



VERMONT LEGISLATIVE  
**Joint Fiscal Office**

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## Fiscal Note

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### **H.660 – An act relating to fiscal year 2027 Opioid Abatement Special Fund appropriations**

**As recommended by the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, Draft 6.1<sup>1</sup>**

#### **Bill Summary**

**T**his bill would appropriate \$8,162,646 from and revert \$1,452,287 back to the Opioid Abatement Special Fund in fiscal year 2027. The bill would also appropriate \$640,631 from the Substance Misuse Prevention Special Fund. Finally, the title of the bill would be amended to “An act relating to fiscal year 2027 Opioid Abatement Special Fund and Substance Misuse Prevention Special Fund appropriations” upon passage.

#### **Opioid Abatement Special Fund (Secs. 1 through 6)**

Sec. 1 would appropriate a total of \$8,162,646 from the Opioid Abatement Special Fund in fiscal year 2027.<sup>2</sup> Unless reverted by the General Assembly, the appropriations would carry forward until fully expended.

Sec. 3 would require each ongoing funding proposal considered by the Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee to include a sustainability plan from the applicant to ensure consideration of future expenses and available resources apart from the Opioid Abatement Special Fund.

Sec. 4 would direct the Advisory Committee to not accept any new funding proposals for fiscal year 2028, unless a proposal was previously identified in statute as intended for annual funding. Instead, the Advisory Committee would review the outcomes of programs and initiatives previously funded to assess the effectiveness, long-term sustainability, and appropriateness of the Fund as a funding source.

Sec. 5 would require the Department of Health to submit to the General Assembly quarterly reports regarding expenditures from the Opioid Abatement Special Fund, identify funds that remain unobligated, unspent, or both, and an explanation of why the funds have not been fully distributed.

Sec. 6 would revert \$1,452,287 to the Opioid Abatement Special Fund, making the net impact of the bill to the Opioid Abatement Special Fund \$6,710,359. The table on the following page provides a summary of all appropriations and reversions in the bill.

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<sup>1</sup> *The Joint Fiscal Office (JFO) is a nonpartisan legislative office dedicated to producing unbiased fiscal analysis – this fiscal note is meant to provide information for legislative consideration, not to provide policy recommendations. The full fiscal note history is available on the fiscal tab of the bill page on the General Assembly website and can be pulled up through a bill number search on the JFO page.*

<sup>2</sup> The Opioid Abatement Special Fund was established in [18 V.S.A. § 4774](#).

**H.660 – Fiscal Year 2027 Appropriations and Reversions: Opioid Abatement Special Fund**

Sec. 1(a), Subsec.	Program Description	Appropriation	
		Dept./Agency	FY 2027 Amount
<b>Existing Ongoing Projects</b>			
(1)(A)	26 outreach or case management positions within preferred provider networks*	Health	\$455,000
(2)(A)	Recovery residences*	Health	\$1,600,000
(3)(A)	Syringe services*	Health	\$850,000
(4)	Peer recovery center coaches in correctional facilities and in probation and parole offices	Corrections	\$1,100,000
(5)	Support for recovery programs at emergency shelters	Children and Families	\$250,000

\* The bill states intent to fund this program annually until the Fund does not have sufficient monies.

<b>Proposed New Funding</b>			
(6)(A)	New recovery beds at National Alliance for Recovery Residences (NARR) level III or higher	Health	\$600,000
(6)(B)	Opioid use disorder residential treatment beds at American Society of Addiction Medicine Level 3.1	Health	\$600,000
(7)	Prehospital Vermont EMS Buprenorphine Treatment (PREVENT) Program to expand training for emergency service providers on carrying and administering buprenorphine	Health	\$248,000
(8)	Subsidize room and board for individuals in Rutland Mental Health Services' transitional housing program	Health	\$35,000
(9)	Springfield Project ACTION to support public safety enhancement team coordinator positions in Bennington, Springfield, Brattleboro, St. Johnsbury, and central Vermont	Health	\$237,646
(10)	Recovery Centers	Health	\$800,000
(11)	Expanding Public Safety Enhancement Team's harm reduction and strategic community intervention	Public Safety	\$287,000
(12)(A)	Grants to the City of Burlington for an overdose prevention center**	Health	\$1,100,000

\*\* Per the bill, the Department shall not distribute funding until a location for the center has been procured, is being fit up for its intended use, and is currently or will imminently become operational. The bill states intent to continue to appropriate funds from the Opioid Abatement Special Fund for this purpose through at least 2028.

Sec.	Reversions	Act	
6	Expansion of satellite locations for treatment services	Act 22 (2023), as amended by Act 113 (2024)	(\$444,000)
6	Wound care telehealth consultation pilot program	Act 22 (2023)	(\$8,287)
6	Substance use disorder stabilization beds	Act 113 (2024)	(\$1,000,000)

In summary, the bill would appropriate \$8,162,646 and revert \$1,452,287 for a net impact of \$6,710,359.

<b>TOTAL FY 2027 APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>\$8,162,646</b>
<b>TOTAL FY 2027 REVERSIONS</b>	<b style="color: red;">(\$1,452,287)</b>
<b>NET IMPACT</b>	<b>\$6,710,359</b>

**Opioid Abatement Special Fund Balance and Future Allocations**

The estimated unappropriated balance of the Fund as of February 11, 2026, was approximately \$11.8 million. In addition to the aforementioned appropriations in this bill, H.951 – An act relating to making appropriations for the support of the government – as recommended by the Senate, would appropriate an additional \$875,000 from the Fund for HireAbility Vermont, an opioid recovery employment program. Based on this, the estimated Fund balance, not taking into consideration any future allocations (as listed in the chart below), would be approximately \$4.3 million. The following chart shows the estimated allocations to the Fund based on all current settlements, except for the Sackler/Purdue settlement, which has yet to be finalized.

Estimated Allocations to the Opioid Abatement Special Fund, 2025 – 2037 (in millions) <sup>3</sup>					
Year	Allocation	Year	Allocation	Year	Allocation
2025	\$4.58	2030	\$4.46	2035	\$1.10
2026	\$4.45	2031	\$4.10	2036	\$0.63
2027	\$4.10	2032	\$4.10	2037	\$0.63
2028	\$4.76	2033	\$2.96		
2029	\$4.78	2034	\$1.10		

**Substance Misuse Prevention Special Fund (Secs. 7 and 8)**

Sec.7 would appropriate \$640,641 from the Substance Misuse Special Fund. According to the Department of Health, there should be enough money in the Fund to cover these costs in fiscal year 2027.

**H.660 – Fiscal Year 2027 Appropriations: *Substance Misuse Prevention Special Fund***

Sec. 7, Subsec.	Description	Appropriation	
		Dept./Agency	FY 2027 Amount
1	Elevate Youth Services to support the creation of a low-barrier, drop-in teen center in Barre	Health	\$288,935
2	Greater Falls Connections	Health	\$124,999
3	Interaction: Friends for Change	Health	\$200,000
4	Winooski Partnership for Prevention	Health	\$26,697
<b>TOTAL FY 2027 APPROPRIATIONS</b>			<b>\$640,631</b>

Sec. 8 would require the Department of Health, as part of its annual budget presentation, to report to the committees of jurisdiction on its specific spending proposal from the Substance Misuse Special Fund for the coming year. The report would also include an estimate on how much of the Fund balance would be anticipated to remain unallocated at the end of the fiscal year.

<sup>3</sup> Allocation estimates are from the Attorney General’s Office. These estimates are subject to change as more information becomes available. These estimates do not include the Sackler/Purdue settlement.