H.489 – Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Adjustment Act <u>As Introduced</u> by the House Committee on Appropriations

Fiscal Year 2025 Total Appropriations						
(\$ millions)	General Funds	Federal Funds	Transportation Funds	Education Funds	All Other Funds	Unduplicated Totals
FY 2025 As Passed	\$2,194.77	\$3,098.94	\$373.70	\$2,325.39	\$588.70	\$8,581.51
Governor's Recommend	\$63.53	\$81.62	-	\$(13.70)	\$14.57	\$146.03
House Changes	\$16.76	-	-	\$(1.00)	-	\$15.76
FY 2025 Total BAA	\$2,275.06	\$3,180.56	\$373.70	\$2,310.70	\$603.28	\$8,743.30

OVERVIEW

- This budget adjustment fills all statutorily-required reserve requirements, meets all pension obligations, stabilizes several special funds, closes out defunct special funds, and makes essential investments in the Judiciary, human services, housing, and other major areas.
- This budget adjustment (BAA) includes an additional \$106.38 million in changes to General Fund appropriations and transfers and an additional \$11.45 million in net changes to direct applications and reversions.

REVENUE OVERVIEW

• The consensus State revenue forecast was upgraded in July 2024 and January 2025, putting anticipated fiscal year 2025 General Fund revenue at \$2,362.3 million – \$248.8 million higher than the estimate that was used to build the fiscal year 2025 budget (Act 113).

BASE APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENTS

- Funds courthouse security contracts and current information technology expenses in the Judiciary.
- Funds caseload and utilization adjustment of \$78.8 million Global Commitment in the Department of Vermont Health Access Medicaid Program.
- Funds Department of Mental Health caseload and utilization increases in Private Non-Medical Institutions.
- Funds various costs at the Vermont Veterans' Home, including \$5.9 million General Fund for traveling nurses.
- Funds increased demand for the Agency of Education's Adult Diploma Program.
- Funds Service Level Agreement charges throughout State government.
- Provides additional \$1.0 million Cannabis Regulation Fund to the Department of Health for substance use prevention programming.
- Provides additional \$1.3 million federal funds for 3SquaresVT regular benefit caseload adjustment.
- Provides \$21.0 million Global Commitment for nursing home emergency fiscal relief.
- Provides \$24.5 million Global Commitment for nursing home Medicaid bed day adjustment.
- Corrects allocation of Property Transfer Tax revenues to align with legislative intent.



ONE-TIME GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS AND TRANSFERS

- Provides additional \$150K funding for the Department of Health's Vermont Household Health Insurance Survey.
- Provides \$10 million for provider stabilization grants for Medicaid participating providers with stabilization needs and sustainability plans.
- Transfers an additional \$5.7 million from the General funds, for a total of \$6.5 million, to the Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund for State contribution to local FEMA match for flood recovery.
- Transfers an additional \$5 million, for a total of \$78.2 million, to the General Obligation Bond Debt Service Fund.
- Transfers \$18.5 million to support anticipated claims and increased pharmacy costs in the State Employee Medical Insurance Fund.
- Transfers \$3.1 million to address deficit in the Correctional Industries Fund.
- Transfers \$900K to the Act 250 Permit Fund to mitigate loss of revenue.
- Reverts an additional \$22.75 million to the General Fund from prior year appropriations.
- Provides \$14 million to the Treasurer for redeeming State general obligation bonds prior to maturity, backfilling funds utilized for flood response efforts per Emergency Board motion.
- Provides \$220K to the Treasurer for the Emergency Personnel Survivors Benefit Fund.

OTHER:

- Extends General Assistance Emergency Housing emergency winter weather housing provisions for eligible populations through June 30, 2025 utilizing existing funding.
- Reserves \$133.5 million General Fund to be used for permanent housing, property tax relief, and any other uses determined to be in the best interests of the public in fiscal year 2026.
- Directs the Department for Children and Families to fully utilize the State's allocation of discretionary exemptions in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program to the extent permitted by federal regulation.
- Includes language to expand allowable use of one-time funds appropriated in fiscal year 2024 to offset denied FEMA claims and allow for the appropriation to be used by the State Recovery Office for presidentially-declared disasters in fiscal years 2024 or 2025.
- Authorizes the Commissioner of Finance and Management to utilize the Human Services Caseload Reserve
 to maintain an appropriate balance in the Child Care Contribution Special Fund to support the Child Care
 Financial Assistance Program (CCFAP) in fiscal year 2025.

