



STATE OF VERMONT  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
LEGISLATIVE JOINT FISCAL COMMITTEE

Preliminary Agenda

Thursday, November 5, 2020

[Meeting available by LIVE Stream](#)

- 10:00 a.m. Call to order and approve minutes of October 22, 2020 [**Action Item**]
- 10:05 a.m. A. Administration's Fiscal Updates  
*Adam Greshin, Commissioner, Department of Finance & Management*
1. FY 2021 Budget Adjustment Pressures
  2. Caseload Reserve
  3. Tax Computer System Modernization [Fund Report](#) [...further amended by [Sec. E.111.1 of Act 11 \(H.16\) of SS2018](#)]
- 10:20 a.m. B. Coronavirus Relief Fund - Re-allocation Request
1. Discussion on CRF reallocation legislation [[B.1108 of Act 154 of 2020](#)]
  2. Administration request for [CRF reallocations](#) { [CRF Tracking](#) } { [CRF Appropriations Status](#) } [**Action Items**]
    - a. **Total Amount Requested: \$265,000.** The Agency of Natural Resources requests additional funding to cover costs incurred to execute various CRF programs tasked to the Agency as well as additional expenses incurred since June 30, 2020.
    - b. **Total Amount Requested \$331,000.** Of Buildings and General Services CRF Funds from the Property Management Division to the Information Centers Division in the amount of \$30,000, \$270,000 to the Fee for Space program, and \$30,615 to the AOA Financial Services Division in FY2021.
    - c. **Total Amount Requested: \$100,000.** The Department of Public Service requests a reallocation of program funding to defray the agency's administrative costs to deliver the Temporary Broadband Lifeline Program ("TBL Program") authorized by Section 13(d) of Act 137.
    - d. **Total Amount Requested: \$100,000.** The Department of Public Service requests a reallocation of program funding to cover the balance of the agency's contractual costs to deploy Wi-Fi hot spots in communities throughout Vermont.
    - e. **Total Amount Requested \$750,000.** The Agency of Administration requests reallocated CRF to continue the engagement of our CRF Consultant.
    - f. **Total Amount Requested \$1,186,990.** The Department of Mental Health requests additional CRF funding for Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital (VPCH) and Middlesex

Therapeutic Community Residence (MTCR) staffing, PPE, and other contract related expenditures.

- g. **Total Amount Requested \$215,756.** DVHA is requesting \$15,756 in additional CRF funding for administrative costs including contractual adjustments needed for the pandemic. DAIL is requesting \$200,000 for staff costs attributed to pandemic response and time serving the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC).
- h. **Total Amount Requested: \$75,000,000 - \$100,000,000.** The Agency of Commerce and the Department of Taxes requests an increase in funding to fund Expanded Economic Development Grants unmet need requests closer to the business and nonprofits unmet need figures.
- i. **Total Amount Requested: \$750,000.** The Agency of Commerce and Community Development requests additional funding to enable the state's small business technical assistance network to provide additional services to COVID-19 impacted businesses.
- j. **Total Amount Requested: \$1,000,000.** ACCD and AHS seek funding to enable the Community Action Agencies to offer their EMBRACE technical assistance and financial assistance to additional micro-business clients.
- k. **Total Amount Requested: \$1,000,000.** ACCD and AG seek funding to extend the Restaurants and Farmers Feeding the Hungry Program, now known as the Vermont Everyone Eats program through December 30, 2020.
- l. **Total Amount Requested: \$500,000.** (Spending above \$500,000 up to \$750,000 is possible if the timeframes for program implementation extend beyond December 30.) The Department of Public Service requests additional funding to leverage the existing VCAAP to assist residential and nonresidential customers of community and municipal water and sewer systems who have suffered economic hardship due to loss of income because of COVID-19.
- m. **Total Amount Requested: \$2,410,000.** Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets requests the following CRF reallocations in two critical program areas: Buy Local Campaign and Expanded Meat Processing.
- n. **Total Amount Requested: \$4.55 million.** Efficiency Vermont and the Agency of Education request for additional CRF funding for shovel-ready School IAQ projects.
- o. **Total Amount Requested: \$1.9 million.** VSAC anticipates spending \$2.35 million of COVID funds for State Grant Appeals, \$100,000 for the Advancement Grant, \$1.5 million in Technology stipends, and \$30,000 in emergency micro grants for a total of \$3.98 million between now and December. We are proposing to spend the remaining funds to offset the costs to VSAC and borrowers of providing targeted student loan relief to borrowers seeking payment accommodations because of COVID-19. We are offering two approaches to providing this relief for consideration. These proposals assume no extension in the December Federal expenditure deadline or the impact of the 2nd wave of COVID which is now being experienced across the country either of which could increase demand.
- p. **Total Amount Requested: \$700,000.** The Agency of Human Services is seeking funding for the creation of a financial support program for Vermonters that have tested positive for COVID-19 or have been asked by the Department of Health to quarantine. The request for funding is through December 30, 2020.

- q. **Total Amount Requested: \$6,946,000.** DCF seeks funding to cover additional needs in the Child Care Grant Program and to provide Workforce Stabilization funding to child care providers/employees.
- r. **Total Amount Requested: \$808,955** DVHA requests CRF to support 34 Blueprint-participating Patient Centered Medical Homes in expanding current COVID-19 specimen collection for diagnostic testing in accordance with the State of Vermont's coordinated COVID-19 testing plan.
- s. **Total Amount Requested: \$931,880** DVHA requests CRF for expenditures resulting from the use of the Vermont Health Information Exchange (VHIE) to meet the State's needs for real-time exchange of health information as part of its public health response to COVID-19.
- t. **Total Amount Requested: \$375,000.** AHS and DAIL seek the re-allocation of CRF funding to enhance capacity at Burlington Health and Rehabilitation, a Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) to reduce inpatient admission pressures on UVMHC and increase the available hospital beds across the state to ensure capacity for any potential COVID surge during the fall and winter.
- u. **Total Amount Requested: \$3,500,000.** The Agency of Human Services is seeking additional funding for COVID-19 testing through December 30, 2020.
- v. **Total Amount Requested: \$3,240,479.** The Department of Health submits the following request for Coronavirus Relief Fund allocation to Vermont independent colleges for testing costs.
- w. **Total Amount Requested: \$8 million.** The Agency of Administration CRF request for additional support for the Hazard Pay program.

- 11:10 a.m. C. Grants (if needed)
- 11:15 a.m. D. Fiscal Officers – *Stephen Klein, Chief Fiscal Officer, Joint Fiscal Office*
- 1. Preliminary Revenues through October
  - 2. Other
- 11:30 a.m. Adjourn and Next Meetings (*November 20 and December 9 and 21*)

*Updated 11/4/2020 at 1:42 p.m.*

*Notable Dates:*

*November 13 at 10:00 a.m. – Health Reform Oversight Committee*

*December 3 at 10:00 a.m.- All Legislative Briefing via videoconference*