

1 H.882

2 An act relating to capital construction and State bonding budget adjustment

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

4 \* \* \* Legislative Intent \* \* \*

5 Sec. 1. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 1 is amended to read:

6 Sec. 1. LEGISLATIVE INTENT

7 (a) It is the intent of the General Assembly that of the ~~\$122,767,376.00~~  
8 \$130,606,224.00 authorized in this act, not more than ~~\$56,520,325.00~~  
9 \$56,245,325.00 shall be appropriated in the first year of the biennium, and the  
10 remainder shall be appropriated in the second year.

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

16 \* \* \* Capital Appropriations \* \* \*

17 Sec. 2. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 2 is amended to read:

18 Sec. 2. STATE BUILDINGS

19 \* \* \*

20 (b) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2024:

21 \* \* \*

22 (7) ~~Montpelier, State House, replacement of historic finishes:~~

1 \$50,000.00

2 \* \* \*

3 (c) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2025:

4 (1) Statewide, major maintenance: ~~\$8,500,000.00~~ \$8,501,999.00

5 \* \* \*

6 (3) Statewide, planning, reuse, and contingency:

7 ~~\$425,000.00~~ \$455,000.00

8 (4) Middlesex, Middlesex Therapeutic Community Residence, master

9 plan, design, and decommissioning: ~~\$400,000.00~~ \$50,000.00

10 (5) ~~Montpelier, State House, replacement of historic finishes:~~

11 ~~\$50,000.00~~ [Repealed.]

12 \* \* \*

13 (11) Statewide, R22 refrigerant phase out:

14 ~~\$1,000,000.00~~ \$750,000.00

15 (12) Statewide, Art in State Buildings Program: \$75,000.00

16 (13) St. Albans, Northwest State Correctional Facility, roof replacement:

17 \$400,000.00

18 (14) Windsor, former Southeast State Correctional Facility, evaluation

19 of potential future State use and potential to deactivate or winterize buildings:

20 \$100,000.00

21 \* \* \*

1	Appropriation – FY 2024	<del>\$23,126,244.00</del>	<u>\$23,076,244.00</u>
2	Appropriation – FY 2025	<del>\$25,275,000.00</del>	<u>\$25,231,999.00</u>
3	Total Appropriation – Section 2	<del>\$48,401,244.00</del>	<u>\$48,308,243.00</u>

4 Sec. 3. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 3 is amended to read:

5 Sec. 3. HUMAN SERVICES

6 \* \* \*

7 (b) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2025 to the Department of  
8 Buildings and General Services for the Agency of Human Services for the  
9 following projects described in this subsection:

10 (1) Northwest State Correctional Facility, booking expansion, planning,  
11 design, and construction: ~~\$2,500,000.00~~ \$2,600,000.00

12 \* \* \*

13 (3) Statewide, correctional facilities, HVAC systems, planning, design,  
14 and construction for upgrades and replacements:

15 ~~\$700,000.00~~ \$5,150,000.00

16 (4) Statewide, correctional facilities, accessibility upgrades:  
17 \$822,000.00

18 (5) South Burlington, justice-involved men, feasibility study for reentry  
19 facility: \$125,000.00

20 (6) Essex; River Valley Therapeutic Residence; facility requirements  
21 review and construction of improvements: \$50,000.00

1		* * *	
2	Appropriation – FY 2024		\$1,800,000.00
3	Appropriation – FY 2025	<del>\$16,200,000.00</del>	<u>\$21,747,000.00</u>
4	Total Appropriation – Section 3	<del>\$18,000,000.00</del>	<u>\$23,547,000.00</u>

5 Sec. 4. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 4 is amended to read:

6 Sec. 4. COMMERCE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

7 \* \* \*

8 (b) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2025 to the Agency of  
9 Commerce and Community Development for the following projects described  
10 in this subsection:

11 (1) Major maintenance at statewide historic sites:

12 ~~\$500,000.00~~ \$700,000.00

13 \* \* \*

14 Appropriation – FY 2024 \$596,000.00

15 Appropriation – FY 2025 ~~\$596,000.00~~ \$796,000.00

16 Total Appropriation – Section 4 ~~\$1,192,000.00~~ \$1,392,000.00

17 Sec. 5. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 9 is amended to read:

18 Sec. 9. NATURAL RESOURCES

19 (a) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2024 to the Agency of  
20 Natural Resources for the Department of Environmental Conservation for the  
21 projects described in this subsection:

1 \* \* \*

2 (2) Dam safety and hydrology projects: \$500,000.00 \$275,000.00

3 \* \* \*

4 (f) The following amounts are appropriated in FY 2025 to the Agency of  
5 Natural Resources for the Department of Fish and Wildlife for the projects  
6 described in this subsection:

7 (1) General infrastructure projects, including small-scale maintenance  
8 and rehabilitation of infrastructure, and improvements to buildings, including  
9 conservation camps:

10 \$1,344,150.00 \$2,114,000.00

11 \* \* \*

12 Appropriation – FY 2024 \$6,997,081.00 \$6,772,081.00

13 Appropriation – FY 2025 \$7,497,051.00 \$8,266,901.00

14 Total Appropriation – Section 9 \$14,494,132.00 \$15,038,982.00

15 Sec. 6. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 10 is amended to read:

16 Sec. 10. CLEAN WATER INITIATIVES

17 \* \* \*

18 (e) ~~The sum of \$6,000,000.00 is appropriated in FY 2025 to the Agency of~~  
19 ~~Natural Resources for the Department of Environmental Conservation for~~  
20 ~~clean water implementation projects. [Repealed.]~~

21 \* \* \*

1       (g) The sum of \$550,000.00 is appropriated in FY 2025 to the Agency of  
2       Agriculture, Food and Markets for water quality grants and contracts.

3       (h) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2025 to the Agency of  
4       Natural Resources for the following projects:

5               (1) the Clean Water State/EPA Revolving Loan Fund (CWSRF) match  
6       for the Water Pollution Control Fund:                               \$1,600,000.00

7               (2) municipal pollution control grants:                               \$3,300,000.00

8       (i) The sum of \$550,000.00 is appropriated in FY 2025 to the Agency of  
9       Natural Resources for the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation for  
10       forestry access roads, recreation access roads, and water quality improvements.

11       (j) In FY 2024 and FY 2025, any agency that receives funding from this  
12       section shall consult with the State Treasurer to ensure that the projects are  
13       capital eligible.

14       Appropriation – FY 2024   \$9,885,000.00

15       Appropriation – FY 2025   \$6,000,000.00

16       Total Appropriation – Section 10   \$15,885,000.00

17       Sec. 7. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 15a is added to read:

18               Sec. 15a. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

19               The sum of \$1,540,000.00 is appropriated in FY 2025 to the Department of  
20       Buildings and General Services for the Department of Labor for upgrades of

1 mechanical systems and HVAC, life safety needs, and minor interior  
2 renovations at 5 Green Mountain Drive in Montpelier.

3 Sec. 8. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 15b is added to read:

4 Sec. 15b. SERGEANT AT ARMS

5 The sum of \$100,000.00 is appropriated in FY 2025 to the Sergeant at Arms  
6 for the replacement of State House cafeteria furnishings.

7 \* \* \* Funding \* \* \*

8 Sec. 9. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 16 is amended to read:

9 Sec. 16. REALLOCATION OF FUNDS; TRANSFER OF FUNDS

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

13 \* \* \*

14 (5) of the amount appropriated in 2015 Acts and Resolves No. 26, Sec.

15 2(b) (various projects): ~~\$65,463.17~~ \$147,206.37

16 \* \* \*

17 (7) of the amount appropriated in 2016 Acts and Resolves No. 160,

18 Sec. 1(c)(5) (major maintenance): ~~\$93,549.00~~ \$116,671.15

19 \* \* \*

20 (10) of the amount appropriated in 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84,

21 Sec. 2(c) (various projects): ~~\$24,363.06~~ \$476,725.66

1 \* \* \*

2 (13) of the amount appropriated in 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 42,  
3 Sec. 2(b)(3) (major maintenance): ~~\$32,780.00~~ \$439,889.66

4 \* \* \*

5 (17) of the amount appropriated in 2012 Acts and Resolves No. 40,  
6 Sec. 2(b)(4) (Statewide, major maintenance): \$9,606.45

7 (18) of the amount appropriated in 2013 Acts and Resolves No. 51, Sec.  
8 2(b)(4) (Statewide, major maintenance): \$7,207.90

9 (19) of the amount appropriated in 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec.  
10 2(b)(5) (Montpelier, State House, Dome, Drum, and Ceres, design, permitting,  
11 construction, restoration, renovation, and lighting):  
12 \$38,525.00

13 (20) of the amount appropriated in 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84,  
14 Sec. 11(b)(4) (municipal pollution control grants, pollution control projects  
15 and planning advances for feasibility studies, new projects):  
16 \$4,498.17

17 (21) of the amount appropriated in 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84,  
18 Sec. 11(f)(2) (EcoSystem restoration and protection): \$4,298.22

19 (22) of the amount appropriated in 2018 Acts and Resolves No. 190,  
20 Sec. 8(m) (Downtown Transportation Fund pilot project): \$9,150.00



1 (23) of the amount appropriated in 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 42,  
2 Sec. 2(b)(9) (Newport, Northeast State Correctional Facility, direct digital  
3 HVAC control system replacement): \$26,951.52

4 (24) of the amount appropriated in 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 50,  
5 Sec. 2(b)(20), as added by 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 180, Sec. 2 (Windsor,  
6 former Southeast State Correctional Facility, necessary demolition, salvage,  
7 dismantling, and improvements to facilitate future use of the facility):  
8 \$378,180.00

9 \* \* \*

10 (h) From prior year bond issuance cost estimates allocated to the entities  
11 to which funds were appropriated and for which bonding was required as the  
12 source of funds, pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 954, \$1,148,251.79 is reallocated to  
13 defray expenditures authorized by this act.

14 Total Reallocations and Transfers – Section 16  
15 ~~\$14,767,376.32~~ \$17,358,383.85

16 Sec. 10. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 17 is amended to read:

17 Sec. 17. GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS AND APPROPRIATIONS

18 (a) The State Treasurer is authorized to issue general obligation bonds in  
19 the amount of \$108,000,000.00 for the purpose of funding the appropriations  
20 made in Secs. 2–15b of this act. The State Treasurer, with the approval of the  
21 Governor, shall determine the appropriate form and maturity of the bonds

1 authorized by this section consistent with the underlying nature of the  
2 appropriation to be funded. ~~The State Treasurer shall allocate the estimated~~  
3 ~~cost of bond issuance or issuances to the entities to which funds are~~  
4 ~~appropriated pursuant to this section and for which bonding is required as the~~  
5 ~~source of funds, pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 954.~~

6 (b) The State Treasurer is authorized to issue additional general obligation  
7 bonds in the amount of \$5,247,838.90 that were previously appropriated but  
8 unissued under 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69 for the purposes of funding the  
9 appropriations in this act.

10 Total Revenues – Section 17                      \$108,000,000.00 \$113,247,838.90

11 Sec. 11. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 18 is amended to read:

12        Sec. 18. FY 2024 AND 2025; CAPITAL PROJECTS; FY 2024

13                      APPROPRIATIONS ACT; INTENT; AUTHORIZATIONS

14                                      \* \* \*

15        (c) Authorizations. In FY 2024, spending authority for the following  
16 capital projects are authorized as follows:

17                                      \* \* \*

18        (7) ~~the Department of Buildings and General Services is authorized to~~  
19 ~~spend \$600,000.00 for planning for the boiler replacement at the Northern~~  
20 ~~State Correctional Facility in Newport; [Repealed.]~~

21                                      \* \* \*

1           (9) ~~the Department of Buildings and General Services is authorized to~~  
2 ~~spend \$600,000.00 for the Agency of Human Services for the planning and~~  
3 ~~design of the booking expansion at the Northwest State Correctional Facility;~~  
4 [Repealed.]

5           (10) the Department of Buildings and General Services is authorized to  
6 spend ~~\$1,000,000.00~~ \$750,000.00 for the Agency of Human Services for the  
7 planning and design of the Department for Children and Families' short-term  
8 stabilization facility;

9           (11) the Department of Buildings and General Services is authorized to  
10 spend \$750,000.00 for the Judiciary for design, renovations, and land  
11 acquisition at the Washington County Superior Courthouse in Barre;

12   \* \* \*

13           (16) the Vermont State Colleges is authorized to spend ~~\$7,500,000.00~~  
14 \$6,500,000.00 for construction, renovation, and major maintenance at any  
15 facility owned or operated in the State by the Vermont State Colleges;  
16 infrastructure transformation planning; and the planning, design, and  
17 construction of Green Hall and Vail Hall;

18   \* \* \*

19           (19) the Agency of Natural Resources is authorized to spend  
20 \$4,000,000.00 for the Department of Environmental Conservation for the

1 Municipal Pollution Control Grants for pollution control projects and planning  
2 advances for feasibility studies; and

3 (20) the Agency of Natural Resources is authorized to spend  
4 \$3,000,000.00 for the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation for the  
5 maintenance facilities at the Gifford Woods State Park and Groton Forest  
6 State Park; ~~and.~~

7 (21) ~~the Agency of Natural Resources is authorized to spend~~  
8 ~~\$800,000.00 for the Department of Fish and Wildlife for infrastructure~~  
9 ~~maintenance and improvements of the Department's buildings, including~~  
10 ~~conservation camps. [Repealed.]~~

11 (d) FY 2025 ~~capital projects~~ authorizations. ~~To the extent general funds~~  
12 ~~are available to appropriate to the Fund established in 32 V.S.A. § 1001b in FY~~  
13 ~~2025, it is the intent of the General Assembly that the following capital~~  
14 ~~projects receive funding from the Fund~~ In FY 2025, spending authority for the  
15 following capital projects are authorized as follows:

16 (1) the sum of ~~\$250,000.00~~ \$220,000.00 to the Department of Buildings  
17 and General Services for planning, reuse, and contingency;

18 \* \* \*

19 (3) the sum of ~~\$2,000,000.00~~ \$1,500,000.00 to the Department of  
20 Buildings and General Services for the renovation of the interior HVAC steam  
21 lines at 120 State Street in Montpelier;

1           (4) the sum of ~~\$1,000,000.00~~ \$850,000.00 to the Department of  
2           Buildings and General Services for the Judiciary for design, renovations, and  
3           land acquisition at the Washington County Superior Courthouse in Barre;

4           (5) the sum of ~~\$1,000,000.00~~ \$850,000.00 to the Department of  
5           Buildings and General Services for the Department of Public Safety for the  
6           planning and design of the Special Teams Facility and Storage;

7           (6) the sum of ~~\$1,000,000.00~~ \$850,000.00 to the Department of  
8           Buildings and General Services for the Department of Public Safety for the  
9           planning and design of the Rutland Field Station;

10   \* \* \*

11           (8) ~~the sum of \$500,000.00 to the Department of Buildings and General~~  
12           ~~Services for the Newport courthouse replacement, planning, and design;~~  
13           [Repealed.]

14           (9) the sum of \$250,000.00 to the Department of Buildings and General  
15           Services for planning for the 133-109 State Street tunnel waterproofing and  
16           Aiken Avenue reconstruction; ~~and~~

17           (10) the sum of \$200,000.00 to the Department of Buildings and  
18           General Services for the renovation of the stack area, HVAC upgrades, and the  
19           elevator replacement at 111 State Street;

1 (11) the sum of \$1,000,000.00 to the Department of Buildings and  
2 General Services for roof replacement and brick façade repairs at the  
3 McFarland State Office Building in Barre; and

4 (12) the sum of \$30,000.00 to the Department of Fish and Wildlife for  
5 the Lake Champlain International fishing derby.

6 \* \* \*

7 \* \* \* Policy \* \* \*

8 \* \* \* Agency of Natural Resources \* \* \*

9 Sec. 12. 10 V.S.A. § 2603 is amended to read:

10 § 2603. POWERS AND DUTIES: COMMISSIONER

11 \* \* \*

12 ~~(g) The Commissioner shall consult with and receive approval from the~~  
13 ~~Commissioner of Buildings and General Services concerning proposed~~  
14 ~~construction or renovation of individual projects involving capital~~  
15 ~~improvements which are expected, either in phases or in total, to cost more~~  
16 ~~than \$200,000.00. The Department of Environmental Conservation shall~~  
17 ~~manage all contracts for engineering services for capital improvements made~~  
18 ~~by the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation. The Department of~~  
19 Environmental Conservation Facilities Engineering Section:

20 (1) may execute and consult on design for the Department of Forests,  
21 Parks and Recreation;

1           (2) shall provide professional engineering services for compliance with  
2           environmental operating permits; and

3           (3) shall be the custodian of all plans of record for work executed by the  
4           Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation, regardless of the source and  
5           designer of record.

6   \* \* \*

7           Sec. 13. LEGISLATIVE INTENT; SALISBURY FISH HATCHERY

8           It is the intent of the General Assembly that:

9                 (1) The State shall maintain or increase its current fish stocking  
10                 capacity.

11                (2) To the extent practicable, the Salisbury fish hatchery shall, subject to  
12                annual appropriations, continue operating through December 31, 2027.

13                (3) The Agency of Natural Resources shall examine potential options  
14                for continuing the operation of the Salisbury fish hatchery after fiscal year  
15                2027, including maintaining any necessary permits.

16                (4) The Agency of Natural Resources shall examine options for  
17                maintaining or increasing the State's current fish stocking capacity following  
18                the potential closure of the Salisbury fish hatchery, including:

19                         (A) replacing the stocking capacity of the Salisbury fish hatchery  
20                         with increased stocking capacity at one or more State-operated or federally  
21                         operated fish hatcheries;

1           (B) transferring fish stocking capacity from the Salisbury hatchery to  
2           other State fish hatcheries;

3           (C) establishing additional egg production at other State fish  
4           hatcheries to compensate for any lost egg production; and

5           (D) utilizing other innovative or more cost-effective approaches for  
6           replacing any lost stocking capacity.

7           (5) The Agency of Natural Resources shall examine options for limiting  
8           any negative economic impact from the potential closure of the Salisbury fish  
9           hatchery, including impacts from reduced fish stocking on fishing and tourism,  
10          and impacts from the loss of staff positions at the Salisbury fish hatchery.

11          (6) The Salisbury fish hatchery shall not close without prior approval of  
12          the General Assembly, which shall be provided if:

13           (A) the hatchery is unable to secure the necessary permits to continue  
14           operating after December 31, 2027; or

15           (B) the stocking capacity of the hatchery can be replaced in a manner  
16           that is more cost-effective than the up-front and operating costs of the capital  
17           improvements necessary for the hatchery to obtain the necessary permits to  
18           continue operating after December 31, 2027.

19          Sec. 14. SALISBURY FISH HATCHERY FEASIBILITY STUDY

20           (a) The Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife shall update the July 9, 2013  
21           Facility Modernization Discharge Requirements Feasibility Study for the



1 Salisbury Fish Hatchery and shall, on or before December 15, 2024, report to  
2 the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate  
3 Committee on Institutions regarding the feasibility of continuing operations at  
4 the Salisbury Fish Hatchery after December 31, 2027, of transferring the  
5 production capacity of the Salisbury Fish Hatchery to the State's hatchery  
6 system, and of alternative options for replacing the production capacity of the  
7 Salisbury Fish Hatchery.

8 (b) The report shall:

9 (1) identify the repairs, improvements, and other work necessary to  
10 enable the Salisbury Fish Hatchery to obtain any permits necessary to continue  
11 operating after December 31, 2027 and provide a detailed analysis of the  
12 associated costs and a plan for accomplishing the work;

13 (2) identify any repairs, improvements, and other work necessary to  
14 enable the production capacity of the Salisbury Fish Hatchery to be transferred  
15 to the State's hatchery system and provide a detailed analysis of the associated  
16 costs and a plan for accomplishing the work; and

17 (3) examine alternative approaches to maintaining the State's fish  
18 production capacity, including an analysis of associated costs and work  
19 necessary to successfully implement each identified alternative approach.

1   \* \* \* Buildings and General Services \* \* \*

2           Sec. 15. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 22 is amended to read:

3                   Sec. 22. SALE OF PROPERTIES

4   \* \* \*

5                   (c) 108 Cherry Street. Notwithstanding 29 V.S.A. § 166(b), the  
6           Commissioner of Buildings and General Services is authorized to sell the  
7           property located at 108 Cherry Street in the City of Burlington. The  
8           Commissioner shall first offer in writing to the City the right to purchase the  
9           property.

10   \* \* \*

11                   (3) Notwithstanding 29 V.S.A. § 166(d) and 29 V.S.A. § 160, of the  
12           proceeds received by the State for the sale of the property located at 108  
13           Cherry Street in the City of Burlington, \$6,242,500.00 shall be deposited into  
14           the Property Management Revolving Fund (58700) to recover the deficit  
15           incurred in the fund as a result of the original purchase of the property and,  
16           notwithstanding 29 V.S.A. § 168(c), \$293,753.63 shall be deposited into the  
17           State Energy Revolving Fund (59700) to repay debt outstanding for loans for  
18           energy improvement projects on the property.

1     Sec. 16. SALE OF FORMER WILLISTON STATE POLICE BARRACKS;  
2                     INTENT; REPORT

3             It is the intent of the General Assembly that the Town of Williston shall  
4     report to the Senate Committee on Institutions and the House Committee on  
5     Corrections and Institutions in January 2025 regarding:

6             (1) whether the town desires to purchase the property; and

7             (2) if so:

8                     (A) the feasibility of the Town purchasing the property, including  
9     any requested conditions on the sale of the property; and

10                    (B) the potential future uses of the property envisioned by the Town.

11     Sec. 17. 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 36 is amended to read:

12             Sec. 36. PUBLIC SAFETY FIELD STATION; WILLISTON

13   \* \* \*

14             (b) ~~The~~ Beginning on July 1, 2025, the Commissioner of Buildings and  
15     General Services is authorized to sell the Williston Public Safety Field Station  
16     and adjacent land pursuant to the requirements of 29 V.S.A. § 166. The  
17     proceeds from the sale shall be appropriated to future capital construction  
18     projects.

1 Sec. 18. 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 50, Sec. 34 is amended to read:

2 Sec. 34. WILLISTON PUBLIC SAFETY BARRACKS; SALE

3 ~~The~~ Beginning on July 1, 2025, the Commissioner of Buildings and General  
4 Services is authorized to sell the property known as the Williston Public Safety  
5 Barracks (State Office Building) located at 2777 St. George Road in Williston,  
6 Vermont pursuant to the requirements of 29 V.S.A. § 166. The proceeds from  
7 the sale shall be appropriated to future capital construction projects.

8 Sec. 19. 29 V.S.A. § 152 is amended to read:

9 § 152. DUTIES OF COMMISSIONER

10 (a) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services, in addition to the  
11 duties expressly set forth elsewhere by law, shall have the authority to:

12 \* \* \*

13 (3) Prepare or cause to be prepared plans and specifications for  
14 construction and repair on all State-owned buildings:

15 \* \* \*

16 (B) For which no specific appropriations have been made by the  
17 General Assembly or the Emergency Board. The Commissioner may, with the  
18 approval of the Secretary of Administration, acquire an option, ~~for a price not~~  
19 ~~to exceed \$75,000.00,~~ on an individual property without prior legislative  
20 approval, for a price not to exceed five percent of the listed sale price of the  
21 property, provided the option contains a provision stating that purchase of the

1 property shall occur only upon the approval of the General Assembly and the  
2 appropriation of funds for this purpose. The State Treasurer is authorized to  
3 advance a sum not to exceed ~~\$75,000.00~~ five percent of the listed sale price of  
4 the property, upon warrants drawn by the Commissioner of Finance and  
5 Management for the purpose of purchasing an option on a property pursuant to  
6 this subdivision.

7 \* \* \*

8 (19) Transfer any unexpended project balances between projects that are  
9 authorized within the same section of ~~an annual~~ a biennial capital construction  
10 act.

11 (20) Transfer any unexpended project balances between projects that are  
12 authorized within different capital construction acts, with the approval of the  
13 Secretary of Administration, when the unexpended project balance does not  
14 exceed ~~\$100,000.00~~ \$200,000.00, or with the additional approval of the  
15 Emergency Board when such balance exceeds ~~\$100,000.00~~ \$200,000.00.

16 \* \* \*

17 (22) Use the contingency fund appropriation to cover shortfalls for any  
18 project approved in any capital construction act; however, transfers from the  
19 contingency in excess of ~~\$50,000.00~~ \$100,000.00 shall be done with the  
20 approval of the Secretary of Administration.

21 \* \* \*

1 Sec. 20. 29 V.S.A. § 166 is amended to read:

2 § 166. SELLING OR RENTING STATE PROPERTY

3 \* \* \*

4 (b)(1) Upon authorization by the General Assembly, which may be granted  
5 by resolution, and with the advice and consent of the Governor, the  
6 Commissioner of Buildings and General Services may sell real estate owned  
7 by the State. ~~Such~~ The property shall be sold to the highest bidder ~~therefor~~ at  
8 public auction or upon sealed bids ~~in~~ at the discretion of the Commissioner of  
9 Buildings and General Services, who may reject any or all bids, or the  
10 Commissioner is authorized to list the sale of property with a real estate agent  
11 licensed by the State. In no event shall the property be sold for less than fair  
12 market value as determined by the Commissioner in consultation with an  
13 independent real estate broker or appraiser, or both, retained by the  
14 Commissioner, unless otherwise authorized by the General Assembly.

15 \* \* \*

16 Sec. 21. STATE BUILDING NAMING; STUDY COMMITTEE; REPORT

17 (a) Creation. There is created the State Building Naming Study Committee  
18 to develop a proposed process for naming State buildings that are under the  
19 jurisdiction of the Department of Buildings and General Services.

1       (b) Membership. The Committee shall be composed of the following  
2       members:

3               (1) the State Historic Preservation Officer or designee;

4               (2) the Secretary of Commerce and Community Development or  
5       designee;

6               (3) the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services or designee;

7               (4) the Executive Director of the Vermont Historical Society or  
8       designee;

9               (5) the State Librarian or designee;

10              (6) the Executive Director of the Vermont League of Cities and Towns  
11       or designee;

12              (7) the Executive Director of the Office of Racial Equity or designee;

13       and

14              (8) the Executive Secretary of the Transportation Board or designee.

15       (c) Powers and duties.

16              (1) The Committee shall develop a proposed process for naming State  
17       buildings that are under the jurisdiction of the Department of Buildings and  
18       General Services. The proposed process developed by the Committee shall  
19       address the following:

1           (A) an entity within State government, other than the General  
2           Assembly, that should have authority for naming State buildings that are under  
3           the jurisdiction of the Department of Buildings and General Services;

4           (B) entities and individuals who should be involved in determining  
5           whether to name specific State buildings that are under the jurisdiction of the  
6           Department of Buildings and General Services;

7           (C) methods by which a municipality or the general public may  
8           petition to name a State building under the jurisdiction of the Department of  
9           Buildings and General Services after a specific person;

10          (D) any requirements for a historical nexus between the building  
11          proposed to be named and the person for whom it is proposed to be named; and

12          (E) the process for considering a petition to name a State building,  
13          including requirements related to public notice, conduct of hearings, and  
14          standards for rendering a decision on a petition.

15          (2) In carrying out its duties pursuant to subdivision (1) of this section,  
16          the Committee shall hold not fewer than three meetings and shall solicit  
17          testimony from stakeholders and interested parties.

18          (d) Report. On or before February 15, 2025, the Committee shall report to  
19          the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate  
20          Committee on Institutions regarding its proposal and any recommendations for  
21          legislative action.



1       (e) Meetings.

2           (1) The State Historic Preservation Officer shall call the first meeting of  
3 the Committee to occur on or before September 1, 2024.

4           (2) The Committee shall select a chair from among its members at the  
5 first meeting.

6           (3) A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum.

7           (4) The Committee shall cease to exist on February 28, 2025.

8       Sec. 22. SOUTHEAST STATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY; POTENTIAL  
9           LAND TRANSFER; REPORT

10       (a) The Department of Fish and Wildlife, in consultation with the  
11 Department of Buildings and General Services, shall evaluate the potential  
12 transfer of a portion of the former Southeast State Correctional Facility  
13 property to the Department of Fish and Wildlife for inclusion in the adjacent  
14 wildlife management area. The evaluation shall:

15           (1) delineate the portions of the former Southeast State Correctional  
16 Facility property that could be used for future redevelopment of the site, taking  
17 into account any necessary setbacks from wetlands, streams, or wildlife  
18 habitat;

19           (2) identify any portions of the property that could be transferred into  
20 the adjacent wildlife management area and potential impacts on the

1 redevelopment or sale of the property from the transfer of the identified  
2 portions; and

3 (3) identify any rights of way or easements that will be necessary for the  
4 potential future redevelopment of any retained portion of the property.

5 (b) On or before January 15, 2025, the Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife  
6 and the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services shall report to the  
7 House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committee  
8 on Institutions regarding the evaluation and any legislative action that may be  
9 necessary to facilitate a proposed transfer or redevelopment of the property.

10 Sec. 23. SOUTHERN STATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY; TRANSFER  
11 OF PARCEL

12 (a) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services is authorized to  
13 transfer to the Town of Springfield a portion of the Southern State Correctional  
14 Facility Property consisting of approximately 10 acres to be used as the  
15 location of a new Town garage.

16 (b) The transfer shall be contingent on:

17 (1) the State obtaining State and local zoning and subdivision approvals  
18 that are necessary for the transfer; and

19 (2) the negotiation of an agreement between the State and the Town of  
20 Springfield regarding the maintenance and upkeep of the access road and the

1 water and sewer service lines for the Correctional Facility and the transferred  
2 parcel.

3 (c) The transferred parcel shall not include any brownfields on the  
4 Southern State Correctional Facility Property.

5 (d) In the event the Town does not utilize the transferred parcel for a new  
6 Town garage, the Town shall consult with the Commissioner of Buildings and  
7 General Services regarding any proposed alternative uses of the parcel.

8 (e) The transfer authority provided pursuant to this section shall expire on  
9 July 1, 2027.

10 Sec. 24. SECURE RESIDENTIAL RECOVER FACILITY;

11 REQUIREMENTS; REVIEW; REPORT

12 (a) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services, in consultation  
13 with the Commissioner of Mental Health, shall review the facility requirements  
14 related to incorporating the use of emergency involuntary procedures and  
15 involuntary medication at the River Valley secure residential recovery facility  
16 in Essex. The Commissioner shall report, on or before February 1, 2025, to the  
17 Senate Committees on Appropriations, on Institutions, and on Health and  
18 Welfare and to the House Committees on Appropriations, on Corrections and  
19 Institutions, and on Health Care regarding the findings of the review.

20 (b)(1) To the extent funding is available, the Commissioner of Buildings  
21 and General Services, in consultation with the Commissioner of Mental

1 Health, may commence construction on improvements and upgrades identified  
2 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section in fiscal year 2025.

3 (2) It is the intent of the General Assembly that the fiscal year 2026  
4 capital construction and State bonding act shall include funding for any  
5 remaining design, development, and construction of the upgrades and  
6 improvements identified in the report submitted pursuant to subsection (a) of  
7 this section.

8 (c) Nothing in this section shall preclude the future development of a  
9 forensic facility.

10 Sec. 25. SOUTHEAST STATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY;

11 POTENTIAL REUSE BY THE STATE; POTENTIAL TO  
12 DEACTIVATE BUILDINGS; REPORT

13 (a) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services shall:

14 (1) update previous reports on the potential to repurpose the former  
15 Southeast State Correctional Facility for a State purpose and determine  
16 whether the location of the former Facility can be used for:

17 (A) another future State facility;

18 (B) emergency or backup space to address State needs for temporary  
19 facility space or temporary office space; or

20 (C) other State purposes; and

1           (2) whether some or all of the structures at the former Southeast State  
2           Correctional Facility could be temporarily deactivated or winterized to reduce  
3           ongoing maintenance costs until the facility is utilized for another State  
4           purpose, and the costs related to deactivation or winterization.

5           (b) The Commissioner shall, on or before January 15, 2025, report to the  
6           House Committees on Appropriations and on Corrections and Institutions and  
7           the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Institutions regarding the  
8           Commissioner's findings pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

9           (c) It is the intent of the General Assembly that it shall not authorize the  
10          sale of the parcel on which the former Southeast State Correctional Facility  
11          was located unless the State has determined that the site is not needed for use  
12          as the location for a State facility or other State purpose.

13          Sec. 26. DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES YOUTH

14                   SHORT-TERM STABILIZATION AND TREATMENT CENTER;

15                   LONG-TERM LEASE; AUTHORIZATION

16           Notwithstanding any provisions of 29 V.S.A. § 165(h) or 29 V.S.A.  
17           § 166(a) to the contrary, the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services  
18           is authorized to enter into a long-term ground lease agreement at a below-  
19           market rate for an initial term of not more than 20 years with not more than  
20           four five-year renewal options for the Department for Children and Families

1 Youth Short Term Stabilization and Treatment Center. At the end of the term  
2 and any renewals, the ground lease shall terminate.

3 Sec. 27. CAPITOL COMPLEX FLOOD RECOVERY; SPECIAL  
4 COMMITTEE

5 (a) The Special Committee on Capitol Complex Flood Recovery is  
6 established. The Special Committee shall comprise the Joint Fiscal Committee  
7 and the Chairs of the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the  
8 Senate Committee on Institutions.

9 (b)(1) The Special Committee shall meet at the call of the Chair of the Joint  
10 Fiscal Committee, in consultation with the Chairs of the House Committee on  
11 Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committee on Institutions.

12 (2)(A) The Special Committee shall meet to review and recommend  
13 alterations to proposals and plans for Capitol Complex flood recovery.

14 (B) The Special Committee may, as necessary, grant approval to  
15 proposals and plans for Capitol Complex flood recovery.

16 (c) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services shall provide  
17 quarterly updates to the Special Committee on the planning process for Capitol  
18 Complex flood recovery.

19 (d) The Special Committee shall be entitled to per diem and expenses as  
20 provided in 2 V.S.A. § 23.

1       Sec. 28. STATE HOUSE; IMPROVEMENTS; DESIGN; SPECIAL  
2                               COMMITTEE

3               (a)(1) To allow the Department of Buildings and General Services to begin  
4       the design development phase, it is the intent of the General Assembly to  
5       approve a schematic design plan for accessibility, life safety, and mechanical  
6       systems improvements to the State House identified in Scenario 1, as approved  
7       by the Joint Legislative Management Committee on December 15, 2023 and  
8       excluding any improvements that would impact committee rooms.

9               (2) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services shall provide  
10       the Special Committee established pursuant to subsection (b) of this section  
11       with a draft schematic design plan for the work identified pursuant to  
12       subdivision (1) of this subsection on or before July 15, 2024 and a final  
13       schematic design plan on or before September 15, 2024.

14               (b)(1) A Special Committee to be called the Special Committee on State  
15       House Improvements consisting of the Joint Legislative Management  
16       Committee and the Chairs of the House Committee on Corrections and  
17       Institutions and the Senate Committee on Institutions is established.

18               (2) The Special Committee is authorized to meet to:

19                       (A) review and recommend alterations to the draft schematic design  
20       to be submitted on or before July 15, 2024 as described in subsection (a) of this

1 section at a regularly scheduled Joint Legislative Management Committee  
2 meeting; and

3 (B) review and approve the final schematic design to be submitted on  
4 or before September 15, 2024 as described in subsection (a) of this section at a  
5 regularly scheduled Joint Legislative Management Committee meeting.

6 (c) In making its decision, the Special Committee shall consider:

7 (1) how the design impacts the ability of the General Assembly to  
8 conduct legislative business;

9 (2) whether the design allows for public access to citizens;

10 (3) the financial consequences to the State of approval or disapproval of  
11 the proposal; and

12 (4) whether any potential alternatives are available.

13 (d) The Special Committee shall be entitled to per diem and expenses as  
14 provided in 2 V.S.A. § 23.

15 \* \* \* Corrections \* \* \*

16 Sec. 29. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 28 is amended to read:

17 Sec. 28. REPLACEMENT WOMEN'S REENTRY AND

18 CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES; SITE LOCATION

19 PROPOSAL; DESIGN INTENT



1 (a) Site location proposal.

2 (1)(A) ~~Site location proposal.~~ On or before January 15, ~~2024~~ 2025, the  
3 Commissioner of Buildings and General Services shall submit a site location  
4 proposal for replacement women's reentry and correctional facilities for  
5 justice-involved women to the House Committee on Corrections and  
6 Institutions and the Senate Committee on Institutions.

7 (B) It is the intent of the General Assembly that:

8 (i) when evaluating site locations, preference shall be given to  
9 State-owned property;

10 (ii) the site location, regardless of whether it is on State-owned  
11 land or land proposed to be purchased by the State, shall be:

12 (I) near support services, programming, and work opportunities  
13 needed to facilitate successful reentry into the community; and

14 (II) in a reasonable proximity to the existing workforce to  
15 facilitate retention and continuity of experienced staff; and

16 (iii) the proposal shall consider the proximity of existing and  
17 potential future public transit services.

18 (C) The proposal shall consider both collocating facilities in a  
19 campus-style approach for operational efficiencies and the need for separate  
20 facilities at different locations.

21 \* \* \*

1           (c) As used in this section, “reentry facility” means a facility that:

2                   (1) is for incarcerated individuals preparing to transition back into the  
3           community following release;

4                   (2) provides the lowest level of security;

5                   (3) has a flexible design that is distinct from other existing secure  
6           correctional facilities;

7                   (4) provides the individuals housed in the facility with continual access  
8           to services and supports, including counseling and treatment; and

9                   (5) is designed in a flexible manner to support programs like work  
10          release and day-reporting.

11          Sec. 30. REPLACEMENT WOMEN’S REENTRY AND CORRECTIONAL  
12                   FACILITIES; AUTHORITY TO PURCHASE LAND; INTENT;  
13                   REPORT

14           (a) Contingent authority to purchase land. In the event that the  
15          Commissioner of Buildings and General Services, in consultation with the  
16          Commissioner of Corrections, is unable to identify appropriate State-owned  
17          site locations for the replacement reentry and correctional facilities for justice-  
18          involved women, the Commissioner is authorized to purchase land in a  
19          location that is:

20                   (1) near support services, programming, and work opportunities needed  
21          to facilitate successful reentry into the community;

1           (2) in a reasonable proximity to the existing workforce to facilitate  
2           retention and continuity of experienced staff; and

3           (3) near existing or potential future public transit services.

4           (b) Reports. Beginning in July 2024 and ending in January 2025, the  
5           Commissioner of Buildings and General Services, in consultation with the  
6           Commissioner of Corrections, shall report at least once per calendar quarter to  
7           the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate  
8           Committee on Institutions regarding the progress in identifying State-owned  
9           property and, if necessary, purchasing property on which to locate the  
10          replacement facilities for justice-involved women.

11          (c) As used in this section, “reentry facility” means a facility that:

12           (1) is for incarcerated individuals preparing to transition back into the  
13           community following release;

14           (2) provides the lowest level of security;

15           (3) has a flexible design that is distinct from other existing secure  
16           correctional facilities;

17           (4) provides the individuals housed in the facility with continual access  
18           to services and supports, including counseling and treatment; and

19           (5) is designed in a flexible manner to support programs like work  
20           release and day-reporting.

1       Sec. 31. POTENTIAL REUSE OF CHITTENDEN REGIONAL

2                   CORRECTIONAL FACILITY SITE; FEASIBILITY; REPORT

3           (a) On or before December 15, 2025, the Commissioner of Buildings and  
4           General Services, in consultation with the Commissioner of Corrections, shall  
5           report to the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate  
6           Committees on Institutions and on Judiciary regarding the feasibility of  
7           utilizing the site of the Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility for a reentry  
8           facility for eligible justice-involved men following the construction of  
9           replacement facilities for justice-involved women.

10          (b) The report shall:

11           (1)(A) evaluate the condition and structure of the existing facility to  
12           determine if it can be repurposed as a reentry facility in a manner that supports  
13           the programmatic goals of the Department of Corrections using evidence-based  
14           principles for wellness environments for supporting trauma-informed practices;  
15           and

16           (B) if it can be repurposed as a reentry facility, the improvements and  
17           other work necessary to support the programmatic goals of the Department of  
18           Corrections using evidence-based principles for wellness environments for  
19           supporting trauma-informed practices and the estimated cost of performing the  
20           work;

1           (2)(A) evaluate whether a new reentry facility could be constructed on  
2           the site following the demolition of some or all of the existing facility;

3           (B) identify potential designs for a newly constructed reentry facility  
4           at the site that supports the programmatic goals of the Department of  
5           Corrections using evidence-based principles for wellness environments for  
6           supporting trauma-informed practices; and

7           (C) identify any site work, improvements, and other work necessary  
8           to construct a new reentry facility on the site, including the cost of any such  
9           work; and

10          (3) if the existing facility cannot be repurposed as a reentry facility and a  
11          new reentry facility cannot be constructed on the site, identify other potential  
12          sites for a male reentry facility that are near:

13           (A) support services, programming, and work opportunities needed to  
14           facilitate successful reentry into the community; and

15           (B) existing or potential future public transit services.

16          (c) As used in this section, “reentry facility” means a facility that:

17           (1) is for incarcerated individuals preparing to transition back into the  
18           community following release;

19           (2) provides the lowest level of security;

20           (3) has a flexible design that is distinct from other existing secure  
21           correctional facilities;

1           (4) provides the individuals housed in the facility with continual access  
2           to services and supports, including counseling and treatment; and

3           (5) is designed in a flexible manner to support programs like work  
4           release and day-reporting.

5           (d) It is the intent of the General Assembly that the fiscal year 2026 capital  
6           construction and State bonding act shall include funding for the preparation of  
7           the report required pursuant to this section.

8           Sec. 32. REENTRY SERVICES; NEW CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES;

9                                 PROGRAMMING; RECOMMENDATIONS

10           On or before November 15, 2024, the Department of Corrections, in  
11           consultation with the Department of Buildings and General Services, shall  
12           submit recommendations to the Senate Committee on Judiciary and the House  
13           Committee on Corrections and Institutions detailing the following:

14           (1) an examination of the Department of Corrections' reentry and  
15           transitional services with the objective to transition and implement modern  
16           strategies and facilities to assist individuals involved with the criminal justice  
17           system to obtain housing, vocational and job opportunities, and other services  
18           to successfully reintegrate into society;

19           (2) the recommended size of a new women's correctional facility,  
20           including the scope and quality of programming and services housed in the

1 facility and any therapeutic, educational, and other specialty design features  
2 necessary to support the programming and services offered in the facility; and

3 (3) whether it is advisable to construct a new men's reentry facility on  
4 the same campus as the women's correctional facility or at another location.

5 \* \* \* Judiciary \* \* \*

6 Sec. 33. BARRE; WASHINGTON COUNTY SUPERIOR COURTHOUSE;  
7 LAND ACQUISITION; AUTHORIZATION; COMMUNICATION  
8 WITH CITY

9 (a) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services, in consultation  
10 with the Judiciary, is authorized to use the amounts appropriated in 2023 Acts  
11 and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 18(c)(11) and (d)(4) to purchase land as needed to  
12 renovate or replace the Washington County Superior Courthouse.

13 (b) The Commissioner shall:

14 (1) consult with the City of Barre on potential options for renovating or  
15 replacing the Washington County Superior Courthouse in Barre; and

16 (2) provide updates to the City on progress made with respect to  
17 renovating or replacing the Courthouse.

18 Sec. 34. WHITE RIVER JUNCTION; WINDSOR COUNTY SUPERIOR  
19 COURTHOUSE; TEMPORARY RELOCATION OF EMPLOYEES

20 It is the intent of the General Assembly that following completion of the  
21 renovations to the Windsor County Superior Courthouse in White River

1     Junction, the offices of the Windsor County State’s Attorney shall be relocated  
2     to the leased office space at 55 Railroad Row that is being used as temporary  
3     office space for Courthouse employees during the renovation.

4                                   \* \* \* Effective Date \* \* \*

5     Sec. 35. EFFECTIVE DATE

6         This act shall take effect on passage.