



VERMONT LEGISLATIVE
Joint Fiscal Office

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Fiscal Note

June 9, 2026

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S.243 – An act relating to distributing funds to the Vermont Language Justice Project

As passed by the General Assembly¹

Bill Summary

The bill allows the Office of Racial Equity to contract with the Vermont Language Justice Project (VLJP) to prepare informational materials at the request of State agencies and departments, as needed, to assist Vermonters who speak languages other than English in the event of a disease outbreak, natural disaster, or other public health emergency, including ongoing personal and public health information. It also requires the Department of Buildings and General Services to assist VLJP as it navigates the process to become added to the State’s list of approved contractors.

While the bill does not include an appropriation, H.951 – an act relating to making appropriations for the support of government, as passed by the General Assembly – includes both a reversion of \$150,000 from the Office Racial Equity (for the Statewide Language Access Plan) to the General Fund and a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$150,000 for a grant to the Vermont Language Justice Project for the purposes identified in S.243.²

Background

Act 78 (2023), the fiscal year 2024 budget, included a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$2.3 million to the Agency of Administration (which houses the Office of Racial Equity) to create, implement, and oversee a comprehensive statewide language access plan.³ As of the January 2026 Report on General Fund Carryforward and Reversions, that appropriation had roughly \$2 million remaining.⁴

¹ The Joint Fiscal Office (JFO) is a nonpartisan legislative office dedicated to producing unbiased fiscal analysis – this fiscal note is meant to provide information for legislative consideration, not to provide policy recommendations. The full fiscal note history is available on the fiscal tab of the bill page on the General Assembly website and can be pulled up through a bill number search on the JFO page.

² See Sec. D.102 for the reversion and Sec.B.1100(i)(2) for the appropriation in H.951 – an act relating to making appropriations for the support of government, as passed by the General Assembly.

³ <https://jfo.vermont.gov/assets/Uploads/616a60f852/Act-78-As-Enacted.pdf>

⁴ Report on General Fund Carryforward and Reversions, submitted by Adam Greshin to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, January 16, 2026.