



STATE OF VERMONT
JOINT FISCAL OFFICE

MEMORANDUM

To: Senator Ann Cummings, Chair; Representative Catherine Toll, Vice Chair;
Members of the Joint Fiscal Committee

From: Stephen Klein

Date: May 3, 2020

Subject: Grant Request - JFO #3004 - Coronavirus Relief Fund allocation to Vermont

As you are aware, the Administration has submitted a “corrected” grant AA-1 to the Joint Fiscal Committee (JFC) for acceptance. While the new AA-1 is closer to the JFC adopted conditions, you should be aware that small differences remain.

1. The 4/27/2020 JFC Level One allocation was \$60 million. The Administration asked that it be raised to \$75 million. Also, the language for Level One differs as follows:
 - a. The JFC language reads: *“The Administration would be authorized to spend up to \$60 million for health and safety and other emergency response needs, including the following:...”*
 - b. The Administration language reads: *“Allocated to the Secretary of Administration for distribution to departments subject to Excess Receipts Requests approved by the Secretary of Administration.”*
2. The language for Level Two differs as follows:
 - a. The 4/27/2020 JFC Level Two reads: *“Subject to review and pre-approval of JFC, the Administration would be authorized to spend up to an additional \$150 million for time-sensitive critical needs that cannot wait for the appropriations process.”*
 - b. The Administration has proposed: *“Available for allocation to the Secretary of Administration subject to the Joint Fiscal Committee's approval. Associated appropriations would be subject to Excess Receipts Requests approved by the Secretary of Administration.”*
3. The language for Level Three differs as follows:
 - a. The 4/27/2020 JFC Level Three reads: *“The remaining funds would be subject to appropriation by the Legislature.”*
 - b. The Administration has proposed: *“Subject to future appropriations, to be determined.”*

Including the reference to the excess receipts process for Levels One and Two, as proposed by the Administration, is correct for this process to allow expenditure without appropriations. The purpose of the other changes is unclear.