risks, and benefits imposed by the provisions of that section on the State and the local sponsor of a locally managed project and to identify potential changes to the provisions of that section to ensure that State and federal transportation funding resources are appropriately administered. The Agency shall, on or before January 15, 2026, submit a written report to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation regarding the consultant's findings and any recommendations for legislative action.

Sec. 16. MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION ASSETS; ASSESSMENT;
FUNDING NEEDS; REPORT

(a) The Agency of Transportation, in consultation with the Vermont League of Cities and Towns and the Vermont Association of Planning and Development Agencies, shall engage a consultant to:

(1) review current municipal practices relating to planning for ongoing maintenance, upgrades, and replacement of municipal transportation assets, including roads, pavement, bridges, culverts, signals, signage, highway equipment, and highway facilities;

(2) develop a framework for a system to assess the current condition of municipal highway networks and the potential impacts of improvements to or degradation of those networks on the State's transportation system;

(3) develop a prioritization process to direct State funding to the repair, upgrade, or replacement of specific municipal transportation assets based on the need for such work in the context of the asset's role in the State and regional highway networks; and

(4) identify and recommend potential statutory changes to implement the assessment framework developed pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection and the prioritization process developed pursuant to subdivision (3) of this subsection.

(b) The Agency of Transportation shall, not later than January 15, 2027, submit a written report to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation regarding the consultant's findings and recommendations for legislative action.

Sec. 17. STATE TOWN HIGHWAY AID; MUNICIPAL GRANT
PROGRAMS; EFFICIENCIES; IMPROVEMENTS; REPORT

(a) The Agency of Transportation, in consultation with the Vermont League of Cities and Towns and the Vermont Association of Planning and Development Agencies, shall engage a consultant to evaluate the State's Town Highway Aid and municipal grant programs administered by the Agency to identify potential efficiencies and improvements related to the administration of Town Highway Aid and municipal grant programs. The consultant shall evaluate the various funding streams authorized pursuant to 19 V.S.A. § 306 as well as programs administered through the Agency's Municipal Assistance Bureau, including the Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant Program, Transportation Alternatives Program, Municipal Mitigation Program, Municipal Park and Ride Program, Better Roads Program, Municipal Highway and Stormwater Mitigation Program, and Grants in Aid.

(b) On or before January 15, 2026, the Agency shall submit a written report to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation regarding the consultant's findings and any recommendations for legislative or administrative actions to improve or increase the efficiency of the Town Highway Aid and municipal grant programs.

* * * Mileage-Based User Fee * * *

Sec. 18. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 62, Secs. 27–29 are amended to read:

Sec. 27. MILEAGE-BASED USER FEE LEGISLATIVE INTENT

It is the intent of the General Assembly for the State:

(1) to start collecting a mileage-based user fee from all battery-electric vehicles registered in Vermont starting on July 1, 2025, which is expected to be the first day of the first fiscal year when more than 15 percent of new pleasure car registrations in the State are plug-in electric vehicles (PEVs) or before January 1, 2027 subject to sufficient funding being available for implementation;

(2) to start subjecting subject plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEVs) that are a pleasure car to an increased annual or a biennial registration electric vehicle infrastructure fee starting on July January 1, 2025, and that PHEVs shall not be subject to a mileage-based user fee;

(3) to work towards examine collecting a fee on kWhs electricity that are is dispensed through certain electric vehicle supply equipment available to the public so as to supplant lost gas fuel tax revenue from out-of-state PEVs traveling in Vermont; and

(4) to not commence collecting a mileage-based user fee until such the General Assembly has enacted legislation that establishes the amount of the fee and codifies any necessary authorizing language is codified in statute and that legislation becomes effective.

Sec. 28. MILEAGE-BASED USER FEE AUTHORIZATION

(a) Within the Agency of Transportation's Proposed Fiscal Year 2024 Transportation Program for Environmental Policy and Sustainability, the Agency of Transportation, including the Department of Motor Vehicles, is authorized to apply for and accept a competitive federal Strategic Innovation for Revenue Collection grant established pursuant to the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Pub. L. No. 117-58 (IIJA), Sec. 13001, with up to \$350,000.00 in Transportation Fund monies authorized for the nonfederal match in fiscal year 2024 and a to-be-determined amount for the nonfederal match in subsequent fiscal years up to \$350,000.00 in Transportation Fund monies authorized for the nonfederal match in fiscal year 2025.

(b) ~~As permitted under federal regulations and grant terms, the~~ The Agency shall utilize ~~grant monies to design~~ State or federal funding, or both, authorized to be used for the purpose of designing a mileage-based user fee that is consistent with Secs. 27 and 29 of this act.

(c) Subject to State procurement requirements and the availability of sufficient funding, the Agency may retain one or more contractors or consultants, or both, to assist with the design of a process to commence collecting a mileage-based user fee on ~~July 1, 2025~~ January 1, 2027.

Sec. 29. MILEAGE-BASED USER FEE DESIGN

(a) Definitions. As used in Secs. 27–30 of this act:

(1) “Account manager” means a person under contract with the Agency of Transportation or Department of Motor Vehicles to administer and manage the mileage-based user fee.

(2) “Annual vehicle miles traveled” means the total number of miles that a BEV is driven between annual inspections as reported ~~by an inspection mechanic~~ to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

(3) “Mileage-based user fee” means the total amount that an owner or lessee of a BEV registered in Vermont owes the State and is calculated by:

(A) multiplying the mileage-based user fee rate by the annual vehicle miles traveled ~~or~~;

(B) in the case of a terminating event, by multiplying the mileage-based user fee rate by the vehicle miles traveled between the last Vermont annual inspection and the terminating event; or

(C) in the absence of a recorded odometer reading during the mileage reporting period, by multiplying the mileage-based user fee by the 98th percentile of estimated annual vehicle miles traveled for a pleasure car in Vermont.

(4) “Mileage-based user fee rate” means the per-mile usage fee charged to the owner or lessee of a BEV registered in Vermont.

(5) “Mileage reporting period” means the time between annual inspections or the time between ~~an~~ the most recent annual inspection and a terminating event.

(6) “Pleasure car” has the same meaning as in 23 V.S.A. § 4(28).

(7) “Plug-in electric vehicle (PEV)” has the same meaning as in 23 V.S.A. § 4(85) and includes battery electric vehicles (BEVs) and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEVs), which have the same meaning as in 23 V.S.A. § 4(85)(A) and (B).

(8) “Terminating event” means either the registering of a BEV that had been registered in Vermont in a different state or a change in ownership or lesseeship of the BEV, or both.

(b) Commencement date. The Agency shall design a process to collect a mileage-based user fee for miles driven by a BEV registered in Vermont to commence collecting revenue on ~~July 1, 2025~~ January 1, 2027.

(c) Covered vehicles. The Agency shall design a process to collect a mileage-based user fee based on the annual vehicle miles traveled by BEVs registered in the State.

(d) Imposition of a mileage-based user fee. The Agency shall design a process to collect a mileage-based user fee from the owner or lessee of a BEV registered in Vermont for each mileage reporting period ~~within 60 days after the Vermont annual inspection~~ on an annual, quarterly, or monthly basis selected by the owner or lessee and reconciled upon renewal of the vehicle registration or within 60 days after a terminating event that closes the mileage reporting period.

Sec. 19. INTENT

It is the intent of the General Assembly that:

(1) the mileage-based user fee for a BEV pleasure car be approximately equivalent to the average amount collected by the State in fuel tax revenue from the use of a non-PEV pleasure car registered in Vermont and the average amount collected by the State in fuel tax revenue and Electric Vehicle Infrastructure fee from the use of a PHEV pleasure car; and

(2) that the mileage-based user fee for BEV pleasure cars will be an interim step towards gradually expanding the mileage-based user fee to all motor vehicles.

Sec. 20. MILEAGE-BASED USER FEE; FUNDING; DESIGN; UPDATES

The Agency of Transportation shall report to the Joint Transportation Oversight Committee on or before September 30, 2025 and December 15, 2025 regarding the status of federal grants and other funding for the design of the mileage-based user fee pursuant to the provisions of 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 62, Secs. 27–29, as amended by Sec. 12 of this act, and the Agency’s progress in designing the mileage-based user fee.

* * * Authority to Transfer Monies in State Fiscal Year 2026 * * *

Sec. 21. AUTHORIZATION TO USE MONIES TO CONTINUE
PARTNERSHIP WITH DRIVE ELECTRIC VERMONT IN STATE
FISCAL YEAR 2026

In State fiscal year 2026, the Secretary of Transportation is authorized to spend up to \$325,000.00 in remaining monies appropriated to the Electrify Your Fleet Program in State Fiscal Year 2024 to continue the Agency of Transportation's partnership with Drive Electric Vermont. The monies shall be used for programs and activities that support increased ownership and use of PEVs in the State through:

(1) stakeholder coordination;

(2) consumer education and outreach;

(3) infrastructure development; and

(4) the provision of technical assistance and support to Vermont municipalities and Vermont businesses desiring to electrify their vehicle fleets.

* * * Consideration of Vehicle Miles Traveled in Project Planning * * *

Sec. 22. 19 V.S.A. § 1 is amended to read:

§ 1. DEFINITIONS

As used in this title:

* * *

(26) "Vehicle miles traveled" means the estimated sum of the miles traveled by all motor vehicle trips within a specific area during a calendar year.

Sec. 23. 19 V.S.A. § 10b is amended to read:

§ 10b. STATEMENT OF POLICY; GENERAL

(a) The Agency shall be the responsible agency of the State for the development of transportation policy. It shall develop a mission statement to reflect:

(1) that State transportation policy shall be to encompass, coordinate, and integrate all modes of transportation and to consider complete streets, as defined in section 2401 of this title, principles; and

(2) the need for transportation projects that will improve the State's economic infrastructure;~~;~~ ~~as well as the use of resources in efficient, coordinated, integrated, cost-effective, and environmentally sound ways;~~ reduce vehicle miles traveled within the State when feasible; and that will be

consistent with the recommendations of the Comprehensive Energy Plan (CEP) issued under 30 V.S.A. § 202b.

* * *

Sec. 24. 19 V.S.A. § 10c is amended to read:

§ 10c. STATEMENT OF POLICY; HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES

* * *

(c) In choosing between the improvement of an existing highway and complete reconstruction, the Agency shall weigh the following factors:

* * *

(9) the impact on the historic, scenic, and aesthetic values of the municipality, as interpreted by the municipality, in which the highway is located; ~~and~~

(10) if it is a forest highway under federal jurisdiction; and

(11) opportunities to reduce vehicle miles traveled or otherwise reduce greenhouse gas emissions related to the highway.

* * *

Sec. 25. 19 V.S.A. § 10i is amended to read:

§ 10i. TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROCESS

* * *

(c) Transportation Program. The Transportation Program shall be developed in a fiscally responsible manner to accomplish the following objectives:

* * *

(3) strengthening the economy, protecting the quality of the natural environment, and improving Vermonters' quality of life; ~~and~~

(4) achieving the recommendations of the CEP; and

(5) striving to reduce vehicle miles traveled and greenhouse gas emissions.

* * *

* * * Medical Transports * * *

Sec. 26. PUBLIC TRANSIT DEMAND RESPONSE VOLUNTEER
COORDINATORS; GRANTS; APPROPRIATION

(a) The Agency of Transportation is authorized to utilize up to \$600,000.00 in one-time funds appropriated from the Transportation Fund to the Agency of Transportation in fiscal year 2026 for the purpose of providing grants to public transit agencies to hire volunteer coordinators. Volunteer coordinators hired with grants provided pursuant to this section shall be responsible for the identification, recruitment, and retention of volunteers to provide transportation services to individuals enrolled in the State's demand response transportation programs.

(b) The Agency shall, to the extent possible, seek to provide grants to public transit providers in a manner that is geographically balanced and ensures the distribution of volunteer coordinators throughout the State.

(c) Not later than December 15, 2026, the Agency, in consultation with public transit agencies that receive grants pursuant to this section, shall submit a written report the House and Senate Committees on Transportation regarding the extent to which grants issued pursuant to this section resulted in an increase in volunteer capacity in the State.

Sec. 27. MEDICAID NON-EMERGENCY TRANSPORTATION

In fiscal year 2026, prior to executing a contract to provide Medicaid Non-Emergency Transportation services, the Department of Vermont Health Access shall provide to the Joint Fiscal Committee for review and approval a detailed analysis demonstrating that by executing such a contract:

(1) there will be no degradation of service to eligible individuals; and

(2) the financial stability of the State's public transportation systems will be maintained.

Sec. 28. VOLUNTEERS PROVIDING TRANSPORTATION SERVICES;
BACKGROUND CHECKS; EXPANSION OF VOLUNTEER
POOL; REPORT

(a) On or before July 15, 2025, the Department of Vermont Health Access shall commence meeting with the Vermont Public Transit Association, the Agency of Transportation, and, in the discretion of the Commissioner of Vermont Health Access, other stakeholders to identify potential, federally permissible opportunities to expand the Medicaid Non-Emergency Transportation program's pool of volunteer drivers. As part of this work, the Department and Association shall collaborate to determine if there are specific classes of offenses that currently prevent volunteer drivers from providing

transportation services through the Medicaid Non-Emergency Transportation program.

(1) The Vermont Public Transit Association shall, to the extent possible, gather and provide to the Department anonymized information from its members regarding:

(A) the number of potential volunteers who were barred from providing transportation services through the Medicaid Non-Emergency Transportation program due to a background check during the past year;

(B) which of the background checks currently required by the Medicaid Non-Emergency Transportation program resulted in potential volunteers being barred from providing transportation services, broken out by percentage; and

(C) a summary of the offenses that resulted in potential volunteers being barred from providing transportation services through the Medicaid Non-Emergency Transportation program, broken out by:

(i) the type of offense;

(ii) whether the offense was a felony or misdemeanor;

(iii) whether the offense was under State or federal law;

(iv) the percentage of potential volunteers who were barred from providing transportation services through the Medicaid Non-Emergency Transportation program for each type of offense; and

(v) to the extent that it is possible to determine, the number of rides that could have been provided by the individuals barred under each type of offense.

(2) The Department shall utilize the information provided by the Association pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection to determine, to the extent possible, whether the identified offenses are:

(A) fraud-based or otherwise implicate potential Medicaid fraud, waste, and abuse;

(B) an offense that otherwise bars an individual from providing transportation services through the Medicaid Non-Emergency Transportation program; or

(C) an offense that caused harm to an individual other than the offender, or otherwise negatively impacted the safety of the general public.

(b) The Department of Vermont Health Access and the Vermont Public Transit Association shall, on or before January 30, 2026, make themselves available to provide an update to the House Committees on Transportation and on Health Care and to the Senate Committees on Transportation and on Health and Welfare regarding the work performed pursuant to this section and opportunities that were identified to expand the Medicaid Non-Emergency Transportation program's pool of volunteer drivers.

Sec. 29. VOLUNTEER DRIVERS; PUBLICITY; OUTREACH

(a) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, in consultation with the Vermont Public Transit Association, shall identify and pursue opportunities to communicate with the Vermont driving public regarding volunteer and community driver participation in the State's demand response transportation programs, including the Older Adults and Persons with Disabilities program and the Medicaid Non-Emergency Transportation program. Outreach conducted pursuant to this section may include:

(1) invitations for individuals to voluntarily indicate their interest through the operator licensing and vehicle registration processes, subject to any data privacy requirements under State or federal law;

(2) notices or other public outreach placed on the Department's website or other internet-based platforms; and

(3) messaging by the Agency of Transportation on social media platforms, including providing links to informational resources provided by the Vermont Public Transit Association.

(b) The Department of Vermont Health Access shall develop informational materials related to eligibility for the Medicaid Non-Emergency Transportation program. The Department shall, in consultation with the Agency of Transportation and other relevant stakeholders, make the materials available to the public on the Department's website and other internet-based platforms.

Sec. 30. COORDINATION OF HEALTH CARE AND TRANSPORTATION SERVICES; WORKING GROUP; REPORT

(a) The Secretary of Transportation, in consultation with the Commissioner of Vermont Health Access, shall convene a working group to improve the coordination of health care and transportation services in relation to individuals enrolled in the State's demand response transportation programs. The working group shall be composed of stakeholders identified by the Secretary in consultation with the Commissioner of Vermont Health Access, including representatives of the Vermont Association of Hospitals and Health Systems, independent dialysis and methadone facilities, and the Vermont Public Transportation Association.

(b) The working group shall examine various options for improving the coordination of health care and transportation services, including:

(1) opportunities to coordinate the scheduling of health care appointments and treatments to maximize the use of shared rides; and

(2) opportunities to improve communication between the public transit agencies and health care providers to facilitate coordination of health care and transportation services for individuals enrolled in the State's demand response transportation programs.

(c) On or before January 15, 2026, the Secretary and Commissioner shall submit a written report to the House Committees on Transportation and on Health Care and the Senate Committees on Transportation and on Health and Welfare with the working group's findings and any recommendations for legislative action.

* * * Vehicle Identification Numbers for Certain Vehicles * * *

Sec. 31. ULTRA-LOW VOLUME VEHICLE MANUFACTURING; KIT-CARS; HOMEBUILT MOTOR VEHICLES; VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER; REPORT

(a)(1) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, in consultation with the Secretary of Natural Resources and representatives of the ultra-low volume vehicle manufacturing industry in Vermont, shall examine processes for issuing vehicle identification numbers to ultra-low volume motor vehicles, kit-cars, and homebuilt motor vehicles and opportunities to facilitate the registration of such vehicles.

(2) As used in this section:

(A) "Homebuilt motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle that is constructed or assembled by an individual from new or used parts, or both, and is not a kit-car.

(B) "Kit-car" means a motor vehicle that is constructed by an individual from a manufactured kit that includes some or all parts and components necessary to construct the motor vehicle.

(C) "Ultra-low volume motor vehicle" means a vehicle that is manufactured for sale by a manufacturer whose annual worldwide production is not more than 325 motor vehicles.

(b) In preparing the report, the Commissioner shall:

(1) examine the potential to waive some or all Vermont motor vehicle emissions requirements for ultra-low volume motor vehicles, kit-cars, and homebuilt motor vehicles;

(2) identify a cost-effective process for certifying the safety of ultra-low volume motor vehicles, kit-cars, and homebuilt motor vehicles; and

(3) develop a streamlined process to provide State Vehicle Identification Numbers to ultra-low volume motor vehicles, kit-cars, and homebuilt motor vehicles.

(c) On or before January 15, 2026, the Commissioner shall submit a written report to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation regarding the Commissioner's findings and identifying any legislative action necessary to enable the issuance of vehicle identification numbers to and registration of ultra-low volume motor vehicles, kit-cars, and homebuilt motor vehicles.

* * * Railroad Lease Extensions * * *

Sec. 32. 5 V.S.A. § 3405 is amended to read:

§ 3405. LEASE FOR CONTINUED OPERATION

(a) The Secretary, as agent for the State, with the approval of the General Assembly, or if the General Assembly is not in session, approval of the Joint Transportation Oversight Committee, is authorized to lease or otherwise arrange for the continued operation of all or any State-owned railroad property to any responsible person, provided that approval for the operation, if necessary, is granted by the federal Surface Transportation Board under 49 C.F.R. Part 1150 (certificate to construct, acquire, or operate railroad lines). The transaction shall be subject to any further terms and conditions as in the opinion of the Secretary are necessary and appropriate to accomplish the purpose of this chapter.

(b) To preserve continuity of service on State-owned railroads, the Secretary may enter into a short-term lease or operating agreement, for a term not to exceed six months, with a responsible railroad operator. The Secretary shall notify the House and Senate Committees on Transportation within 10 calendar days after entering into any lease or agreement pursuant to this subsection.

(c) The Secretary shall notify the House and Senate Committees on Transportation or, if the General Assembly is not in session, the Joint Transportation Oversight Committee when there are 12 months remaining on the operating lease for any State-owned railroad, and when there are 12 months remaining on a lease extension for the operating lease for any State-owned railroad.

* * * Dig Safe * * *

Sec. 33. 30 V.S.A. § 7006 is amended to read:

§ 7006. MARKING OF UNDERGROUND UTILITY FACILITIES

A company notified in accordance with section 7005 of this title shall, within ~~48~~ 72 hours, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays, ~~of~~ after the receipt of the notice, mark the approximate location of its underground utility facilities in the area of the proposed excavation activities; provided, however, if the company advises the person that the proposed excavation area is of such length or size that the company cannot reasonably mark all of the underground utility facilities within ~~48~~ 72 hours, the person shall notify the company of the specific locations in which the excavation activities will first occur and the company shall mark facilities in those locations within ~~48~~ 72 hours and the remaining facilities within a reasonable time thereafter. A company and an excavator may by agreement fix a later time for the company's marking of the facilities, provided the marking is made prior to excavation activities. For the purposes of this chapter, the approximate location of underground facilities shall be marked with stakes, paint, or other physical means as designated by the Commission.

Sec. 34. 30 V.S.A. § 7006a is amended to read:

§ 7006a. MAINTENANCE OF UNDERGROUND UTILITY FACILITY
MARKINGS

After a company has marked its underground facilities in accordance with section 7006 of this title, the excavator shall be responsible for maintenance of the designated markings. In the event said markings are obliterated, destroyed, or removed, the person engaged in excavation activities shall notify the System referred to in section 7002 of this title that remarking is needed. The System shall then notify all member companies whose facilities may be affected. ~~The~~ Each applicable company shall within ~~48~~ 72 hours, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays, following receipt of the notice, remark the location of its underground utility facilities.

* * * Legal Trails * * *

Sec. 35. 19 V.S.A. chapter 3 is amended to read:

CHAPTER 3. TOWN HIGHWAYS

§ 301. DEFINITIONS

As used in this chapter:

* * *

(2) ~~“Legislative body” includes boards of selectmen, aldermen, and village trustees~~ means a “legislative body” as defined in 24 V.S.A. § 2001.

(3) ~~“Selectmen” includes village trustees and aldermen~~ “Selectboard” means a “selectboard” as defined in 24 V.S.A. § 2001.

* * *

(8) “Trail” means a public right-of-way that is not a highway and that:

(A) municipalities have the authority to exclusively or cooperatively maintain;

(B) previously was a designated town highway having the same width as the designated town highway, or a lesser width if so designated; or

~~(B)(C)~~ a new public right-of-way laid out as a trail by the selectmen legislative body for the purpose of providing access to abutting properties or for recreational use. Nothing in this section shall be deemed to independently authorize the condemnation of land for recreational purposes or to affect the authority of selectmen legislative bodies to reasonably regulate the uses of recreational trails.

§ 302. CLASSIFICATION OF TOWN HIGHWAYS

(a) For the purposes of this section and receiving State aid, all town highways shall be categorized into one or another of the following classes:

* * *

(2) Class 2 town highways are those town highways selected as the most important highways in each town. As far as practicable, they shall be selected with the purposes of securing trunk lines of improved highways from town to town and to places that by their nature have more than normal amount of traffic. The ~~selectmen~~ legislative body, with the approval of the Agency, shall determine which highways are to be class 2 highways.

(3) Class 3 town highways:

(A) Class 3 town highways are all traveled town highways other than class 1 or 2 highways. The ~~selectmen~~ legislative body, after conference with a representative of the Agency, shall determine which highways are class 3 town highways.

* * *

(5) Trails shall not be considered highways ~~and the town.~~ A municipality shall have the authority to maintain trails but shall not be responsible for any maintenance, including culverts and bridges.

* * *

§ 303. TOWN HIGHWAY CONTROL

Town highways shall be under the general supervision and control of the ~~selectmen~~ legislative body of the town where the roads are located. ~~Selectmen~~ The legislative body of a town shall supervise all expenditures.

§ 304. DUTIES OF SELECTBOARD

(a) It shall be the duty and responsibility of the selectboard of the town to, or acting as a board, it shall have the authority to:

* * *

(16) Unless the town electorate votes otherwise, under the provisions of 17 V.S.A. § 2646, appoint a road commissioner, or remove ~~him or her~~ the road commissioner from office, pursuant to 17 V.S.A. § 2651. Road commissioners, elected or appointed, shall have only the powers and authority regarding highways granted to them by the selectboard.

* * *

(24) Maintain trails, but shall not be required to maintain trails.

* * *

* * * Effective Dates * * *

Sec. 36. EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) This section and Secs. 32 (railroad leases) and 33 and 34 (dig safe) shall take effect on passage.

(b) Sec. 5 (Agency of Transportation dashboard) shall take effect on January 1, 2026.

(c) Sec. 6 (repeal of 19 V.S.A. § 10g reports) shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

(d) The remaining sections shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

Pending the question, Shall the House concur in the Senate proposal of amendment?, **Rep. Walker of Swanton** moved that the House refuse to concur and ask for a Committee of Conference, which was agreed to, and the Speaker appointed as members of the Committee of Conference on the part of the House:

Rep. Walker of Swanton

Rep. Corcoran of Bennington

Rep. Burke of Brattleboro

On motion of **Rep. Toof of St. Albans Town**, the rules were suspended and House action on the bill was ordered messaged to the Senate forthwith.

Message from the Senate No. 51

A message was received from the Senate by Ms. Gradel, its Assistant Secretary, as follows:

Madam Speaker:

I am directed to inform the House that:

Pursuant to the request of the House for a Committee of Conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on House bill entitled:

H. 488. An act relating to the fiscal year 2026 Transportation Program and miscellaneous changes to laws related to transportation.

The President announced the appointment as members of such Committee on the part of the Senate:

Senator Westman
Senator Perchlik
Senator White

Pursuant to the request of the House for a Committee of Conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on House bill entitled:

H. 493. An act relating to making appropriations for the support of the government.

The President announced the appointment as members of such Committee on the part of the Senate:

Senator Perchlik
Senator Westman
Senator Lyons

The Governor has informed the Senate that on the 1st day of May, he approved and signed bills originating in the Senate of the following titles:

S. 9. An act relating to after-hours access to orders against sexual assault.

S. 30. An act relating to updating and reorganizing the health insurance statutes in 8 V.S.A. chapter 107.

The Senate has on its part adopted Senate concurrent resolution of the following title:

S.C.R. 5. Senate concurrent resolution commemorating the centennial of Porter Medical Center in Middlebury.

The Senate has on its part adopted concurrent resolutions originating in the House of the following titles:

H.C.R. 119. House concurrent resolution congratulating the Oak Meadow homeschool curriculum developer and distance learning school on its 50th anniversary and extending best wishes for the future.

H.C.R. 120. House concurrent resolution recognizing May 2025 as National Tennis Month in Vermont.

H.C.R. 121. House concurrent resolution congratulating the Rutland High School cheerleading program on winning a record 11th consecutive Division I championship.

H.C.R. 122. House concurrent resolution recognizing the week of May 6–12 as National Nurses Week in Vermont.

H.C.R. 123. House concurrent resolution honoring Shaun Murphy of Guilford for his nearly quarter century of exemplary educational governance public service.

H.C.R. 124. House concurrent resolution congratulating the Bennington Free Library on its 160th anniversary.

H.C.R. 125. House concurrent resolution commemorating the 30th anniversary of Garlic Town U.S.A., a celebration of "flavor, community, and tradition".

H.C.R. 126. House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2024 Spirit of the ADA Award winners.

H.C.R. 127. House concurrent resolution commemorating the 25th anniversary of Act 91 of 2000, establishing Vermont as the first state to legalize civil unions.

H.C.R. 128. House concurrent resolution designating May 6, 2025 as Homelessness Awareness Day in Vermont.

H.C.R. 129. House concurrent resolution commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Vermont Covered Bridge Society.

Adjournment

At ten o'clock and eleven minutes in the forenoon, on motion of **Rep. Toof of St. Albans Town**, the House adjourned until Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, pursuant to the provisions of J.R.S. 24.

Concurrent Resolutions Adopted

The following concurrent resolutions, having been placed on the Consent Calendar on the preceding legislative day, and no member having requested floor consideration as provided by Rule 16b of the Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives, are hereby adopted on the part of the House:

H.C.R. 119

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Oak Meadow homeschool curriculum developer and distance learning school on its 50th anniversary and extending best wishes for the future

H.C.R. 120

House concurrent resolution recognizing May 2025 as National Tennis Month in Vermont

H.C.R. 121

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Rutland High School cheerleading program on winning a record 11th consecutive Division I championship

H.C.R. 122

House concurrent resolution recognizing the week of May 6–12 as National Nurses Week in Vermont

H.C.R. 123

House concurrent resolution honoring Shaun Murphy of Guilford for his nearly quarter century of exemplary educational governance public service

H.C.R. 124

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Bennington Free Library on its 160th anniversary

H.C.R. 125

House concurrent resolution commemorating the 30th anniversary of Garlic Town U.S.A., a celebration of "flavor, community, and tradition"

H.C.R. 126

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2024 Spirit of the ADA Award winners

H.C.R. 127

House concurrent resolution commemorating the 25th anniversary of Act 91 of 2000, establishing Vermont as the first state to legalize civil unions

H.C.R. 128

House concurrent resolution designating May 6, 2025 as Homelessness Awareness Day in Vermont

H.C.R. 129

House concurrent resolution commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Vermont Covered Bridge Society

S.C.R. 5

Senate concurrent resolution commemorating the centennial of Porter Medical Center in Middlebury

[The full text of the concurrent resolutions appeared in the House and Senate Calendar Addendums on the preceding legislative day and will appear in the Public Acts and Resolves of the 2025 Biennial Session.]