

1 **Sec. C.101** 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.503 is amended to read:

2 Sec. B.503 Education - state-placed students

3 Grants 20,000,000 19,000,000

4 Total 20,000,000 19,000,000

5 Source of funds

6 Education fund 20,000,000 19,000,000

7 Total 20,000,000 19,000,000

8 **EXPLANATION: Annual costs are less than originally estimated.**

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

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

4 ***

5 (h) Department of Economic Development. In fiscal year 2025, funds are
6 appropriated for the following:

7 (1) \$150,000 General Fund for continued funding of the International
8 Business Office previously funded by 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74,
9 Sec. G.300(b)(1)

10 (2) \$2,000,000 General Fund for a grant to the Vermont Economic
11 Development Authority to establish a disaster relief fund for use by
12 businesses following a natural disaster

13 (3) ~~\$7,000,000~~ \$5,000,000 General Fund is for the Business
14 Emergency Gap Assistance Program, existing Dept ID 7120892502, as
15 authorized on August 12, 2024 by unanimous vote of the Vermont
16 Emergency Board

17 ***

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

20 ***

1 **Sec. C.104** 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. D.101 is amended to read:

2 Sec. D.101 FUND TRANSFERS

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

5 (1) From the General Fund to the:

6 (A) General Obligation Bonds Debt Service Fund (#35100):

7 ~~\$73,212,880~~ \$78,235,088.34.

8 ***

9 (J) Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund (#21555): ~~\$830,000~~
10 \$6,500,000.

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

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

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

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

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

16 (2) From the Transportation Fund to the:

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

18 (B) Downtown Transportation and Related Capital Improvements
19 Fund (#21575):

20 \$523,966.

1 (C) General Obligation Bonds Debt Service Fund (#35100):
2 \$316,745.

3 (D) Notwithstanding 19 V.S.A. § 13(c), the Transportation Fund
4 transfer to the Central

5 Garage fund in fiscal year 2025 shall be \$0

6 (E) Transportation Infrastructure Bond Fund (#20191): \$2,300,000

7 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, in fiscal year
8 2025:

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

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

13 (B) AHS Central Office Earned Federal Receipts (#22005):
14 \$4,641,960.

15 (C) Sports Wagering Enterprise Fund (#50250):
16 ~~\$7,000,000~~\$6,139,162.

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

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

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

20 (G) Workforce Education and Training Fund (#21913):
21 \$2,598,921.75

1 in the Debt Service Fund caused by the timing between when the authorized
2 payment is made and the authorized transfer occurs.

3 (a)(1)(J) Increased demand following the July 2024 flood.

4 (a)(1)(L) Deficit capitalization resulting from claims experience exceeding
5 expectations and increased pharmacy costs.

6 (a)(1)(M) Deficit capitalization less \$92,459 for outstanding receivables.

7 (a)(1)(N) Transfer mitigates loss of revenues to the Act 250 Permit Fund and is
8 funded by reducing the one-time appropriation provided by 2024 Acts and
9 Resolves No. 181, Sec. 113b at the request of the Natural Resources Board.

10 (a)(1)(O) Transfer to the State Liability Self-Insurance Fund established
11 pursuant to 29 V.S.A. § 1406, in an amount equivalent to the EB-5 settlement
12 payment that was made from this fund on July 1, 2024. This one-time transfer
13 from the General Fund is necessary to prevent the assessment of this claim cost
14 to all entities statewide via the internal service fund cost allocation process.

15 (a)(2)(A) The transfer from the Transportation Fund to the Vermont
16 Recreational Trails Fund is codified per 10 V.S.A. § 446. Inclusion of the
17 session law language leads to an unintentional doubling of the transfer. This
18 transaction is not recorded on the BAA worksheet because the unintended
19 doubling was never included on the Transportation Fund operating statement.
20 Inclusion on the worksheet would require adding money back to the
21 Transportation Fund to record the reversal and then an offsetting adjustment to
22 account for it never being added to the operating statement.

23 (a)(2)(E) Transfers \$2,300,000 from the Transportation Fund to the
24 Transportation Infrastructure Bond Fund to mitigate the impact of the January
25 consensus revenue forecast reduction to the TIB fund.

26 (b)(1)(A) Amends the estimate for the actual amount transferred after the close
27 of FY24 in accordance with 7 V.S.A. § 845.

28 (b)(1)(C) The Department of Liquor and Lottery anticipates \$860,838 less of
29 sports wagering receipts available for transfer to the General Fund due to a
30 trend of increased winnings and payouts to players, as reported to the
31 Department of Liquor and Lottery from the state's market operators.

32 (b)(1)(D) The Department of Liquor and Lottery adjusted the FY25 transfer to
33 the General Fund based upon current year market conditions and to
34 compensate for prior year transfers in excess of earnings that put the fund in
35 deficit. The reduction returns the fund to a net balanced position in accordance
36 with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

37 (b)(1)(E) The General Assembly transferred \$3 million dollars to the General
38 Fund from the Tobacco Litigation Special Fund in Act 113. This transfer is
39 leading to a \$1.6 million anticipated FY26 year-end deficit in the Tobacco
40 Litigation Special Fund. The General Assembly's transfer is unnecessary to
41 meet FY25 demands and eliminating the transfer puts the Tobacco Litigation
42 Special Fund back in a projected year-end surplus position in FY26.

43 (b)(1)(G) The Workforce Education & Training Fund (WET Fund) was funded
44 by a transfer from the Next Generation Initiative Fund, which in turn was
45 funded by a General Fund transfer. The Next Generation Fund was deactivated
46 and the programmatic costs previously covered by the WET Fund are now part

1 of the Labor Department's base General Fund appropriation. This fund is
2 obsolete and should be eliminated. The balance can be returned to the General
3 Fund.

4 (b)(1)(H) This fund is obsolete. It received one \$140,000.00 transfer to
5 capitalize the fund on August 04, 2008 which was fully expended by February
6 03, 2010. The fund provided one \$70,000 grant to Health Care &
7 Rehabilitation Services of Southeast Vermont, Inc. and one \$70,000 grant to
8 the Brain Injury Association of Vermont. The \$1,500.00 estimated fiscal year-
9 end balance in the fund is composed entirely of compounded interest earnings
10 received since 2008 and the fund is being repealed by this proposal.

11 (b)(2)(B) \$4,495,595 was remaining at the close of fiscal year 2024 beyond the
12 required \$4,806,692 transfer per 2024 Acts and Resolved No. 87, Sec. 55.

13 (b)(3) The original estimate revised for diminishing applications due to fee
14 increases and rebasing original estimate to actuals.

1 **Sec. C.105** 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. D.102 is amended to read:

2 Sec. D.102 REVERSIONS

3 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, in fiscal year 2025,
4 the following amounts shall revert to the General Fund from the accounts
5 indicated:

6 * * *

7 1100892208 AOA-VT Housing Finance Agency \$3,000,000.00

8 * * *

9 **EXPLANATION:**

10 Net reversions in accordance with 32 V.S.A. § 703 and 2024 Acts and
11 Resolves No. 87, Sec. 103(a) and (b).

12 The underlined language is consistent with the Governor’s recommended
13 Budget Adjustment Act language, with the following exception:

14 Highlighted \$3M reversion from AOA-VT Housing Finance Agency added to
15 offset transfer to the State Liability Insurance Fund in Sec. C.104 of this act
16 amending 2024 Act 113 Sec. D.101.

1 **Sec. C.106** 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78. Sec. B.1100, as amended by 2024
2 Acts and Resolves No. 87, Sec. 40, as amended by 2024 Acts and Resolves
3 113, Sec. C.101, is further amended to read:

4 ***

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

7 ***

8 (2) \$8,834,000 General Fund and \$11,483,302 Federal Revenue Fund
9 #22005 for a ~~two~~three-year pilot to expand the Blueprint for Health Hub
10 and Spoke program. Funds shall be used to expand the substances covered
11 by the program, include mental health and pediatric screenings, and make
12 strategic investments with community partners;

13 ***

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

16 (1) \$366,066 General Fund and \$372,048 Federal Revenue Fund #22005
17 for a ~~two~~three-year pilot to expand the Blueprint for Health Hub and
18 Spoke program and;

19 (2) \$15,583,352 Global Commitment Fund #20405 for a ~~two~~three-year
20 pilot to expand the Blueprint for Health Hub and Spoke program; and

21 ***

22

- 1 EXPLANATION: Expenditures under the pilot program will continue, on a
- 2 cash basis, into SFY 2026. These amendments will allow the remaining
- 3 appropriations to carryforward into SFY 2026.

1 **Sec. E.100.1** 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. B.1100 as amended by
2 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 87, Sec. 40 is further amended to read:

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

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

7 (1) \$2,300,000 General Fund to create, implement, and oversee a
8 comprehensive statewide language access plan;

9 (2) \$15,000,000 General Fund to be used to offset the cost of denied
10 claims for ~~Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)~~ federal
11 reimbursement related to presidentially declared disasters in fiscal
12 years 2024 or 2025, or to fund unanticipated statewide costs related to
13 recovery efforts from declared disasters or administering programs
14 created by funds from the American Rescue Plan Act - Coronavirus
15 State Fiscal Recovery Fund, including the costs of related limited-
16 service positions, and contracting for programs and services..

17 (3) \$500,000 General Fund for community grants related to health
18 equity. These funds shall not be released until the recommendation and
19 report required by Sec. E.100.1 of this act, regarding the permanent
20 administrative location for the Office of Health Equity, is provided to
21 the committees of jurisdiction listed in Sec. E.100.1 of this act and the
22 positions in the Office of Health Equity created by this act are filled.

1 (4) \$30,000,000 General Fund to be used as ~~Federal Emergency~~
2 ~~Management Agency (FEMA) matching funds~~ non-federal share
3 related to disaster spending for costs incurred due to ~~the July 2023~~
4 ~~flooding event~~ federally declared disasters in state fiscal years 2024 and
5 2025.

6 ***

7 EXPLANATION: (a)(2) This language (as put forth in the Governor's Budget
8 Adjustment Act recommendation) expands the allowable uses of the original
9 appropriation to encompass claims denied by the federal government, not just
10 the Federal Emergency Management Agency, related to the July 2023 and
11 2024 floods. Allows the appropriation to be used by the Recovery Office for
12 statewide costs related to disasters and administrative costs associated with the
13 implementation of the American Rescue Plan Act inclusive of payroll and
14 contracts.

15 (a)(4) Expands the use of the appropriation as match for all federal funds, not
16 just Federal Emergency Management Agency, for all federally declared
17 disasters in fiscal years 2024 and 2025.

1 **Sec. E.312.1** 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. B.1100 as amended by
2 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 87, Sec. 40 is further amended to read:

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

5 ***

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

8 (1) \$4,595,448 Global Commitment Fund #20405 to the Division of
9 Substance Use Programs for a ~~two-year~~ pilot to expand the Blueprint for
10 Health Hub and Spoke program. Unexpended appropriations shall carry
11 forward into subsequent fiscal years and remain available for this
12 purpose;

13 ***

14 **EXPLANATION:** The pilot hub expansion program originally intended to be
15 funded for two years beginning July 1, 2023 launched May 1, 2024. Language
16 is needed to carry forward unexpended appropriations until funds are fully
17 expended.

1 Sec. XX 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 47 Sec. 38 is amended to read:

2 Sec. 38. RENTAL HOUSING REVOLVING LOAN PROGRAM

3 (a) Creation; administration. The Vermont Housing Finance Agency shall
4 design and implement a Rental Housing Revolving Loan Program and shall
5 create and administer a revolving loan fund to provide subsidized loans for
6 rental housing developments that serve middle-income households.

7 (b) Loans; eligibility; criteria.

8 * * *

9 (7) The Agency shall use one or more legal mechanisms to ensure that:

10 (A) a subsidized unit remains affordable to a household earning the
11 applicable percent of area median income for the longer of:

12 (i) seven years; or

13 (ii) full repayment of the loan plus three years; and

14 (B) during the affordability period determined pursuant to
15 subdivision (A) of this subdivision (7), the annual increase in rent for a
16 subsidized unit does not exceed three percent or an amount otherwise
17 authorized by the Agency.

18 **EXPLANATION: House General recommended language to increase program**
19 **flexibility for the Rental Housing Revolving Loan Program**

1 Sec. XX 32 V.S.A. § 308b is amended to read:

2 (a) There is created within the General Fund a Human Services Caseload
3 Reserve. Expenditures from the Reserve shall be subject to an appropriation
4 by the General Assembly or approval by the Emergency Board. Expenditures
5 from the Reserve shall be limited to Agency of Human Services caseload
6 related needs primarily in the Departments for Children and Families, of
7 Health, of Mental Health, of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living, of
8 Vermont Health Access, and settlement costs associated with managing the
9 Global Commitment waiver.

10 (b) The Secretary of Administration may transfer to the Human Services
11 Caseload Reserve any General Fund ~~carry forward~~ carryforward directly
12 attributable to Agency of Human Services caseload reductions and the
13 effective management of related federal receipts, with the exclusion of the
14 Department of Corrections.

15 * * *

16 (c) The Secretary of Administration shall transfer funds from the Human
17 Services Caseload Reserve to Child Care Contribution Special Fund
18 established in 32 V.S.A. § 10554 as necessary to maintain a balance that
19 appropriately supports the State's statutory obligations under the Child Care
20 Financial Assistance Program established in 33 V.S.A. §§ 3512 and 3513.

21 (d) The Human Services Caseload Reserve shall contain two ~~sub-accounts~~
22 subaccounts:

1

* * *

2

EXPLANATION: Technical corrections and language to ensure that Human

3

Services Caseload Reserve funds are made available to support CCFAP.

1 **Sec. 49.** 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.1100 is amended to read:

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

3 APPROPRIATIONS

4 * * *

5 (x) Vermont Housing and Conservation Board. In fiscal year 2025, funds

6 are appropriated for the following:

7 (1) \$2,800,000 General Fund to complete pilot projects identified

8 pursuant to 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 186.

9 **EXPLANATION: Appropriation to VHCB to support the third pilot of the**
10 **Developmentally Disabled Housing Initiative.**

1 Sec. XX DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS; FACILITY WORK
2 PROGRAMS; STRATEGIC PLAN

3 (a) Findings and intent.

4 (1) The General Assembly finds that a significant budget deficit has developed
5 within previously existing programs despite a wage structure that pays
6 incarcerated individuals in Vermont at rates ranging from \$0.25 to \$1.35 per
7 hour, significantly below the federal minimum wage.

8 (2) It is the intent of the General Assembly that all Department of
9 Corrections facility work programs operate in a manner that is fiscally
10 sustainable to the extent possible within current statutory limitations and
11 effective in preparing offenders for meaningful employment upon release.

12 (b) Strategic plan. On or before December 15, 2025, the Department of
13 Corrections shall, in consultation with the Department of Labor, submit a
14 strategic plan with proposed benchmarks for improvement to the House
15 Committees on Appropriations and on Corrections and Institutions, the Senate
16 Committees on Appropriations, on Institutions, and on Judiciary. The strategic
17 plan shall include:

18 (1) A business plan to improve program efficiency and self-
19 sustainability to ensure all facility work programs, including Vermont
20 Correctional Industries, vocational training programs, and other paid facility
21 duties, operate without recurring deficits;

22 (2) A comprehensive evaluation of the skills provided through facility
23 work programs to determine if those skills are transferable to employment

1 opportunities post-incarceration. The evaluation shall include consideration of
2 expanding technical training and certification opportunities that carry
3 recognized value in the labor market.

4 (3) An analysis of facility work programs to determine if each program
5 serves a sufficient portion of the incarcerated population to justify its
6 administration. The analysis shall also consider whether participants gain
7 meaningful and valuable work experiences.

8 (4) A review of wages paid to facility work program participants, the
9 implications of wage structures on program outcomes, and the appropriate use
10 of funds in relation to program objectives.

11 (c) In fiscal years 2025 and 2026, the Department of Corrections shall
12 submit timely reports to the to the House Committees on Appropriations and
13 on Corrections and Institutions, the Senate Committees on Appropriations, on
14 Institutions, and on Judiciary, or the Joint Fiscal Committee and the Joint
15 Legislative Justice Oversight Committee when the General Assembly is not in
16 session, on the development of facility work program deficits. The
17 Department shall include in these reports any financial or operational actions
18 taken to address deficits, increase oversight, and prevent future deficits.

19 **EXPLANATION: Report language relating to DOC facility work programs'**
20 **solvency and efficacy.**

1 Sec. XX MEDICAID PROVIDERS WITH STABILIZATION NEEDS;
2 GRANT ELIGIBILITY

3 (a) All Vermont Medicaid participating providers with demonstrated
4 stabilization needs and a plan to achieve sustainability shall be eligible to apply
5 for funds appropriated pursuant to Sec. B.1100(o)(4) of 2024 Acts and
6 Resolves No. 113, including substance use residential treatment facilities,
7 federally qualified health centers, residential mental health providers, and other
8 providers of health care and human services.

9 EXPLANATION: House Human Services and House Health Care
10 recommended language to make all Medicaid participating providers with
11 stabilization needs and sustainability plans eligible for grant funds appropriated
12 in TBD one-time appropriation (language TK).