

Journal of the Senate

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2025

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Recess

On motion of Senator Baruth, the Senate recessed until 10:00 A.M.

Called to Order

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Recess

On motion of Senator Perchlik, the Senate recessed until the fall of the gavel.

Called to Order

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Devotional Exercises

A moment of silence was observed in lieu of devotions.

Pledge of Allegiance

The President then led the members of the Senate in the pledge of allegiance.

Rules Suspended; Bill Committed

S. 53.

Appearing on the Calendar for notice, on motion of Senator Collamore, the rules were suspended and Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to certification of community-based perinatal doulas and Medicaid coverage for doula services.

Was taken up for immediate consideration.

Thereupon, pending the reading of the report of the Committee on Government Operations, Senator Collamore moved that Senate Rule 49 be suspended in order to commit the bill to the Committee on Health and Welfare with the report of the Committee on Government Operations *intact*,

Which was agreed to.

Motions Refused; Committee Not Relieved

Senator Williams moved that the Committee on Natural Resources be relieved of Senate bill entitled:

S. 68. An act relating to repealing the Affordable Heat Act.

Thereupon, pending the question, Shall the Committee on Natural Resources be relieved of the bill?, Senator Brock moved that the question on the motion of Senator Williams be postponed until Friday, February 28, 2025.

Thereupon, the pending question, Shall the motion of Senator Williams be postponed until Friday, February 28, 2025?, was disagreed to on a roll call, Yeas 12, Nays 18.

Senator Williams having demanded the yeas and nays, they were taken and are as follows:

Roll Call

Those Senators who voted in the affirmative were: Brennan, Brock, Collamore, Douglass, Hart, Heffernan, Ingalls, Mattos, Norris, Weeks, Westman, Williams.

Those Senators who voted in the negative were: Baruth, Beck, Bongartz, Chittenden, Clarkson, Cummings, Gulick, Hardy, Harrison, Hashim, Lyons, Major, Perchlik, Plunkett, Ram Hinsdale, Vyhovsky, Watson, White.

Thereupon, the pending question, Shall the Committee on Natural Resources be relieved of the bill?, was disagreed to on a roll call, Yeas 13, Nays 17.

Senator Perchlik having demanded the yeas and nays, they were taken and are as follows:

Roll Call

Those Senators who voted in the affirmative were: Beck, Brennan, Brock, Collamore, Douglass, Hart, Heffernan, Ingalls, Mattos, Norris, Weeks, Westman, Williams.

Those Senators who voted in the negative were: Baruth, Bongartz, Chittenden, Clarkson, Cummings, Gulick, Hardy, Harrison, Hashim, Lyons, Major, Perchlik, Plunkett, Ram Hinsdale, Vyhovsky, Watson, White.

Bills Introduced

Senate bills of the following titles were severally introduced, read the first time and referred:

S. 79.

By Senators Douglass, Beck, Collamore, Cummings, Gulick, Harrison, Hart, Heffernan, Ingalls, Lyons, Major, Plunkett and Williams,

An act relating to establishing the Recreational Trails Compensation Study Committee.

To the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy.

S. 80.

By Senators Douglass, Cummings, Gulick, Harrison, Hart, Heffernan, Lyons, Major, Norris, Westman and White,

An act relating to establishing Vermont Digital Addictions Awareness Day.

To the Committee on Government Operations.

S. 81.

By Senators Vyhovsky, Baruth, Chittenden, Clarkson, Gulick, Hardy, Harrison, Lyons, Major, Norris, Perchlik, Plunkett, Ram Hinsdale, Watson and White,

An act relating to prohibiting municipal regulation of the use of hygienic face masks.

To the Committee on Government Operations.

S. 82.

By Senator Brennan,

An act relating to traffic cameras and traffic violations for illegally passing a school bus.

To the Committee on Transportation.

S. 83.

By Senator Vyhovsky,

An act relating to protections against medical debt.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

S. 84.

By Senators Perchlik, Chittenden, Clarkson, Hardy, Harrison, Watson, Westman and White,

An act relating to State contracting standards for advertising.

To the Committee on Government Operations.

S. 85.

By Senator Harrison,

An act relating to approval of railroad lease extensions.

To the Committee on Transportation.

S. 86.

By Senators Hardy, Clarkson and Vyhovsky,

An act relating to establishing penalties for the failure of a candidate to file campaign finance disclosures.

To the Committee on Government Operations.

S. 87.

By Senator Hashim,

An act relating to extradition procedures.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

S. 88.

By Senators Harrison, Brock, Clarkson, Major, Plunkett, Watson and White,

An act relating to creating an enhanced growth incentive for employee-owned businesses.

To the Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

S. 89.

By Senator Vyhovsky,

An act relating to expanding survivor benefits.

To the Committee on Government Operations.

Bills Referred

House bills of the following titles were severally read the first time and referred:

H. 13.

An act relating to Medicaid payment rates for home- and community-based service providers.

To the Committee on Health and Welfare.

H. 44.

An act relating to miscellaneous amendments to the laws governing impaired driving.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

H. 98.

An act relating to confirmatory adoptions.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

H. 154.

An act relating to designating November as the Vermont Month of the Veteran.

To the Committee on Government Operations.

Bill Passed in Concurrence**H. 31.**

House bill of the following title was read the third time and passed in concurrence:

An act relating to claim edit standards and prior authorization requirements.

Proposal of Amendment; Third Reading Ordered**H. 141.**

Senator Perchlik, for the Committee on Appropriations, to which was referred House bill entitled:

An act relating to fiscal year 2025 budget adjustments.

Reported recommending that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 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. 2. 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	<u>382,870,889</u>	<u>382,084,889</u>

Sec. 3. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.200 is amended to read:

Sec. B.200 Attorney general

Personal services	14,435,517	14,485,517
Operating expenses	2,015,028	2,015,028
Grants	<u>20,000</u>	<u>20,000</u>
Total	<u>16,470,545</u>	<u>16,520,545</u>

Source of funds

General fund	7,391,661	7,441,661
Special funds	2,355,424	2,355,424
Tobacco fund	422,000	422,000
Federal funds	1,743,215	1,743,215
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>4,558,245</u>	<u>4,558,245</u>
Total	<u>16,470,545</u>	<u>16,520,545</u>

Sec. 4. 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	<u>71,039,509</u>	<u>73,589,789</u>

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	<u>71,039,509</u>	<u>73,589,789</u>

Sec. 5. 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. 6. 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

Sec. 7. 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. 8. 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	<u>7,539,567</u>	<u>6,858,364</u>

Sec. 9. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.236 is amended to read:

Sec. B.236 Human rights commission

Personal services	<u>927,697</u>	1,014,559
Operating expenses	<u>115,103</u>	<u>125,378</u>
Total	<u>1,042,800</u>	1,139,937
Source of funds		
General fund	<u>953,800</u>	1,050,937
Federal funds	<u>89,000</u>	<u>89,000</u>
Total	<u>1,042,800</u>	1,139,937

Sec. 10. 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	<u>228,238,448</u>	233,638,438
Transportation fund	20,250,000	20,250,000
Special funds	<u>119,824,272</u>	118,799,873
Tobacco fund	672,579	672,579
Federal funds	162,959,452	162,959,452
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>16,031,869</u>	14,895,319
Enterprise funds	<u>15,070,107</u>	<u>15,070,107</u>
Total	<u>563,046,727</u>	566,285,768

Sec. 11. 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	<u>16,219,746</u>	18,219,746
Operating expenses	<u>7,220,486</u>	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	<u>12,913,202</u>	11,923,905
Special funds	135,517	135,517
Federal funds	<u>13,565,080</u>	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. 12. 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>	2,164,607,988
Total	<u>2,039,512,911</u>	2,164,607,988
Source of funds		
General fund	668,380,623	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>	4,124,245
Total	<u>2,039,512,911</u>	2,164,607,988

Sec. 13. 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>	16,870,000
Total	<u>13,500,000</u>	17,200,000
Source of funds		
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>13,500,000</u>	17,200,000
Total	<u>13,500,000</u>	17,200,000

Sec. 14. 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>	3,112,301
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	128,790,580	124,836,223
Global Commitment fund	4,308,574	4,308,574
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>4,508,158</u>	3,154,929
Total	<u>182,212,642</u>	179,056,522

Sec. 15. 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>	964,407,046
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>	<u>964,955,029</u>

Sec. 16. 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>	<u>67,780,595</u>

Source of funds

General fund	<u>62,151,546</u>	<u>62,308,757</u>
Global Commitment fund	<u>882,402</u>	<u>5,471,838</u>
Total	<u>63,033,948</u>	<u>67,780,595</u>

Sec. 17. 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>	<u>38,232,431</u>

Source of funds

General fund	<u>12,511,405</u>	<u>13,459,034</u>
Federal funds	<u>22,483,483</u>	<u>24,773,397</u>
Total	<u>34,994,888</u>	<u>38,232,431</u>

Sec. 18. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.311 is amended to read:

Sec. B.311 Health - administration and support

Personal services	<u>8,373,168</u>	<u>8,373,168</u>
Operating expenses	<u>7,519,722</u>	<u>8,166,662</u>
Grants	<u>7,985,727</u>	<u>7,985,727</u>
Total	<u>23,878,617</u>	<u>24,525,557</u>

Source of funds

General fund	<u>3,189,843</u>	<u>3,513,313</u>
Special funds	<u>2,308,186</u>	<u>2,308,186</u>
Federal funds	<u>11,040,433</u>	<u>11,363,903</u>
Global Commitment fund	<u>7,173,924</u>	<u>7,173,924</u>
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>166,231</u>	<u>166,231</u>
Total	<u>23,878,617</u>	<u>24,525,557</u>

Sec. 19. 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	<u>125,604,700</u>	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	<u>125,604,700</u>	125,704,700

Sec. 20. 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		
General fund	<u>6,672,061</u>	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>	66,323,102

Sec. 21. 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	5,517,999	5,709,973
Grants	<u>270,625,138</u>	<u>272,536,080</u>
Total	<u>326,334,223</u>	328,437,139
Source of funds		
General fund	<u>25,555,311</u>	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>	287,763,834
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>14,140</u>	<u>14,140</u>
Total	<u>326,334,223</u>	328,437,139

Sec. 22. 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	17,560,755	19,402,705
Grants	<u>5,627,175</u>	<u>5,627,175</u>
Total	69,832,010	69,873,960
Source of funds		
General fund	39,722,724	40,113,958
Special funds	2,781,912	2,781,912
Federal funds	24,448,223	24,098,939
Global Commitment fund	2,417,024	2,417,024
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>462,127</u>	<u>462,127</u>
Total	69,832,010	69,873,960

Sec. 23. 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. 24. 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. 25. 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. 26. 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		
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. 27. 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. 28. 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. 29. 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	<u>37,254,309</u>	<u>36,754,314</u>
Source of funds		
General fund	<u>24,733,042</u>	<u>24,233,047</u>
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	<u>37,254,309</u>	<u>36,754,314</u>
Sec. 30. 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	<u>36,383,719</u>	<u>36,955,582</u>
Source of funds		
General fund	<u>28,178,010</u>	<u>28,687,068</u>
Special funds	83,135	83,135
Federal funds	<u>4,935,273</u>	<u>4,998,078</u>
Global Commitment fund	<u>3,187,301</u>	<u>3,187,301</u>
Total	<u>36,383,719</u>	<u>36,955,582</u>
Sec. 31. 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	<u>45,217,977</u>	<u>46,217,977</u>
Operating expenses	<u>6,472,558</u>	<u>6,714,680</u>
Total	<u>51,690,535</u>	<u>52,932,657</u>
Source of funds		
General fund	<u>22,916,281</u>	<u>24,037,342</u>
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	<u>51,690,535</u>	<u>52,932,657</u>

Sec. 32. 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	<u>24,571,060</u>	<u>24,781,798</u>
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	<u>24,571,060</u>	<u>24,781,798</u>

Sec. 33. 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	<u>10,179,845</u>	<u>9,179,845</u>
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	<u>10,179,845</u>	<u>9,179,845</u>

Sec. 34. 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	<u>329,299,344</u>	<u>331,262,271</u>
Source of funds		
General fund	132,732	132,732
Special funds	15,463	15,463
Federal funds	403,573	403,573
Global Commitment fund	<u>328,697,576</u>	<u>330,660,503</u>
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>50,000</u>	<u>50,000</u>
Total	<u>329,299,344</u>	<u>331,262,271</u>

Sec. 35. 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	<u>6,845,005</u>	<u>6,864,520</u>
Source of funds		
Global Commitment fund	<u>6,845,005</u>	<u>6,864,520</u>
Total	<u>6,845,005</u>	<u>6,864,520</u>

Sec. 36. 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	<u>293,584,545</u>	<u>347,376,122</u>
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	<u>293,584,545</u>	<u>347,376,122</u>

Sec. 37. 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	<u>172,386,309</u>	<u>173,721,899</u>
Source of funds		
General fund	<u>162,807,888</u>	<u>163,643,478</u>
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	<u>172,386,309</u>	<u>173,721,899</u>

Sec. 38. 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	0	<u>1,583,157</u>
Total	<u>22,644,684</u>	<u>32,425,909</u>

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. 39. 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. 40. 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	351,718,375	351,793,375

Sec. 41. 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	20,000,000	19,000,000

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. 42. 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	<u>3,778,133</u>	<u>4,081,770</u>
Federal funds	<u>916,050</u>	<u>916,050</u>
Total	<u>4,694,183</u>	<u>4,997,820</u>

Sec. 43. 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	<u>921,500</u>	<u>921,500</u>
Education fund	<u>10,440,255</u>	<u>10,642,679</u>
Total	<u>11,361,755</u>	<u>11,564,179</u>

Sec. 44. 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. 45. 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	<u>20,400,000</u>	<u>17,500,000</u>
Source of funds		
Education fund	<u>20,400,000</u>	<u>17,500,000</u>
Total	<u>20,400,000</u>	<u>17,500,000</u>

Sec. 46. 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	<u>2,323,283,242</u>	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	<u>2,936,531,236</u>	2,922,212,297

Sec. 47. 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	<u>10,598,035</u>	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	<u>10,598,035</u>	10,632,735

Sec. 48. 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	<u>43,727,282</u>	43,755,282

Source of funds		
General fund	199,372	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	<u>43,727,282</u>	43,755,282

Sec. 49. 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	8,362,915	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	11,887,629	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. 50. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.714 is amended to read:

Sec. B.714 Total natural resources

Source of funds		
General fund	42,792,800	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. 51. 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~~ \$18,340,304 General Fund for the General Assistance Emergency Housing program;

(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 (FEMA) 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 FEMA-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 June 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 expend funds 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) \$8,600,000 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; and

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

Sec. 52. 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. 53. 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.

~~(D)~~~~(C)~~ 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~~ \$10,995,595.

(3) ~~\$66,935,000~~ \$63,560,450.50 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 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. 54. 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~~

\$350,199.34

* * *

<u>1100892208 AOA – VT Housing Finance Agency</u>	<u>\$3,000,000.00</u>
<u>1100892403 AOA – Health Equity Community Grants</u>	<u>\$500,000.00</u>
<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>1260892201 TRE – Bond Redemption</u>	<u>\$6,000,000.00</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>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. 55. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. D.103 is amended to read:

Sec. D.103 RESERVES

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, in fiscal year 2025, the following reserve transactions shall be implemented for the funds provided:

- (1) General Fund.

(A) Pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 308, an estimated amount of ~~\$15,168,663~~ \$15,168,660.85 shall be added to the General Fund Budget Stabilization Reserve.

(B) \$5,480,000 shall be added to the 27/53 reserve in fiscal year 2025. This action is the fiscal year 2025 contribution to the reserve for the 53rd week of Medicaid as required by 32 V.S.A. § 308e and the 27th payroll reserve as required by 32 V.S.A. § 308e.

(C) Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 308b, \$3,913,200 shall be unreserved from the Human Services Caseload Reserve established within the General Fund in 32 V.S.A. § 308b.

* * *

Sec. 56. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. E.100 is amended to read:

Sec. E.100 POSITIONS

(a) The establishment of ~~43~~ 47 permanent positions is authorized in fiscal year 2025 for the following:

(1) Permanent classified positions:

* * *

(H) Office of the Attorney General:

(i) one Court Diversion Assistant Director.

* * *

(2) Permanent exempt positions:

* * *

(G) Human Rights Commission:

(i) one Intake Specialist; and

(ii) one Staff Attorney Investigator.

(H) Office of the Attorney General:

(i) one Assistant Attorney General.

* * *

(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. 57 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;

* * *

Sec. 58. 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. 59. 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. 60. 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. 61. 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. 62. 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 ~~19~~ 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. 63. 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(e), 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. 64. 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. 65. 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. 66. 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. 67. 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. 68. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. B.1100, as amended by 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 87, Sec. 40 and 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. C.101, 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.

* * *

(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;

* * *

(x) Judiciary. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:

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

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

(2) \$300,000 General Fund for the Essex County Courthouse renovation planning. Of this amount, \$50,000 may be used to construct bathrooms compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act in the Essex Meeting House.

* * *

(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. 69. 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. 70. 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. 71. WORKFORCE EDUCATION AND TRAINING FUND; REPEAL

(a) 10 V.S.A. § 543 (Workforce Education and Training Fund) is repealed.

Sec. 72. 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. 73. 30 V.S.A. chapter 86 is amended to read:

CHAPTER 86. UNDERGROUND UTILITY DAMAGE PREVENTION
SYSTEM

* * *

§ 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 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.

§ 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 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.

* * *

Sec. 74. 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. 75. 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~~ \$100,000.00 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~~ \$200.00.

* * *

Sec. 76. 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. 77. 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. 78. 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. 79. VERMONT TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY FUND; REPEAL

(a) 33 V.S.A. chapter 78 (Vermont Traumatic Brain Injury Fund) is repealed.

Sec. 80 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. 81. 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. 82. 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. 83. 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 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. 84. 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. 84a. 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.

(b) This section is repealed on July 1, 2025.

Sec. 85. SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM;
DISCRETIONARY EXEMPTIONS

(a) In fiscal year 2025, the Department for Children and Families shall fully utilize the State's allocation of discretionary exemptions in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program to the extent permitted by federal regulation for the purpose of proactively extending benefits to individuals who would otherwise experience a disruption of benefits.

Sec. 86. 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.~~

~~(e)~~ All other sections shall take effect 30 calendar days after passage.

Sec. 87. 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 83, Sec. 53, as amended by 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. C.102 is further amended to read:

 Sec. 53. FISCAL YEAR 2022 UNALLOCATED RESERVE

* * *

(b) After meeting the requirements of subsection (a) of this section, but prior to satisfying the requirements of 32 V.S.A. § 308c, the remaining unreserved and undesignated funds at the close of fiscal year 2022 shall be allocated to the extent available as follows:

* * *

(7) \$9,600,000 is appropriated to the Judiciary, of which \$3,880,000 is for the reopening of the courts and ~~\$5,720,000~~, \$4,920,000 is to replace HVAC in county court houses, and \$800,000 is to upgrade the network wiring and security systems in county court houses.

* * *

Sec. 88. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 15b, as added by 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 162, is amended to read:

Sec. 15b. SERGEANT AT ARMS

(a) The sum of ~~\$100,000.00~~ \$100,000 is appropriated in FY fiscal year 2025 to the Sergeant at Arms for the following projects:

(1) the replacement of State House cafeteria furnishings; and

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

Sec. 89. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. E.321 is amended to read:

Sec. E.321 GENERAL ASSISTANCE EMERGENCY 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 September 15, 2024 through November 30, 2024 ~~and between April 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025.~~

* * *

(3) The Department shall provide emergency winter housing to households meeting the eligibility criteria in subsection (a) of this section between December 1, 2024 and ~~March 31, 2025~~, June 30, 2025. 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.

* * *

Sec. 90. 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. 91. 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. 92. 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.

Sec. 93. EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) This act shall take effect on passage, except that, notwithstanding 1 V.S.A. § 214:

(1) Sec. 67 shall take effect retroactively on July 1, 2024; and

(2) Sec. 90 shall take effect retroactively on November 15, 2024.

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.

(Committee Vote: 4-3-0)

/s/Andrew J. Perchlik
 Senator Perchlik
 FOR THE COMMITTEE

And that the bill ought to pass in concurrence with such proposal of amendment.

Thereupon, the bill was read the second time by title only pursuant to Rule 43, and the pending question, Shall the Senate propose to the House to amend the bill as recommended by the Committee on Appropriations?, was agreed to, on a roll call, Yeas 18, Nays, 12.

Senator Beck, having demanded the yeas and nays, they were taken and are as follows:

Roll Call

Those Senators who voted in the affirmative were: Baruth, Bongartz, Brock, Clarkson, Cummings, Gulick, Hardy, Harrison, Hashim, Heffernan, Lyons, Major, Perchlik, Plunkett, Ram Hinsdale, Vyhovsky, Watson, White.

Those Senators who voted in the negative were: Beck, Brennan, Chittenden, Collamore, Douglass, Hart, Ingalls, Mattos, Norris, Weeks, Westman, Williams.

Thereupon, pending the question, Shall the bill be read a third time?, Senator Vyhovsky moved that the Senate proposal of amendment be amended by adding 10 new sections to be Secs. 93–102 to read as follows:

Sec. 93. LEGISLATIVE INTENT; STATEWIDE SERVICE COORDINATOR

(a) It is the intent of the General Assembly:

(1) to reduce for the remainder of fiscal year 2025 and for fiscal year 2026 the salaries of all employees in the Executive, Judicial, and Legislative

Branches whose salaries exceed \$100,000.00 and who are not covered by the provisions of collective bargaining agreements to fiscal year 2024 levels;

(2) that the estimated \$742,500 in savings in fiscal year 2025 be used for General Assistance Emergency Housing and that the estimated \$6,688,000 in fiscal year 2026 savings be reserved for General Assistance Emergency Housing in fiscal year 2026;

(3) that funds appropriated for General Assistance Emergency Housing in fiscal years 2025 and 2026 may be used to convert State buildings to provide shelter or housing for those experiencing homelessness; and

(4) that one new exempt, limited service position is authorized in the Agency of Administration to coordinate services statewide for those experiencing homelessness, which position shall be transferred and converted from an existing vacant position in the Executive Branch and shall not increase the total number of authorized positions.

Sec. 94. 32 V.S.A. § 1003 is amended to read:

§ 1003. STATE OFFICERS

(a) Each elective officer of the Executive Department is entitled to an annual salary as follows:

	Annual Salary as of		Annual Salary as of	
	July 14, 2024	April 6, 2025	July 13, 2025	
(1) Governor	\$222,371	<u>\$208,995</u>	\$234,379	<u>\$208,995</u>
(2) Lieutenant Governor		\$94,392		\$99,489
(3) Secretary of State	\$141,003	<u>\$132,522</u>	\$148,617	<u>\$132,522</u>
(4) State Treasurer	\$141,003	<u>\$132,522</u>	\$148,617	<u>\$132,522</u>
(5) Auditor of Accounts	\$141,003	<u>\$132,522</u>	\$148,617	<u>\$132,522</u>
(6) Attorney General	\$168,837	<u>\$158,681</u>	\$177,954	<u>\$158,681</u>

(b) The Governor may appoint each officer of the Executive Branch listed in this subsection at a starting salary ranging from the base salary stated for that position to a salary that does not exceed the maximum salary unless otherwise authorized by this subsection. The maximum salary for each appointive officer shall be 50 percent above the base salary. Annually, the Governor may grant to each of those officers an annual salary adjustment subject to the maximum salary. The annual salary adjustment granted to officers under this subsection shall not exceed the average rate of adjustment

available to most classified employees under the collective bargaining agreement then in effect. In addition to the annual salary adjustment specified in this subsection, the Governor may grant a special salary increase subject to the maximum salary, or a bonus, to any officer listed in this subsection whose job duties have significantly increased, or whose contributions to the State in the preceding year are deemed especially significant. Special salary increases or bonuses granted to any individual shall not exceed the average rate of adjustment available to most classified employees under the collective bargaining agreement then in effect.

(1) Heads of the following Departments and Agencies:

	July 14, 2024	Base Salary as of <u>April 6, 2025</u>	July 13, 2025	Base Salary as of <u>July 13, 2025</u>
(A) Administration	\$134,466	<u>\$126,378</u>	\$141,727	<u>\$126,378</u>
(B) Agriculture, Food and markets	\$134,466	<u>\$126,378</u>	\$141,727	<u>\$126,378</u>
(C) Financial Regulation	\$125,706	<u>\$118,145</u>	\$132,494	<u>\$118,145</u>
(D) Buildings and General Services	\$125,706	<u>\$118,145</u>	\$132,494	<u>\$118,145</u>
(E) Children and Families	\$125,706	<u>\$118,145</u>	\$132,494	<u>\$118,145</u>
(F) Commerce and Community Development	\$134,466	<u>\$126,378</u>	\$141,727	<u>\$126,378</u>
(G) Corrections	\$125,706	<u>\$118,145</u>	\$132,494	<u>\$118,145</u>
(H) Defender General	\$125,706	<u>\$118,145</u>	\$132,494	<u>\$118,145</u>
(I) Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living	\$125,706	<u>\$118,145</u>	\$132,494	<u>\$118,145</u>
(J) Economic Development	\$114,031	<u>\$107,172</u>	\$120,189	<u>\$107,172</u>
(K) Education	\$134,466	<u>\$126,378</u>	\$141,727	<u>\$126,378</u>
(L) Environmental Conservation	\$125,706	<u>\$118,145</u>	\$132,494	<u>\$118,145</u>
(M) Finance and Management	\$125,706	<u>\$118,145</u>	\$132,494	<u>\$118,145</u>
(N) Fish and Wildlife	\$114,031	<u>\$107,172</u>	\$120,189	<u>\$107,172</u>
(O) Forests, Parks and Recreation	\$114,031	<u>\$107,172</u>	\$120,189	<u>\$107,172</u>

(P) Health	\$125,706	<u>\$118,145</u>	\$132,494	<u>\$118,145</u>
(Q) Housing and Community Development	\$114,031	<u>\$107,172</u>	\$120,189	<u>\$107,172</u>
(R) Human Resources	\$125,706	<u>\$118,145</u>	\$132,494	<u>\$118,145</u>
(S) Human Services	\$134,466	<u>\$126,378</u>	\$141,727	<u>\$126,378</u>
(T) Digital Services	\$134,466	<u>\$126,378</u>	\$141,727	<u>\$126,378</u>
(U) Labor	\$125,706	<u>\$118,145</u>	\$132,494	<u>\$118,145</u>
(V) Libraries	\$114,031	<u>\$107,172</u>	\$120,189	<u>\$107,172</u>
(W) Liquor and Lottery	\$114,031	<u>\$107,172</u>	\$120,189	<u>\$107,172</u>
(X) [Repealed.]				
(Y) Mental Health	\$125,706	<u>\$118,145</u>	\$132,494	<u>\$118,145</u>
(Z) Military	\$125,706	<u>\$118,145</u>	\$132,494	<u>\$118,145</u>
(AA) Motor Vehicles	\$114,031	<u>\$107,172</u>	\$120,189	<u>\$107,172</u>
(BB) Natural Resources	\$134,466	<u>\$126,378</u>	\$141,727	<u>\$126,378</u>
(CC) Land Use Review Board Chair	\$114,031	<u>\$107,172</u>	\$120,189	<u>\$107,172</u>
(DD) Public Safety	\$125,706	<u>\$118,145</u>	\$132,494	<u>\$118,145</u>
(EE) Public Service	\$125,706	<u>\$118,145</u>	\$132,494	<u>\$118,145</u>
(FF) Taxes	\$125,706	<u>\$118,145</u>	\$132,494	<u>\$118,145</u>
(GG) Tourism and Marketing	\$114,031	<u>\$107,172</u>	\$120,189	<u>\$107,172</u>
(HH) Transportation	\$134,466	<u>\$126,378</u>	\$141,727	<u>\$126,378</u>
(II) Vermont Health Access	\$125,706	<u>\$118,145</u>	\$132,494	<u>\$118,145</u>
(JJ) Veterans' Home	\$125,706	<u>\$118,145</u>	\$132,494	<u>\$118,145</u>

(2) [Repealed.]

(3) If the Chair of the Land Use Review Board is employed on less than a full-time basis, the hiring and salary maximums for that position shall be reduced proportionately.

(4) When a permanent employee is appointed to an exempt position, the Governor may authorize such employee to retain the present salary even though it is in excess of any salary maximum provided in statute.

(c) The officers of the Judicial Branch named in this subsection shall be entitled to annual salaries as follows:

	Annual Salary as of July 14, 2024	Annual Salary as of <u>April 6, 2025</u>	Annual Salary as of July 13, 2025
(1) Chief Justice of Supreme Court	\$214,024	<u>\$201,150</u>	\$225,581 <u>\$201,150</u>
(2) Each Associate Justice	\$204,264	<u>\$191,977</u>	\$215,294 <u>\$191,977</u>
(3) Administrative Judge	\$204,264	<u>\$191,977</u>	\$215,294 <u>\$191,977</u>
(4) Each Superior Judge	\$194,185	<u>\$182,505</u>	\$204,671 <u>\$182,505</u>
(5) [Repealed.]			
(6) Each Magistrate	\$146,413	<u>\$137,606</u>	\$154,319 <u>\$137,606</u>
(7) Each Judicial Bureau hearing officer	\$146,413	<u>\$137,606</u>	\$154,319 <u>\$137,606</u>

(d) Notwithstanding the maximum salary established in subsection (b) of this section, the Defender General shall not receive compensation in excess of the compensation established for the Attorney General in this section.

(e) Notwithstanding the maximum salary established in subsection (b) of this section, the maximum salary for the Commissioner of Health shall not exceed 100 percent above the base salary for this position.

Sec. 95. 32 V.S.A. § 1142 is amended to read:

§ 1142. PROBATE JUDGES

(a) The Probate judges in the several Probate Districts shall be entitled to receive the following annual salaries, which shall be paid by the State in lieu of all fees or other compensation:

	Annual Salary as of July 14, 2024	Annual Salary as of <u>April 6, 2025</u>	Annual Salary as of July 13, 2025
(1) Addison	\$76,555		\$80,689
(2) Bennington	\$96,776		102,002 <u>\$96,776</u>
(3) Caledonia	\$67,891		\$71,557
(4) Chittenden	\$161,506	<u>\$151,791</u>	\$170,227 <u>\$151,791</u>
(5) Essex	\$18,966		\$19,990
(6) Franklin	\$76,555		\$80,689

(7) Grand Isle	\$18,966	\$19,990
(8) Lamoille	\$53,443	\$56,329
(9) Orange	\$63,554	\$66,986
(10) Orleans	\$62,110	\$65,464
(11) Rutland	\$137,221 <u>\$128,967</u>	\$144,631 <u>\$128,967</u>
(12) Washington	\$105,441 <u>\$99,099</u>	\$111,135 <u>\$99,099</u>
(13) Windham	\$85,221	\$89,823
(14) Windsor	\$115,555 <u>\$108,604</u>	\$121,795 <u>\$108,604</u>

(b) Probate judges shall be entitled to be paid by the State for their actual and necessary expenses under the rules pertaining to classified State employees. The compensation for the Probate judge of the Chittenden District shall be for full-time service.

(c) All Probate judges, regardless of the number of hours worked annually, shall be eligible to participate in all employee benefits that are available to exempt employees of the Judicial Department.

Sec. 96. 32 V.S.A. § 1182 is amended to read:

§ 1182. SHERIFFS

(a) The sheriffs of all counties except Chittenden shall be entitled to receive salaries in the amount of ~~\$104,010.00~~ \$94,085.00 as of ~~July 14, 2024~~ April 6, 2025 and ~~\$109,627.00~~ \$94,085.00 as of July 13, 2025. The Sheriff of Chittenden County shall be entitled to an annual salary in the amount of ~~\$110,070.00~~ \$99,566.00 as of ~~July 14, 2024~~ April 6, 2025 and ~~\$116,014.00~~ \$99,566.00 as of July 13, 2025.

(b) Compensation under subsection (a) of this section shall be reduced by 10 percent for any sheriff who has Level II but not obtained Level III law enforcement officer certification under 20 V.S.A. § 2358.

(c) Compensation under subsection (a) of this section shall be reduced by 20 percent for any sheriff who has Level I but not obtained Level II law enforcement officer certification under 20 V.S.A. § 2358.

(d) Compensation under subsection (a) of this section shall be reduced by 30 percent for any sheriff who does not possess a law enforcement officer certification under 20 V.S.A. § 2358.

Sec. 97. 32 V.S.A. § 1183 is amended to read:

§ 1183. STATE'S ATTORNEYS

(a) The State's Attorneys shall be entitled to receive annual salaries as follows:

	Annual Salary as of		Annual Salary as of	
	July 14, 2024	<u>April 6, 2025</u>	July 13, 2025	<u>July 13, 2025</u>
(1) Addison County	\$140,691	<u>\$132,228</u>	\$148,288	<u>\$132,228</u>
(2) Bennington County	\$140,691	<u>\$132,228</u>	\$148,288	<u>\$132,228</u>
(3) Caledonia County	\$140,691	<u>\$132,228</u>	\$148,288	<u>\$132,228</u>
(4) Chittenden County	\$147,087	<u>\$138,240</u>	\$155,030	<u>\$138,240</u>
(5) Essex County	\$105,521	<u>\$99,174</u>	\$111,219	<u>\$99,174</u>
(6) Franklin County	\$140,691	<u>\$132,228</u>	\$148,288	<u>\$132,228</u>
(7) Grand Isle County	\$105,521	<u>\$99,174</u>	\$111,219	<u>\$99,174</u>
(8) Lamoille County	\$140,691	<u>\$132,228</u>	\$148,288	<u>\$132,228</u>
(9) Orange County	\$140,691	<u>\$132,228</u>	\$148,288	<u>\$132,228</u>
(10) Orleans County	\$140,691	<u>\$132,228</u>	\$148,288	<u>\$132,228</u>
(11) Rutland County	\$140,691	<u>\$132,228</u>	\$148,288	<u>\$132,228</u>
(12) Washington County	\$140,691	<u>\$132,228</u>	\$148,288	<u>\$132,228</u>
(13) Windham County	\$140,691	<u>\$132,228</u>	\$148,288	<u>\$132,228</u>
(14) Windsor County	\$140,691	<u>\$132,228</u>	\$148,288	<u>\$132,228</u>

(b) In settlement of their accounts, the Commissioner of Finance and Management shall allow the State's Attorneys the expense of printing briefs in cases in which the State's Attorney has represented the State and their necessary and actual expenses under the rules pertaining to classified State employees.

Sec. 98. STATE OFFICERS; SALARY INCREASES

Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, between April 6, 2025 and July 1, 2026, the Governor shall not grant any annual salary adjustment or special salary increases to officers whose salary is set in 32 V.S.A. § 1003.

Sec. 99. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.1100(e) is amended to read:

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

(1) ~~\$16,500,000~~ \$19,082,804 General Fund for the General Assistance Emergency Housing program;

* * *

Sec. 100. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. G.101 is amended to read:

Sec. G.101 EXEMPT EMPLOYEES; PERMITTED SALARY
INCREASES; FISCAL YEARS 2025 AND 2026

(a) Fiscal year 2025. The Except as set forth in 32 V.S.A. §§ 1003, 1142, 1182, and 1183, the Executive, Judicial, and Legislative Branches may extend the fiscal year 2025 provisions of the collective bargaining agreements that are funded by this act to employees not covered by the bargaining agreements as they determine to be appropriate and in accordance with the appropriations provided to each branch, provided that, effective April 6, 2025, the salary of any such employee whose salary exceeds \$100,000.00 shall be reduced to the amount of salary the employee earned in fiscal year 2024. For any such employee who was not employed by the State in fiscal year 2024 or who held a different position in State government at that time, the employee's fiscal year 2025 salary shall be reduced by 6.4%, effective April 6, 2025.

(b) Fiscal year 2026. The Except as set forth in 32 V.S.A. §§ 1003, 1142, 1182, and 1183, the Executive, Judicial, and Legislative Branches may extend the fiscal year 2026 provisions of the collective bargaining agreements that are funded by this act to employees not covered by the bargaining agreements as they determine to be appropriate and in accordance with the appropriations provided to each branch, provided that, effective July 13, 2025, the salary of any such employee whose salary exceeds \$100,000.00 shall not be increased.

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

Sec. G.102 EXECUTIVE BRANCH; EXEMPT AGENCY AND
DEPARTMENT HEADS, DEPUTIES, AND EXECUTIVE
ASSISTANTS; ANNUAL SALARY ADJUSTMENT AND
SPECIAL SALARY INCREASE OR BONUS

(a) Fiscal year 2025. For purposes of determining annual salary adjustments, special salary increases, and bonuses under 32 V.S.A. §§ ~~1003(b)~~ and § 1020(b), “the average rate of adjustment available to most classified employees under the collective bargaining agreement” shall be, in fiscal year 2025, 6.4 percent; provided, however, that notwithstanding any provision of 32 V.S.A. § 1020 to the contrary, no salary adjustment or special salary

increase shall be made available to any employee who earns more than \$100,000.00 and any salary adjustment or salary increase that would cause an employee's salary to exceed \$100,000.00 shall be reduced in order to maintain the employee's salary at or below \$100,000.00.

(b) Fiscal year 2026. For purposes of determining annual salary adjustments, special salary increases, and bonuses under 32 V.S.A. §§ 1003(b) and § 1020(b), “the average rate of adjustment available to most classified employees under the collective bargaining agreement” shall be, in fiscal year 2026, 5.4 percent; provided, however, that notwithstanding any provision of 32 V.S.A. § 1020 to the contrary, no salary adjustment, special salary increase, or bonus shall be made available to any employee earning more than \$100,000.00 and any salary adjustment, salary increase, or bonus that would cause an employee's wages to exceed \$100,000.00 shall be reduced in order to maintain the employee's salary at or below \$100,000.00.

Sec. 102. 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.

(A) General Fund. The amount of ~~\$27,279,337.00~~ \$26,702,837.00 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Secretary of Administration for distribution to departments to fund the fiscal year 2025 collective bargaining agreements and the requirements of this act.

* * *

(2) Fiscal year 2026.

(A) General Fund. The amount of ~~\$24,644,442.00~~ \$19,394,442.00 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Secretary of Administration for distribution to departments to fund the fiscal year 2026 collective bargaining agreements and the requirements of this act.

* * *

(b) Judicial Branch.

(1) Extension to noncovered employees. The Chief Justice of the Vermont Supreme Court may extend the provisions of the Judiciary's collective bargaining agreement to Judiciary employees who are not covered by the bargaining agreement.

(2) Fiscal year 2025. The first year of the two-year agreements between the State of Vermont and the Vermont State Employees' Association for the judicial bargaining unit for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 and salary increases for employees in the Judicial Branch not covered by the bargaining agreements shall be funded as follows: the amount of ~~\$2,470,963.00~~ \$2,356,963.00 is appropriated from the General Fund and the amount of \$185,986.00 is provided from other sources to the Judiciary to fund the fiscal year 2025 collective bargaining agreement and the requirements of this act.

(3) Fiscal year 2026. The second year of the two-year agreements between the State of Vermont and the Vermont State Employees' Association for the judicial bargaining unit for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 and salary increases for employees in the Judicial Branch not covered by the bargaining agreements shall be funded as follows: the amount of ~~\$2,388,783.00~~ \$1,399,783.00 is appropriated from the General Fund and the amount of \$179,801.00 is provided from other sources to the Judiciary to fund the fiscal year 2026 collective bargaining agreement and the requirements of this act.

(c) Legislative Branch.

(1) For the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, the General Assembly, including all Legislative Branch employees, shall be funded as follows: the amount of ~~\$884,808.00~~ \$832,808.00 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Legislative Branch.

(2) For the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, the General Assembly, including all Legislative Branch employees, shall be funded as follows: the amount of ~~\$758,613.00~~ \$309,613.00 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Legislative Branch.

* * *

and by renumbering Sec. 93, effective dates, to be Sec. 103.

Which was disagreed to.

Thereupon, the pending question, Shall the bill be read a third time?, was decided in the affirmative.

House Concurrent Resolutions

The following joint concurrent resolutions having been placed on the consent calendar on the preceding legislative day, and no Senator having requested floor consideration as provided by the Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives, were severally adopted in concurrence:

Offered by Reps. Charlton and others,

Offered by Senators Clarkson, Major and White,

H.C.R. 34.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2024 Green Mountain Union High School Chieftains Division III championship boys soccer team.

Offered by Reps. Bos-Lun and others,

Offered by Senators Harrison and Hashim,

H.C.R. 35.

House concurrent resolution commemorating the 250th anniversary of the March 13, 1775 Westminster Massacre.

Offered by Reps. Waters Evans and Krasnow,

H.C.R. 36.

House concurrent resolution honoring Charlotte Board of Civil Authority Chair, and Ski and Ride Program Coordinator Michael Krasnow.

Offered by Reps. Burke and others,

Offered by Senators Harrison and Hashim,

H.C.R. 37.

House concurrent resolution congratulating Meara Seery of Brattleboro on being named Miss Vermont 2024.

Offered by Rep. Sibilis,

Offered by Senators Harrison and Hashim,

H.C.R. 38.

House concurrent resolution honoring dedicated Jamaica community leader and volunteer Clara Robinson.

Offered by Reps. Berbeco and Maguire,

H.C.R. 39.

House concurrent resolution designating February 19, 2025 as Recovery Day at the State House.

Offered by Rep. Kascenska,

Offered by Senators Beck, Douglass and Ingalls,

H.C.R. 40.

House concurrent resolution designating February 20, 2025 as NEK Day at the State House.

Cosponsor of Bill Withdrawn

S. 54.

An act relating to voluntary engagement in sex work.

Appearing on the Calendar for notice, pursuant to Rule 50, Senator Hart was removed as a cosponsor.

Adjournment

On motion of Senator Baruth, the Senate adjourned until one o'clock in the afternoon on Wednesday, February 26, 2025.