

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Human Services to which was referred House Bill No.
3 91 entitled “An act relating to the Emergency Temporary Shelter Program”
4 respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the
5 bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in
6 lieu thereof the following:

7 * * * Findings and Legislative Intent * * *

8 Sec. 1. FINDINGS

9 The General Assembly finds that:

10 (1) according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban
11 Development’s 2024 Annual Homelessness Assessment Report, Vermont had
12 the fourth highest rate of homelessness in 2024 in that 53 of every 10,000
13 Vermonters are experiencing homelessness, with only Hawaii, New York, and
14 Oregon experiencing higher rates;

15 (2) in 2023, according to the same Annual Homelessness Assessment
16 Report, 51 of every 10,000 Vermonters were experiencing homelessness;

17 (3) according to the Vermont 2024 Point-in-Time Count, there were
18 approximately 3,458 unhoused individuals in Vermont, which represents a 300
19 percent increase over the 1,110 unhoused individuals prior to the COVID-19
20 pandemic in 2020;

1 (4) of the 3,458 unhoused individuals in Vermont identified by the
2 Vermont 2024 Point-in-Time Count, 166 experienced unhoused homelessness,
3 which is the highest count of unhoused homeless individuals in Vermont
4 within the past decade;

5 (5) according to the Vermont 2024 Point-in-Time Count, over 35
6 percent of those Vermonters experiencing homelessness were unhoused for
7 more than one year and over 72 percent were unhoused for more than 90 days;

8 (6) according to the Vermont 2024 Point-in-Time Count, 737 of those
9 Vermonters experiencing homelessness were children and youth under 18
10 years of age and 646 were 55 years of age or older;

11 (7) according to the Vermont 2024 Point-in-Time Count, Black
12 Vermonters are 5.6 times more likely to be unhoused as compared to white
13 Vermonters;

14 (8) the 2024 Vermont Housing Needs Assessment notes that 36,000
15 primary homes are needed in Vermont between 2025–2029, 3,295 of which are
16 needed to address homelessness; and

17 (9) the 2024 Vermont Housing Needs Assessment notes that “[h]alf of
18 all Vermont renters are cost-burdened, and one-in-four pay more than 50
19 [percent] of their income on housing costs, putting them at high risk of
20 eviction,” which “is heightened by Vermont’s rental vacancy rate of 3
21 [percent], which is well below the 5 [percent] rate of a healthy market.”

1 Sec. 2. LEGISLATIVE INTENT

2 (a) It is the intent of the General Assembly that unsheltered homelessness
3 be eliminated and that homelessness in Vermont be rare, brief, and
4 nonrecurring.

5 (b) It is the intent of the General Assembly that the Vermont Homeless
6 Emergency Assistance and Responsive Transition to Housing Program
7 established in 33 V.S.A. chapter 22 is a step toward ensuring that:

8 (1) homelessness be addressed in Vermont and interim shelter
9 opportunities be available to provide a stable pathway to permanent housing
10 for all Vermonters experiencing homelessness, including safe shelter options
11 for individuals living in unsheltered homelessness;

12 (2) Vermont increase the supply of emergency temporary and
13 transitional shelter as well as permanent supportive housing that meets the
14 specific needs of individuals;

15 (3) community components of all shelter types are integrated in a
16 systemic manner;

17 (4) arbitrary time limits, night-by-night shelter, relocation between
18 interim shelter sites, and other disruptions in housing stability be eliminated to
19 the extent possible;

20 (5) Vermont’s emergency housing statutes, rules, policies, procedures,
21 and practices incorporate Housing First principles; and

1 § 2203. DEFINITIONS

2 As used in this chapter:

3 (1) “Community-based shelter” means a shelter that meets the
4 Department’s standards for the operation of shelters.

5 (2) “Department” means the Department for Children and Families.

6 (3) “Extreme weather event” means extreme hot or cold temperatures or
7 weather events, such as hurricanes, flooding, or blizzards, that create
8 hazardous conditions for outdoor habitation by humans.

9 (4) “Homeless” means lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime
10 residence.

11 (5) “Household” means an individual and any dependents for whom the
12 individual is legally responsible and who live and intend to stay in Vermont.
13 “Household” includes individuals who reside together as one economic unit,
14 including those who are married, parties to a civil union, or unmarried.

15 (6) “Precariously housed” means at-risk of losing a primary, night-time
16 residence. [other terms?]

17 (7) “Unsheltered homelessness” means sleeping in a location not
18 designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation.

19 § 2204. ESTABLISHMENT; VERMONT HOMELESS EMERGENCY

20 ASSISTANCE AND RESPONSIVE TRANSITION TO HOUSING

21 PROGRAM

1 The Vermont Homeless Emergency Assistance and Responsive Transition
2 to Housing Program is established in the Department and shall be operated by
3 community action agencies, in collaboration with other community partners
4 who may include municipalities, to the extent funds exist. The Program shall
5 build on the Chittenden County Continuum of Care, Balance of State
6 Continuum of Care, local housing coalitions, and coordinated entry. It shall
7 use 211 for initial intake services, which shall operate on a seven-day, 24-hour-
8 a-day basis. It shall include the following components:

9 (1) supportive services to assist households experiencing homelessness
10 or those households that are precariously housed pursuant to section 2205 of
11 this chapter:

12 (2) extreme weather event shelters operated or caused to be operated by
13 a community action agency pursuant section 2206 if this chapter;

14 (3) emergency temporary shelters operated or caused to be operated by a
15 community action agency pursuant to section 2207 of this chapter;

16 (4) transitional shelters operated or caused to be operated by a
17 community action agency pursuant to section 2208 of this chapter; and

18 (5) supportive services and shelters specific to households who are or
19 who have experienced domestic and sexual violence provided or caused to be
20 provided by a statewide organization with population-specific service
21 experience pursuant to section 2209 of this section.

1 § 2205. SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

2 (a) Consistent with coordinated entry procedures, a community action
3 agency shall offer or cause to be offered the following supportive services,
4 which may vary in terms of manner and extent depending on the level of
5 shelter a household utilizes or whether the household is precariously housed or
6 experiencing unsheltered homelessness:

7 (1) intake assessments and diversion services;

8 (2) household needs assessments;

9 (3) individualized household plans to address identified needs;

10 (4) assistance obtaining and retaining housing, including financial
11 assistance;

12 (5) referrals to other services and supports;

13 (6) peer-supported services;

14 (7) mediation with landlords;

15 (8) housing navigation services;

16 (9) advocacy; and

17 (10) progress monitoring and interventions.

18 (b) Participation in services provided under this section shall be voluntary.

19 § 2206. EXTREME WEATHER EVENT SHELTER

20 A community action agency shall operate or cause to be operated shelters in
21 the State that shall be used during extreme weather events to shelter any

1 homeless individual who presents themselves at the shelter. The **community**
2 **action agencies** shall prioritize funding under this section to regions of the
3 State most impacted by homelessness. A shelter offered pursuant to this
4 section during an extreme weather event may include time-limited congregate
5 accommodations and may be provided through grants to municipalities or
6 other entities.

7 § 2207. EMERGENCY TEMPORARY SHELTER

8 (a) A community action agency shall serve or cause to be served, in the
9 manner **agreed to as part as the federally required community planning**
10 **process**, households that are **prioritized** pursuant to subsection (b) of this
11 section and in need of the services of a emergency temporary shelter. A
12 community action agency may provide or cause to be provided emergency
13 temporary shelter through community-based shelters, temporary use of hotels
14 or motels, lease agreements for full or partial use of an existing building, need-
15 specific shelter arrangements, or other arrangements or combinations of
16 arrangements that comply with the intent of this chapter.

17 (b) A community action agency shall **prioritize** or cause to be **prioritized**
18 emergency temporary housing to households that attest to lack of a fixed,
19 regular, and adequate nighttime residence and have a member who:

20 (1) is 65 years of age or older;

21 (2) has a disability that can be documented by:

1 (A) receipt of Supplemental Security Income or Social Security

2 Disability Insurance; or

3 (B) a form developed by the Department as a means of documenting
4 a qualifying disability or health condition that requires:

5 (i) the applicant’s name, date of birth, and the last four digits of
6 the applicant’s Social Security number or other identifying number;

7 (ii) a description of the applicant’s disability or health condition;

8 (iii) a description of the risk posed to the applicant’s health, safety,
9 or welfare if temporary emergency housing is not authorized pursuant to this
10 section; and

11 (iv) a certification of a health care provider, as defined in 18
12 V.S.A. § 9481, that includes the provider’s credentials, credential number,
13 address, and phone number;

14 (3) is a child 19 years of age or under;

15 (4) is pregnant;

16 (5) has experienced the death of a spouse, domestic partner, or minor
17 child that caused the household to lose its housing;

18 (6) has experienced a natural disaster, such as a flood, fire, or hurricane;

19 (7) is under a court-ordered eviction or constructive eviction due to
20 circumstances over which the household has no control; or

1 (8) is experiencing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault,
2 stalking, human trafficking, hate violence, or other dangerous or life-
3 threatening conditions that relate to violence against the individual or a
4 household member that caused the household to lose its housing.

5 § 2208. TRANSITIONAL SHELTER

6 A community action agency shall serve or cause to be served eligible
7 households in its region in need of the services of a transitional shelter in the
8 manner agreed to as part of the federally required community planning
9 process. A community action agency may provide or cause to be provided
10 transitional shelter through community-based shelter, master grant leases,
11 developing shelter capacity, or other arrangements or combinations of
12 arrangements that comply with the intent of this chapter.

13 § 2209. SUPPORTIVE AND SHELTER SERVICES FOR HOUSEHOLDS
14 IMPACTED BY DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE

15 A statewide organization with population-specific experience serving
16 households who are or who have experienced domestic and sexual violence
17 shall provide or cause to be provided victim-centered shelter, financial
18 assistance, and appropriate supportive services, including coordinated entry
19 services.

1 § 2210. VHEARTH; DUTIES OF COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCIES

2 (a) The community action agencies shall serve or cause to have served
3 eligible households that are experiencing homelessness or that are precariously
4 housed throughout the State by providing supportive services, extreme weather
5 event shelter, emergency temporary shelter, or transitional shelter pursuant to
6 sections 2204–2208 of this chapter. If a community action agency cannot fulfil
7 its responsibilities under this chapter, the Department shall work with other
8 community action agencies or other appropriate community entities to ensure
9 that there is not a gap in services in a community action agency’s region.

10 (b) A community action agency providing or causing to provide services in
11 accordance with this chapter shall:

12 (1) have existing or planned infrastructure to support eligible households
13 in the region, including an established leadership team, a human resources
14 staff, and the ability to receive grant funding and issue subgrants;

15 (2) have the ability to meet the Department’s reporting requirements,
16 including past history of reporting compliance;

17 (3) have community connections with other providers in the region,
18 including providers of coordinated entry, local housing agencies, housing
19 providers, mental health and disability services, substance use disorder
20 services, and services for older Vermonters; and

21 (4) provide plain language communications to clients.

1 § 2211. VHEARTH; DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT

2 The Department shall have statewide responsibility for meeting the intent of
3 this chapter. For the purpose of providing administrative oversight and
4 monitoring of the Program established in this chapter, the Department shall:

5 (1)(A) adopt guidance regarding when extreme weather event shelters
6 shall be operated, including flexibility for regional weather conditions; and

7 (B) maintain a website with the locations of all extreme weather
8 event shelters;

9 (2) include as part of any redesignation review of a community action
10 agency required pursuant to 3 V.S.A. chapter 59, the community action
11 agency’s ability to perform the requirements of this chapter;

12 (3)(A) consult with the community action agencies to develop
13 appropriate resource allocations that take into account available data and
14 customary resource allocation methods, economic indicators, rate of
15 homelessness, rental vacancy rates, and other variables, as appropriate; and

16 (B) annually, distribute funding to each community action agency
17 using the allocation formula developed pursuant to subdivision (A) of this
18 subdivision (3), or if the Department and community action agencies agree,
19 disperse a joint allocation for all community action agencies, which the
20 community action agencies, in conjunction with their local housing coalitions,
21 shall decide how to distribute amongst themselves;

1 (4) consult with the community action agencies to develop appropriate
2 measures and methods for accountability of community action agencies’
3 execution of duties under this chapter, including the provision of any
4 previously agreed upon information to enable the Department to evaluate the
5 services provided through grant funds, the effect on households receiving
6 services, and an accounting of expended grant funds;

7 (5) provide support and technical assistance to the community action
8 agencies and convene community stakeholders;

9 (6) identify specific administrative resources that could be transitioned
10 to community operations; and

11 (7) adopt rules pursuant to 3 V.S.A. chapter 25, in consultation with the
12 community action agencies, for the implementation of this chapter, including
13 accommodations for individuals with a disability.

14 § 2212. REGIONAL PLANNING; NEEDS ASSESSMENTS

15 (a) As part of the plan required pursuant to 3 V.S.A. chapter 59 and the
16 federally required planning and needs assessments for the continuums of care,
17 the community action agencies shall jointly develop a regional needs
18 assessment for use in each community action agency’s region to inform future
19 plans addressing housing and homelessness in each region of the State. The
20 plans shall:

1 (1) address progress in reducing the number of households experiencing
2 homelessness in a region;

3 (2) assess the rate households placed in permanent housing return to
4 homelessness and the underlying reasons;

5 (3) identify resources developed and utilized in the region to address
6 homelessness;

7 (4) report the rate of household participation with coordinated entry
8 processes;

9 (5) identify system gaps and the funding needed to address those gaps,
10 including periodic inflationary adjustments; and

11 (6) utilize data, including Vermont's point-in-time count, coordinated
12 entry assessment results, and community conversations.

13 (b) Each community action agency shall submit plans developed pursuant
14 to this section to the Department in a format prescribed by the Department.

15 The Department shall aggregate the results of these reports and submit the
16 aggregated report to the House Committee on Human Services and to the
17 Senate Committee on Health and Welfare.

18 § 2213. USE OF HOTEL AND MOTEL ROOMS

19 (a) Hotels and motels providing temporary emergency shelter or
20 transitional shelter pursuant to this chapter shall comply with Program rules
21 and the following:

1 (1) Department of Health, Licensed Lodging Establishment Rule (CVR
2 13-140-023); and

3 (2) Department of Public Safety, Vermont Fire and Building Safety
4 Code (CVR 28-070-001).

5 (b) Annually, the Department shall propose hotel and motel rates as part of
6 its budget presentation for approval by the General Assembly. A community
7 action agency shall not pay more on a per-room, per-night basis than that rate
8 approved by the General Assembly. A community action agency may enter
9 into grants for the use of blocks of hotel and motel rooms and negotiate the
10 conditions of use for those blocks, including access for providers of case
11 management other support services.

12 Sec. 4. VERMONT HOMELESS EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE AND
13 RESPONSIVE TRANSITION TO HOUSING PROGRAM
14 IMPLEMENTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

15 (a) Creation. There is created the Vermont Homeless Emergency
16 Assistance and Responsive Transition to Housing Program Implementation
17 Advisory Committee to provide advice and recommendations to the
18 Commissioner for Children and Families and to the community action agencies
19 as defined in 33 V.S.A. chapter 22 regarding the design, implementation, and
20 transition to the Vermont Homeless Emergency Assistance and Responsive
21 Transition to Housing Program established in 33 V.S.A. chapter 22.

1 (b) Membership. The Advisory Committee’s membership shall reflect the
2 growing diversity among Vermonters, including individuals who are Black,
3 Indigenous, and Persons of Color, as well as with regard to socioeconomic
4 status, geographic location, gender, sexual identity, and disability status and
5 shall be composed of:

6 (1) five representatives with lived experience of homelessness,
7 appointed by the lead coordinated entry agency;

8 (2) one representative, appointed by each of the community action
9 agencies;

10 (3) a representative, appointed by the Chittenden County Coordinated
11 Entry Organization;

12 (4) a representative, appointed by the Balance of State Coordinated
13 Entry Organization;

14 (5) five representatives of local housing coalitions, including at least two
15 of whom are shelter providers, appointed jointly by the Chittenden County
16 Coordinated Entry Organization and the Balance of State Coordinated Entry
17 Organization;

18 (6) the Secretary of Human Services or designee;

19 (7) the Commissioner for Children and Families or designee;

20 (8) the Deputy Commissioner of the Department for Children and
21 Families’ Economic Services Division or designee;

1 (9) the Commissioner of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living or
2 designee;

3 (10) the Commissioner of Mental Health or designee;

4 (11) the Commissioner of Corrections or designee; and

5 (12) the Commissioner of Health or designee.

6 (c) Duties.

7 (1) The Advisory Committee shall provide recommendations on the
8 following:

9 (A) how to triage eligible priority populations when there are
10 insufficient shelter beds in a region; and

11 (B) the appropriate level of required intake and assessment processes
12 for each of the various levels of shelter that a household may utilize for
13 households that are precariously housed and for households experiencing
14 unsheltered homelessness.

15 (2) On or before February 1, the Advisory Committee shall submit its
16 recommendations to the Department, to the House Committee on Human
17 Services, and to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare.

18 (d) Assistance. The Advisory Committee shall have the administrative,
19 technical, and legal assistance of the Department for Children and Families.

20 (e) Meetings.

1 (1) The Commissioner shall call the first meeting of the Advisory
2 Committee to occur on or before July 15, 2025.

3 (2) The Committee shall select co-chairs from among its members at the
4 first meeting **at least one of whom is not a State employee.**

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

6 (4) The Advisory Committee may divide into subcommittees to carry
7 out its duties under this section and subcommittees may include individuals not
8 appointed to the Advisory Committee pursuant to subsection (b) of this
9 section.

10 (f) Compensation and reimbursement. Members of the Advisory
11 Committee shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of
12 expenses as permitted under 32 V.S.A. § 1010 for not more than 12 meetings
13 annually. These payments shall be made from monies appropriated to the
14 Department.

15 (g) Sunset. The Advisory Committee shall cease to exist on July 1, 2029.

16 Sec. 5. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

17 (a) On or before **[date?]**, the Department for Children and Families, **in**
18 **collaboration with community action agencies,** shall submit a plan for the
19 implementation of the Vermont Homeless Emergency Assistance and
20 Responsive Transition to Housing Program established by 33 V.S.A. chapter
21 **22 that ensures maxim flexibility for the use of resources and streamlines**

1 processes for Program participants. Specifically, the implementation plan shall
2 address:

3 (1) funding allocations among the community action agencies and other
4 providers, including for services specific to households who are experiencing
5 or have experienced domestic or sexual violence;

6 (2) additional funding sources identified for the Program;

7 (3) appropriate measures and methods for accountability developed by
8 the Department and the community action agencies pursuant to 33 V.S.A.
9 § 2210(4);

10 (4) appropriate supportive services specific to the level of shelter a
11 household utilizes, or whether the household is precariously housed, or
12 experiencing unsheltered homelessness;

13 (5) establishing an appeals process that includes a hearing before the
14 Human Services Board and an option for an expedited appeals process;

15 (6) whether lease agreements should allow payments to be withheld by
16 the community action agencies or any other entity holding the grant; and

17 (7) any anticipated challenges requiring a legislative solution.

18 (b) As part of the plan required pursuant to this section, the Department
19 shall develop and submit standards for the operation of community-based
20 shelters based on the Vermont Housing Opportunity Grant Program’s
21 Standards of Provision of Assistance.

1 § 3902. OFFICE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

2 (a) The Director of the Office of Economic Opportunity is hereby
3 authorized to allocate available financial assistance for community ~~services~~
4 action agencies and programs in accordance with State and federal law and
5 regulation.

6 (b) The Director may provide financial assistance to community ~~services~~
7 action agencies for the planning, conduct, administration and evaluation of
8 community ~~service~~ action programs to provide a range of services and
9 activities having a measurable and potentially major impact on causes of
10 poverty in the community or in areas of the community where poverty is a
11 particularly acute problem. Components of those services and activities may
12 involve, without limitation of other activities and supporting facilities designed
13 to assist ~~low-income~~ participants with low income:

14 (1) to secure and retain meaningful employment;

15 (2) to obtain adequate education;

16 (3) to make better use of available income;

17 (4) ~~to provide and maintain adequate housing and a suitable living~~

18 environment have access to safe, secure, permanent housing;

19 (5) to obtain prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery services

20 ~~for the prevention of narcotics addiction, alcoholism, and for the rehabilitation~~

21 ~~of narcotic addicts and alcoholics~~ individuals with substance use disorder;

1 (6) to obtain emergency assistance through loans and grants to meet
2 immediate and urgent individual and family needs, including the need for
3 health services, nutritious food, housing, and unemployment-related assistance;

4 (7) to remove obstacles and solve personal and family problems ~~which~~
5 that block achievement of self-sufficiency;

6 (8) to achieve greater participation in the affairs of the community;

7 (9) to make more frequent and effective use of other programs related to
8 the purposes of this chapter; and

9 (10) to coordinate and establish linkages between governmental and
10 other social service programs to ~~assure~~ ensure the effective delivery of such
11 services to ~~low-income~~ persons; with low income and to encourage the use of
12 entities in the private sector of the community in efforts to ameliorate poverty
13 in the community.

14 (c) The Director is authorized to adopt rules pursuant to chapter 25 of this
15 title appropriate to the carrying out of this chapter and the purposes thereof.

16 § 3903. DESIGNATION OF AGENCIES TO PROVIDE SERVICES AND
17 ACTIVITIES TO AMELIORATE OR ELIMINATE POVERTY

18 The Director shall designate private nonprofit community based
19 organizations ~~who~~ that have demonstrated or ~~who~~ that can demonstrate the
20 ability to provide services and activities as defined in subsection 3902(b) of
21 this title as community ~~services~~ action agencies.

1 § 3904. COMMUNITY ~~SERVICES~~ ACTION AGENCY PLAN

2 Each designated community ~~services~~ action agency shall determine the need
3 for activities and services within the area served by the agency and shall
4 thereafter prepare a community services plan ~~which~~ that describes the method
5 by which the agency will provide those services. The plan shall include a
6 schedule for the anticipated provision of new or additional services and shall
7 specify the resources ~~which~~ that are needed by and available to the agency to
8 implement the plan. The community services plan shall be **completed** every
9 three years and **updated** annually. The plan shall include the regional needs
10 assessment required under 33 V.S.A. § 2209.

11 § 3905. COMMUNITY ~~SERVICES~~ ACTION AGENCIES;

12 ADMINISTRATION

13 (a) Each community ~~services~~ action agency shall administer its programs as
14 set out in the community services plan and as approved by its board of
15 directors.

16 (b) Each board of a nonprofit community based organization that is
17 designated a community ~~services~~ action agency under section 3903 of this
18 chapter shall have an executive committee of not more than seven members
19 who shall be representative of the composition of the board and the board shall
20 be so constituted that:

21 * * *

1 (2) one-third of the members of the board are persons chosen in
2 accordance with election procedures adequate to ~~assure~~ ensure that they are
3 representative of ~~the poor~~ individuals with low income in the area served; and

4 (3) the remainder of the members of the board are officials or members
5 of business, industry, labor, religious, welfare, education, or other major
6 groups and interests in the community.

7 (c) Each member of the board selected to represent a specific geographic
8 area within a community shall reside in the area ~~he or she~~ the member
9 represents. ~~No person selected under subdivisions 2) or (3) of subsection (b)~~
10 ~~as a member of a board shall serve on such board for more than five~~
11 ~~consecutive years, or more than a total of 10 years~~ The Board shall adopt term
12 limits to govern its members.

13 * * * Appropriations * * *

14 Sec. 7. APPROPRIATION; TRANSITION PLANNING

15 In fiscal year 2026, \$6,500,000.00 of one-time funding is appropriated from
16 the General Fund as follows:

17 (1) \$3,000,000.00 to the Department for Children and Families for
18 distribution to the community action agencies;

19 (2) \$500,000.00 to the Department for Children and Families for
20 contractual and other system transformation assistance; and

1 (3) \$4,500,000.00 to the Department for Children and Families for the
2 continued development of need-specific housing throughout the State, such as
3 recovery housing, housing for individuals with disabilities, family housing, and
4 transitional housing for individuals exiting the custody of the Commissioner of
5 Corrections.

6 Sec. 8. FUTURE APPROPRIATIONS; LEGISLATIVE INTENT

7 It is the intent of the General Assembly that in fiscal year 2027 and
8 thereafter, equivalent funds used in fiscal year 2025 for General Assistance
9 emergency housing and the Housing Opportunity Grant Program be
10 redesignated for the Vermont Homeless Emergency Assistance and
11 Responsive Transition to Housing Program pursuant to 33 V.S.A. chapter 22.

12 * * * Effective Dates * * *

13 Sec. 9. EFFECTIVE DATES

14 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2025, except that Sec. 3 (Vermont
15 Homeless Emergency Assistance and Responsive Transition to Housing
16 Program) shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

17 and that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read: “An act
18 relating to the Vermont Homeless Emergency Assistance and Responsive
19 Transition to Housing Program”

20

1 (Committee vote: _____)

2

3

Representative _____

4

FOR THE COMMITTEE

5