

**FISCAL YEAR 2025 BUDGET ADJUSTMENT ACT
HOUSE AND SENATE
LANGUAGE COMPARISON**

Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
<p><i>Increases GA Emergency Housing appropriation over Gov. Rec. by ~\$1.8 million. Appropriates \$10 million for provider stabilization grants, \$11 million for Brattleboro Retreat payment, \$8.6 million to VHCB, and \$2.8 million for developmentally disabled housing. Strikes \$4 million for provider stabilization grants (covered by aforementioned \$10 million added, per Administration request) and \$14 million for Treasurer bond redemption.</i></p> <p>Sec. 50. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.1100 is amended to read: Sec. B.1100 MISCELLANEOUS FISCAL YEAR 2025 ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(d) Department of Health. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(8) \$835,073 \$835,073 General Fund for the Bridges to Health Program; and</p> <p>(9) \$400,000 \$550,000 General Fund for the Vermont Household Health Insurance Survey; and</p> <p>(10) \$500,000 \$500,000 General Fund for community grants related to health equity; and</p> <p>(11) \$4,000,000 General Fund for contingent sustainability grants to mental health and substance use residential treatment facilities.</p> <p>(e) Department for Children and Families. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:</p> <p>(1) \$16,500,000 \$18,340,304 General Fund for the General Assistance Emergency Housing program;</p> <p>(2) \$1,034,065 \$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</p> <p>(3) \$332,000 \$332,000 General Fund for a 2-1-1 service line contract to operate 24 hours seven days per week;</p> <p>(4) \$340,000 \$340,000 General Fund and \$660,000 \$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</p> <p>(5) \$1,800,000 \$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.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p>	51	<p><i>Appropriates \$1.8 million for local economic damage grants. Technical correction to VHCB language.</i></p> <p>(v) Agency of Administration. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:</p> <p>(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</p> <p><u>\$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.</u></p> <p><u>(A) The funds appropriated in this subdivision (v)(1) for local economic damage grants shall be distributed as follows:</u></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;"><u>(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.</u></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;"><u>(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.</u></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;"><u>(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.</u></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;"><u>(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.</u></p>

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<p>(n) Agency of Human Services Secretary’s Office. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:</p> <p>(1) \$3,913,200 <u>\$5,586,324</u> General Fund and \$5,366,383 <u>\$7,713,259</u> 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.</p> <p>(o) Department of Vermont Health Access. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:</p> <p>(1) \$9,279,583 <u>\$13,299,583</u> Global Commitment for the Medicaid Global Payment Program;</p> <p>(2) \$150,000 General Fund to conduct a technical analysis of Vermont’s health insurance markets; and</p> <p>(3) \$100,000 General Fund to implement the expansion of Medicare Savings Programs eligibility;</p> <p><u>(4) \$10,000,000 General Fund for Provider Stabilization Grants; and</u></p> <p><u>(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.</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p><u>(w) Vermont Housing and Conservation Board. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:</u></p> <p><u>(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</u></p>		<p><u>(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.</u></p> <p><u>(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.</u></p> <p><u>(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.</u></p>

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<p><u>residences, and housing available to farm workers, refugees, and individuals who are eligible to receive Medicaid-funded home and community based services; and</u> <u>(2) \$2,800,000 General Fund to complete pilot projects identified pursuant to 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 186.</u> <u>State Treasurer's Office. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:</u> <u>(1) \$14,000,000 General Fund is appropriated to existing one-time Dept ID 1260892201 — TRE Bond Redemption per the August 8, 2024 Emergency Board directive.</u></p>		
<p>Updates PTT allocation.</p> <p>Sec. 51. 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 <u>\$28,238,050</u> 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 <u>\$28,238,050</u> 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.</p>	52	<p>Further updates PTT allocation, per Administration's technical letter.</p> <p>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 <u>\$28,238,050</u> 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 <u>\$28,238,050</u> 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.</p>

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<p>(3) Notwithstanding 24 V.S.A. § 4306(a), amounts in excess of \$7,772,373 <u>\$9,052,113</u> from the property transfer tax deposited into the Municipal and Regional Planning Fund shall be transferred into the General Fund. The \$7,772,373 <u>\$9,052,113</u> shall be allocated as follows:</p> <p>(A) \$6,404,540 <u>\$7,459,063</u> for disbursement to regional planning commissions in a manner consistent with 24 V.S.A. § 4306(b);</p> <p>(B) \$931,773 <u>\$1,085,192</u> for disbursement to municipalities in a manner consistent with 24 V.S.A. § 4306(b); and</p> <p>(C) \$436,060 <u>\$507,858</u> to the Agency of Digital Services for the Vermont Center for Geographic Information.</p>		<p>(3) Notwithstanding 24 V.S.A. § 4306(a), amounts in excess of \$7,772,373 <u>\$9,052,113</u> from the property transfer tax deposited into the Municipal and Regional Planning Fund shall be transferred into the General Fund. The \$7,772,373 <u>\$9,052,113</u> shall be allocated as follows:</p> <p>(A) \$6,404,540 <u>\$7,300,358</u> for disbursement to regional planning commissions in a manner consistent with 24 V.S.A. § 4306(b);</p> <p>(B) \$931,773 <u>\$1,187,721</u> for disbursement to municipalities in a manner consistent with 24 V.S.A. § 4306(b); and</p> <p>(C) \$436,060 <u>\$564,034</u> to the Agency of Digital Services for the Vermont Center for Geographic Information.</p>
<p><i>Added transfer to the State Liability Self-Insurance Fund (from FY26 Gov. Rec.)</i> Sec. 52. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. D.101 is amended to read: Sec. D.101 FUND TRANSFERS</p> <p>(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the following amounts are transferred from the funds indicated:</p> <p>(1) From the General Fund to the:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p><u>(O) State Liability Self-Insurance Fund (#56200): \$3,000,000.</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p>	53	<p><i>Adds transfer to the Emergency Personnel Survivors Benefit Fund. Expands ERAF eligibility to 2024 disasters.</i></p> <p>(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the following amounts are transferred from the funds indicated:</p> <p>(1) From the General Fund to the:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>(P) Emergency Personnel Survivor’s Benefit Fund (#21884): \$220,000.</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(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 <u>years</u> 2025 <u>and 2026</u>, 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 <u>the August and December 2023 and 2024</u> 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 <u>DR-4744-VT and DR-4762-VT, DR-4810-VT, DR-4816-VT, and DR-4826-VT</u> may be advanced at the request of a municipality.</p> <p>(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 <u>the August and December 2023 and 2024</u> flooding events and are eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency Public Assistance funds under federal disaster</p>

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<p>Adds VHFA reversion. Sec. 53. 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:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p><u>1100892208 AOA – VT Housing Finance Agency</u> <u>\$3,000,000.00</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p>	<p>54</p>	<p>declarations DR-4744-VT and DR-4762-VT, DR-4810-VT, DR-4816-VT, and DR-4826-VT.</p> <p>Adds Treasurer reversion. (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:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p><u>1260892201 TRE – Bond Redemption</u> <u>\$6,000,000</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p>
<p>No change from Gov. Rec.</p>	<p>55</p>	<p>HOUSE SEC. 54. Strikes closeout language. 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.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(D) Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 308c(a), any fiscal year-end balance otherwise subject to the requirements of this provision shall, instead, be reserved for permanent housing, property tax relief, and any other uses determined to be in the best interests of the public in the subsequent fiscal year. The requirements of this subdivision (D) shall extend past July 1 of the subsequent fiscal year and expire upon completion of the current fiscal year’s accounting closure period.</p>
<p>Adds one position. Sec. 55. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. E.100 is amended to read: Sec. E.100 POSITIONS (a) The establishment of 43 <u>44</u> permanent positions is authorized in fiscal year 2025 for the following: (1) Permanent classified positions:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(H) Office of the Attorney General. <u>(i) one Court Diversion Assistant Director.</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p>	<p>56</p>	<p>Adds three positions. Sec. E.100 POSITIONS (a) The establishment of 43 <u>47</u> permanent positions is authorized in fiscal year 2025 for the following:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(2) Permanent exempt positions:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(G) Human Rights Commission: (i) one Intake Specialist; and (ii) one Staff Attorney Investigator. <u>(H) Office of the Attorney General:</u></p>

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		<p style="text-align: center;"><u>(i) one Assistant Attorney General.</u> * * *</p>
<p>N/A</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">57</p>	<p><i>Senate added section. Amends position titles.</i></p> <p>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:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Sec. E.100 EXECUTIVE BRANCH POSITIONS</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a) The establishment of 75 permanent positions is authorized in fiscal year 2024 for the following:</p> <p style="text-align: right; padding-right: 40px;">* * *</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(2) Permanent exempt positions:</p> <p style="text-align: right; padding-right: 40px;">* * *</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(F) Office of the State Treasurer:</p> <p style="padding-left: 80px;">(i) one Director – VT Saves <u>Economic Empowerment Division</u>; and</p> <p style="padding-left: 80px;">(ii) one Communications and Outreach Manager – VT Saves <u>Economic Empowerment Division</u>;</p> <p style="text-align: right; padding-right: 40px;">* * *</p>
<p><i>No change from Gov. Rec.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">58</p>	<p><i>HOUSE SEC. 56. No change.</i></p>
<p><i>No change from Gov. Rec.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">59</p>	<p><i>HOUSE SEC. 57. No change.</i></p>
<p><i>No change from Gov. Rec.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">60</p>	<p><i>HOUSE SEC. 58. No change.</i></p>
<p><i>No change from Gov. Rec.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">61</p>	<p><i>HOUSE SEC. 59. No change.</i></p>
<p><i>No change from Gov. Rec.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">62</p>	<p><i>HOUSE SEC. 60. No change.</i></p>
<p><i>No change from Gov. Rec.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">63</p>	<p><i>HOUSE SEC. 61. No change.</i></p>
<p><i>No change from Gov. Rec.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">64</p>	<p><i>HOUSE SEC. 62. No change.</i></p>
<p><i>No change from Gov. Rec.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">65</p>	<p><i>HOUSE SEC. 63. No change.</i></p>
<p><i>No change from Gov. Rec.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">66</p>	<p><i>HOUSE SEC. 64. Technical correction to section title.</i></p>
<p><i>No change from Gov. Rec.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">67</p>	<p><i>HOUSE SEC. 65. No change.</i></p>
<p><i>Amends Hub and Spoke pilot appropriations and Judiciary appropriation.</i></p> <p>Sec. 66. 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:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Sec. B.1100 MISCELLANEOUS FISCAL YEAR 2024 ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">68</p>	<p><i>Technical changes to Hub and Spoke pilot appropriations per DVHA. Amends JFO appropriation.</i></p> <p>(l) Agency of Human Services Central Office. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:</p> <p style="text-align: right; padding-right: 40px;">* * *</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(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</p>

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<p>(a) Agency of Administration. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:</p> <p>(1) \$2,300,000 General Fund to create, implement, and oversee a comprehensive statewide language access plan;</p> <p>(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 years 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 - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund, including the costs of related limited-service positions, and contracting for programs and services.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(l) Agency of Human Services Central Office. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(2) \$8,834,000 General Fund and \$11,483,302 Federal Revenue Fund #22005 for a two <u>three</u>-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;</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(m) Department of Vermont Health Access. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:</p> <p>(1) \$366,066 General Fund and \$372,048 Federal Revenue Fund #22005 for a two <u>three</u>-year pilot to expand the Blueprint for Health Hub and Spoke program and;</p> <p>(2) \$15,583,352 Global Commitment Fund #20405 for a two <u>three</u>-year pilot to expand the Blueprint for Health Hub and Spoke program; and</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(n) Department of Health. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:</p> <p>(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.</p>		<p>used to expand the substances covered by the program, include mental health and pediatric screenings, and make strategic investments with community partners; <u>unexpended appropriations shall carry forward into subsequent fiscal years and remain available for this purpose;</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(m) Department of Vermont Health Access. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:</p> <p>(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; <u>unexpended appropriations shall carry forward into subsequent fiscal years and remain available for this purpose;</u></p> <p>(2) \$15,583,352 Global Commitment Fund #20405 for a two-year pilot to expand the Blueprint for Health Hub and Spoke program; <u>unexpended appropriations shall carry forward into subsequent fiscal years and remain available for this purpose;</u> and</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(n) Department of Health. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:</p> <p>(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; <u>unexpended appropriations shall carry forward into subsequent fiscal years and remain available for this purpose;</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(x) Judiciary. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:</p> <p>(1)(A) \$4,680,000 General Fund for the Judiciary network replacement project.</p> <p>(B) Judiciary shall update the Joint Information Technology Oversight Committee on the status of this project on or before December 1, 2023.</p> <p>(2) \$300,000 General Fund for the Essex County Courthouse renovation planning. <u>Of this amount, \$50,000 may be used to construct bathrooms compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act in the Essex Meeting House.</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(ee) Joint Fiscal Office. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:</p> <p>(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 <u>consulting services related to legislative needs identified in the 2025–2026 biennium, including analysis of legislative staff compensation</u></p>

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<p><u>Unexpended appropriations shall carry forward into subsequent fiscal years and remain available for this purpose;</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(x) Judiciary. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:</p> <p>(1)(A) \$4,680,000 General Fund to the Judiciary for the Judiciary network replacement project.</p> <p>(1)(B) Judiciary shall update the Joint Information Technology Oversight Committee on the status of this project on or before December 1, 2023.</p> <p>(2) \$300,000 General Fund for the Essex County Courthouse renovation planning. <u>Of this amount, \$50,000 may be used to construct bathrooms compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act in the Essex Meeting House.</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p>		<p><u>and organizational structure and implementation of adjustments in accordance with policies adopted by the Joint Legislative Management Committee.</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p>
<i>No change from Gov. Rec.</i>	69	HOUSE SEC. 67. No change.
<i>No change from Gov. Rec.</i>	70	HOUSE SEC. 68. No change.
<i>No change from Gov. Rec.</i>	71	HOUSE SEC. 69. No change.
<i>No change from Gov. Rec.</i>	72	HOUSE SEC. 70. No change.
<i>No change from Gov. Rec.</i>	73	HOUSE SEC. 71. No change.
<i>No change from Gov. Rec.</i>	74	HOUSE SEC. 72. No change.
<i>No change from Gov. Rec.</i>	75	HOUSE SEC. 73. No change.
<i>No change from Gov. Rec.</i>	76	HOUSE SEC. 74. No change.
<i>No change from Gov. Rec.</i>	77	HOUSE SEC. 75. No change.
<p>Added “underwriter’s fees” per Treasurer.</p> <p>Sec. 76. 32 V.S.A. § 954 is amended to read:</p> <p>§ 954. PROCEEDS</p> <p>(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 <u>may</u> be considered to include the expenses of preparing, issuing, and marketing the bonds and any notes issued under section 955 of this title, and <u>underwriters’ fees</u> 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</p>	78	<p>Technical correction adding “and” after “underwriter’s fees.”</p> <p>§ 954. PROCEEDS</p> <p>(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 <u>may</u> be considered to include the expenses of preparing, issuing, and marketing the bonds and any notes issued under section 955 of this title, and <u>underwriters’ fees and</u> amounts for reserves, but no purchasers of the bonds shall be in any way bound to see to the proper application of the proceeds.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p>

Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
<p>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.</p> <p>(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.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p>		
<p><i>No change from Gov. Rec.</i></p>	<p>79</p>	<p><i>HOUSE SEC. 77. No change.</i></p>
<p><i>House added language providing VHFA with increased flexibility for determining appropriate annual rent increases for developments seeking funds through its revolving loan program.</i></p> <p>Sec. 78 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 47, Sec. 38 is amended to read: Sec. 38. RENTAL HOUSING REVOLVING LOAN PROGRAM</p> <p>(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.</p> <p>(b) Loans; eligibility; criteria.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(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</p>	<p>80</p>	<p><i>No change.</i></p>

Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
<p>(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.</p>		
<p><i>House added language including technical corrections to Human Services Caseload Reserve statute and directive language for the Secretary of Administration to utilize the Reserve to make a transfer to the Child Care Contribution Special Fund if necessary.</i></p> <p>Sec. 79. 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.</p> <p>(b) The Secretary of Administration may transfer to the Human Services Caseload Reserve any General Fund carry-forward <u>carryforward</u> 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.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(c) <u>The Secretary of Administration shall unreserve and transfer funds from the Human Services Caseload Reserve to 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.</u></p> <p>(d) <u>The Human Services Caseload Reserve shall contain two sub-accounts subaccounts:</u> (1) A sub-account <u>subaccount</u> for incurred but not reported Medicaid expenses. Each <u>fiscal year</u> beginning with fiscal year 2020, the Department of Finance and Management shall adjust the amount reserved for incurred but not reported Medicaid</p>	<p>81</p>	<p><i>Strikes directive language.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(e) The Secretary of Administration shall unreserve and transfer funds from the Human Services Caseload Reserve to 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.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p>

Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
<p>expenses to equal the amount specified in the Comprehensive Annual <u>Comprehensive</u> 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.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p>		
<p><i>House added language expressing legislative intent to maintain any unallocated and unreserved balance in the Child Care Contribution Special Fund in the Fund.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sec. 80. CHILD CARE CONTRIBUTION SPECIAL FUND; UNALLOCATED AND UNRESERVED BALANCE</p> <p><u>(a) 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.</u></p>	82	<p><i>Adds language from House Sec. 80 – modified to be limited to fiscal year 2025.</i></p> <p><u>(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.</u></p> <p><u>(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.</u></p>
<p><i>House added language relating to Department of Corrections facility work programs’ sustainability and efficacy.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sec. 81. DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS; FACILITY WORK PROGRAMS; STRATEGIC PLAN</p> <p><u>(a) Findings and intent.</u></p> <p><u>(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.</u></p> <p><u>(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.</u></p> <p><u>(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, the Senate Committees on Appropriations, on Institutions, and on Judiciary. The strategic plan shall include:</u></p> <p><u>(1) A business plan to improve program efficiency and self-sustainability to ensure all facility work programs, including Vermont Correctional Industries,</u></p>	83	<p><i>Adds language to include identifying alternative funding sources to required business plan.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p><u>(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:</u></p> <p><u>(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.</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p>

Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
<p><u>vocational training programs, and other paid facility duties, operate without recurring deficits;</u></p> <p><u>(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.</u></p> <p><u>(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.</u></p> <p><u>(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.</u></p> <p><u>(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, 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.</u></p>		
<p><i>House added language outlining provider stabilization grant eligibility.</i></p> <p>Sec. 82. MEDICAID PROVIDERS WITH STABILIZATION NEEDS; GRANT ELIGIBILITY</p> <p><u>(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 Sec. B.1100(o)(4) of 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, including substance use residential treatment facilities, federally qualified health centers, residential mental health providers, and other providers of health care and human services.</u></p>	<p>84</p>	<p><i>Adds reporting language.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p><u>(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:</u></p> <p><u>(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.</u></p> <p><u>(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.</u></p>

Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
		<p><u>(3) An analysis of grant outcomes and any recommendations for enhancing the financial stability of Vermont Medicaid providers.</u> * * *</p>
<p><i>House added language to ensure students that were in the repealed High School Completion Program are able to obtain diplomas they are eligible to receive.</i></p> <p>Sec. 83. ADULT DIPLOMA PROGRAM AND HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION PROGRAM TRANSITIONAL STUDENTS <u>(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:</u> <u>(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.</u> <u>(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.</u> <u>(b) This section is repealed on July 1, 2025.</u></p>	<p>84a</p>	<p><i>No change.</i></p>
<p><i>House added language directing the Department for Children and Families to maximize utilization of SNAP discretionary exemptions.</i></p> <p>Sec. 84. SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM; DISCRETIONARY EXEMPTIONS <u>(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.</u></p>	<p>85</p>	<p><i>No change.</i></p>
<p><i>House added language repealing sunset of marriage license fee increase.</i></p> <p>Sec. 85. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 19, Secs. 5 and 6 are amended to read: Sec. 5 [Deleted] Sec. 6 EFFECTIVE DATES <u>(a) Sec. 4 (marriage licenses; 32 V.S.A. § 1712) shall take effect on July 1, 2023.</u></p>	<p>86</p>	<p><i>No change.</i></p>

Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
<p>(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.</p>		
<p><i>House added language amending use of Judiciary appropriation.</i></p> <p>Sec. 86. 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:</p> <p>Sec. 53. FISCAL YEAR 2022 UNALLOCATED RESERVE * * *</p> <p>(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:</p> <p>* * *</p> <p>(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 <u>\$4,920,000</u> is to replace HVAC in county court houses, <u>and \$800,000 is to upgrade the network wiring and security systems in county court houses.</u></p> <p>* * *</p>	<p>87</p>	<p><i>No change.</i></p>
<p><i>House added language amending use of Sergeant at Arms appropriation.</i></p> <p>Sec. 87. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 15b is amended to read:</p> <p>Sec. 15b. SERGEANT AT ARMS</p> <p>The sum of \$100,000:00 is appropriated in FY <u>fiscal year</u> 2025 to the Sergeant at Arms for the <u>following projects:</u></p> <p><u>(1) the replacement of State House cafeteria furnishings; and</u> <u>(2) the purchase and installation at the State House of an X-ray machine designed to screen baggage.</u></p>	<p>88</p>	<p><i>No change.</i></p>
<p><i>House added language eliminating room cap and extending winter weather guidelines for General Assistance Emergency Housing through remainder of fiscal year 2025.</i></p> <p>Sec. 88. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. E.321 is amended to read:</p> <p>Sec. E.321 GENERAL ASSISTANCE EMERGENCY HOUSING * * *</p>	<p>89</p>	<p><i>No change.</i></p>

Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
<p>(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.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(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, <u>June 30,</u> 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.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p>		
<p>N/A</p>	<p>90</p>	<p><i>Senate added language relating to property tax hold harmless payments to flood-impacted municipalities that abated taxes.</i></p> <p>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:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sec. 1. REIMBURSEMENT TO MUNICIPALITIES OF STATE EDUCATION PROPERTY TAXES THAT WERE ABATED DUE TO FLOODING</p> <p>(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 <u>2025</u>, 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.</p> <p>(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</p>

Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
		<p><u>December 31, 2024</u>, provided the loss or destruction resulted in one or more of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (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. <p>(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 <u>December 31, 2024</u>, 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.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p>
<p><i>N/A</i></p>	<p>91</p>	<p><i>Senate added language aligning 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113 Sec. E.106 with VHCB appropriation language added to Sec. B.1100 of that act by the House and amended for technical corrections by the Senate (changes commas to semicolons since the Senate did that to language in another section that uses the same construct).</i></p> <p>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</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(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</p>

Language from House	Senate Bill Section	Language from Senate
		<p>established pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 511 for the following purposes in the following order:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(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.</p>
<i>No change from Gov. Rec.</i>	92	<i>HOUSE SEC. 89. No change.</i>
<i>No change from Gov. Rec.</i>	93	<i>HOUSE SEC. 90. Updates effective dates to reflect Senate Sec. 90 (property tax abatement) is effective retroactively on November 15, 2024.</i>