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H.965

Senator Kitchel moves that the Senate propose to the House that the bill be amended as follows:

First: In Sec. 1, purpose, in subsection (a), by striking out “\$329,350,000.00” following “appropriate” and inserting in lieu thereof \$326,850,000.00

Second: In Sec. 6, Front-Line Employees Hazard Pay Grant Program, in subdivision (a)(2), by striking out “\$31,000,000.00” following “The sum of” and inserting in lieu thereof \$28,000,000.00

Third: In Sec. 7, Agency of Human Services; Health Care Provider Stabilization Grant Program, by striking out subdivision (c)(1) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subdivision (c)(1) to read as follows:

(1) The prioritization methodology shall consider:

(A) the impact of the grant amount on the applicant’s sustainability, not the applicant’s size or its proportion of health care spending in this State;

(B) the degree to which the grant will provide or support services that would otherwise likely become limited or unavailable as a result of business disruptions caused by the COVID-19 public health emergency, including to sustain existing population health management programs, or the grant funds would enable the applicant to withstand and recover from business disruptions caused by the COVID-19 public health emergency, or both;

1 (C) the degree to which the applicant would use the grant funds to
2 support existing patient financial assistance programs or to enable the applicant
3 to continue providing services to Medicaid beneficiaries, or both;

4 (D) the degree to which the applicant maintains participation in
5 value-based payment arrangements, if applicable;

6 (E) the degree to which the applicant appears capable of making
7 appropriate and efficient use of the grant funds; and

8 (F) any financial assistance an applicant has received from other
9 sources.

10 Fourth: By striking out Sec. 13, Meals to Older Vermonters and Other
11 Vulnerable Populations, in its entirety and by inserting a new Sec. 13 to read as
12 follows:

13 Sec. 13. MEALS TO OLDER VERMONTERS AND OTHER

14 VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

15 On or before August 18, 2020, the Department for Disabilities, Aging, and
16 Independent Living shall report to the Joint Fiscal Committee on:

17 (1) the adequacy of funding for the provision of nutrition services to
18 older Vermonters and other vulnerable populations served by the Department,
19 including:

1 (A) specific federal COVID-19 funding provided to date for the
2 provision of nutrition services to the elderly and vulnerable populations served
3 by the Department; and

4 (B) Older Americans Act funds distributed to the Area Agencies on
5 Aging for the purpose of providing nutrition services to older Vermonters;

6 (2) any funds made available for nutrition services for older Vermonters
7 and other vulnerable populations from the Coronavirus Relief Fund pursuant to
8 the Joint Fiscal Committee’s May 11, 2020 approved plan; and

9 (3) any recommendation for additional Coronavirus Relief Fund monies
10 for nutrition services for older Vermonters and other vulnerable populations
11 from a subsequent Joint Fiscal Committee allocation or legislation.

12 Fifth: By striking out Sec. 15, Grants to Vulnerable Populations, in its
13 entirety, and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 15 to read as follows:

14 Sec. 15. GRANTS TO VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

15 The sum of \$2,000,000.00 is appropriated from the Coronavirus Relief
16 Fund to the Agency of Human Services in fiscal year 2021 for the purposes of
17 distributing the monies among populations made vulnerable by the COVID-19
18 public health emergency as determined by a needs-based assessment. The
19 populations served by this section shall be households living below 300
20 percent of the Federal Poverty Level, including families receiving Reach Up,
21 older Vermonters, and individuals with a disability. Monies distributed

1 pursuant to this section shall assist the designated populations in addressing
2 permissible household needs under Sec. 5001 of the CARES Act, Pub. L. No.
3 116–136 and related guidance.

4 Sixth: In Sec. 17, Agency of Natural Resources; COVID-19 public health
5 expenses on State lands, in subsection (a), by striking out “\$2,500,000.00”
6 following “the amount of” and inserting in lieu thereof \$3,000,000.00