

## **Proposed Language - Housing for Vermonters with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities**

In [S. 328](#) Section 6 – Service-Supported Housing, amend the FY24 budget to expand the eligible use of dollars appropriated to VHCB to include housing for Vermonters with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. Alternatively, this language could be included in Section C of the FY27 budget.

### [Amend Act 78 or 2024, Sec. B.1102 HOUSING DEVELOPMENT – FISCAL YEAR 2024 ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS \(c\)\(1\)](#)

\$10,000,000 to provide support and enhance capacity for emergency shelter and permanent homes for those experiencing homelessness **or who need supportive housing.** The funds shall be used to expand Vermont’s shelter capacity, provide homes for those experiencing homelessness, and decrease reliance on the General Assistance Emergency Housing hotel and motel program, **or to create housing for individuals eligible to receive Medicaid-funded Developmental Disabilities Services.** The Vermont Housing and Conservation Board shall consult with the Agency of Human Services to ensure new investments in homes and shelters are paired with appropriate support services for residents, including services supported through Medicaid. Funded projects may utilize a range of housing options, including the expansion of shelter capacity, the conversion of hotels to housing, creation of permanent supportive housing, and utilization of manufactured homes on infill sites. **Funds may be committed in FY27.**

**Background:** VHCB fully committed the \$10 million directed to shelter and permanent housing for Vermonters experiencing homelessness appropriated in the FY24 budget. However, this past year the federal government shifted priorities within the HUD Continuum of Care program resulting in fewer funds available to support permanent supportive housing for the formerly homeless. One project that planned to utilize the FY24 funding to create housing for Vermonters exiting homelessness by leveraging the federal funds was not able to proceed as originally designed by the loss of federal funds. The project will proceed as an affordable rental development project, but can no longer utilize \$3.9 million of the targeted FY24 dollars.

VHCB has a potential shelter project that could utilize a portion of this decommitment. Understanding that the FY27 budget will include funding for shelter development but, because of fiscal constraints, does not include funding for housing for Vermonters with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, this proposal seeks to broaden the eligible use of this existing fund to both build I/DD homes and authorize VHCB to commit these funds in FY27.