STATE OF VERMONT
OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

MEMORANDUM

To: Joint Fiscal Committee

From: Representative Laura Sibilia, Chair of the Joint Information Technology Oversight Committee; and

Senator Randy Brock, Vice Chair of the Joint Information Technology Oversight Committee

Date: September 16, 2019

Subject: Recommendation for the Release of Capital Funds for the Integrated Eligibility Enrollment (IE&E) Program

Pursuant to 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 42, Sec. 3(e) (the "2019 Capital Bill"), as the Chair and Vice Chair of the Joint Information Technology Oversight Committee (the "JITOC"), we have been asked to review the September progress report submitted by the Agency of Human Services and the Agency of Digital Services (the AHS/ADS Report") and make a recommendation to the Joint Fiscal Committee (the "JFC") on whether the JFC should approve the release of $750,000.00 in capital funds to continue the program.

We have reviewed the AHS/ADS Report as well as the relevant memo prepared by the IT consultant for the Joint Fiscal Office, dated September 1, 2019 (the "September IT Consultant Memo"). Based on the AHS/ADS Report and the September IT Consultant Memo, we recommend that the Committee approve the release of $750,000.00 with the condition that the Agency of Human Services and the Agency of Digital Services work in concert to develop a process for testing network capacity and effective functionality prior to the November IE&E report to the JFC. This process and plan should address the network deficiencies that were experienced by the Business Intelligence and Enterprise Content Management projects and how they will be prevented in the future. The process and plan should be presented to the JITOC at its September and October meetings.

We have concerns with the IE&E program. First, the AHS/ADS Report noted significant and persistent network issues that hindered progress on the Enterprise Content Management and Business Intelligence projects. Second, most project spends for the IE&E program have been over budget and projections indicate that multiple targeted delivery dates are at risk for not being met.

As a result of these issues, the Joint Information Technology Oversight Committee will take additional testimony at its September and October meetings, specifically looking at oversight of the IE&E program, the quality of the measurements of progress, and its overall cost-benefit.