

PHILIP B. SCOTT
GOVERNOR



State of Vermont
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

December 16, 2025

The Honorable Andrew Perchlik, Chair/Senate Committee on Appropriations
The Honorable Robin Scheu, Chair/House Committee on Appropriations
115 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05633

Dear Members of the Senate and House Appropriations Committees:

I'm providing the FY26 Budget Adjustment (BAA) to the Legislature early so we can collectively focus on transforming our public education system to be the very best in the nation and providing relief to Vermonters for the projected 12% average increase in property tax bills detailed in the Tax Commissioner's December 1st letter.

The BAA is the vehicle for standard mid-year budget adjustments. Accordingly, my team has submitted a *clean* FY26 BAA. It contains only essential current year adjustments in response to cost pressures, utilization updates and other unanticipated events.

This bill has occasionally veered course and increased spending beyond the necessary mid-year adjustments. We **must** work together to avoid doing that this year, as it is highly unlikely that we'll experience the sizable surpluses of the last few years, so we need to be extremely thoughtful about how we spend.

We need to preserve our ability to direct as much funding as feasible to help address the property tax crisis Vermonters face and finish what we started last session in order to save and improve our education system for the next generation of Vermonters.

By submitting the FY26 BAA early, it is my hope you will quickly pass a bill that only includes necessary mid-year adjustments, and my team stands ready to support you in those efforts.

Sincerely,

Philip B. Scott
Governor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. B. Scott", written over a horizontal line.

PBS/kp

cc: Jill Krowinski, Speaker of the House
Philip Baruth, Senate President Pro Tempore