An act relating to making appropriations for the support of government

The Senate proposes to the House to amend the bill by striking out all after

the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. A.100 SHORT TITLE

This bill may be referred to as the BIG BILL – Fiscal Year 2023 Appropriations Act.

Sec. A.101 PURPOSE

(a) The purpose of this act is to provide appropriations for the operations of

State government during fiscal year 2023. It is the express intent of the

General Assembly that activities of the various agencies, departments,

divisions, boards, and commissions be limited to those that can be supported

by funds appropriated in this act or other acts passed prior to June 30, 2022.

Agency and department heads are directed to implement staffing and service

levels at the beginning of fiscal year 2023 to meet this condition unless

otherwise directed by specific language in this act or other acts of the General

Assembly.

Sec. A.102 APPROPRIATIONS

(a) It is the intent of the General Assembly that this act serves as the

primary source and reference for appropriations for fiscal year 2023.
(b) The sums herein stated are appropriated for the purposes specified in
the following sections of this act. When no time is expressly stated during
which any of the appropriations are to continue, the appropriations are single-
year appropriations and only for the purpose indicated and shall be paid from
funds shown as the source of funds. If in this act there is an error in either
addition or subtraction, the totals shall be adjusted accordingly. Apparent
errors in referring to section numbers of statutory titles within this act may be
disregarded by the Commissioner of Finance and Management.

(c) Unless codified or otherwise specified, all narrative portions of this act
apply only to the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2023.

Sec. A.103 DEFINITIONS

(a) As used in this act:

(1) “Encumbrances” means a portion of an appropriation reserved for
the subsequent payment of existing purchase orders or contracts. The
Commissioner of Finance and Management shall make final decisions on the
appropriateness of encumbrances.

(2) “Grants” means subsidies, aid, or payments to local governments, to
community and quasi-public agencies for providing local services, and to
persons who are not wards of the State for services or supplies and means cash
or other direct assistance, including pension contributions.
“Operating expenses” means property management; repair and
maintenance; rental expenses; insurance; postage; travel; energy and utilities;
office and other supplies; equipment, including motor vehicles, highway
materials, and construction; expenditures for the purchase of land and
construction of new buildings and permanent improvements; and similar items.

“Personal services” means wages and salaries, fringe benefits, per
diems, contracted third-party services, and similar items.

Sec. A.104 RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING LAWS

(a) Except as specifically provided, this act shall not be construed in any
way to negate or impair the full force and effect of existing laws.

Sec. A.105 OFFSETTING APPROPRIATIONS

(a) In the absence of specific provisions to the contrary in this act, when
total appropriations are offset by estimated receipts, the State appropriations
shall control, notwithstanding receipts being greater or less than anticipated.

Sec. A.106 FEDERAL FUNDS

(a) In fiscal year 2023, the Governor, with the approval of the General
Assembly or the Joint Fiscal Committee if the General Assembly is not in
session, may accept federal funds available to the State of Vermont, including
block grants in lieu of or in addition to funds herein designated as federal. The
Governor, with the approval of the General Assembly or the Joint Fiscal
Committee if the General Assembly is not in session, may allocate all or any
portion of such federal funds for any purpose consistent with the purposes for
which the basic appropriations in this act have been made.

(b) If, during fiscal year 2023, federal funds available to the State of
Vermont and designated as federal in this and other acts of the 2022 session of
the Vermont General Assembly are converted into block grants or are
abolished under their current title in federal law and reestablished under a new
title in federal law, the Governor may continue to accept such federal funds for
any purpose consistent with the purposes for which the federal funds were
appropriated. The Governor may spend such funds for such purposes for not
more than 45 days prior to Legislative or Joint Fiscal Committee approval.

Notice shall be given to the Joint Fiscal Committee without delay if the
Governor intends to use the authority granted by this section, and the Joint
Fiscal Committee shall meet in an expedited manner to review the Governor’s
request for approval.

Sec. A.107  NEW POSITIONS

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the total number of
authorized State positions, both classified and exempt, excluding temporary
positions as defined in 3 V.S.A. § 311(11), shall not be increased during fiscal
year 2023 except for new positions authorized by the 2022 session. Limited-
service positions approved pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 5 shall not be subject to
this restriction.
Sec. A.108  LEGEND

(a) The bill is organized by functions of government. The sections between B.100 and B.9999 contain appropriations of funds for the upcoming budget year. The sections between E.100 and E.9999 contain language that relates to specific appropriations or government functions, or both. The function areas by section numbers are as follows:

- B.100–B.199 and E.100–E.199  General Government
- B.200–B.299 and E.200–E.299  Protection to Persons and Property
- B.300–B.399 and E.300–E.399  Human Services
- B.400–B.499 and E.400–E.499  Labor
- B.500–B.599 and E.500–E.599  General Education
- B.600–B.699 and E.600–E.699  Higher Education
- B.700–B.799 and E.700–E.799  Natural Resources
- B.800–B.899 and E.800–E.899  Commerce and Community Development
- B.900–B.999 and E.900–E.999  Transportation
- B.1000–B.1099 and E.1000–E.1099  Debt Service
- B.1100–B.1199 and E.1100–E.1199  One-time and other appropriation actions

(b) The C sections contain amendments to the current fiscal year, the D sections contain fund transfers and reserve allocations for the upcoming budget.

NUMBERS SECTION GOES HERE

Sec. B.1100 FISCAL YEAR 2023 ONE-TIME GENERAL FUND

APPROPRIATIONS

(a) In fiscal year 2023, funds are appropriated from the General Fund for new and ongoing initiatives as follows:

(1) $220,000 to the Agency of Administration for the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Action, Leadership (IDEAL) VT initiative to support municipalities in promoting these values within their communities.

(2) $37,000 to the Ethics Commission to support the cost of one half-time position.

(3) $205,000 to the Sergeant at Arms to support the costs associated with transitioning positions in the Capitol Police Department.

(4) $75,000 to the General Assembly to provide funding for the Pension Oversight Committee to assist the Vermont Pension Investment Committee (VPIC) analysis of the decarbonization of investments. Funds may be transferred to VPIC if the Pension Oversight Committee determines it necessary to accomplish the analysis.
(4) $120,000 to the Judiciary for Sustaining Language Access Program improvements.

(5) $1,283,400 to the Office of the Defender General to support costs associated with the reopening of the courts.

(6) $700,000 to the Secretary of State as follows:

(A) $450,000 for election support.

(B) $250,000 to support operational expenditures not covered by revenue resulting from telehealth.

(7) $2,010,000 to the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, as follows:

(A) $1,000,000 for the development of an agricultural Payment for Ecosystem Services Program to support the work of the Payment for Ecosystem Services and Soil Health Working Group (PES WG) – as authorized by 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 83, amended by 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 129 and 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 47 – to enable Payment for Ecosystem Services Program development to retain facilitation services, contract identified research needs, fund pilot program development, and deliver payments to farmers for quantified ecosystem services.

(B) $200,000 to grant as a single source contract to an eligible entity to administer these funds to assist individuals with low-income to access local, fresh, or whole food at farmers’ markets and through...
Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) shares. This one-time appropriation will respond to the record demand in these fresh food access programs due to increased food insecurity experienced by Vermonters during the pandemic.

The Agency shall allow a primary care health provider to apply on behalf of up to 20 patients for whom CSA shares have been recommended for improved health.

(C) $420,000 for the purchase of laboratory equipment to test for per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) in drinking water to support public health testing requirements of the Agencies of Natural Resources, Transportation and Agriculture, Food and Markets.

(D) $90,000 for grants to State fairs and field days organizations.

(E) $300,000 of which $200,000 is to establish a grant program for organic milk farmers that are transitioning to a new buyer to assist with the costs of modifications needed to accommodate the new buyer and $100,000 to the Produce Safety Improvement grant program.

(F) $150,000 to the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets to contract with an eligible consultant for the development of a State Food Security Action Plan that will include a strategy to improve the resilience of the statewide food system in order to better meet the food needs of citizens of Vermont during times of disruption to the national food distribution chain caused by emergencies such as the COVID-19 pandemic.
(8) $1,512,636 to the Center for Crime Victims Services as follows:

(A) $660,000 to replace shortfall in special fund revenue relating to fines and fees from the courts and traffic tickets.

(B) $519,600 to replace declining federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds.

(C) $308,036 for a grant to the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence.

(D) $25,000 for a grant to support the Kurn Hattin Survivors Support Group.

(9) $150,000 to the Criminal Justice Council for the following:

(A) $100,000 for an incident simulator to enable de-escalation training.

(B) $50,000 for the development of a new entrance exam.

(10) $8,000,000 to the Department of Public Safety-Emergency Management to provide state match for FEMA funds to purchase properties identified for high flood risk.

(11) $1,180,000 to the Department for Children and Families for the following:

(A) $50,000 for a grant to the Vermont Donor Milk Center for statewide activities.
(B) $750,000 to the Parent Child Centers for upgrades to facilities, systems, or new equipment.

(C) $180,000 to be granted to the Vermont Food Bank for statewide provision of diapers to families in need.

(D) $200,000 to be granted to the five youth service provider organizations (Youth Services Inc., St Johnsbury Area Youth Services Bureau, Washington County Youth Services Bureau, Windsor County Youth Services, Spectrum Youth & Family Services) that currently have contracts with the Department of Health and the Department for Children and Families. Each organization shall receive a grant of $20,000 and the remaining funds shall be granted to each organization in an equitable manner after consultation with the organizations and consideration of the scope of services by each organization.

(13) $3,370,250 to the Department of Health, Office of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs for the following:

(A) $3,000,000 for a grant to the Substance Misuse Prevention Coalitions. It is the intent of the General Assembly that this funding for the coalitions be continued with funds from cannabis revenues or opioid settlement funds, or both.

(B) $100,000 for Mobile Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT).

(C) $270,250 that shall be transferred to the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living—Vocational Rehabilitation, to
establish one new employment center to provide services to clients of

Recovery Centers. It is the intent of the General Assembly that funding for the

new employment center be continued with funds from cannabis revenues or

opioid settlement funds, or both.

(12) $3,645,250 for Substance Use Disorder Prevention Investments

within the Agency of Human Services as follows:

(A) $3,000,000 to the Department of Health, Office of Alcohol and

Drug Abuse Programs for a grant to the substance Misuse Prevention

Coalitions. The Office of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs (ADAP) shall

require that, as part of the grant agreement with the Substance Misuse

Prevention Coalitions, information on the use of the funds including the

specific activities supported by the funds, a description of the number of

people served, and information on the outcomes achieved by this investment

be provided to ADAP in an agreed upon time frame. The ADAP shall report to

the House and Senate committees on Appropriations, the House committee on

Human Services, and the Senate committee on Health and Welfare on or

before January 10, 2023.

(i) It is the intent of the General Assembly that funding for the

Substance Misuse Prevention Coalitions be funded with one-time general

funds until funds from the cannabis excise tax revenues pursuant to 32 V.S.A.

§ 7909 become available.
(B) $100,000 to the Department of Health, Office of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs for a grant to the Jenna’s House program, the grant is in addition to $400,000 of base funding provided in Sec. B. 313 of this act.

(C) $50,000 to the Department of Health – Public Health, for a grant to the University of Vermont’s Comprehensive Care Clinic for HIV/AIDS for increased mental health counseling.

(D) $345,250 to the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living – Vocational Rehabilitation to fund two year Employment Assistance Center pilot programs to serve Recovery Center clients:

(i) $270,250 shall be to establish a two year pilot program in collaboration with the Burlington Recovery Center. Funds may be granted to the Vermont Association of Business Industry and Rehabilitation to fund a dedicated employment consultant position for this pilot program. The division of Vocational Rehabilitation is authorized to establish two limited service positions for this pilot program; one employment counselor and one employment assistance staff position which is anticipated to be half time.

(ii) $75,000.00 to establish a second pilot program at one of the other recovery centers in the State. The division of Vocational Rehabilitation is authorized to establish one limited service employment counselor position for this pilot.
On or before January 10, 2024, the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, in collaboration with the Vermont Association of Business Industry and Rehabilitation, shall submit a report to the House Committees on Commerce and Economic Development, Appropriations, and Human Services and to the Senate Committees on Economic Development, Appropriations, Housing and General Affairs, and on Health and Welfare summarizing the effectiveness of the pilot programs, including:

1. educational attainment and achievement of program recipients;
2. acquisition of a credential of value pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 546;
3. number of job placements; and
4. job retention rates.

(E) $150,000 to the Department of Health’s Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs to award a grant to a Burlington/Chittenden county-based organization providing substance use treatment counseling or substance use recovery support, or both, for individuals within and transitioning out of the criminal justice system. The Division shall award grants based on an applicant’s ability to accomplish the following:

1. provide justice-involved individuals with direct substance use support services while incarcerated, such as through alcohol and drug abuse
counselors licensed pursuant to 26 V.S.A. chapter 62 or certified recovery coaches, or both;

(ii) support justice-involved individuals in their transition out of incarceration, such as through warm handoffs to existing statewide resources for substance use treatment or recovery; or

(iii) provide long-term support for justice-involved individuals, such as by coordinating peer support services or ongoing counseling post incarceration.

(13) $1,215,860 to the Agency of Education as follows:

(A) $500,000 for Child Nutrition Grants to school districts to purchase local foods.

(B) $15,860 to the Vermont Ethnic and Social Equity Standards Advisory Working Group to cover per diem and reimbursement of expenses.

(C) $700,000 to Adult Education and Literacy to provide grants to the Adult Learning Centers.

(14) $67,000 to the Attorney General for the Court Diversion program to replace special fund shortfall.

(15) $573,000 to the Agency of Natural Resources for the following:

(A) $75,000 to the Central Office for contractual support to complete work associated with implementing the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2020.
(B) $250,000 to the Department of Environmental Conservation to complete statewide wetland mapping updates and to update the Vermont Significant Wetland Inventory maps.

(C) $248,000 to the Department of Environmental Conservation for a grant to the Conservation Districts for equipment and capital improvements.

(16) $130,000 to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development for a grant to the Vermont Adaptive Ski and Sports program.

(17) $500,000 to the Agency of Human Services, Central Office for the Vermont Refugee Resettlement program to provide assistance aid to refugees from Afghanistan.

(18) $1,500,000 to the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living (DAIL) to be used for grants to adult day service providers to support operating costs and program infrastructure. The funds shall be allocated on an equitable basis per a methodology developed by DAIL. On or before the first day of each quarter of fiscal year 2023 (July 1, 2022, October 1, 2022, January 1, 2023, and April 1, 2023), the Vermont Association of Adult Day Services shall provide a spreadsheet to the Department detailing quarterly expenditures versus the annual budget. DAIL shall work with community partners to seek organizations interested in opening an adult day center in the underserved regions where adult day centers closed during the COVID-19 pandemic. Up to $50,000 of these funds may be used to support the start-up
costs of a new adult day center. Any amount of this appropriation remaining at
the end of fiscal year 2023 shall be carried forward and shall be used to support
operating costs, and program infrastructure.

(19) $250,000 to the Agency of Commerce and Community
Development for a grant to the Vermont League of Cities and Towns to
provide technical assistance to towns related to seeking or expending federal
funds.

(20) $267,364 to the Department of Taxes for appraisal and litigation
costs associated with the Sheldon Springs Hydroelectric Dam.

(21) $600,000 to the Department of Public Service for Public Access,
Education, and Government Media to fund the 24 media centers.

(22) $450,000 to the Vermont Historical Society for HVAC systems.

(23) $50,000 to the Department of Buildings and General Services to be
granted to the Mount Ascutney Regional Commission to hire a consultant to
facilitate community discussions on the use of the former Southeast State
Correctional Facility property in Windsor to enable work, education, and
health monitoring; to create base maps; and to conduct a legal analysis.

(b) $11,000,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department
of Public Safety for regional dispatch funding. The funds are subject to the
following conditions:
(1) $4,500,000 shall be held in reserve until the report required by Sec. E.209.1 of this act is submitted and further approval to expend this fund is granted by the General Assembly.

(2) $6,500,000 to provide grants to regional dispatch facilities upon approval of the Joint Fiscal Committee subsequent to review of a Regional Dispatch Facility grant plan submitted by the Commissioner of Public Safety. The plan shall include the extent to which federal funding sources may be available for regional dispatch.

Up to $6,500,000 of this appropriation may be used to provide grants for establishing new regional dispatch facilities and grants to existing regional dispatch facilities. The Commissioner of Public Safety shall report to the Joint Fiscal Committee in September and November 2022 on the status of grants made under this provision. The remaining amount shall be held in reserve until further approval by the General Assembly is provided subsequent to the report required by Sec. E.209.1 of this act.

(c) The following General Fund appropriations are to provide transition funding in fiscal year 2023 for changes to State Employees and Teachers Pensions systems and prefunding of other post-employment benefits.

(1) State Employees fiscal year 2023 transitional employer contribution. $10,000,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Agency of Administration for State Employees fiscal year 2023 transitional employer contribution.
contribution to be distributed as needed to departments and agencies if approved by the Commissioner of Finance and Management to fund the fiscal year 2023 payroll assessment necessary to meet the State-employees’ pension and other post-employment benefits resulting from any changes to these programs enacted in the 2022 legislative session. The Commissioner shall report to the Joint Fiscal Committee at its November 2022 meeting on the status of this appropriation.

(2) Teachers’ other post-employment benefits. $5,500,000 is appropriated to the Retired Teachers’ Health and Medical Benefits Fund, established in 16 V.S.A. § 1944b to meet the fiscal year 2023 Actuarial Determined Employer Contribution (ADEC) consistent with system prefunding changes enacted in the 2022 legislative session.

* * * Fiscal Year 2022 Adjustments, Appropriations, and Amendments * * *

Sec. C.100 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec. D.101(b)(2) is amended to read:

(b)(2) The following estimated amounts, which may be all or a portion of unencumbered fund balances, shall be transferred from the following funds to the General Fund. The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall report to the Joint Fiscal Committee at its July meeting the final amounts transferred from each fund and certify that such transfers will not impair the...
agency, office, or department reliant upon each fund from meeting its statutory
requirements.

* * *

Sec. C.101  2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec. E.602.2 is amended to read:

Sec. E.602.2  VERMONT STATE COLLEGES

(a) The Vermont State College (VSC) system shall transform itself into a
fully integrated system that achieves financial stability in a responsible and
sustainable way in order to meet each of these strategic priorities:

(1) Affordability. Ensure that student costs and debt obligations are not
barriers to student access.

(2) Accessibility. Ensure that each VSC student, regardless of where the
student’s home campus is located, has increased access to academic
opportunities, majors and courses across the statewide system.

(3) Equitability. Determine the extent to which gaps in educational
access and success are being reduced for students from economically deprived
backgrounds, first-generation students, students of color, and other
marginalized groups.

(3)(4) Relevance.

(A) Ensure that each VSC student is prepared for a lifelong career
and personal success in the globally competitive 21st century.
(B) Ensure that VSC offers educational programs that are:

(i) aligned with State workforce needs;

(ii) offered in a fiscally responsible manner; and

(iii) delivered in a manner that is relevant to current student and employer needs.

(b) VSC shall meet the following requirements during the transformation of its system required under subsection (a) of this section and shall accommodate the oversight of the General Assembly in so doing.

(1) VSC shall reduce its structural deficit by $5,000,000.00 per year for five years through a combination of annual operating expense reductions and increased enrollment revenues, for a total of $25,000,000.00 by the end of fiscal year 2026. These reductions shall be structural in nature and shall not be met by use of one-time funds. The VSC Board of Trustees, through the Chancellor or designee, shall report the results of these structural reductions to the House and Senate Committees on Education and on Appropriations annually during the Chancellor’s budget presentation.

(2) The VSC Board of Trustees shall develop and implement a 10-year strategic plan for managing its physical assets that is fiscally sustainable, maintains reasonable net asset value, and meets the needs of Vermont learners. On or before March 1, 2022, the Chancellor shall present this Board approved plan. Updates to the plan and an annual report on its implementation shall be
presented to the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committee on Institutions.

(3) VSC shall maintain its present campus locations as educational and student-support centers, recognizing that overall campus size, governance and operational structures as well as program and service offerings may change as circumstances require.

(4) Beginning in fiscal year 2022 and through 2031, the VSC Board of Trustees, acting through the Chancellor or designee, shall brief, as part of the Chancellor’s annual budget proposal, the House and Senate Committees on Education and Committees on Appropriations:

(A) enrollment levels in courses offered by VSC, reported on the basis of courses with fewer than five students, courses with five to nine students, courses with 10 to 14 students, and courses with 15 or more students, along with relevant information about these enrollment data;

(B) in order to demonstrate accessibility, the percentage of courses and programs offered by VSC on a statewide basis and on the formats in which they are offered;

(C) an assessment of affordability and accessibility within VSC and recommendations on how to improve them;

(D) retention statistics with corresponding trend lines and benchmarks;
(E) enrollment statistics with methods of comparison using readily available metrics that pertain to the student enrollment efforts authorized by the current fiscal year 2022 Vermont budget bill with the net student revenue generated and discount rate applied in order to enroll the students, aggregated by cohort; and

* * *

Sec. C.102 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 83, Sec. 53 is amended to read

Sec. 53. FISCAL YEAR 2022 UNALLOCATED RESERVE

(a) After satisfying the requirements of 32 V.S.A. § 308, and after other reserve requirements have been met, but prior to satisfying the requirements of 32 V.S.A. § 308c, the first $86,000,000 of remaining unreserved and undesignated funds at the close of fiscal year 2022 shall remain in the General Fund and be carried forward to fiscal year 2023. These funds may be used to provide state match to the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

(b) After meeting the requirements of subsection (a) of this section, but prior to satisfying the requirements of 32 V.S.A. § 308c, the remaining unreserved and undesignated funds at the close of fiscal year 2022 shall be allocated to the extent available as follows:

(1) $850,000 shall be transferred to the Cannabis Regulation Fund (21998).

(2) $1,700,000 to the State Liability Self-Insurance Fund (56200).
(3) $1,877,092 to the Correctional Industries Internal Services Fund (59100).

(4) $9,961,531 to the Agency of Human Services-Central Office-Global Commitment to offset one-time pressure related to the suspension of Medicaid eligibility redeterminations for fiscal year 2023. This appropriation is made to the extent the Global Commitment fiscal need is identified after analysis of the impact of continued enhanced pandemic related Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) in tandem with the updated analysis on the fiscal impact related to caseload redetermination and cost per member per month. The Agency of Human Services, in consultation with the Joint Fiscal Office and the Department of Finance and Management shall provide this analysis as part of the Medicaid end-of-year report provided the Emergency Board in July 2022.

(5) $25,000,000 is reserved and carried forward into fiscal year 2023 to improve the debt position of the State. This may include the redemption of general obligation bonds, reducing the amount of new debt to be issued or to address negative internal fund balances. To the extent funds are available they shall be applied and shall be allocated as follows:

(A) $5,000,000 shall be transferred to the Property Management Fund (58700) established by 29 V.S.A. § 160.
(B) $20,000,000 shall be appropriated to the State Treasurer’s Office and used for redeeming State of Vermont general obligation bonds prior to maturity. Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 1001b (e), begining in fiscal year 2024, to the extent bonds are redeemed, an amount equal to the reduction in payments for debt service required resulting from any redemption shall be transferred and reserved in the Capital Expenditure Cash Fund, as established in 32 V.S.A. § 1001b created in Sec. 106.1 of this act.

(6) $25,114,179 is appropriated to the extent available and, in fiscal year 2022, the Commissioner of Finance and Management is authorized to replace American Rescue Plan Act – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds appropriated in 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec. G.300, as amended by Sec. 68 of this act, with General Fund dollars in the following amounts:

(A) $6,000,000 to replace the fund source in the appropriation in Sec. G.300(a)(23) (Vermont Foodbank);

(B) $1,001,913 to replace the fund source in the appropriation in Sec. G.300(a)(26) (adult day services);

(C) $4,934,590 to replace the fund source in the appropriation in Sec. G.300(a)(27) (Department of Corrections);

(D) $12,803,996 to replace the fund source in the appropriation in Sec. G.300(a)(28) (Department of Labor), and
(E) $373,680 to replace the fund source in the appropriation in Sec. 5-9-2022 G.300(a)(29) (Vermont Veterans’ Home).

(6) $6,000,000 to the Department for Children and Families to be granted to childcare providers to address emergent and exigent circumstances following the COVID-19 pandemic for workforce retention bonuses to retain early childhood staff and home-based providers. It is the intent of the General Assembly that the eligible employers awarded funds pursuant to this section shall use the funds to make retention payments to their employees. The employers shall be afforded flexibility in determining how best to provide the financial retention assistance to their employees and how best to encourage employment beyond the terms of this program.

(i) The Department is authorized to establish parameters related to minimum hours worked for an employee or home-based provider to be eligible for a bonus under this subdivision (30), and to design a program that does not allow for duplication of bonuses to staff who work for more than one provider. Staff under a teacher contract shall not be eligible for this program.

(ii) Notwithstanding any provision of Vermont law to the contrary and to the extent permitted under federal law, the amount of a recruitment or retention payment received by an employee under this section shall be disregarded for purposes of determining the employee’s or employee’s household’s income eligibility for any benefit program.
(7) $9,600,000 is appropriated to the Judiciary, of which $3,880,000 is for the reopening of the courts and $5,720,000 is to replace HVAC in county court houses.

(8) **$10,000,000 to VHCB for housing (reduce ARPA and allow all water projects to be in ARPA)**

The list totals $65.05m #1 thru #8.

(9) **$6,000,000 is transferred to the Workers’ Compensation Fund**

(56100)

(10) **$10,000,000 reserved for emergency or transitional housing needs in the event federal emergency rental assistance funds are insufficient to meet needs in fiscal year 2023.**

(11) **$50,250,000 is transferred to the Technology Modernization Special Fund created in Sec. E.105.1 of this act.**

(12) **$25,000,000 shall be transferred to the Capital Expenditure Cash Fund, as established in 32 V.S.A. § 1001b created in Sec. 106.1 of this act.**

#9-12 total $91.250 at these estimates – total list $156.3m

(c) After meeting the requirements of subsections (a) and (b) of this section, but prior to satisfying the requirements of 32 V.S.A. § 308c, the remaining unreserved and undesignated funds at the close of fiscal year 2022 shall remain in the General Fund and be carried forward to fiscal year 2023.
C.103. 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec G.300(a)(8)(C) as amended by 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 83, Sec. 68 is further amended to read:

(a) $187,114,176 in fiscal year 2022 is appropriated from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds as follows:

* * *

(7) $2,000,000 in fiscal year 2022 to the University of Vermont.

(A) $1,000,000 for matching funds for research grant opportunities related to COVID-19.

(B) $1,000,000 to provide up to two free classes in calendar year 2022 for any Vermont resident who is seeking to transition to a new career or to enhance the resident’s job skills.

(8) $19,700,000 in fiscal year 2022 to the Vermont State Colleges for the following programs; funds shall be carried forward until expended:

(A) $2,000,000 to provide funding for up to six credits or two courses in the 2022–2023 academic year, including wraparound services for Vermonters whose employment was impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency since March 13, 2020. The wraparound services may also be provided to students who enroll in six credit hours or two courses in the
summer or fall of 2021 and spring of 2022 pursuant to 2021 Acts and

Resolves No. 9, Sec. 18.

(B) $3,000,000 to provide degree completion scholarships for up to

30 credits towards a credential of value for adult learners who have earned at

least 40 credits towards an undergraduate degree and have a gap in attendance

of at least two years.

(C) $14,700,000 to provide free last dollar tuition for one year of

undergraduate studies for critical occupation careers, including bookkeeping
certificate, IT service desk specialist certificate, certified production
technician, graphic design certificate, software and web development program,
electrical and plumbing apprenticeships, dental hygiene, certificate in
accounting, small business management, radiologic science, and respiratory
therapy. $540,000 of these funds shall be allocated for paramedic/EMS
programs and any unexpended amount of this allocation shall be available for
the broader purpose in this subdivision (C). Funds may be used for practical
nursing, child care, nursing, and mental health counseling, and
psychology and social work programs only after available federal and State
financial aid is applied to ensure no cost to the student. Of this amount,

$7,350,000 shall be carried forward for the 2022–2023 school year. If demand
from undergraduates is met, then funds may be used to pay for tuition for the
following graduate programs:
(i) Master’s in Education (all programs);

(ii) Master’s in Educational Leadership;

(iii) Master’s of Arts and Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies in School Psychology;

(iv) Master’s in Counseling; and

(v) Master’s in Clinical Mental Health Counseling; and

(vi) Master’s in Clinical Social Work.

* * *

(30) $6,000,000 to the Department for Children and Families to be granted to childcare providers to address emergent and exigent circumstances following the COVID-19 pandemic for workforce retention bonuses to retain early childhood staff and home-based providers. It is the intent of the General Assembly that the eligible employers awarded funds pursuant to this section shall use the funds to make retention payments to their employees. The employers shall be afforded flexibility in determining how best to provide the financial-retention assistance to their employees and how best to encourage employment beyond the terms of this program.

(A) The Department is authorized to establish parameters related to minimum hours worked for an employee or home-based provider to be eligible for a bonus under this subdivision (30), and to design a program that does not
allow for duplication of bonuses to staff who work for more than one provider.

Staff under a teacher contract shall not be eligible for this program.

(B) Notwithstanding any provision of Vermont law to the contrary and to the extent permitted under federal law, the amount of a recruitment or retention payment received by an employee under this section shall be disregarded for purposes of determining the employee’s or employee’s household’s income eligibility for any benefit program.

* * *

Sec. C.104  FISCAL YEAR 2022 AND FISCAL YEAR 2023; OUT-OF-STATE BEDS SAVINGS; APPROPRIATION

(a) In fiscal year 2022, $360,140 of the amount appropriated in 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec. B.339 (correctional services for out-of-state beds) shall be allocated as follows:

(1) $300,000 to the Department of Corrections to expand and eliminate participant fees for community-based domestic violence intervention programming and to create domestic violence intervention programming and curricula for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, or questioning (LGBTQ) individuals; and

(2) $60,140 for Offender Management System/data system improvements.
(b) In fiscal year 2022, $417,030 of the amount appropriated in 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec. B.338 (correctional services) shall be used for community justice centers.

Sec. C.105 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 83, Sec. 72a is amended to read:

Sec. 72a. MEDICAID HOME- AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES (HCBS) PLAN

(a) Pursuant to Sec. 9817 of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), in October 2021 February 2022, the State submitted a home- and community-based services (HCBS) spending plan to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. This plan currently totals $146,600,000 $149,550,122, consisting of the following major components:

1. $77,800,000 $77,839,612 allocated to improve services;
2. $25,000,000 $20,258,042 allocated to promote a high-performing and stable HCBS workforce; and
3. $43,800,000 $51,452,468 allocated to improve HCBS care through data systems, value-based payment models, and oversight.

* * *

(e) In fiscal year 2023, a total of $71,239,891 is appropriated from the Global Commitment Fund to AHS to meet the objectives of the HCBS plan. This appropriation consists of $17,136,654 as appropriated in 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74 for a three percent rate increase to HCBS providers, including
the assistive community care rates and children integrated services rates, and

the following appropriations in distinct one-time departmental IDs:

(1) $23,510,987 is appropriated to the Agency of Human Services – Secretary’s Office.

(2) $10,500,000 is appropriated to the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living.

(3) $1,500,000 is appropriated to the Department of Mental Health.

(4) $17,000,000 is appropriated to the Department of Vermont Health Access.

(5) $1,500,000 is appropriated to the Department of Health.

(6) $92,250 is appropriated to the Department for Children and Families.

(f) The Global Commitment Fund appropriated in subsection (e) of this section may be obligated in fiscal year 2023 for the purposes of bringing HCBS plan spending authority forward into fiscal year 2024. The funds appropriated in subsections (b), (c), and (e) of this section may be transferred on a net-neutral basis in fiscal year 2023 in the same manner as the Global Commitment appropriations in Sec. E.301 of this act. The Agency shall report to the Joint Fiscal Committee in September 2023 on transfers of appropriations made and final amounts expended by each department in fiscal year 2023 and any obligated funds carried forward to be expended in fiscal year 2024.
Sec. C.106  CANNABIS CONTROL BOARD; PHASE I SYSTEM

(a) In fiscal year 2022, the amount of $760,000 is transferred from the General Fund to the Cannabis Regulation Fund (21998) to support phase one of the online registration, licensing, and business application portal.

Sec. C.107  [Deleted.]

Sec. C.107  2022 Acts and Resolves No. 83, Sec. 66 (Educational Assistance; Medical Student Incentive Scholarship Program; Appropriation) is repealed.

C.107.1  TRANSITION OF FUNDING TO NURSE INCENTIVE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM TO NURSE FORGIVABLE LOAN PROGRAM

(a) At the close of fiscal year 2022, to the extent that funds are unexpended in the appropriation made in 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74 Sec. C 100 (a) (1) and allocated for the Nurse-Scholarship Program defined in 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 155 and 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74 Sec. E.311.3, these funds shall be available in Fiscal Year 2023 to fund the Vermont Nursing Foregivable Loan Incentive Program in the Vermont Department of Health administered in collaboration with VSAC as established in 18 VSA § 34.

(b) These funds shall be matched within the Global Commitment Program to the extent allowed by federal requirements.

(c) Any adjustments needed to the Department of Health Global Commitment Fund appropriation for transfer to VSAC for the Vermont
Nursing Foregivable Loan Incentive Program shall be included in the fiscal year 2023 budget adjustment proposal.

C.107.2 FISCAL YEAR 2022 INCENTIVE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING

REVERSION AND HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE RESERVE CARE

(a) At the close of fiscal year 2022, to the extent that funds are unexpended in the appropriation made in 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74 Sec, C 100 (a) (1) and allocated for the University of Vermont College of Medicine, Medical Student Incentive Scholarship defined in 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 155 and 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74 Secs. E.311.1 and E.311.3, these funds shall be reverted as follows:

1. 2020 Acts and Resolves No.155, Sec. 4a $267,704
2. 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74 Sec, C 100 (a)(1) $438,579

(b) At the close of fiscal year 2022, $700,000 is reserved in the General Fund for Health Care and Social Service Workforce needs. The Agency of Administration in consultation with the Agency of Human Services shall provide recommendations to the General Assembly for the of these one time funds in the fiscal year 2023 budget proposal.
(a) Up to $1,000,000 of the funds appropriated in 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec. G.300(a)(6) may be carried forward by the Vermont Department of Labor and used to reimburse Vermont employers for costs incurred for work tools and personal protective equipment for new apprentices and for expansion of registered apprenticeship programs and participants. Employers may be reimbursed up to $300 for tools per apprentice.

Sec. C.109 16 V.S.A. § 944 is amended to read:

§ 944. DUAL ENROLLMENT PROGRAM

* * *

(b) Students.

(1) A Vermont resident who has completed grade 10 but has not received a high school diploma is eligible to participate in the Program if:

(A) the student:

(i) is enrolled in:

(I) a Vermont public school, including a Vermont career technical center;

(II) a public school in another state or an approved independent school that is designated as the public secondary school for the student’s district of residence; or
(III) an approved independent school in Vermont to which the
student’s district of residence pays publicly funded tuition on behalf of the
student;

(ii) is assigned to a public school through the High School
Completion Program; or

(iii) is a home study student; none of the payment to the accredited
postsecondary institution will be used to support religious instruction, religious
indoctrination (where “indoctrination” means to instruct in a body of doctrine
or principles), as defined in section 820 of this title, religious worship, or the
propagation of religious views, except for religious instruction that is designed
to provide an overview of religious history and teachings and does not support
religious instruction, religious indoctrination, religious worship, or the
propagation of religious views of any one religion or theology over others; and

(B) the student is not enrolled in a recognized independent school or
a school or program that is not recognized for attendance purposes under
section 1121 of this title;

(B)(C) dual enrollment is an element included within the student’s
personalized learning plan; and

(C)(D) the secondary school and the postsecondary institution have
determined that the student is sufficiently prepared to succeed in a dual
enrollment course, which can be determined in part by the assessment tool or
tools identified by the participating postsecondary institution.

Sec. C.109 [Deleted.]  

Sec. C.110 ONE TIME TOBACCO FUNDS: APPROPRIATION;

SUBSTANCE MISUSE AND PREVENTION COALITIONS

(a) The amount of $1,000,000 in tobacco funds are appropriated in fiscal
year 2022 to the Department of Health, Public Health, and carried forward to
fiscal year 2023 for tobacco prevention and cessation programs developed in
coordination with the Chief Prevention Officer in the Agency of
Administration.

(a) In fiscal year 2023 funds are appropriated from the Tobacco Fund to the
Department of Health, Office of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs (ADAP),
and shall be carried forward in fiscal year 2023 as follows:

(1) $1,000,000 for substance use disorder (SUD) and tobacco prevention
and cessation activities. Substance Misuse and Prevention Coalitions and
tobacco cessation programs that target youth vaping may apply for funding.
The Commissioner of ADAP shall determine levels of funding to award to
applicants.

(A) The Office of ADAP shall require that, as part of the grant
agreement with the Substance Misuse Prevention Coalitions, information on
the use of the funds including the specific activities supported by the funds, a
description of the number of people served, and information on the outcomes

achieved by this investment be provided to ADAP in an agreed upon time frame. The ADAP shall report on these metrics to the House and Senate committees on Appropriations, the House Committee on Human Services, and the Senate committee on Health and Welfare on or before January 10, 2023.

(2) $350,000 for statewide AIDS Service Organizations for HIV/AIDS prevention and syringe exchange programs. Of this amount, $150,000 shall be granted to Vermont AIDS service organizations and other Vermont HIV/AIDS prevention providers for syringe exchange programs, and $200,000 shall be granted to the Howard Center’s Safe Recovery program. The method by which these prevention funds are distributed shall be determined by mutual agreement of the Department of Health, the Vermont AIDS service organizations, and other Vermont HIV/AIDS prevention providers.

Sec. C.111 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec. E.335 as amended by 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 83, Sec. 62, is further amended by adding a subsection (c) to read:

(c) Any funds expended on community-based service programs pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall be included in the subsequent year Department of Corrections budget for the same purpose at the same amount.

Sec. C.112 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec. B.1106(a)(1)(C) is amended to read:
(C) $14,400,000 for distribution to departments to fund the annual increase in the Vermont State Employee Retirement Systems (VSERS) Actuarially Determined Employer Contribution (ADEC). Amounts not distributed shall be transferred to the Vermont State Retirement Fund (60100) in the fiscal year 2022 as needed to meet the fiscal year 2022 ADEC requirement.

Sec. C.113 2021 Acts and Resolves No.74, Sec. D.101(b)(3) is amended to read:

(3) Notwithstanding 2016 Acts and Resolves No. 172, Sec. E.228, $46,078,618 47,736,618 of the unencumbered balances in the Insurance Regulatory and Supervision Fund (21075), the Captive Insurance Regulatory and Supervision Fund (21085), and the Securities Regulatory and Supervision Fund (21080) shall be transferred to the General Fund.

Sec. C.114 2021 Acts and Resolves No.74, Sec. B.1106, as amended by 2022 Acts and Resolves No.83, Sec. 46 is further amended read with the insertion of a subsection B.1106 (a)(34) as follows:

(34) $1,658,000 to the Military department to provide state match for the federal Facilities Sustainment, Restoration, and Modernization (SRM) funds eligible for receipt in fiscal year 2022.
* * * Fiscal Year 2023 Fund Transfers and Reserve Allocations * * *

Sec. D.100  APPROPRIATIONS; PROPERTY TRANSFER TAX

(a)  This act contains the following amounts appropriated from special funds that receive revenue from the property transfer tax. Expenditures from these appropriations shall not exceed available revenues.

(1) The sum of $428,933 is appropriated from the Current Use Administration Special Fund to the Department of Taxes for administration of the Use Tax Reimbursement Program. Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 9610(c), amounts above $428,933 from the property transfer tax that are deposited into the Current Use Administration Special Fund shall be transferred into the General Fund.

(2) The sum of $21,128,985 is appropriated from the Vermont Housing and Conservation Trust Fund to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board. Notwithstanding 10 V.S.A. § 312, amounts above $21,128,985 from the property transfer tax and surcharge established by 32 V.S.A. § 9602a that are deposited into the Vermont Housing and Conservation Trust Fund shall be transferred into the General Fund.

(A) The dedication of $2,500,000 in revenue from the property transfer tax pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 9610(d) for the debt payments on the affordable housing bond, 10 V.S.A. § 314, is to be offset by the reduction of $1,500,000 in the appropriation to the Vermont Housing and Conservation
Board and $1,000,000 from the surcharge established by 32 V.S.A. § 9602a.

The fiscal year 2023 appropriation of $21,128,985 to VHCB reflects the

$1,500,000 reduction. The affordable housing bond and related property

transfer tax and surcharge provisions are repealed after the life of the bond on

July 1, 2039. Once the bond is retired, the $1,500,000 reduction in the

appropriation to VHCB is intended to be restored.

(3) The sum of $5,882,597 is appropriated from the Municipal and

Regional Planning Fund. Notwithstanding 24 V.S.A. § 4306(a), amounts

above $5,882,597 from the property transfer tax that are deposited into the

Municipal and Regional Planning Fund shall be transferred into the General

Fund. The $5,882,597 shall be allocated as follows:

(A) $4,574,417 for disbursement to regional planning commissions in

a manner consistent with 24 V.S.A. § 4306(b);

(B) $872,120 for disbursement to municipalities in a manner

consistent with 24 V.S.A. § 4306(b); and

(C) $436,060 to the Agency of Digital Services for the Vermont

Center for Geographic Information.

Sec. D.101 FUND TRANSFERS, REVERSIONS, AND RESERVES

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the following amounts are

transferred from the funds indicated:
(1) From the General Fund to the All Other Insurance Fund (56300): $1,000,000.

(2) From the General Fund to the Workers’ Compensation Fund (56100): $2,000,000.

(2) From the General Fund to the Enhanced 911 Special Fund (21711): $1,300,000.

(3) From the General Fund to the Cannabis Regulation Fund (21998): $2,540,000.

(4) From the General Fund to the Technology Modernization Special Fund created in Sec. E.105.1 of this act: $16,760,000.

(5) From the Clean Water Fund (21932) established by 10 V.S.A. § 1388 to the Agricultural Water Quality Special Fund (21933) created under 6 V.S.A. § 4803: $5,816,111.

(6) From the Clean Water Fund established by 10 V.S.A. § 1388 to the Lake in Crisis Response Program Special Fund (21938) created under 10 V.S.A. § 1315: $50,000.

(7) From the Transportation Fund to the Downtown Transportation and Related Capital Improvement Fund (21575) established by 24 V.S.A. § 2796 to be used by the Vermont Downtown Development Board for the purposes of the Fund: $523,966.
(b) Notwithstanding any provisions of law to the contrary, in fiscal year 2023:

(1) The following amounts shall be transferred to the General Fund from the funds indicated:

- 22005 AHS Central Office earned federal receipts $4,641,960
- 50300 Liquor Control Fund $20,400,000
- Caledonia Fair $5,000
- North Country Hospital Loan $24,047
- Springfield Hospital promissory note repayment $121,416

(2) The following estimated amounts, which may be all or a portion of unencumbered fund balances, shall be transferred from the following funds to the General Fund. The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall report to the Joint Fiscal Committee at its July meeting the final amounts transferred from each fund and certify that such transfers will not impair the agency, office, or department reliant upon each fund from meeting its statutory requirements.

- 21638 AG-Fees & reimbursement – Court order $2,000,000
- 21928 Secretary of State Services Funds $1,200,000
- 62100 Unclaimed Property Fund $1,773,425
- 21998 Cannabis Regulation Fund $3,059,478
(3) Notwithstanding 2016 Acts and Resolves No. 172, Sec. E. 228,

$45,664,476 of the unencumbered balances in the Insurance Regulatory and Supervision Fund (21075), the Captive Insurance Regulatory and Supervision Fund (21085), and the Securities Regulatory and Supervision Fund (21080) shall be transferred to the General Fund.

(4) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, in fiscal year 2023, the following amounts shall revert to the General Fund from the accounts indicated:

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<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>Legislature</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1100030000</td>
<td>Executive Branch Pay Act</td>
<td>$4,000,000</td>
</tr>
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</table>

(c) Notwithstanding any provisions of law to the contrary, in fiscal year 2023 the following estimated General Fund reserves shall be made:

(1) Pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 308, an estimated amount of $18,629,568 shall be reserved in the General Fund Budget Stabilization Reserve.

Sec. D.102 27/53 RESERVE

(a) $3,020,000 from the General Fund shall be reserved in the 27/53 reserve in fiscal year 2022. This action is the fiscal year 2023 contribution to the reserve for the 53rd week of Medicaid as required by 32 V.S.A. § 308e and the 27th payroll reserve as required by 32 V.S.A. § 308e.

Sec. D.103 [Deleted.]
Sec. E.100  EXECUTIVE BRANCH POSITIONS

(a) The establishment of the following new positions is authorized in fiscal year 2023:

(1) Permanent classified positions:

(A) Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets - Vermont Agriculture and Environmental Lab: one new VAEL Scientist IV; Chemistry.

(B) Department of Buildings and General Services – Fee for Space:

(i) one BGS Utility Mechanic;

(ii) three BGS Institutional Custodians; and

(iii) one BGS Maintenance Mechanic II.

(C) Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living’s Administration and Support division:

(i) one Survey and Certification Non-clinical Manager;

(ii) three Nurse Surveyors;

(iii) one Administrative Assistant; and

(iv) one Office of Public Guardian Community Financial Specialist.

(D) Department of Mental Health:

(i) one Suicide Prevention Director;

(ii) one Quality Control Specialist III;

(iii) one Staffing Office Manager;
(iv) five Mental Health Scheduling Coordinators;
(v) one DMH Psychologist;
(vi) one DMH Activity Therapist;
(vii) one Psychiatric Social Worker II;
(viii) two Food Service Workers;
(ix) two Cook Cs; and
(x) one Supervising Chef.

(E) Agency of Education:
(i) one School Facility Coordinator; and
(ii) one Communication Coordinator.

(F) Cannabis Control Board:
(i) two enforcement officers; and
(ii) one data analyst.

(G) State Treasurer: one Retirement Program Technician.

(H) Agency of Natural Resources Central Office:
(i) one Environmental Analyst VII; and
(ii) two Environmental Analyst V.

(2) Permanent Exempt Positions:

(A) Vermont Pension Investment Commission: one Principal Assistant.
(b) The conversion of the following limited-service positions to classified permanent status is authorized in fiscal year 2023 as follows:

1. Department of Vermont Health Access:
   - (A) DVHA, Business Office Unit – one Financial Manager III;
   - (B) DVHA, Business Office Unit – one Grants Management Specialist;
   - (C) DVHA, Contracts & Grants Unit – two Contracts & Grants Administrators;
   - (D) DVHA, Contracts & Grants Unit – one Financial Manager I;
   - (E) DVHA, HAEEU – one Assister Program Manager;
   - (F) DVHA, HAEEU – seven Benefits Program Mentors;
   - (G) DVHA, HAEEU – two Business Analysts;
   - (H) DVHA, HAEEU – one Communications & Outreach Coordinator;
   - (I) DVHA, HAEEU – one Health Care Training/Community Manager;
   - (J) DVHA, HAEEU – seven Health Program Administrators;
   - (K) DVHA, HAEEU – three Healthcare Assistant Admin Is;
   - (L) DVHA, HAEEU – five Healthcare Assistant Admin IIs;
   - (M) DVHA, HAEEU – one VHC Business Process Coordinator;
   - (N) DVHA, HAEEU – one VHC Education & Outreach Coordinator;
(O) DVHA, HAEEU – five VHC Support Services Specialists;

(P) DVHA, HAEEU – 16 VT Healthcare Service Specialist Is;

(Q) DVHA, HAEEU – 25 VT Healthcare Service Specialist IIs;

(R) DVHA, HAEEU – five VT Healthcare Service Specialist IIIs;

(S) DVHA, Health Care Appeals Unit – five Fair Hearing Specialists;

(T) DVHA, Health Care Appeals Unit – one Program Technician I;

(U) DVHA, Legal Unit – one Staff Attorney II; and

(V) DVHA, Long Term Care Unit – three Long Term Care Specialist Is.

(2) Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation – Forestry: one Forester III.

(3) State Treasurer: one Financial Manager.

(c) The establishment of the following new classified limited-service positions are authorized in fiscal year 2023 as follows:

(1) Department of Labor: three positions to assist with the UI Modernization project.

(2) Agency of Education:

(A) one Grants Manager; and

(B) three Monitoring Coordinators.

(3) Department of Environmental Conservation:

(A) one Environmental Analyst V.
(4) Department of Motor Vehicles – to support DMV Core Modernization Phase II:

(A) one Purchasing/Inventory & Facilities Specialist III,

(B) two Direct Client Service Specialist I,

(C) one Financial Specialist III, and

(D) one Direct Customer Service Specialist I.

(d) The establishment of the following new classified limited-service positions are authorized in fiscal year July 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024 as follows:

(1) Department of State’s Attorneys and Sheriffs:

(A) ten Deputy State’s Attorneys; and

(B) two Administrative Assistants.

(e) The transfer of the following exempt position is authorized in fiscal year 2023 as follows:

(1) From the Agency of Administration to the Office of the Attorney General:

(A) one Staff Attorney III.

(f) The establishment of two additional classified permanent Tax Examiner positions is authorized in the Department of Taxes beginning in fiscal year 2023.

(1) Department of Taxes:
(A) two Tax Examiners.

Sec. E.100.1 2014 Acts and Resolves No. 179, Sec. E.100(d), as amended by
2015 Acts and Resolves No. 4, Sec. 74; 2016 Acts and Resolves No. 172,
Sec. E.100.2; 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 85, Sec. E.100.1; 2018 (Sp. Sess.)
Acts and Resolves No. 11, Sec. E.100.1; 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 120,
Sec. A.7; 2020 Act and Resolves No. 154, Sec. E.100.2; and by 2021 Acts and
Resolves No. 74, Sec. E.100.1, is further amended to read:

(d) Position Pilot Program. A Position Pilot is hereby created to assist
participating departments in more effectively managing costs of overtime,
compensatory time, temporary employees, and contractual work by removing
the position cap with the goal of maximizing resources to the greatest benefit
of Vermont taxpayers.

(1) Notwithstanding Sec. A.107 of this act, the Agency of
Transportation, the Department for Children and Families, the Agency of
Natural Resources, the Department of Buildings and General Services, the
Department of Labor, the Department of Corrections, and the Department of
Public Safety, the Department of State’s Attorneys and Sheriffs, and the
Vermont Veterans’ Home shall not be subject to the cap on positions for the
duration of the Pilot.

(A) The Department of Corrections is authorized to add only
Correctional Officer I and II positions.
(B) The Department of State’s Attorneys and Sheriffs is authorized to add only State’s Attorney positions.

(C) The Vermont Veterans’ Home is authorized to add direct care positions, including part-time positions. Prior to authorizing positions under subdivision (d)(2) of this section, the Secretary of Administration shall be provided the financial analysis from the Vermont Veterans’ Home reviewed by the Commissioner of Finance and Management which demonstrates reduction in the cost of overtime expenses or other expenses equal to or greater than the projected cost of the positions for the current and successive fiscal year of operations.

* * *

(7) This Pilot shall sunset on July 1, 2023, unless extended or modified by the General Assembly.

(8) On or before January 15, 2019, the Commissioner of Human Resources, in coordination with the Vermont State Employees’ Association (VSEA), shall provide a report on the total number of positions created under the authority of this section to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations. The report shall include a recommendation on whether this program should be expanded and continue and, if so, should it be extended but remain in session law or be made permanent by codification in statute.
Sec. E.100.2 CHIEF PREVENTION OFFICER

(a) The Office of the Chief Prevention Officer shall coordinate all budget and policy initiatives across the full spectrum of the prevention continuum.

SEC. E.100.3 PENSION OVERSIGHT

(a) The Secretary of Administration, in consultation with the State Treasurer, shall study and recommend criteria for a longevity incentive for Group F members of the Vermont State Employees’ Retirement System that reduces future employer pension costs. As part of the study, the Secretary shall identify the following:

(1) a baseline of recent member retirement behavior relative to assumptions during the five most recently completed fiscal years;

(2) a method for targeting incentives to encourage more employees to retire at later ages than currently assumed;

(3) the amount and structure of proposed incentives; and

(4) whether additional funds are required to support the proposed incentive program.

(b) On or before December 15, 2022, the Secretary shall submit a report on the study described in subsection (a) of this section to the Joint Public Pension Oversight Committee, and the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Government Operations.
Sec. E.105  3 V.S.A. § 3303 is amended to read:

§ 3303.  REPORTING, RECORDS, AND REVIEW REQUIREMENTS

(a) Annual report and budget. The Secretary shall submit to the General Assembly, concurrent with the Governor’s annual budget request required under 32 V.S.A. § 306, an annual report for information technology and cybersecurity. The report shall reflect the priorities of the Agency and shall include:

(1) performance metrics and trends, including baseline and annual measurements, for each division of the Agency;

(2) a financial report of revenues and expenditures to date for the current fiscal year;

(3) costs avoided or saved as a result of technology optimization for the previous fiscal year;

(4) an outline summary of information, including scope, schedule, budget, and status for information technology projects with total costs of $500,000.00 or greater;

(5) an annual update to the strategic plan prepared pursuant to subsection (c) of this section;

(6) a summary of independent reviews as required by subsection (d) of this section; and

(7) the Agency budget submission; and
(8) a report on the expenditures of the Technology Modernization Special Fund, a list of projects receiving funding from the Fund in the prior fiscal year, and a list of prioritized recommendations for projects to be funded from the Fund in the next fiscal year.

* * *

Sec. E.105.1 3 V.S.A. § 3305 is added to read:

§ 3305. TECHNOLOGY MODERNIZATION SPECIAL FUND

(a) Creation. There is created the Technology Modernization Special Fund, to be administered by the Agency of Digital Services. Monies in the Fund shall be used to purchase, implement, and upgrade technology platforms, systems, and cybersecurity services used by State agencies and departments to carry out their statutory functions.

(b) Funds. The Fund shall consist of:

(1) any amounts transferred or appropriated to it by the General Assembly; and

(2) any interest earned by the Fund.

(c) Fund balance. Any balance remaining at the end of the fiscal year shall remain in the Fund.

(d) Receipts. The Commissioner of Finance and Management may anticipate receipts to this Fund and issue warrants based thereon.
(e) Priorities. The General Assembly shall prioritize projects to receive monies from the Fund based on recommendations from the Chief Information Officer submitted pursuant to subsection 3303(a) of this title. Expenditures may only be made from the fund through appropriation and project authorization by the General Assembly. Plans for use shall be submitted as part of the budget adjustment or budget process.

Sec. E.105.2 FISCAL YEAR 2023; TECHNOLOGY MODERNIZATION SPECIAL FUND; AUTHORIZATIONS

(a) In fiscal 2023, the following expenditures are authorized from the Technology Modernization Special Fund to the projects described in this section:

(1) the sum of $11,800,000 for Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system upgrade of core statewide financial accounting system and integration with the Vermont Department of Labor and the Agency of Transportation financial systems:

(2) the sum of $1,800,000 for continued implementation of the Workplace Information Management System for property management at the Department of Buildings and General Services:

(3) the sum of $960,000 for the Fire Safety System Modernization to replace the current technology with a modern platform to improve records
management and public interaction functionalities related to permitting and

(4) the sum of $2,200,000 for a case management system at the Office
of the Attorney General.

(b) The expenditures authorized in subdivision (a)(1) of this section shall
only be released following approval by the Joint Information Technology
Oversight Committee upon a review of the following documentation as
provided by the Agency of Digital Services, the Agency of Administration, and
the Joint Fiscal Office’s IT consultant:

(1) adequacy of departmental readiness;

(2) the responsiveness of requests for proposals; and

(3) results of the independent review.

(c) In fiscal year 2023, if funds are available per section C.102 (b) (XX) of
this Act, the following expenditures are authorized from the Technology
Modernization Special Fund to the projects described in this section:

(1) the sum of $20,250,000 for the Department of Motor
Vehicles (DMV) Core System Modernization Phase II;

(2) the sum of up to $30,000,000 for the Department of Labor
Unemployment Insurance Modernization project. These funds shall be released
as follows:

(A) the sum of $3,000,000 on July 1, 2022;
(B) the sum of $10,000,000 on July 1, 2023 upon approval by the Joint Information Technology Oversight Committee of the actions outlined in a Project Schedule;

(C) remaining funds shall be released upon request as needed by the Agency of Digital Services and approval of the Joint Information Technology Oversight Committee in accordance with actions outlined in a Project Schedule; and

(3) For the amounts released in subdivisions (I)(B)–(C) of this subsection, the Joint Information Technology Oversight Committee shall consider the Project Schedule developed between the Department of Labor and the Agency of Digital Services, as approved by the Agency of Administration. The Joint Information Technology Oversight Committee shall also consider any actions proposed by the U.S. Department of Labor that may impact current or future plans developed by the State’s Department of Labor.

Sec. E.106 EXECUTIVE BRANCH FEES AND FUND DEFICITS;

PROPOSED INCREASES AND FOREGONE REVENUE;

REPORT

(a) According to the report submitted by the Commissioner of Finance and Management pursuant to 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec. E.106, $22,000,000 in revenue was foregone in one fiscal year due to lack of inflationary increases in certain fees, including Agency of Transportation fees.
(b) On or before November 15, 2022, the Commissioner of Finance and Management shall submit an inventory of all existing fees within State government to the Joint Fiscal Committee in Excel format. This inventory shall include all fees collected by the Executive Branch, the Attorney General, and the State Treasurer, as well as fees collected by the Judicial Branch. For fees within the Judicial Branch, the Commissioner shall have the assistance of the State Court Administrator. The fee inventory shall contain the following information for each fee in existence on the preceding July 1:

(1) the statutory authorization and termination date if any;
(2) its current rate or amount and the date this was last set or adjusted by the General Assembly or by the Joint Fiscal Committee;
(3) the fund into which its revenues are deposited;
(4) the revenues derived from it in each of the two previous fiscal years and an estimate of what will be collected in the current fiscal year; and
(5) in the case of licensing and registration fees, whether the fee is collected annually, biennially, or on some other set time frame.

(c) On or before November 15, 2022, the Secretary of State shall submit an inventory of its existing fees to the Joint Fiscal Committee in Excel format. The fee inventory shall contain the following information for each fee in existence on the preceding July 1:

(1) the statutory authorization and termination date if any;
(2) its current rate or amount and the date this was last set or adjusted by

the General Assembly or by the Joint Fiscal Committee;

(3) the fund into which its revenues are deposited;

(4) the revenues derived from it in each of the two previous fiscal years

and an estimate of what will be collected in the current fiscal year; and

(5) in the case of licensing and registration fees, whether the fee is

collected annually, biennially, or on some other set time frame.

(d) On or before November 15, 2022, the Commissioner of Finance and

Management shall provide a list of all funds to the Joint Fiscal Committee for

which one or both of the following conditions are true:

(A) the fund was in a deficit at the end of the most recent fiscal year

or is expected to be in a deficit at the end of the current fiscal year; or

(B) general funds were needed in any of the last three years to

address a fund deficit or to support the related operating costs of programs

supported by the fund.

(e) On or before January 15, 2023, the Commissioner of Finance and

Management shall submit a report to the General Assembly that provides a list

of programs by department where the fees do not fully cover the cost of

providing the service or regulatory function.

Sec. E.106.1 32 V.S.A. § 1001b is added to read:

§ 1001b. CAPITAL EXPENDITURE CASH FUND
(a) Creation. There is hereby created the Capital Expenditure Cash Fund to be administered by the Commissioner of Finance and Management, in consultation with the State Treasurer, for the purpose of using general funds to defray the costs of future capital expenditures that would otherwise be paid for using the State’s general obligation bonding authority and debt service obligations.

(b) Fund. The Fund may consist of:

(1) any appropriations or transfers made by the General Assembly; and

(2) any interest earned by the Fund.

(c) Use of funds. Expenditure may only be made from the fund via enacted appropriations by the General Assembly. Plans for use shall be submitted as part of the operating budget adjustment or operating budget process. Monies in the Fund shall only be used for:

(1) costs associated with a proposed capital project that occur prior to the construction phase of that project, including feasibility, planning, design, and engineering and architectural costs;

(2) projects with an anticipated lifespan of less than 20 years;

(3) costs associated with the early redemption of general obligation bonds; and

(4) other eligible capital projects receiving an appropriation from the General Assembly.
(d) Fund balance. All balances in the Fund at the end of any fiscal year shall be carried forward and remain part of the Fund.

(e) Early redemption transfer. If any expenditures are made from the Fund or the General Assembly appropriates general funds to pay for the early redemption of general obligation bonds pursuant to subdivision (c)(3) of this section, then an amount equal to the reduction in debt service required in any fiscal year resulting from that redemption shall be transferred to the Fund.

Sec. E.106.2 CAPITAL EXPENDITURE CASH FUND; ANALYSIS

(a) The Commissioner of Finance and Management, in consultation with the Joint Fiscal Office and the State Treasurer, shall analyze and make recommendations on:

(1) a dedicated revenue source or State fiscal capacity to fund the Capital Expenditure Cash Fund; and

(2) for any revenue source or State fiscal capacity identified in subdivision (1) of this subsection, an analysis of the benefits and costs of dedicating this revenue source to the Capital Expenditure Cash Fund in comparison to other identified unfunded State fiscal pressures.

(3) Amendments to 32 V.S.A. § 1001b (c) on the use of the Capital Expenditure Cash Fund, including:

(A) if uses of the fund should be prioritized in statute;
(B) how to prioritize the use of the fund to emphasize strong financial
management in Vermont State government;

(C) if an allowed use should include internal state debts or deficits;

and

(D) if an allowed use should include state assistance for projects to
mitigate emergent health and safety needs.

(b) On or before January 15, 2023, the Commissioner of Finance and
Management shall submit any recommendations to the House Committees on
Appropriations and on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committees
on Appropriations and on Institutions.

Sec. E.107 CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND APPROPRIATIONS;
REVERSION AND REALLOCATION; REPORTS

(a) From July 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022, the Commissioner of
Finance and Management is authorized to revert all unobligated Coronavirus
Relief Fund (CRF) appropriations and allocate the monies for expenditure
pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 511 to any agency or department for CRF-eligible
costs incurred from March 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021.

(b) The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall report at the
September meeting of the Joint Fiscal Committee on final CRF activity and if
any monies will be returned to the federal government.

Sec. E.126 TRANSFER OF FUNDS WITHIN LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
(a) Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 706, in fiscal year 2023, appropriations within the Legislative Branch may be transferred between respective offices to ensure a balanced close-out in the fiscal year.

Sec. E.126.1 -- DECARBONIZATION OF PUBLIC PENSION FUNDS; JOINT PUBLIC PENSION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE; REPORT

(a) Study. The Joint Public Pension Oversight Committee shall, in consultation with the State Treasurer, the Chair of the Vermont Pension Investment Commission, and any interested stakeholders with investment and environmental expertise, develop a strategy and timeline for the policies of the State to decarbonize the investments of the Vermont State Employees’ Retirement System, the State Teachers’ Retirement System, and the Municipal Employees’ Retirement System. The strategy and timeline developed by the Committee shall be in accordance with sound investment criteria and consistent with the fiduciary obligations of the Retirement Board for the Vermont State Employees’ Retirement System, the Board of Trustees for the Vermont Teachers’ Retirement System, and the Retirement Board of the Municipal Employees’ Retirement System. In developing the strategy and plan, the Committee shall consider the feasibility of different decarbonization strategies, including divestment to the fullest extent possible, and review models used in New York and in other states for decarbonization.
(b) Assistance. The Committee shall have the fiscal assistance of the Vermont Pension Investment Commission to conduct the work described in subsection (a) of this section.

(c) Report. On or before January 15, 2023, the Committee shall submit a report on the strategy and timeline described in subsection (a) of this section to the House and Senate Committees on Government Operations.

Sec. E.126.1 RESTORATIVE JUSTICE; STUDY

(a) The Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee shall study Vermont’s restorative justice programming and services, including the administration and funding of pretrial services, court diversion programs, balanced and restorative justice initiatives, and community justice center services with the purpose to develop recommendations for a comprehensive and efficient statutory framework for programming and services that further restorative justice principles. In conducting its study, the Committee shall:

(1) consider strategies for ensuring geographic consistency and equity for restorative justice programming and services, including equal access for all Vermonters and adequate resources for all providers; and

(2) recommend any changes to streamline restorative justice programming and services that coordinate the roles, responsibilities, and funding of the Department of Corrections, the Office of the Attorney General,
the Department of Children and Families, and any other entity that administers
restorative justice programming and services in the State.

(b) On or before December 15, 2022, the Committee shall submit any
proposed legislation resulting from its study to the House Committees on
Corrections and Institutions, on Judiciary, and on Appropriations, and the
Senate Committees on Institutions, on Judiciary, and on Appropriations.

Sec. E.128 [Deleted.] SERGEANT AT ARMS

(a) The Capitol Police may submit a request for equipment purchases or
leases for up to $15,000 to the Joint Legislative Management Committee for
review and approval. Upon approval, equipment purchases or leases shall be
funded by general fund carry forward within the Legislative budget.

Sec. E.128.1 FARMERS’ NIGHT CONCERT SERIES APPROPRIATION

(a) The Office of the Sergeant at Arms is authorized to use not more than
$10,000 from resources available within the General Assembly’s budget to
provide honoraria to speakers and performing groups who are invited to
participate in the 2023 Farmers’ Night Concert Series and who are not
otherwise sponsored or compensated for their participation.

Sec. E.131 STATE TREASURER – VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX

ASSISTANCE (VITA) PROGRAM
(a) Included in the appropriation in Sec. B.131 is $400,000 to contract
with the Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO) on
behalf of the Vermont Community Action Partnership to manage and
administer the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.

Sec. E.134 VERMONT MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES’ RETIREMENT
SYSTEM; FISCAL YEARS 2023–2026; RATES

(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of 24 V.S.A. § 5064(b), for the period
from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023, contributions shall be made by:

(1) Group A members at the rate of 3.5 percent of earnable
compensation;

(2) Group B members at the rate of 5.875 percent of earnable
compensation;

(3) Group C members at the rate of 11 percent of earnable
compensation; and

(4) Group D members at the rate of 12.35 percent of earnable
compensation.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of 24 V.S.A. § 5064(b), for the period
from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, contributions shall be made by:

(1) Group A members at the rate of 3.75 percent of earnable
compensation;
(2) Group B members at the rate of 6.125 percent of earnable compensation;

(3) Group C members at the rate of 11.25 percent of earnable compensation; and

(4) Group D members at the rate of 12.6 percent of earnable compensation.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of 24 V.S.A. § 5064(b), for the period from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, contributions shall be made by:

(1) Group A members at the rate of 4 percent of earnable compensation;

(2) Group B members at the rate of 6.375 percent of earnable compensation;

(3) Group C members at the rate of 11.5 percent of earnable compensation; and

(4) Group D members at the rate of 12.85 percent of earnable compensation.

(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of 24 V.S.A. § 5064(b), for the period from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, contributions shall be made by:

(1) Group A members at the rate of 4.25 percent of earnable compensation;

(2) Group B members at the rate of 6.625 percent of earnable compensation;
(3) Group C members at the rate of 11.75 percent of earnable compensation; and

(4) Group D members at the rate of 13.1 percent of earnable compensation.

Sec. E.134.1 3 V.S.A. § 522 is amended to read:

§ 522. VERMONT PENSION INVESTMENT COMMISSION

* * *

(i) Assistance and expenses.

(1) The Commission shall have the administrative and technical support of the Office of the State Treasurer.

(2) The Commission may collect proportionally from the funds of the three retirement systems and any individual municipalities that have been allowed to invest their retirement funds pursuant to subsection 523(a) of this title, any expenses incurred that are associated with carrying out its duties, and any expenses incurred by the Treasurer’s office in support of the Commission.

(3)(2) The Attorney General shall serve as legal advisor to the Commission.

Sec. E. 134.2 3 V.S.A. § 524 is added to read:

§ 524. VERMONT PENSION INVESTMENT COMMISSION SPECIAL FUND
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(a) Creation. There is hereby created the Vermont Pension Investment
Commission Special Fund, administered by the Vermont Pension Investment
Commission, for the purpose of receiving funds transferred to the Commission
pursuant to subsection 523(i) of this title. Monies in the Fund shall be used to
pay expenses associated with carrying out the Commission’s duties.

(b) Funds. The Fund shall consist of:

(1) any amounts collected and transferred by the three retirement
systems and any individual municipalities that have been allowed to invest
their retirement funds pursuant to subsection 523(a) of this title;

(2) any amounts transferred or appropriated to it by the General
Assembly; and

(3) any interest earned by the Fund.

Sec. E.134.3 VERMONT PENSION INVESTMENT COMMISSION;
SOURCE OF FUNDS

(a) The funds appropriated in Sec. B.134.1 of this act are costs to the
State’s pension funds and have been considered in each pension systems’
actuarial valuations but have not been included in the funds appropriated in
Secs. B.133, B.134, and B.514.1 of this act.

(b) The funds appropriated from the pension systems for administrative
costs in Secs. B.133, B.134, and B.514.1 of this act are intended to provide
spending authority needed to transfer funds from the State’s pension systems to
the Treasurer's Retirement Admin Costs fund (21520) to cover the portion of
the Treasurer’s budget attributable to the State’s pension systems.

Sec. E.134.4  MEMBERSHIP TRANSFER OF CERTAIN SHERIFF
DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES; COSTS; MUNICIPAL
EMPLOYEES’ RETIREMENT SYSTEM; STATE
TREASURER; REPORT

(a) The State Treasurer, in consultation with the Joint Pension Oversight
Committee shall, with assistance of actuarial analysis, determine the costs
associated with transferring the membership of:

(1) certified law enforcement officials employed by county sheriff
departments from Group F in the Vermont State Employees’ Retirement
System to a Group D membership in the Vermont Municipal Employees’
Retirement System; and

(2) support staff employed by county sheriff departments from Group F
in the Vermont State Employees’ Retirement System to Group A, B, or C in
the Vermont Municipal Employees’ Retirement System.

(b) On or before October 1, 2022, the State Treasurer shall submit a report
to the House Committees on Appropriations and on Government Operations
and the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Government Operations
that includes the results of the study described in subsection (a) of this section.
The report shall include an inventory of all employees, as of a specified date.
for each county sheriff department with the current enrollment status of each employee in a State or municipal pension system by group; or if the employee is not enrolled in a State or municipal pension system; or is enrolled in another retirement system.

Sec. E.136.1 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 79, Sec. 13, as amended by 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 120, Sec. A.8, and 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 44, Sec. 2, is further amended to read:

Sec. 13. STATE ETHICS COMMISSION FUNDING SOURCE SURCHARGE; REPEAL

(a) Surcharge.

(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of 3 V.S.A. § 2283(c) setting forth the purpose and rate of charges collected in the Human Resource Services Internal Service Fund, in fiscal year 2018 and thereafter, a surcharge of up to 2.3 percent, but no greater than the cost of the activities of the State Ethics Commission set forth in Sec. 7 of this act, on the per-position portion of the charges authorized in 3 V.S.A. § 2283(c)(2) shall be assessed to all Executive Branch agencies, departments, and offices and shall be paid by all assessed entities solely with State funds.

(2) The amount collected shall be accounted for within the Human Resource Services Internal Service Fund and used solely for the purposes of
funding the activities of the State Ethics Commission set forth in Sec. 7 of
this act.

(b) Repeal. This section shall be repealed on July 1, 2022 July 1, 2025.

Sec. E.139 GRAND LIST LITIGATION ASSISTANCE

(a) Of the funds appropriated in Sec. B.139 of this act, $9,000 shall be
transferred to the Attorney General and $70,000 shall be transferred to the
Department of Taxes, Division of Property Valuation and Review and reserved
and used with any remaining funds from the amount previously transferred for
final payment of expenses incurred by the Department or towns in defense of
grand list appeals regarding the reappraisals of the hydroelectric plants and
expenses incurred to undertake complex commercial and utility property
appraisals conducted by the Department to aid town valuations.

Sec. E.142 PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES

(a) This appropriation is for State payments in lieu of property taxes under
32 V.S.A. chapter 123, subchapter 4, and the payments shall be calculated in
addition to and without regard to the appropriations for PILOT for Montpelier
and for correctional facilities elsewhere in this act. Payments in lieu of taxes
under this section shall be paid from the PILOT Special Fund under 32 V.S.A.
§ 3709.

(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, the payments under this
section shall be adjusted so that the total payments made under Secs. E.142,
E.143, and E.144 do not exceed 100 percent of the assessed value of State buildings defined by 32 V.S.A. § 3701(2).

Sec. E.143  PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES – MONTPELIER

(a) Payments in lieu of taxes under this section shall be paid from the PILOT Special Fund under 32 V.S.A. § 3709.

Sec. E.144  PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES – CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

(a) Payments in lieu of taxes under this section shall be paid from the PILOT Special Fund under 32 V.S.A. § 3709.

* * * Protection to Persons and Property * * *

Sec. E.200  ATTORNEY GENERAL

(a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the Office of the Attorney General, Medicaid Fraud and Residential Abuse Unit, is authorized to retain, subject to appropriation, one-half of the State share of any recoveries from Medicaid fraud settlements, excluding interest, that exceed the State share of restitution to the Medicaid Program. All such designated additional recoveries retained shall be used to finance Medicaid Fraud and Residential Abuse Unit activities.

(b) Of the revenue available to the Attorney General under 9 V.S.A. § 2458(b)(4), $1,545,393 is appropriated in Sec. B.200 of this act.

Sec. E.203  [Deleted.]
Sec. E.205  24 V.S.A. § 290 is amended to read:

§ 290. COUNTY SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT

* * *

(b) Full-time State deputy sheriffs whose primary responsibility is transportation of prisoners and persons with a mental condition or psychiatric disability shall be paid by the State of Vermont. The appointment of such deputies and their salary shall be approved by the Governor or his or her designee. The Executive Committee of the Vermont Sheriffs Association and the Executive Director of the Department of State’s Attorneys and Sheriffs shall jointly have authority for the assignment of position locations in the counties of State-paid deputy sheriffs and shall review the county location assignments periodically for efficient use of resources. The positions and their funding shall be assigned to the Department of State’s Attorneys and Sheriffs. The Executive Director shall have the authority to determine job duties for the position, assignment of positions to county, regular and temporary work locations, assistance to other State agencies and departments, timesheet systems, daily work logs, and to have final approval of personnel matters including, but not limited to, approval for hiring, paygrade assignment, hiring rate, discipline, and termination. The Sheriffs shall have an Executive Committee of not more than five current Sheriffs, elected for a two-year term by a vote of the Sheriffs held not later than January 15, for a term starting...
February 1. The Executive Committee shall have a Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary-Treasurer, and two members at large. The Executive Committee shall meet at least quarterly to provide input to the Department of State’s Attorneys and Sheriffs regarding budget, legislation, personnel and policies, and the assignment of positions, when vacancies arise, for efficient use of resources.

* * *

Sec. E.205.1 32 V.S.A. § 1591(2) is amended to read:

(2) For the transportation and care of prisoners, juveniles, and patients with a mental condition or psychiatric disability:

(A) For necessary assistance in arresting or transporting prisoners, juveniles, or persons with mental illness, the sum of $18.00 per hour State’s Attorneys and Sheriffs Executive Director shall annually set the per hour chargeable rate for each deputy sheriff or assistant so required if the to assist in the transport. The Executive Director shall consult with the Sheriffs Association before setting the per hour chargeable rate. The sheriff or constable makes oath that the deputy sheriff, assistant, or assistants were required, giving the name of the assistant or assistants if there were more than one; provided, however, a full-time law enforcement officer shall provide the documentation required by the Department. The deputy sheriff or assistant shall not receive compensation under this subsection if otherwise compensated.
from any other funding source for the same hours during which such transportation is performed. In addition to the rate established the sheriff’s department shall be reimbursed for the costs of the employers’ contribution to Social Security and workers’ compensation insurance attributable to services provided under this section. Reimbursement shall be calculated on an hourly basis; the sheriff’s department shall also be reimbursed for the costs of employer contributions for unemployment compensation, when a claim is filed and the percentage owed from the sheriff’s department to the State can be accounted for under this section.

* * *
(b) Of the General Fund appropriation in Sec. B.209, $405,000 is allocated for grants in support of the Drug Task Force. Of this amount, $190,000 shall be used by the Vermont Drug Task Force to fund three town task force officers. These town task force officers shall be dedicated to enforcement efforts with respect to both regulated drugs as defined in 18 V.S.A. § 4201(29) and the diversion of legal prescription drugs. Any unobligated funds may be allocated by the Commissioner to fund the work of the Drug Task Force or carried forward.

Sec. E.209.1 PUBLIC SAFETY – VERMONT STATE POLICE; DISPATCH WORKING GROUP; TRANSITION PROPOSAL; REPORT

(a) Creation. The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety shall convene a working group on the new regional dispatch model. The task force shall provide a written report to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before December 1, 2022. The report shall include recommendations on:

(1) The long-term funding model for regional dispatch that fairly assesses costs statewide and does not unduly affect property taxes and clearly identifies the potential impact on property taxes;

(2) The estimated timeline and transition funding needed as new regional dispatch centers come online and local dispatch services are transitioned away from state operated facilities.
(3) Identify the reduction in workload that will result at the two Vermont State Policy dispatch centers from a fully operational regional dispatch model.

(b) Membership. The working group shall be composed of the following members:

(1) one representative of the Vermont State Police, selected by the Commissioner of Public Safety;

(2) two representatives of local legislative bodies, selected by the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, one of which utilizes a State-dispatch center and one of which utilizes an existing regional or local dispatch center;

(3) one representative of an existing local or regional dispatch center, selected by the Vermont League of Cities and Towns;

(4) two police chiefs, selected by the Vermont Police Chiefs Association, one of whom utilizes a State-dispatch center and one of whom utilizes an existing regional or local dispatch center;

(5) one emergency medical responder, selected by the Vermont EMS Advisory Committee;

(6) one firefighter, selected by the Vermont State Firefighters Association;

(7) one sheriff, selected by the Vermont Sheriffs Association; and
(8) one representative of the Enhanced 911 Board, selected by the Board Chair.

(c) Powers and Duties. The working group shall:

(1) Consider and document how current dispatch services are provided statewide and the various methods of funding that exist to cover the cost of dispatch services. This shall include detail by town and or by emergency service provider. This analysis shall identify any funding inequities that exist in the current system between those entities paying for services using local funds and those entities receiving dispatch services provide by the State without cost. The analysis of current costs and payments flows for dispatch services shall be compared to the projected costs and payment flows under the new regional dispatch model. This analysis shall also estimate how first responder entities dispatched though the new regional system may be financially impacted in the transition to the new regional system.

(2) Identify a transitional timeline and the tasks to be completed within that timeline for transitioning to the new regional dispatch model.

(3) Identify any State resources that may become available once the new dispatch system is fully operational and recommend if and how such resources should be distributed to equitably reduce local costs.
(4) Identify any other ongoing sources of statewide revenue to be
dedicated to statewide emergency response communications to equitably
reduce local costs.

(d) Meetings.

(1) The Commissioner of Public Safety or designee shall call the first
meeting of the working group.

(2) The working group shall determine its chair from among the
members of the working group.

(3) A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum.

(e) Assistance. The working group shall have the administrative, technical,
and legal assistance of the Department of Public Safety.

Sec. E.212 PUBLIC SAFETY – FIRE SAFETY

(a) Of the funds appropriated in Sec. B.212 of this act, $55,000 shall be
granted to the Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force for the purpose of
designing dry hydrants.

Sec. E.215 MILITARY – ADMINISTRATION

(a) The amount of $1,319,834 shall be disbursed to the Vermont Student
Assistance Corporation for the National Guard Tuition Benefit Program
established in 16 V.S.A. § 2857.

Sec. E.219 MILITARY – VETERANS’ AFFAIRS
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(a) Of the funds appropriated in Sec. B.219 of this act, $1,000 shall be used
for continuation of the Vermont Medal Program, $4,800 shall be used for the
expenses of the Governor’s Veterans’ Advisory Council, $7,500 shall be used
for the Veterans’ Day parade, and $10,000 shall be granted to the American
Legion for the Boys’ State and Girls’ State programs.

Sec. E.222 NEW FARMER PROGRAM COORDINATION

(a) The Secretary of Agriculture shall, in consultation with the Vermont
Housing Conservation Board, inventory the programs available to assist new
farmers beginning operations in the State. On or before January 15, 2023, the
Secretary shall provide a report to the House and Senate Committees on
Agriculture on the degree of coordination across these programs. This shall
include recommendations for improvement or change in operations and
coordination that would benefit new farmers experience in seeking assistance.

Sec. E.232 [Deleted.]

Sec. E.233 30 V.S.A. § 8083(b)(6) is amended to read:

(6) upon approval by the General Assembly, up to $1,500,000.00
annually to fund the operational expenses of the Board and the Department to
the extent the Department’s expenses support the work of the Board.

Sec. E.233.1 VERMONT COMMUNITY BROADBAND BOARD;

OPERATIONAL EXPENSES; ANNUAL BUDGET
(a) On or before December 1, 2022, the Vermont Community Broadband Board shall submit to the Governor and the General Assembly a proposed budget for its operational expenses for fiscal year 2023 for inclusion in the fiscal year 2023 budget adjustment act.

(b) On or before January 15, 2023, the Vermont Community Broadband Board shall submit to the Governor and the General Assembly a proposed budget for its operational expenses in fiscal year 2024 for inclusion in the Governor’s recommended fiscal year 2024 appropriations for the support of government.

(c) In preparing a proposed budget for its operational expenses, the Vermont Community Broadband Board shall maximize first the use of any federal funds in the Vermont Community Broadband Fund that are available for administrative costs, and then shall draw upon monies transferred to the Vermont Community Broadband Fund pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 7523(b).

Sec. E.233.2 VERMONT COMMUNITY BROADBAND BOARD

(a) In fiscal year 2023 there is appropriated to the Vermont Community Broadband Board a total of $1,500,000 from special funds to operate the Board. The intent of this section is to provide the necessary spending authority to the Board to operate in fiscal year 2023 until a new line-item budget is included in the budget adjustment for fiscal year 2023 pursuant to Sec. 233.1 of this act.
Sec. E.233.3 MUNICIPAL FUNDS FOR BROADBAND

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a municipality may accept and finance broadband projects with funds received from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Pub. L. 117-2, including funds received as lost revenue.

Sec. E.240 CANNABIS CONTROL BOARD

(a) The funds appropriated for the Cannabis Control Board in Sec. B.240 of this act include one-time special funds of $703,432 to support phase two of the license application and seed to sale tracking information technology system.

Cannabis Regulation Fund; Cannabis Excise Tax Revenue in Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025

Sec. E.240.1 7 V.S.A. § 845 is amended to read:

§ 845. CANNABIS REGULATION FUND

(a) There is established the Cannabis Regulation Fund, which shall be managed in accordance with 32 V.S.A. chapter 7, subchapter 5. The Fund shall be maintained by the Cannabis Control Board.

(b) The Fund shall be composed of:

(1) all State application fees, annual license fees, renewal fees, and civil penalties collected by the Board pursuant to chapters 33 (cannabis establishments) and 37 (medical cannabis dispensaries) of this title; and
(2) all annual and renewal fees collected by the Board pursuant to chapter 35 (medical cannabis registry) of this title; and

(3) all cannabis excise tax revenue raised pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 7902.

(c) Monies from the Fund shall only be appropriated for the purposes of implementation, administration, and enforcement of this chapter and chapter 33 of this title.

(d) The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall do the following not later than July 31 each year:

(1) transfer the unexpended and unobligated balance of the Cannabis Regulation Fund to the General Fund at the close of the prior fiscal year; and

(2) report the amount of the transfer made pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection to the Joint Fiscal Committee.

Sec. E.240.2 32 V.S.A. § 7909 is amended to read:

§ 7909. SUBSTANCE MISUSE PREVENTION FUNDING

(a) Thirty percent of the revenues raised by the cannabis excise tax imposed by section 7902 of this title unexpended and unobligated balance of the Cannabis Regulation Fund that is transferred to the General Fund pursuant to 7 V.S.A. § 845(d)(1), not to exceed $10,000,000.00 per fiscal year, shall be used to fund substance misuse prevention programming in the subsequent fiscal year.

* * *
Sec. E.240.3. REPEAL

(a) 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 164, Sec. 6c (contingent Cannabis Regulation Fund deficit offset) is repealed.

Sec. E.240.4  2020 Acts and Resolves No. 164, Sec. 33(h) is amended to read:

(h) Sec. 6c (contingent Cannabis Regulation Fund deficit offset) shall take effect on July 1, 2024. [Repealed.]

* * * Cannabis Excise Tax Revenue Starting in Fiscal Year 2025 2026 * * *

Sec. E.240.5. 7 V.S.A. § 845 is amended to read:

§ 845. CANNABIS REGULATION FUND

(a) There is established the Cannabis Regulation Fund, which shall be managed in accordance with 32 V.S.A. chapter 7, subchapter 5. The Fund shall be maintained by the Cannabis Control Board.

(b) The Fund shall be composed of:

(1) all State application fees, annual license fees, renewal fees, and civil penalties collected by the Board pursuant to chapters 33 (cannabis establishments) and 37 (medical cannabis dispensaries) of this title; and

(2) all annual and renewal fees collected by the Board pursuant to chapter 35 (medical cannabis registry) of this title; and

(3) all cannabis excise tax revenue raised pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 7902.

[Repealed.]
(c) Monies from the Fund shall only be appropriated for the purposes of
implementation, administration, and enforcement of this chapter and chapter
33 of this title.

(d) The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall do the following
not later than July 31 each year:

(1) transfer the unexpended and unobligated balance of the Cannabis
Regulation Fund to the General Fund at the close of the prior fiscal year; and

(2) report the amount of the transfer made pursuant to subdivision (1) of
this subsection to the Joint Fiscal Committee. [Repealed.]

Sec. E.240.6. 32 V.S.A. § 7909(a) is amended to read:

(a) Thirty percent of the revenues raised by the cannabis excise tax
imposed by section 7902 of this title unexpended and unobligated balance of
the Cannabis Regulation Fund that is transferred to the General Fund pursuant
to 7 V.S.A. § 845(d)(1), not to exceed $10,000,000.00 per fiscal year, shall be
used to fund substance misuse prevention programming in the subsequent
fiscal year.

Sec. E.240.7 TRANSFER IN JULY 2025

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the
Commissioner of Finance and Management shall do the following not later
than July 31, 2025:
(1) transfer the unexpended and unobligated balance of the Cannabis

Regulation Fund to the General Fund at the close of the 2024 fiscal year; and

(2) report the amount of the transfer made pursuant to subdivision (1) of this section to the Joint Fiscal Committee.

* * * Human Services * * *

Sec. E.300 FUNDING FOR THE OFFICE OF THE HEALTH CARE

ADVOCATE

(a) Of the funds appropriated in Sec. B.300 of this act, $1,847,406 shall be used for the contract with the Office of the Health Care Advocate.

Sec. E.300.1 PRIVATE NONMEDICAL INSTITUTIONS; COSTS

(a) On or before September 1, 2022, the Agency of Human Services shall report to Joint Fiscal Committee on a plan to address costs associated with contract staffing for private Nonmedical institutions. The plan shall include a timeline to address the rate setting process for future ongoing base costs starting in State fiscal year 2023.

Sec. E.301 SECRETARY’S OFFICE – GLOBAL COMMITMENT:

(a) The Agency of Human Services (AHS) shall use the funds appropriated in this section for payment of the actuarially certified premium required under the intergovernmental agreement between the Agency of Human Services and the managed care entity, the Department of Vermont Health Access, as provided for in the Global Commitment for Health Waiver (Global
Commitment) approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services under Section 1115 of the Social Security Act.

(b) In addition to the State funds appropriated in this section, a total estimated sum of $25,231,644 is anticipated to be certified as State matching funds under the Global Commitment as follows:

(1) $22,230,100 certified State match available from local education agencies for eligible special education school-based Medicaid services under the Global Commitment. This amount combined with $28,269,900 of federal funds appropriated in Sec. B.301 of this act equals a total estimated expenditure of $50,500,000. An amount equal to the amount of the federal matching funds for eligible special education school-based Medicaid services under Global Commitment shall be transferred from the Global Commitment Fund to the Medicaid Reimbursement Special Fund created in 16 V.S.A. § 2959a.

(2) $3,001,544 certified State match available from local designated mental health and developmental services agencies for eligible mental health services provided under Global Commitment.

(c) Up to $4,034,170 is transferred from the AHS Federal Receipts Holding Account to the Interdepartmental Transfer Fund consistent with the amount appropriated in Sec. B.301 – Secretary’s Office – Global Commitment of this act.
Sec. E.301.1  GLOBAL COMMITMENT APPROPRIATIONS; TRANSFER;

REPORT

(a) In order to facilitate the end-of-year closeout for fiscal year 2023, the Secretary of Human Services, with approval from the Secretary of Administration, may make transfers among the appropriations authorized for Medicaid and Medicaid-waiver program expenses, including Global Commitment appropriations outside the Agency of Human Services. At least three business days prior to any transfer, the Agency shall submit to the Joint Fiscal Office a proposal of transfers to be made pursuant to this section. A final report on all transfers made under this section shall be made to the Joint Fiscal Committee for review at the September 2023 meeting. The purpose of this section is to provide the Agency with limited authority to modify the appropriations to comply with the terms and conditions of the Global Commitment for Health waiver approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services under Section 1115 of the Social Security Act.

Sec. E.301.2  GLOBAL COMMITMENT WAIVER AMENDMENT

(a) The Secretary of Human Services is authorized to seek to extend or renew Vermont’s Global Commitment to Health Section 1115 Demonstration Waiver, which is currently set to expire on June 30, 2022. The Agency of Human Services shall strive to maintain or increase the State’s flexibility to use Global Commitment investment dollars to increase access to care and
coverage, improve health outcomes, strengthen health care delivery, and
promote transformation to value-based and integrated models of care.

Sec. E.301.3 PROVIDER RATE INCREASES

(a) Recipients of any increased rates under Secs. B.314 and B.333 and Sec. B.334.1 of this act shall be transparent in the use of these funds through timely and accurate reporting.

Sec. E.301.3 PROVIDER RATE INCREASES

(b) By April 15, 2023, based on the information reported in subsection (a) of this section from the Designated and Specialized Service Agencies and the Home Health Provider Agencies, the Agency of Human Services shall provide a preliminary report to General Assembly on whether the Fiscal Year 2023 provider rate increase is having an impact on:

(1) Reducing the wait times for community based mental health services or community-based home health services under the choices for care program.

(2) Reducing the use of emergency department resources at local hospitals for mental health related incidents;
(3) Improving the staff vacancy rate at these providers through their ability to recruit and retain employees.

Sec. E.306 VERMONT HEALTH BENEFIT EXCHANGE RULES

(a) The Agency of Human Services may adopt rules pursuant to 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 to conform Vermont’s rules regarding health care eligibility and enrollment and the operation of the Vermont Health Benefit Exchange to state and federal law and guidance. The Agency may use the emergency rules process pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 844 prior to June 30, 2023, but only in the event that new state or federal law or guidance require Vermont to amend or adopt its rules in a time frame that cannot be accomplished under the traditional rulemaking process. An emergency rule adopted under these exigent circumstances shall be deemed to meet the standard for the adoption of emergency rules required pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 844(a).

Sec. E.306.1 [Deleted.]

Sec. E.312 HEALTH – PUBLIC HEALTH

(a) AIDS/HIV funding.

(1) In fiscal year 2023 and as provided in this section, the Department of Health shall provide grants in the amount of $475,000 in AIDS Medication Rebates special funds to the Vermont AIDS service and peer-support organizations for client-based support services. The Department of Health AIDS Program shall meet at least quarterly with the Community Advisory
Group (CAG) with current information and data relating to service initiatives.

The funds shall be allocated according to an RFP process.

(2) In fiscal year 2023 and as provided in this section, the Department of Health shall provide grants in the amount of $295,000 to the following organizations:

(A) Vermont CARES - $140,000;

(B) AIDS Project of Southern Vermont - $100,000; and

(C) HIV/HCV Resource Center - $55,000.

(3) Ryan White Title II funds for AIDS services and the Vermont Medication Assistance Program (VMAP) shall be distributed in accordance with federal guidelines. The federal guidelines shall not apply to programs or services funded solely by State general funds.

(A) The Secretary of Human Services shall immediately notify the Joint Fiscal Committee if at any time there are insufficient funds in VMAP to assist all eligible individuals. The Secretary shall work in collaboration with persons living with HIV/AIDS to develop a plan to continue access to VMAP medications until such time as the General Assembly can take action.

(B) As provided in this section, the Secretary of Human Services shall work in collaboration with the VMAP Advisory Committee, which shall be composed of not less than 50 percent of members who are living with HIV/AIDS. If a modification to the program’s eligibility requirements or
benefit coverage is considered, the Committee shall make recommendations regarding the program’s formulary of approved medication, related laboratory testing, nutritional supplements, and eligibility for the program.

(4) In fiscal year 2023, the Department of Health shall provide grants in the amount of $100,000 in general funds to Vermont AIDS service organizations and other Vermont HIV/AIDS prevention providers for community-based HIV prevention programs and services. These funds shall be used for HIV/AIDS prevention purposes, including syringe exchange programs; improving the availability of confidential and anonymous HIV testing; prevention work with at-risk groups such as women, intravenous drug users, and people of color; and anti-stigma campaigns. Not more than 15 percent of the funds may be used for the administration of such services by the recipients of these funds. The method by which these prevention funds are distributed shall be determined by mutual agreement of the Department of Health and the Vermont AIDS service organizations and other Vermont HIV/AIDS prevention providers.

(5) In fiscal year 2023, the Department of Health shall provide grants in the amount of $150,000 in general funds to Vermont AIDS service organizations and other Vermont HIV/AIDS prevention providers for syringe exchange programs. The method by which these prevention funds are distributed shall be determined by mutual agreement of the Department of Health and the Vermont AIDS service organizations and other Vermont HIV/AIDS prevention providers.
Health, the Vermont AIDS service organizations, and other Vermont HIV/AIDS prevention providers. The performance period for these grants will be State fiscal year 2023. Grant reporting shall include outcomes and results.

(6) In fiscal year 2023, the Department of Health shall not reduce any grants to the Vermont AIDS service and peer-support organizations or syringe service programs from funds appropriated for AIDS/HIV services to levels below those in fiscal year 2022 without receiving prior approval from the Joint Fiscal Committee.

Sec. E.313 REPORT, PUBLIC INEBRIATE AND SOBER BED PROGRAMMING

(a) The new alcohol and drug abuse program beds funded through Sec. B.313 of this act shall be used to treat public inebriates instead of having these individuals held by the Department of Corrections. On or before January 15, 2023, the Department of Health, in consultation with the Chief Prevention Officer, Vermont Preferred Providers, Vermont Care Partners, the Vermont Association for Mental Health and Addiction Recovery, and the Vermont Alliance for Recovery Residences, shall submit a written report to the House Committees on Appropriations and on Human Services and to the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Health and Welfare examining whether there is excess bed capacity among those programs designated for use by public inebriates. The report shall include an analysis of financial
sustainability of the programs. If the Department determines that there is
excess capacity, the report shall include a plan to make efficient use of the
excess capacity, including possibly redesignating beds for alternative purposes.

Sec. E.314  DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH; MOBILE CRISIS

OUTREACH SERVICES

(a) The Department of Mental Health shall build an urgent care model for
mental health by expanding mobile outreach services based on the
Department’s analysis of statewide mobile crisis services and gaps pursuant to
its State Planning Grant from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.
The urgent care model shall address geographic gaps and the regions of the
State in which the lack of mobile outreach is most directly driving unnecessary
emergency department visits or unnecessary law enforcement responses.

(b) The new mobile outreach services shall:

(1) be based on evidence-based and trauma-informed practices,

including using peer support staff;

(2) be developed in conjunction with the continuum of urgent care
response related to the new 9-8-8 suicide prevention line; and

(3) comply with federal requirements as needed to qualify for three
years of federal financial participation at an enhanced 85 percent federal match
rate.
(c) The Department, in coordination with the Agency of Human Services Secretary's Office, Department of Vermont Health Access and the Department of Financial Regulation, shall develop a sustainability plan to ensure that the services will continue to be available after expiration of the enhanced federal match rate.

(d) On or before January 15, 2023, the Department shall provide a status report on:

(1) the experience of the Rutland pilot project which includes the number of Vermonters served by this pilot through 2022, as well as a description of the evaluation of the operating model of the pilot since it was launched to date; and

(2) the status of expansion of the urgent care model for mental health by expanding mobile outreach services funded in fiscal year 2023, including grants issued to date, operating status of the programs provided funding, and number of Vermonters served in 2022.

Sec. E.314.1 DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH; EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS; PATIENT EXPERIENCE OF CARE; REPORT

(a) On or before January 15, 2023, the Department of Mental Health shall report to the House Committee on Health Care and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare regarding the progress of the health care system in
improving the patient experience of care for individuals encountering lengthy
emergency departments waits for admission for inpatient psychiatric treatment.
The report shall include an assessment of the services offered to these patients
in emergency departments and the extent to which stakeholder input is
included in decisions about services and patient care. The report shall include
the most recent data pertaining to patient length of stay in emergency
departments due to a lack of appropriate alternative mental health level 1 or
step-down bed placements, and any changes anticipated in the inventory of
level 1 or step-down beds system wide.
Sec. E.314.2  29 V.S.A. § 821 is amended to read:
§ 821.  STATE FACILITIES
(a) State buildings.

* * *
(15) “River Valley Therapeutic Residence” shall be the name of the
secure residential recovery facility in Essex.

* * *
Sec. E.316  PARENT CHILD CENTER GRANT
(a) The Department for Children and Families shall, within the
administration of the grant for parent child centers and in consultation with the
parent child centers, seek to ensure that services are targeted to families most
at risk of having young children come into State custody. The shared goal of
preventing that outcome and bringing Vermont’s rate of young children coming into State custody down to a level more consistent with other states experience, shall be reflected in the grant agreement.

Sec. E.317 33 V.S.A. § 5126 is added to read:

§ 5126. PLACEMENT OF A CHILD INTO A QUALIFIED RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT PROGRAM

(a) Within 60 days of the start of a placement of a child into a qualified residential treatment program by the Commissioner, the Family Division of the Superior Court or the Judicial Master shall review the assessment, determination, and documentation provided by the qualified individual conducting the assessment required pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 675a. The court or Judicial Master shall determine whether the needs of the child can be met through placement with family members, in a foster family home, or in another approved setting designed to meet specialized needs. If placement in a setting described above is not appropriate, the court or Judicial Master shall consider whether placement of the child in a qualified residential treatment program provides the most effective and appropriate level of care for the child in the least restrictive environment, and whether such a placement is consistent with the short- and long-term goals for the child, as specified in the case plan for the child.
(b) The court or Judicial Master shall approve or disapprove the placement in a qualified residential treatment program based on the factors considered in subsection (a) of this section and make written findings as to the basis for the determination. The decision and findings shall be submitted to the parties.

(c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the Commissioner’s authority to place a child who is in the Commissioner’s legal custody in a family home or a treatment, rehabilitative, detention, or educational facility or institution as provided in subdivision 5106(4) of this title.

(d) This section shall not apply to children placed in a setting that is intended for the detention of minors.

Sec. E.318 REPEAL

2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. E.318.7 is repealed.

Sec. E.318.1 CHILD CARE CAPACITY-BUILDING GRANTS

(a) Of the funds appropriated in Sec. B.318 of this act, $800,000 is allocated for the purpose of expanding infant and toddler child care capacity.

(b) The Child Development Division shall award grants to eligible applicants. An eligible applicant shall:

(1) be a new or existing regulated, privately owned center-based child care program or family child care home in good regulatory standings;

(2) participate in Child Care Financial Assistance Program (CCFAP);

(3) provide year-round, full day child care and early learning services;
(4) provide child care and early learning services for infants and
toddlers; and

(5) participate in the Step Ahead Recognition System (STARS).

(c) Center-based child care program or family child care homes receiving a
grant pursuant to this section shall remain in compliance with the Division’s
rules, continue participation in STARS, and maintain enrollment of children
supported by CCFAP.

Sec. E.318.2 PRE-APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM IN EARLY
CHILDHOOD EDUCATION: APPROPRIATION

(a) Of the federal funds appropriated in Sec. B.318 of this act to the
Department for Children and Families Division of Child Development,
$100,000 shall be transferred to Vermont Department of Labor for the pre-
apprenticeship program in Early Childhood Education provided by Vermont
Career and Technical Education centers.

(2) $125,000 shall be subgranted to the Vermont Association for the
Education of Young Children to provide grants to students to pursue early
childhood educator careers.

Sec. E. 318.3 CHILD DEVELOPMENT DIVISION; STEP AHEAD
RECOGNITION SYSTEM

As part of its fiscal year 2023 budget adjustment presentation to the General
Assembly, the Department for Children and Families shall present its proposed
policy changes to the Step Ahead Recognition System (STARS) to the House Committee on Human Services and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare. The Division’s presentation shall summarize its proposed changes to STARS, including any anticipated impacts on child care providers and families. Any requested policy changes to STARS and related appropriations requests shall require legislative approval through the budget process pursuant to 32 V.S.A. chapter 7, subchapter 3.

Sec. E.318.4 BRIGHT FUTURES INFORMATION SYSTEM CHILD DEVELOPMENT DIVISION INFORMATION SYSTEM; MODERNIZATION; CHILD CARE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

(a) On or before January 1, 2024, or six months after both the modernization of the Bright Futures Information System (BFIS) Child Development Division Information System (CDDIS) pursuant to 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 45, Sec. 5 and the implementation of the corresponding eligibility changes to the Child Care Financial Assistance Program (CCFAP) pursuant to 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 45, Sec. 2 have taken effect, whichever is first occurring, the Department for Children and Families shall submit a written report to the House Committees on Appropriations and on Human Services and to the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Health and Welfare evaluating the effectiveness of the BFIS CDDIS.
modernization project and the CCFAP eligibility changes. The report shall address how implementation of BFIS CDDIS and CCFAP changes impact the availability and affordability of child care throughout Vermont.

Sec. E.321  [Deleted.]

Sec. E.321.1  [Deleted.] GENERAL ASSISTANCE HOUSING; ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS

(a) The Commissioner for Children and Families may, by policy, provide temporary housing for a limited duration in adverse weather conditions when appropriate shelter space is not available.

Sec. E.324  EXPEDITED CRISIS FUEL ASSISTANCE

(a) The Commissioner for Children and Families or designee may authorize crisis fuel assistance to those income-eligible households that have applied for an expedited seasonal fuel benefit but have not yet received it if the benefit cannot be executed in time to prevent them from running out of fuel. The crisis fuel grants authorized pursuant to this section count toward the one crisis fuel grant allowed per household for the winter heating season pursuant to 33 V.S.A. § 2609(b).

Sec. E.325  DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES – OFFICE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

(a) Of the funds appropriated in Sec. B.325 of this act, $12,699,440 shall be granted to community agencies for homeless assistance by preserving existing
services, increasing services, or increasing resources available statewide.

These funds may be granted alone or in conjunction with federal Emergency Solutions Grants funds. Funds shall be administered in consultation with the Vermont Coalition to End Homelessness.

Sec. E.325.1 TRANSITIONAL HOUSING; RULEMAKING

(a) Notwithstanding 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 83, Sec. 54(c)(1), the Department for Children and Families may withdraw its permanent rule filing and shall file a second emergency rule to be effective upon the expiration of the Transitional Housing Program Emergency Rules (22-E07), adopted by the Department on March 31, 2022 and effective until September 28, 2022. The Department shall be deemed to have met the emergency rulemaking criteria in 3 V.S.A. § 844 if a second emergency rule that is substantially similar to the Transitional Housing Program Emergency Rules (22-E07) is adopted. The Department shall file permanent rules pursuant to 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 if the availability of federal ERAP funding extends beyond March 31, 2023.

(b) Prior to filing a second emergency rule pursuant to this section, the Department shall:

(1) send a draft of the second emergency rule to the Joint Fiscal Committee 30 days prior to its September 2022 meeting;

(2) present the second emergency rule and an update on the funding forecast for the transitional housing program at the Joint Fiscal Committee’s
September 2022 meeting and consider any input and recommendations offered by the Joint Fiscal Committee; and

(3) inform the General Assistance working group described in 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Secs. E.321 and E.321.2 of any inconsistencies between the first and second emergency rules and consider any input on the changes offered by the working group.

Sec. E. 326 DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES – OFFICE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY – WEATHERIZATION

(a) Of the Special Fund appropriation in Sec. B.326 of this act, $750,000 is for the replacement and repair of home heating equipment.

Sec. E.329 [Deleted.]

Sec. E.334 ADULT DAY PAYMENT REFORM—ALTERNATIVE PAYMENT METHODOLOGY—REPORT

(a) On or before January 15, 2023, the Commissioner for Vermont Health Access and the Commissioner of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living shall submit a report to the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Appropriations on the status of implementing an alternative payment model for the Adult Day providers. This new payment model should be designed to stabilize the financial well-being of the Adult Day providers.
Sec. E.334  SPECIFIC HOME- AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICE PROVIDER RATE STUDY; REPORT

(a) The Department of Vermont Health Access, in collaboration with the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living, shall conduct a rate study of the Medicaid reimbursement rates paid for adult day, adult day rehabilitation, personal care and homemaker services.

(b) On or before February 15, 2023, the Department of Vermont Health Access shall report the results of its rate study to the House Committees on Human Services and on Appropriations and the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Appropriations.

Sec. E.334.1  LONG TERM CARE - PERSONAL NEEDS ALLOWANCE INCREASE

(a) The amount of the State supplement for Medicaid beneficiaries who reside in a nursing home and receive Supplemental Security Income shall increase by 10% to the degree practicable effective January 1, 2023 but no later than January 1, 2024.

(b) This amount will be adjusted subsequently by an inflationary factor. The Agency of Human Services shall adopt rules specifying the inflation factor methodology.

Sec. E.335  CORRECTIONS APPROPRIATIONS; UNEXPENDED FUNDS TRANSFER; REPORT
(a) In fiscal year 2023, the Secretary of Administration may, upon recommendation of the Secretary of Human Services, transfer unexpended funds between the respective appropriations for correctional services; provided, however, that no transfer shall be made from correctional services out-of-state beds. At least three days prior to any such transfer being made, the Secretary of Administration shall report the intended transfer to the Joint Fiscal Office and shall report any completed transfers to the Joint Fiscal Committee at its next scheduled meeting.

(b) In fiscal year 2023, any unexpended funds for correctional services out-of-state beds shall be carried forward to fiscal year 2023-2024, and the amount reported to the Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee in September 2022-2023, to support community-based service programs. Funds may only be expended on community-based service programs upon approval of the Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee. The House Committees on Appropriations and on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Judiciary shall be notified of any proposed expenditures on community-based service programs.

(c) Any funds expended on community-based service programs pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall be included in the subsequent year Department of Corrections budget for the same purpose at the same amount.
Sec. E.335.2  28 V.S.A. § 125 is added to read:

§ 125.  JUSTICE REINVESTMENT II INITIATIVES; REPORT

(a) On or before January 15 each year, the Commissioner of Corrections shall submit a report to the House Committees on Appropriations and on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Judiciary with:

(1) a breakdown and description of General Fund expenditures for the following Justice Reinvestment II initiatives to date:

(A) Department of Corrections funding for domestic violence intervention programming;

(B) Department of Corrections funding for transitional housing capacity;

(C) funding for the Department of Correction’s data collection Offender Management System;

(D) any funding in the Department of Mental Health for community-based mental health and substance use services for individuals under Department of Corrections supervision; and

(E) any funding provided to court diversion and restorative justice programs, and any Justice Reinvestment II funding, shall be reported in context of other baseline funding sources provided to these programs.
(2) A description of any other General Fund expenditures for Justice Reinvestment II initiatives not described in subdivision (1) of this subsection to date.

(3) The annual budget shall include the total amount requested for any proposed expenditures by the Department of Corrections for Justice Reinvestment II initiatives supporting community-based programs.

(b) The provisions of 2 V.S.A. § 20(d) (expiration of required reports) shall not apply to the report to be made under this section.

(a) On or before January 15 each year, the Commissioner of Corrections, in consultation with the Commissioners of Health, Mental Health and Children and Families and Attorney General shall submit a report to the House Committees on Appropriations and on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Judiciary detailing the expenditures on Justice Reinvestment II and related initiatives.

(A) funding for domestic violence intervention programming in the Department of Corrections.

(B) funding for offender transitional housing capacity with the Department of Corrections and other departments.

(C) funding for the Department of Correction’s data collection Offender Management System.
(D) funding for community-based mental health and substance use services for individuals under Department of Corrections supervision.

(E) funding provided for diversion and restorative justice programs including Community Justice Centers, Court Diversion, and Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ).

(F) funding and a description of any other General Fund expenditures for Justice Reinvestment II initiatives.

(b) The provisions of 2 V.S.A. § 20(d) (expiration of required reports) shall not apply to the report to be made under this section.

Sec. E.338 CORRECTIONS – CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

(a) Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 3709(a), the special funds appropriation of $152,000 for the supplemental facility payments to Newport and Springfield shall be paid from the PILOT Special Fund under 32 V.S.A. § 3709.

Sec. E.345 [Deleted.]

* * * Labor * * *

Sec. E.400 [Deleted.]

Sec. E.400.1 [Deleted.]

* * * K–12 Education * * *

Sec. E.500 EDUCATION – FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

(a) The Global Commitment funds appropriated in this section shall be used for physician claims for determining medical necessity of Individualized
Education Programs (IEPs). These services are intended to increase access to quality health care for uninsured persons, underinsured persons, and Medicaid beneficiaries.

Sec. E. 500.1 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 66, Sec. 14 is amended to read:

Sec. 14. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE

(a) Sec. E.500.1 of 2018 (Sp. Sess.) Acts and Resolves No. 11, as amended, requires that not later than July 1, 2022 all Vermont supervisory unions, supervisory districts, school districts, and independent technical center districts utilize the same shared school district data management system Shared School District Data Management System (eFinancePlus) (SSDDMS), which shall be selected by the Agency of Education per State procurement guidelines.

(b) The purpose of Secs. 15–17 of this act is to:

(1) extend the deadline to December 31, 2022 for statewide adoption of eFinancePlus SSDDMS;

(2) pause until January 1, 2022 the further implementation of eFinancePlus SSDDMS to provide time for further evaluation of the system, provided that:

(A) the Agency of Education and its contractor for implementation of the system shall continue to support users of the system; and

(B) a supervisory union, supervisory district, school district, or independent technical center district that does not use the system may join an
implementation round offered by the Agency of Education implement or leave

SSDDMS during the pause period after consultation with the Agency of Education and upon approval by its governing body; and

* * *

Sec. E.500.2 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 66, Sec. 15 is amended to read:

Sec. 15. 2018 (Sp. Sess.) Acts and Resolves No. 11, Sec. E.500.1, as amended by 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. E.500.5, is further amended to read:

Sec. E.500.1. SHARED SCHOOL DISTRICT FINANCIAL DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

(a) Not later than December 31, 2022 2024, all Vermont supervisory unions, supervisory districts, school districts, and independent technical center districts shall utilize the same school finance and financial data management system. The system shall be selected by the Agency of Education per State procurement guidelines.

* * *

Sec. E.500.3 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 66, Sec. 16 is amended to read:

Sec. 16. PAUSE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF SHARED SCHOOL DISTRICT FINANCIAL DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Notwithstanding Sec. E.500.1 of 2018 (Sp. Sess.) Acts and Resolves No. 11, as amended, the implementation of the Shared School District Data
Management System (SSDDMS) shall be paused until January 1, 2022.

July 1, 2023, provided that:

1. the Agency of Education and its contractor for implementation of the system shall continue to support users, as of the date of enactment of this act, of the system; and
2. a supervisory union, supervisory district, school district, or independent technical center district that does not use the system may join an implementation round offered by the Agency of Education, implement or leave SSDDMS during the pause period after consultation with the Agency of Education and upon approval by its governing body.

Sec. E.500.4 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 66, Sec. 17 is amended to read:

Sec. 17. AGENCY OF EDUCATION; REPORTS

(a) On or before June 30, 2021 and quarterly thereafter until March 31, 2025, the Agency of Education shall provide a written report to the General Assembly and the Vermont Association of School Business Officials on the status of improving and implementing the Shared School District Data Management System, including the status of:

* * *

Sec. E.500.5 AGENCIES OF EDUCATION AND OF DIGITAL SERVICES; JOINT REPORT ON THE SHARED SCHOOL DISTRICT DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
(a) On or before December 15, 2022, the Agencies of Education and of Digital Services shall jointly submit a report to the House and Senate Committees on Education on the status of improving and implementing the Shared School District Data Management System (SSDDMS) and a recommendation on whether to continue, discontinue, suspend, or delay implementation of SSDDMS and the reasons for their recommendation. In preparing their report, the Agencies of Education and of Digital Services shall solicit feedback from the Vermont Association of School Business Officials, school business managers and users and nonusers of SSDDMS around the State, the Vermont chapter of the American Association of School Personnel Administrators, and school human resources managers around the State.

Sec. E.500.6 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 1, Sec. 1, as amended by 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 66, Sec. 12, is further amended to read:

Sec. 1. ETHNIC AND SOCIAL EQUITY STANDARDS ADVISORY WORKING GROUP

* * *

(d) Appointment and operation.

* * *

(D) The Working Group shall cease to exist on July 1, 2022 July 1, 2023.

* * *
(g) Duties of the Working Group.

(1) The Working Group shall review standards for student performance adopted by the State Board of Education under 16 V.S.A. § 164(9) and, on or before December 31, 2021, recommend to the State Board updates and additional standards to recognize fully the history, contributions, and perspectives of ethnic groups and social groups. These recommended additional standards shall be designed to:

* * *

(h) Reports.

* * *

(3) The Working Group shall, on or before December 31, 2022, June 30, 2023, submit a report to the General Assembly that includes:

* * *

(i) Duties of the State Board of Education. The Board of Education shall, on or before December 31, 2022, June 30, 2023, consider adopting ethnic and social equity studies standards into standards for student performance adopted by the State Board under 16 V.S.A. § 164(9) for students in prekindergarten through grade 12, taking into account the report submitted by the Working Group under subdivision (g)(1) of this section.

Sec. E. 500.7 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 66, Sec. 13 is amended to read:

* * *
(c) Any unused portion of these appropriations shall, as of July 1, 2022, revert to the General Fund.

*** Amendment to S.287, when enacted ***

Sec. E. 500.7 Subdivision (d)(1) of Sec. 4, amendment to 16 V.S.A. § 4010;
determination of weighted long-term membership and per pupil education
spending, of S.287 as enacted is amended to read:

(1) The Secretary shall first apply grade level weights. Each pupil
included in long-term membership from subsection (b) of this section shall
count as one, multiplied by the following amounts:

(A) prekindergarten—negative 0.54;

(B) grades six through eight—0.36; and

(C) grades nine through 12—0.39.

Sec. E.500.8 Subdivision (b)(1) of Sec. 7, calculation of tax rates; tax rate
review; fiscal years 2025–2029; of S.287 as enacted is amended to read:

(b)(1) In order to determine which school districts shall be subject to a Tax
Rate Review, the Secretary of Education shall calculate the fiscal year 2024
per pupil education spending, as defined in 16 V.S.A. § 4001(14) as in effect
on July 1, 2024, of each school district subject to subsection (a) of this section
as though the funding formula created under this act applied to fiscal year
2024. In fiscal year 2025, if a school district’s per pupil education spending
calculated using the funding formula created under this act increases by
10 percent or more over the school district’s fiscal year 2024 per pupil education spending as calculated by the Secretary under this subsection, then the school district shall be subject to a Tax Rate Review. In fiscal years 2026–2029, if a school district’s per pupil education spending calculated using the funding formula created under this act increases by 10 percent or more over the school district’s prior fiscal year per pupil education spending, then the school district shall be subject to a Tax Rate Review. Upon request of the Secretary, a school district shall submit its budget to a Tax Rate Review to determine whether its increase in per pupil education spending was beyond the school district’s control or for other good cause. In conducting the Review, the Secretary shall select three business managers and three superintendents to serve in an advisory role in the Review. The Review shall consider the extent to which the increase in per pupil education spending is caused by at least the following factors:

(A) the extent to which the increase in per pupil education spending is caused by declining enrollment in the school district; and declining enrollment in the school district;

(B) the extent to which the increase in per pupil education spending is caused by increases in tuition paid by the school district;

(C) costs associated with facilities improvements required to protect the health and safety of students, teachers, and staff; and
(D) new State and federal requirements.

Sec. E.500.9  Sec. 15, evaluation and reporting on implementation of act, of S.287 as enacted is amended to read:

Sec. 15.  EVALUATION AND REPORTING ON IMPLEMENTATION OF ACT

(a) The Joint Fiscal Office shall design and contract for an evaluation of the impact of the changes required under this act in achieving the goals under Sec. 2 of this act. On or before December 15, 2029, the Joint Fiscal Office shall submit to the House and Senate Committees on Education, the House Committee on Ways and Means, and the Senate Committee on Finance its written evaluation report. In order to maintain independence, the Joint Fiscal Office shall not contract with an individual who has consulted on, or contracted to provide services in relation to, the Pupil Weighting Factors Report dated December 24, 2019 or the December 17, 2021 report prepared in accordance with 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 59.

(b) The contractor shall consult with the Joint Fiscal Office and the Agency of Education to determine appropriate metrics such as Vermont Education Quality Standards and other common educational standards; standardized test scores, graduation rates, and other student performance measures; student health and wellness measures; budget and finance measures; teacher and staff compensation comparisons; and educational opportunity comparisons across
school districts. The evaluation shall be conducted using rigorous and
objective standards for fiscal and educational program review.

(c) On or before December 15, 2029, the Joint Fiscal Office shall submit to
the House and Senate Committees on Education, the House Committee on
Ways and Means, and the Senate Committee on Finance its written evaluation
report.

Sec. E.501  AGENCY OF EDUCATION; ESSER III FUND PLAN

(a) The following sums are appropriated from the ESSER III funds
provided to the State pursuant to Sec. 2001(f) of the American Rescue Plan
Act of 2021 to the Agency of Education in fiscal year 2023:

(A) $2,852,234 for Evidence-Based Summer Programming for the
implementation of evidence-based summer enrichment programs and to ensure
such programs respond to students’ academic, social, and emotional needs and
address the disproportionate impact of the coronavirus on the student
populations described in section 1111(b)(2)(B)(xi) of the Elementary and
experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care.

(B) $2,852,234 for Evidence-Based Afterschool Programming for
the implementation of evidence-based comprehensive afterschool programs,
and to ensure such programs respond to students’ academic, social, and
emotional needs and address the disproportionate impact of the coronavirus on
the student populations described in section 1111(b)(2)(B)(xi) of the
Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311(b)(2)(B)(xi)), students experiencing homelessness, and children and
youth in foster care.

(C) $1,352,170 to address lost instructional time due to COVID-19
in accordance with 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 28 to support literacy with a
specific prioritization for the implementation of 2018 Acts and Resolves
No. 173.

(D) $1,130,586 for meeting other needs as determined by the State
educational agency (AOE) to address issues in responding to COVID-19. This
may include the implementation of a facilities planning grant program per
2021 Acts and Resolves No. 72.

Sec. E.502 EDUCATION – SPECIAL EDUCATION: FORMULA GRANTS
(a) Of the appropriation authorized in Sec. B.502 of this act, and
notwithstanding any other provision of law, an amount not to exceed
$4,073,400 shall be used by the Agency of Education in fiscal year 2023 as
funding for 16 V.S.A. § 2967(b)(2)–(6). In distributing such funds, the
Secretary shall not be limited by the restrictions contained within 16 V.S.A.
§ 2969(c) and (d).

Sec. E.504.1 EDUCATION – FLEXIBLE PATHWAYS
(a) Of the appropriation in Sec. B.504 of this act, $2,100,000 from the Education Fund shall be distributed to school districts for reimbursement of high school completion services pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 943(c).

(b) Notwithstanding 16 V.S.A. § 4025(b), of this Education Fund appropriation, the amount of:

1. $996,500 is available for dual enrollment programs notwithstanding 16 V.S.A. § 944(f)(2);
2. $1,800,000 is available to support the Vermont Virtual High School;
3. $400,000 is available for secondary school reform grants; and
4. $3,000,000 is available for Early College pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 4011(e).

(c) Of the appropriation in Sec. B.504 of this act, $996,500 from the General Fund is available for dual enrollment programs.

Sec. E.514  STATE TEACHERS’ RETIREMENT SYSTEM

(a) In accordance with 16 V.S.A. § 1944(g)(2), and consistent with system changes enacted for fiscal year 2023 in the 2022 session, the annual contribution to the State Teachers’ Retirement System (STRS) shall be $194,161,651 of which $187,273,782 shall be the State’s contribution and $6,887,869 shall be contributed from local school systems or educational entities pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 1944c.
In accordance with 16 V.S.A. § 1944(c)(2), of the annual contribution, $34,342,965 is the “normal contribution,” and $159,818,686 is the “accrued liability contribution.”

Sec. E.515  RETIRED TEACHERS’ HEALTH CARE AND MEDICAL BENEFITS

(a) In accordance with 16 V.S.A. § 1944b(b)(2), and consistent with system changes enacted for fiscal year 2023 in the 2022 session, the annual contribution to the Retired Teachers’ Health and Medical Benefits plan shall be $50,206,128 consisting of the funds appropriated in Sec. B.515 and Sec. B.1100(c)(2) of this act.

(b) In accordance with 16 V.S.A. § 1944(c)(2), of the annual contribution, $15,100,000 is the “normal contribution,” and $35,106,128 is the “accrued liability contribution.”

*** Higher Education ***

Sec. E.600  UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

(a) The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall issue warrants to pay 1/12 of the appropriation in Sec. B.600 of this act to the University of Vermont on or about the 15th day of each calendar month of the year.

(b) Of this appropriation, $380,326 shall be transferred to the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) for the purpose of
complying with State matching fund requirements necessary for the receipt of
available federal or private funds, or both.

Sec. E.602 VERMONT STATE COLLEGES

(a) The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall issue warrants to
pay 1/12 of the appropriation in Sec. B.602 of this act to the Vermont State
Colleges on or about the 15th day of each calendar month of the year.

(b) Of this appropriation, $427,898 shall be transferred to the Vermont
Manufacturing Extension Center for the purpose of complying with State
matching fund requirements necessary for the receipt of available federal or
private funds, or both.

Sec. E.603 VERMONT STATE COLLEGES – ALLIED HEALTH

(a) If Global Commitment fund monies are unavailable, the total grant
funding for the Vermont State Colleges shall be maintained through the
General Fund or other State funding sources.

(b) The Vermont State Colleges shall use the Global Commitment funds
appropriated in Sec. B.603 of this act to support the dental hygiene, respiratory
therapy, and nursing programs that graduate approximately 315 health care
providers annually. These graduates deliver direct, high-quality health care
services to Medicaid beneficiaries or uninsured or underinsured persons.

Sec. E.605 VERMONT STUDENT ASSISTANCE CORPORATION
(a) Of the appropriation in Sec. B.605 of this act, $25,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation (VSAC) to be deposited into the Trust Fund established in 16 V.S.A. § 2845. 

(b) Of the appropriated amount remaining after accounting for subsection (a) of this section, not less than 93 percent of this appropriation shall be used for direct student aid.

(c) Of the total one-time funds appropriated in this act to VSAC, an amount up to six percent, but not to exceed $100,000 in a fiscal year, may be used for staff expenses associated with administering the funds. Funds shall not be used for indirect costs.

(c) To the extent other funding is provided to VSAC in this act or other legislation enacted into law this year, up to six percent, but not to exceed $100,000, may be used for staff expenses associated with administering the funds. Funds shall not be used for indirect costs. To the extent these are federal funds, allocation for expenses associated with administering the funds shall be consistent with federal grant requirements.

Sec. E.605.1 NEED-BASED STIPEND FOR DUAL ENROLLMENT AND EARLY COLLEGE STUDENTS

(a) Notwithstanding 16 V.S.A. § 4025(b), the sum of $41,225 in education funds and $41,225 in general funds is appropriated to the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation (VSAC) for dual enrollment and need-based stipend
purposes to fund a flat-rate, need-based stipend or voucher program for
financially needy students enrolled in a dual enrollment course pursuant to
16 V.S.A. § 944 or in early college pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 946 to be used for
the purchase of books, cost of transportation, and payment of fees. VSAC
shall establish the criteria for program eligibility. Funds shall be granted to
eligible students on a first-come, first-served basis until funds are depleted.
(b) VSAC shall report on the program to the House Committees on
Appropriations and on Commerce and Economic Development and to the
Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Economic Development,
Sec. E.700 10 V.S.A. § 1389(d)(3) is amended to read:
(3) The Clean Water Board shall:
* * *
(E) solicit, consult with, and accept public comment from
organizations interested in improving water quality in Vermont regarding
recommendations under this subsection (d) for the allocation of funds from the
Clean Water Fund; and
(F) recommend capital appropriations for the permanent protection of
land and waters from future development through conservation and water
quality projects; and
(G) recommend that at least $1,000,000.00 is annually appropriated to the Vermont Natural Resources Conservation Council from the Clean Water Fund for distribution on an equitable basis to the Natural Resources Conservation Districts to conduct water quality programs or projects; annual outreach, education, monitoring and assessment; and technical assistance, planning and design, and implementation of local projects related to agricultural improvements and natural resources restoration and conservation.

Sec. E.700 10 V.S.A. § 581 is amended to read:

§ 581. BUILDING EFFICIENCY GOALS

It shall be goals of the State:

(1) To improve substantially the energy fitness of at least 20 percent of the State’s housing stock by 2017 (more than 60,000 housing units), and 25 percent of the State’s housing stock by 2020 (approximately 80,000 housing units) and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 0.15 MMTCO₂e by 2031.

* * *

Sec. E.702 23 V.S.A. § 3513 is amended to read:

§ 3513. LIABILITY INSURANCE; AUTHORITY TO CONTRACT FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

(a) The amount of 85 percent of the fees and penalties collected under this chapter, except interest, is allocated to the Agency of Natural Resources Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation for use by the Vermont ATV
Sportsman’s Association (VASA) for development and maintenance of a Statewide ATV Trail Program, for trail liability insurance, and to contract for law enforcement services with any constable, sheriff’s department, municipal police department, the Department of Public Safety, and the Department of Fish and Wildlife for purposes of trail compliance pursuant to this chapter.

The Departments of Public Safety and of Fish and Wildlife are authorized to contract with VASA to provide these law enforcement services. The Agency of Natural Resources The Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation shall retain for its use up to $7,000.00 during each fiscal year to be used for administration of this Program.

***

Sec. E.709 10 V.S.A. § 1283(g)(3) is amended to read:

(3) “Release” means any intentional or unintentional action or omission resulting in the spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, dumping, or disposing of hazardous materials into the surface or groundwaters, or onto the lands in the State, or into waters outside the jurisdiction of the State when damage may result to the public health, lands, waters, or natural resources within the jurisdiction of the State. “Release” also means the intentional or unintentional action or omission resulting in the spilling, leaking, emission, or disposal of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) from building materials in a building or structure public schools and approved and recognized
independent schools, as those terms are defined in 16 V.S.A. § 11, that were
constructed or renovated before 1980.

Sec. E.709.1 10 V.S.A. § 6602(17) is amended to read:

(17) “Release” means any intentional or unintentional action or
omission resulting in the spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting,
emptying, dumping, or disposing of hazardous materials into the surface or
groundwaters, or onto the lands in the State, or into waters outside the
jurisdiction of the State when damage may result to the public health, lands,
waters, or natural resources within the jurisdiction of the State. “Release” also
means the intentional or unintentional action or omission resulting in the
spilling, leaking, emission, or disposal of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)
from building materials in public schools and approved
and recognized independent schools, as those terms are defined in 16 V.S.A.
§ 11, that were constructed or renovated before 1980.

Sec. E.709.2 REPORT ON REGULATION OF PCB RELEASES FROM
BUILDING MATERIALS IN NONSCHOOL BUILDINGS

On or before January 15, 2023, the Secretary of Natural Resources shall
submit to the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Natural Resources
and Energy and the House Committees on Appropriations and on Natural
Resources, Fish, and Wildlife a report regarding the indoor air quality testing
of buildings for releases of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) from building materials. The report shall include:

1. a proposal for the best method for regulating releases of PCBs from PCB-containing building materials in non-school buildings;
2. a proposal of who will be required to test for a release or potential release of PCBs from building materials, including whether and how testing will be required under the Brownfields Reuse and Environmental Liability Limitation Program or as part of an environmental assessment for a property transaction;
3. a summary of when during a corrective action or property transaction testing would be required and why it would be required;
4. the standard or standards that would be utilized to determine if a release occurred;
5. the action or remediation that would be required if PCBs are identified in excess of the proposed standard;
6. how responsive action or remediation would be funded, including potential federal or State sources of funding; and
7. how the requirement to test may affect investment in the redevelopment of historic downtowns or similar areas.

***Transportation***

Sec. E.903  MULTI-AGENCY INVESTMENTS IN ELECTRIC VEHICLE
SUPPLY EQUIPMENT INFRASTRUCTURE

(a) Definitions. As used in this section:

(1) “Area median income” means the county or Metropolitan Statistical Area median income published by the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development.

(2) “Electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE)” has the same meaning as in 30 V.S.A. § 201.

(3) “Level 1 charger” or “level 1 EVSE” means EVSE that plugs directly into a standard 120-volt AC outlet and supplies an average output of 1.3 to 2.4 kilowatts.

(4) “Level 2 charger” or “level 2 EVSE” means galvanically connected EVSE with a single-phase input voltage range from 208 to 240 volts AC and a maximum output current less than or equal to 80 amperes AC.

(5) “Level 3 charger,” “level 3 EVSE,” or “direct-current fast charger (DCFC),” means EVSE that uses dedicated direct current (DC) to provide energy to a plug-in electric vehicle.

(6) “Multiunit affordable housing” means a multiunit dwelling where:

(A) at least 50 percent of the units are or will be occupied by households whose income does not exceed 100 percent of the greater of the State or area median income; or
(B) all units are affordable to households earning between 60 and 120 percent of area median income.

(7) “Multiunit dwelling” means a housing project, such as cooperatives, condominiums, dwellings, or mobile home parks, with three or more units constructed or maintained on a tract or tracts of land.

(8) “Workplace” means a place where an individual works.

(b) Housing, employers, and public venues and attractions.

(1) In fiscal year 2023, $10,000,000 is appropriated in Sec. G.600 (b) of this act to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development to support the following:

(A) one or more grant programs, which may build upon the existing EVSE Grant Program, to support the continued buildout of level 1 and 2 EVSE at multiunit dwellings, including multiunit affordable housing, with less than 20 units prioritized and not less than 30 percent of the total appropriation, less the administration expenses allowed under subsection (d c) of this section, allocated to this purpose;

(B) one or more grant programs, which may build upon the existing EVSE Grant Program, to support the continued buildout of level 1 and 2 EVSE at private workplaces, with the workplaces of employers with fewer than 100 employees prioritized;
(C) one or more grant programs, which may build upon the existing EVSE Grant Program, to support the continued buildout of level 1, 2, and 3 EVSE at public venues and attractions, such as parks, State parks and access areas, downtowns, museums, and ski mountains, that are available to any member of the public; and

(D) the purchase and installation of level 1 and 2 EVSE that is available to the public at State workplaces or to provide grants to persons for the purchase and installation of level 1 and 2 EVSE that is available to the public at State workplaces, or both.

(2) If the Agency of Commerce and Community Development, in consultation with the EVSE Interagency Workgroup, determines that programmatic funding remains available following the first round of grant awards made under subdivision (1) of this subsection, then the balance of the $10,000,000 shall be awarded in grants that prioritize placing EVSE at multiunit affordable housing and workplaces of employers with fewer than 100 employees.

(c) Administration costs. The Agency of Commerce and Community Development may use up to 15 percent of the appropriation in subsection (b) of this section for administrative costs associated with installing EVSE at multiunit housing, workplaces, and public venues and attractions.

(d) Carryforward; deployment in fiscal year 2023.
(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law and subject to the approval of the Secretary of Administration, appropriations to support the expenditures under this section remaining unexpended on June 30, 2023 shall be carried forward and designated for the same expenditures in the subsequent fiscal year.

(2) Every reasonable effort shall be made to obligate and deploy the monies appropriated for expenditure under this section in fiscal year 2023 in order to achieve a pace of EVSE deployment necessary to meet the emissions reduction requirements of 10 V.S.A. § 578(a) and the recommendations of the Climate Action Plan (CAP) issued under 10 V.S.A. § 592.

(e) Outreach and marketing. The Agency of Commerce and Community Development shall ensure that there is sufficient outreach and marketing, including the use of translation and interpretation services, of the EVSE grant programs implemented pursuant to subsection (b) of this section and such costs shall be considered administrative costs for purposes of subsection (c) of this section.

* * * Pay Act * * *

Sec. F.100 APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2023 COMPENSATION INCREASES

(a) Funding of fiscal year 2023 collective bargaining agreement provisions.
(1) This act funds in fiscal year 2023 the provisions of the collective bargaining agreements between the State and the Vermont State Employees’ Association for the Defender General, Non-Management, Supervisory, and Corrections bargaining units; for the State’s Attorneys’ offices bargaining unit; and for the Judicial bargaining unit, and between the State and the Vermont Troopers’ Association, that apply during the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

(2) These collective bargaining agreements provide during that fiscal year 2023 period a cost-of-living adjustment of three percent, an average 1.9 percent step increase, and a $1,500 one-time payment to individuals employed as of January 1, 2023.

(b) Other permitted fiscal year 2023 increases. In fiscal year 2021, the Executive, Judicial, and Legislative Branches may extend the fiscal year 2023 provisions of the collective bargaining agreements that are funded by this act to employees not covered by the bargaining agreements as they determine to be appropriate and in accordance with the appropriations provided to each branch.

Sec. F.200  FISCAL YEAR 2023 PAY ACT APPROPRIATIONS

(a) Executive Branch. In fiscal year 2023, the fiscal year 2023 provisions of the collective bargaining agreements between the State of Vermont and the Vermont State Employees’ Association for the Defender General, Non-
Management, Supervisory, and Corrections bargaining units, and, for the
purpose of appropriation, the State’s Attorneys’ offices bargaining unit, for the
period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023; the collective bargaining
agreement with the Vermont Troopers’ Association, for the period of
July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023; and salary increases for employees in the
Executive Branch not covered by the bargaining agreements shall be funded as
follows:

(1) General Fund. The amount of $22,847,453 is appropriated from the
General Fund to the Secretary of Administration for distribution to
departments to fund the fiscal year 2023 compensation increases permitted by
this act.

(2) Transportation Fund. The amount of $1,502,420 is appropriated
from the Transportation Fund to the Secretary of Administration for
distribution to the Agency of Transportation and the Department of Public
Safety to fund the fiscal year 2023 compensation increases permitted by this
act.

(3) Other funds. The Administration shall provide additional spending
authority to departments through the existing process of excess receipts to fund
the fiscal year 2023 compensation increases permitted by this act. The
estimated amounts are $35,494,376 from special fund, federal, and other
sources.
(4) Transfers. With due regard to the possible availability of other funds, for fiscal year 2023, the Secretary of Administration may transfer from the various appropriations and various funds and from the receipts of the Liquor Control Board such sums as the Secretary may determine to be necessary to carry out the purposes of this act to the various agencies supported by State funds.

(b) Judicial Branch. In fiscal year 2023, the amount of $2,342,075 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Judiciary to fund the fiscal year 2021 provisions of the collective bargaining agreement between the State of Vermont and the Vermont State Employees’ Association for the Judicial bargaining unit for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 and salary increases for employees in the Judicial Branch not covered by the bargaining agreement.

(c) Legislative Branch. In fiscal year 2023, the amount of $985,111 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Legislative Branch for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

* * * Collective Bargaining Agreements; Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024 * * *

Sec. F.100  COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS; FISCAL YEAR 2023 AND 2024

(a) Fiscal year 2023. This act fully funds the first year of the collective bargaining agreements between the State and the Vermont State Employees’
Association and the State and the Vermont Troopers’ Association for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. The collective bargaining agreements for classified employees provide in fiscal year 2023 an average 1.9 percent step increase and 3.0 percent across-the-board increase for a total of a 4.9 percent increase, plus a one-time cash payment of $1,500.00.

(b) Fiscal year 2024. This act fully funds the second year of the collective bargaining agreements between the State and the Vermont State Employees’ Association and the State and the Vermont Troopers’ Association for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. The collective bargaining agreements for classified employees provide in fiscal year 2024 an average 1.9 percent step increase and 2.0 percent across-the-board increase for a total of a 3.9 percent increase, plus a one-time cash payment of $1,000.00.

*** Exempt Employees; Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024 ***

Sec. F.101  EXEMPT EMPLOYEES; PERMITTED SALARY INCREASES;

FISCAL YEARS 2023 AND 2024

(a) Fiscal year 2023. Executive, Judicial, and Legislative Branches may extend the fiscal year 2023 provisions of the collective bargaining agreements that are funded by this act to employees not covered by the bargaining agreements as they determine to be appropriate and in accordance with the appropriations provided to each branch.
(b) Fiscal year 2024. Executive, Judicial, and Legislative Branches may extend the fiscal year 2024 provisions of the collective bargaining agreements that are funded by this act to employees not covered by the bargaining agreements as they determine to be appropriate and in accordance with the appropriations provided to each branch.

Sec. F.102 EXECUTIVE BRANCH; EXEMPT AGENCY AND DEPARTMENT HEADS, DEPUTIES, AND EXECUTIVE ASSISTANTS; ANNUAL SALARY ADJUSTMENT AND OR BONUS

(a) Fiscal year 2023. For purposes of determining annual salary adjustments, special salary increases, and bonuses under 32 V.S.A. §§ 1003(b) and 1020(b), “the average rate of adjustment available to classified employees under the collective bargaining agreement” shall be, in fiscal year 2023, 4.9 percent.

(b) Fiscal year 2024. For purposes of determining annual salary adjustments, special salary increases, and bonuses under 32 V.S.A. §§ 1003(b) and 1020(b), “the average rate of adjustment available to classified employees under the collective bargaining agreement” shall be, in fiscal year 2024, 3.9 percent.

* * * Executive Branch; Miscellaneous Statutory Salaries; Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024 * * *
Sec. F.103  32 V.S.A. § 1003 is amended to read:

§ 1003.  STATE OFFICERS

(a) Each elective officer of the Executive Department is entitled to an annual salary as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2023</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Governor</td>
<td>$184,113</td>
<td>$191,754</td>
<td>$201,150</td>
<td>$208,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lieutenant Governor</td>
<td>78,153</td>
<td>81,396</td>
<td>85,384</td>
<td>88,714</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary of State</td>
<td>116,745</td>
<td>121,590</td>
<td>127,548</td>
<td>132,522</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Treasurer</td>
<td>116,745</td>
<td>121,590</td>
<td>127,548</td>
<td>132,522</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auditor of Accounts</td>
<td>116,745</td>
<td>121,590</td>
<td>127,548</td>
<td>132,522</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attorney General</td>
<td>139,790</td>
<td>145,594</td>
<td>152,725</td>
<td>158,681</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(b) The Governor may appoint each officer of the Executive Branch listed in this subsection at a starting salary ranging from the base salary stated for that position to a salary that does not exceed the maximum salary unless otherwise authorized by this subsection. The maximum salary for each appointive officer shall be 50 percent above the base salary. Annually, the Governor may grant to each of those officers an annual salary adjustment.
subject to the maximum salary. The annual salary adjustment granted to officers under this subsection shall not exceed the average rate of adjustment available to classified employees under the collective bargaining agreement then in effect. In addition to the annual salary adjustment specified in this subsection, the Governor may grant a special salary increase subject to the maximum salary, or a bonus, to any officer listed in this subsection whose job duties have significantly increased, or whose contributions to the State in the preceding year are deemed especially significant. Special salary increases or bonuses granted to any individual shall not exceed the average rate of adjustment available to classified employees under the collective bargaining agreement then in effect.

(1) Heads of the following Departments and Agencies:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Base Salary</th>
<th>Base Salary</th>
<th>Base Salary</th>
<th>Base Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(A) Administration</td>
<td>$111,332</td>
<td>$115,952</td>
<td>$121,634</td>
<td>$126,378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(B) Agriculture, Food and Markets</td>
<td>$111,332</td>
<td>$115,952</td>
<td>$121,634</td>
<td>$126,378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(C) Financial Regulation</td>
<td>$113,710</td>
<td>$118,145</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(D) Buildings and General Services</td>
<td>$113,710</td>
<td>$118,145</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(E) Children and Families</td>
<td>$113,710</td>
<td>$118,145</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(F) Commerce and Community Development</td>
<td>$121,634</td>
<td>$126,378</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(G) Corrections</td>
<td>$113,710</td>
<td>$118,145</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(H) Defender General</td>
<td>$113,710</td>
<td>$118,145</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(I) Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living</td>
<td>$113,710</td>
<td>$118,145</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(J) Economic Development</td>
<td>$103,149</td>
<td>$107,172</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(K) Education</td>
<td>$121,634</td>
<td>$126,378</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(L) Environmental Conservation</td>
<td>$113,710</td>
<td>$118,145</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>(M) Finance and Management</td>
<td>104,079</td>
<td>108,398</td>
<td>$113,710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>(N) Fish and Wildlife</td>
<td>94,413</td>
<td>98,334</td>
<td>$103,149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>(O) Forests, Parks and Recreation</td>
<td>94,413</td>
<td>98,334</td>
<td>$103,149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>(P) Health</td>
<td>104,079</td>
<td>108,398</td>
<td>$113,710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>(Q) Housing and Community Development</td>
<td>94,413</td>
<td>98,334</td>
<td>$103,149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>(R) Human Resources</td>
<td>104,079</td>
<td>108,398</td>
<td>$113,710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>(S) Human Services</td>
<td>111,332</td>
<td>115,952</td>
<td>$121,634</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>(T) Digital Services</td>
<td>111,332</td>
<td>115,952</td>
<td>$121,634</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>(U) Labor</td>
<td>104,079</td>
<td>108,398</td>
<td>$113,710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>(V) Libraries</td>
<td>94,413</td>
<td>98,334</td>
<td>$103,149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>(W) Liquor and Lottery</td>
<td>94,413</td>
<td>98,334</td>
<td>$103,149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>(X) [Repealed.]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>(Y) Mental Health</td>
<td>104,079</td>
<td>108,398</td>
<td>$113,710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>(Z) Military</td>
<td>104,079</td>
<td>108,398</td>
<td>$113,710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(AA) Motor Vehicles</td>
<td>94,413</td>
<td>98,334</td>
<td>$103,149</td>
<td>$107,172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(BB) Natural Resources</td>
<td>111,332</td>
<td>115,952</td>
<td>$121,634</td>
<td>$126,378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(CC) Natural Resources Board Chair</td>
<td>94,413</td>
<td>98,334</td>
<td>$103,149</td>
<td>$107,172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(DD) Public Safety</td>
<td>104,079</td>
<td>108,398</td>
<td>$113,710</td>
<td>$118,145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(EE) Public Service</td>
<td>104,079</td>
<td>108,398</td>
<td>$113,710</td>
<td>$118,145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(FF) Taxes</td>
<td>104,079</td>
<td>108,398</td>
<td>$113,710</td>
<td>$118,145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(GG) Tourism and Marketing</td>
<td>94,413</td>
<td>98,334</td>
<td>$103,149</td>
<td>$107,172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(HH) Transportation</td>
<td>111,332</td>
<td>115,952</td>
<td>$121,634</td>
<td>$126,378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(II) Vermont Health Access</td>
<td>104,079</td>
<td>108,398</td>
<td>$113,710</td>
<td>$118,145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(JJ) Veterans’ Home</td>
<td>104,079</td>
<td>108,398</td>
<td>$113,710</td>
<td>$118,145</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(2) The Secretary of Administration may include the Director of the Office of Professional Regulation in any pay plans that may be established under the authority of subsection 1020(c) of this title, provided the minimum hiring rate does not fall below a base salary, as of January 5, 2020 of $80,041.00 and as of July 4, 2021 of $83,363.00. [Repealed.]
(3) If the Chair of the Natural Resources Board is employed on less than
a full-time basis, the hiring and salary maximums for that position shall be
reduced proportionately.

(4) When a permanent employee is appointed to an exempt position, the
Governor may authorize such employee to retain the present salary even
though it is in excess of any salary maximum provided in statute.

* * *

(d) Notwithstanding the maximum salary established in subsection (b) of
this section, the Defender General shall not receive compensation in excess of
the compensation established for the Attorney General in this section.

(e) Notwithstanding the maximum salary established in subsection (b) of
this section, the maximum salary for the Commissioner of Health shall not
exceed $150,000.00 100 percent above the base salary for this position.

* * * Judicial Branch; Statutory Salaries; Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024 * * *

Sec. F.104 32 V.S.A. § 1003(c) is amended to read:

(c) The officers of the Judicial Branch named in this subsection shall be
entitled to annual salaries as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Annual</th>
<th>Annual</th>
<th>Annual</th>
<th>Annual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salary</td>
<td>Salary</td>
<td>Salary</td>
<td>Salary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>as of</td>
<td>as of</td>
<td>as of</td>
<td>as of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 5,</td>
<td>July 4,</td>
<td>July 3,</td>
<td>July 2,</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sec. F.105 32 V.S.A. § 1141 is amended to read:

§ 1141. ASSISTANT JUDGES

(a)(1) Each assistant judge of the Superior Court shall be entitled to receive compensation in the amount of $185.86 $203.05 a day as of January 5, 2020

July 3, 2022 and $193.57 $210.97 a day as of July 4, 2021 2, 2023 for time spent in the performance of official duties and necessary expenses as allowed
to classified State employees. Compensation under this section shall be based on a two-hour minimum and hourly thereafter.

(2)(A) The compensation paid to an assistant judge pursuant to this section shall be paid by the State except as provided in subdivision (B) of this subdivision (2).

(B) The compensation paid to an assistant judge pursuant to this section shall be paid by the county at the State rate established in subdivision (a)(1) of this section when an assistant judge is sitting with a presiding Superior judge in the Civil or Family Division of the Superior Court.

(b) Assistant judges of the Superior Court shall be entitled to receive pay for such days as they attend court when it is in actual session, or during a court recess when engaged in the special performance of official duties.

Sec. F.106 32 V.S.A. § 1142 is amended to read:

§ 1142. PROBATE JUDGES

(a) The Probate judges in the several Probate Districts shall be entitled to receive the following annual salaries, which shall be paid by the State in lieu of all fees or other compensation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Annual</th>
<th>Annual</th>
<th>Annual</th>
<th>Annual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salary</td>
<td>as of</td>
<td>as of</td>
<td>as of</td>
<td>as of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>January 5,</td>
<td>July 4,</td>
<td>July 3,</td>
<td>July 2,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>2021</td>
<td>2022</td>
<td>2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>(1) Addison</td>
<td>$63,384</td>
<td>$66,014</td>
<td>$69,249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>(2) Bennington</td>
<td>80,127</td>
<td>83,452</td>
<td>$87,541</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>(3) Caledonia</td>
<td>56,240</td>
<td>58,543</td>
<td>$61,412</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>(4) Chittenden</td>
<td>433,720</td>
<td>439,269</td>
<td>$146,093</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>(5) Essex</td>
<td>45,293</td>
<td>46,355</td>
<td>$17,156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>(6) Franklin</td>
<td>63,384</td>
<td>66,014</td>
<td>$69,249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>(7) Grand Isle</td>
<td>45,293</td>
<td>46,355</td>
<td>$17,156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>(8) Lamoille</td>
<td>44,249</td>
<td>46,085</td>
<td>$48,343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>(9) Orange</td>
<td>52,620</td>
<td>54,804</td>
<td>$57,489</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>(10) Orleans</td>
<td>51,425</td>
<td>53,559</td>
<td>$56,183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>(11) Rutland</td>
<td>413,643</td>
<td>418,328</td>
<td>$124,126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>(12) Washington</td>
<td>87,301</td>
<td>90,924</td>
<td>$95,379</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>(13) Windham</td>
<td>70,560</td>
<td>73,488</td>
<td>$77,089</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>(14) Windsor</td>
<td>95,674</td>
<td>99,644</td>
<td>$104,527</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(b) Probate judges shall be entitled to be paid by the State for their actual and necessary expenses under the rules and regulations pertaining to classified State employees. The compensation for the Probate judge of the Chittenden District shall be for full-time service.
(c) All Probate judges, regardless of the number of hours worked annually, shall be eligible to participate in all employee benefits that are available to exempt employees of the Judicial Department.

* * * Sheriffs; Statutory Salaries; Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024 * * *

Sec. F.107  32 V.S.A. § 1182 is amended to read:

§ 1182.  SHERIFFS

(a) The sheriffs of all counties except Chittenden shall be entitled to receive salaries in the amount of $86,116.00 $94,085 as of January 5, 2020 July 3, 2022 and $89,690.00 $97,754 as of July 4, 2021 2023. The Sheriff of Chittenden County shall be entitled to an annual salary in the amount of $91,133.00 $99,566 as of January 5, 2020 July 3, 2022 and $94,915.00 $103,449 as of July 4, 2021 2023.

(b) Compensation under subsection (a) of this section shall be reduced by 10 percent for any sheriff who has not obtained Level III law enforcement officer certification under 20 V.S.A. § 2358.

* * * State’s Attorneys; Statutory Salaries; Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024 * * *

Sec. F.108  32 V.S.A. § 1183 is amended to read:

§ 1183.  STATE’S ATTORNEYS

(a) The State’s Attorneys shall be entitled to receive annual salaries as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Annual</th>
<th>Annual</th>
<th>Annual</th>
<th>Annual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$91,133,00</td>
<td>$99,566</td>
<td>$94,915,00</td>
<td>$103,449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Salary</td>
<td>Salary</td>
<td>Salary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
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<td>--------</td>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>as of</td>
<td>as of</td>
<td>as of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>January 5, 2020</td>
<td>July 4, 2021</td>
<td>July 3, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>(1) Addison County</td>
<td>$116,486</td>
<td>$121,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>(2) Bennington County</td>
<td>$116,486</td>
<td>$121,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>(3) Caledonia County</td>
<td>$116,486</td>
<td>$121,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>(4) Chittenden County</td>
<td>$121,782</td>
<td>$126,836</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>(5) Essex County</td>
<td>$87,366</td>
<td>$90,992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>(6) Franklin County</td>
<td>$116,486</td>
<td>$121,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>(7) Grand Isle County</td>
<td>$87,366</td>
<td>$90,992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>(8) Lamoille County</td>
<td>$116,486</td>
<td>$121,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>(9) Orange County</td>
<td>$116,486</td>
<td>$121,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>(10) Orleans County</td>
<td>$116,486</td>
<td>$121,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>(11) Rutland County</td>
<td>$116,486</td>
<td>$121,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>(12) Washington County</td>
<td>$116,486</td>
<td>$121,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>(13) Windham County</td>
<td>$116,486</td>
<td>$121,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>(14) Windsor County</td>
<td>$116,486</td>
<td>$121,320</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* * *
* * * Appropriations * * *

Sec. F.109  PAY ACT APPROPRIATIONS; FISCAL YEARS 2023 AND 2024

(a) Executive Branch. The first and second years of the two-year agreements between the State of Vermont and the Vermont State Employees’ Association for the Defender General, Non-Management, Supervisory, and Corrections bargaining units, and, for the purpose of appropriation, the State’s Attorneys’ offices bargaining unit, for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024; the collective bargaining agreement with the Vermont Troopers’ Association for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024; and salary increases for employees in the Executive Branch not covered by the bargaining agreements shall be funded as follows:

(1) Fiscal year 2023.

(A) General Fund. The amount of $23,614,294.00 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Secretary of Administration for distribution to departments to fund the fiscal year 2023 collective bargaining agreements and the requirements of this act.

(B) Transportation Fund. The amount of $1,502,420.00 is appropriated from the Transportation Fund to the Secretary of Administration for distribution to the Agency of Transportation and the Department of Public
Safety to fund the fiscal year 2023 collective bargaining agreements and the requirements of this act.

(C) Other funds. The Administration shall provide additional spending authority to departments through the existing process of excess receipts to fund the fiscal year 2023 collective bargaining agreements and the requirements of this act. The estimated amounts are $35,872,729.00 from a special fund, federal funds, and other sources.

(D) Transfers. With due regard to the possible availability of other funds, for fiscal year 2023, the Secretary of Administration may transfer from the various appropriations and various funds and from the receipts of the Liquor Control Board such sums as the Secretary may determine to be necessary to carry out the purposes of this act to the various agencies supported by State funds.

(2) Fiscal year 2024.

(A) General Fund. The amount of $19,029,823.00 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Secretary of Administration for distribution to departments to fund the fiscal year 2024 collective bargaining agreements and the requirements of this act.

(B) Transportation Fund. The amount of $2,500,000.00 is appropriated from the Transportation Fund to the Secretary of Administration for distribution to the Agency of Transportation and the Department of Public
Safety to fund the fiscal year 2024 collective bargaining agreements and the requirements of this act.

(C) Other funds. The Administration shall provide additional spending authority to departments through the existing process of excess receipts to fund the fiscal year 2024 collective bargaining agreements and the requirements of this act. The estimated amounts are $27,500,943.00 from a special fund, federal funds, and other sources.

(D) Transfers. With due regard to the possible availability of other funds, for fiscal year 2024, the Secretary of Administration may transfer from the various appropriations and various funds and from the receipts of the Liquor Control Board such sums as the Secretary may determine to be necessary to carry out the purposes of this act to the various agencies supported by State funds.

(3) This section shall include sufficient funding to ensure administration of exempt pay plans authorized by 32 V.S.A. § 1020(c).

(b) Judicial Branch.

(1) The Chief Justice of the Vermont Supreme Court may extend the provisions of the Judiciary’s collective bargaining agreement to Judiciary employees who are not covered by the bargaining agreement.

(2) Fiscal year 2023. The first year of the two-year agreements between the State of Vermont and the Vermont State Employees’ Association for the
judicial bargaining unit for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023

and salary increases for employees in the Judicial Branch not covered by the

bargaining agreements shall be funded as follows: the amount of

$3,217,628.00 is appropriated from the General Fund and the amount of

$287,032.00 is provided from other sources to the Judiciary to fund the fiscal

year 2023 collective bargaining agreement and the requirements of this act.

(3) Fiscal year 2024. The second year of the two-year agreements

between the State of Vermont and the Vermont State Employees’ Association

for the judicial bargaining unit for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30,

2024 and salary increases for employees in the Judicial Branch not covered by

the bargaining agreements shall be funded as follows: the amount of

$1,803,013.00 is appropriated from the General Fund and the amount of

$160,840.00 is provided from other sources to the Judiciary to fund the fiscal

year 2024 collective bargaining agreement and the requirements of this act.

(c) Legislative Branch.

(1) For the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023, the General

Assembly including all Legislative Branch employees shall be funded as

follows: the amount of $985,111.00 is appropriated from the General Fund to

the Legislative Branch.

(2) For the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, the General

Assembly including all Legislative Branch employees shall be funded as
follows: the amount of $776,000.00 is appropriated from the General Fund to

the Legislative Branch.

*** American Rescue Plan Act Appropriations ***

*** Intent and Other Funding ***

Sec. G.100  MULTIYEAR FUNDING PRIORITIES INTENT

(a) The appropriations of ARPA – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds in made in Secs. G.300–G.700 of this act by categorical areas are made consistent with the intent expressed in Sec. G.100 of 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74 (the Big Bill), and reiterated in 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 83, Sec. 67a. In some cases, other funding sources are included or are referenced for specific programs or projects providing comprehensive funding by category. All appropriations of ARPA funds in this act are made only to the extent permitted by federal law and guidance. Appropriations not expended in fiscal year 2023 shall carry forward.

Sec. G.200  AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) - CORONAVIRUS STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND (SFR) APPROPRIATIONS; REVERSION AND REALLOCATION;

REPORTS

(a) On or before September 15, 2022 and annually thereafter until September 15, 2026, the Commissioner of Finance and Management shall submit a report to the Joint Fiscal Committee on the status of all appropriations
made from the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFR) provided to the State from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Pub. L. No. 117-2 (ARPA). The report shall include updates on project eligibility, obligated funds, actual expenditures, and any compliance or reporting issues. (b) On or before January 15, 2023, the Commissioner of Finance and Management shall provide an update to the September 15, 2022 ARPA report described in subsection (a) of this section to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, including recommendations, if any, for reallocation of ARPA SLFR funds in the fiscal year 2023 budget adjustment act.

*** Economy, Workforce, and Communities ***

Sec. G.300  INVESTMENTS IN VERMONT’S ECONOMY, WORKFORCE, AND COMMUNITIES

(a) $28,251,052 in fiscal year 2023 is appropriated from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds as follows:

(1) $1,050,000 to the Natural Resources Board, to be used as needed to prioritize and expedite permitting of ARPA-funded projects, including the costs of three exempt limited-service positions.

(2) $9,601,052 to the Judiciary as follows:

(A) $3,881,500 for the safe reopening of courts; and

(B) $5,719,552 for HVAC systems at county courthouses.
(2) $750,000 to the Secretary of State for expenses related to telehealth.

(3) $14,900,000 to the Vermont State Colleges for bridge funding to transform the system. This includes offsets to continuing costs and impacts from COVID-19 pandemic.

(4) $2,000,000 to the Department for Children and Families’ Economic Services Division to grant to the Vermont Foodbank to support access to food for Vermonters with low income.

(b) General Fund Workforce Appropriations: In fiscal year 2023, $1,500,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to Vermont Student Assistance Corp (VSAC) 802 Opportunity Program for increasing the household income eligibility limit from $50,000 to $75,000.

(1) It is the intent of the General Assembly to provide $26,900,000 from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)–Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds and the State General Fund to be allocated for workforce, including investment initiatives to address critical needs in nursing and the skilled trades and to provide training opportunities for young adult Vermonters seeking to acquire skills. The specific programs to be funded shall be included in H.703 or other legislation passed in the 2022 legislative session.

(c) Community Economic Development. $11,800,000 $12,000,000 is appropriated in fiscal year 2023 from the General Fund for community base economic development initiatives as follows:

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(1) $5,000,000 to the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation for the Vermont Outdoor Recreation Economic Collaborative (VOREC) Community Grant Program.

(2) $6,000,000 to the Department of Economic Development for the remediation and redevelopment of brownfield sites.

(3) $800,000 to the Department of Motor Vehicles Agency of Transportation to grant to the Vermont Association of Snow Travelers (VAST) as follows:

(A) $50,000 for the VAST for the Law Enforcement and Safety Program.

(B) $750,000 for the VAST Equipment Grant-in-Aid Program.

(4) Other Economic Development initiatives are included in H.159, which provides funding from the General Fund and ARPA sources totaling $84,500,000 and includes funding initiatives related to wage replacement for COVID-impacted employers, supplemental unemployment funding, assistance programs for businesses and arts and culture organizations that demonstrate pandemic losses, and a time-limited increase in a downtown development tax credit.

(4) $400,000.00 to the Agency of Transportation in fiscal year 2023, in addition to other funds appropriated to the Agency of Transportation under this act, for the purpose of payment of fees under 10 V.S.A. chapter 151 to mitigate
development of primary agricultural soils at the Franklin County State Airport and for payment of attendant permitting costs for the development at the airport. The funds appropriated under this section shall be used solely to address development on the acreage at the Franklin County State Airport under the control of the Agency of Transportation at the time of the effective date of this section.

(d) $16,400,000 to the Department of Libraries from the Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund provided to the State from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Pub. L. No. 117-217 (ARPA), for the Libraries Capital Project for capital improvements to libraries, including Americans with Disabilities Act compliance, space renovations for improved Internet access for telehealth appointments and job interviews, and general building renovations.

* * * Addressing Homelessness, Housing Insecurity and Increasing the Stock of Low- and Moderate-Income Housing * * *

Sec. G.400  HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS INVESTMENTS

(a) $40,000,000 30,000,000 to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB) in fiscal year 2023 is appropriated from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund to the to provide affordable mixed-income rental housing and homeownership units, improvements to manufactured homes and communities, recovery residences and, if determined eligible, housing available to farm workers and refugees.
VHCB shall also use the funds for shelter and permanent homes for those experiencing homelessness in consultation with the Secretary of Human Services. These funds shall carry forward into fiscal year 2024.

(b) Additional funding for housing investments of $10,000,000 through VHCB are included in Sec. C.102 of this act contingent upon fiscal year 2022 revenue. Other legislation of the 2022 session allocates $40,000,000 of ARPA funds for other housing development programs. Of $20,000,000 is included in S.226 through the Department of Housing and Community Development for affordable rental unit development and for program to reduce single-family housing costs for middle-income families.

* * * Broadband Connectivity and Technology

Modernization Investments * * *

Sec. G.500  BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY INVESTMENTS

(a) $95,000,000 is appropriated in fiscal year 2023 to the Department of Public Service, Vermont Community Broadband Board from the American Rescue Plan Act - Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund in order to support the State’s goal of achieving universal access to reliable, high-quality, affordable broadband. This appropriation shall be transferred to the Vermont Community Broadband Fund to make grants through the Broadband Construction Grant Program. To the greatest extent possible and for the purpose of maximizing the availability of federal funds for State broadband projects, the ARPA
monies appropriated in this subsection shall be used first to fund any match requirements applicable to broadband grants funded by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021.

(b) $1,600,000 to the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation from the Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund provided to the State from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Pub. L. No. 117-217 (ARPA), for the Parks Connectivity Project to improve reliability, performance, and support Internet connectivity services to all State parks.

Sec. G.501  STATE TECHNOLOGY MODERNIZATION INVESTMENTS

(a) $25,250,000 is appropriated in fiscal year 2023 from American Rescue Plan Act - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds as follows:

(1) $20,250,000 to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Core System Modernization Phase II.

(2) $5,000,000 to the Department of Labor Unemployment Insurance modernization project.

(b) To the extent that American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds are available as a result of the provision specified in 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 83, Sec. 53(b)(6), $25,000,000 shall be appropriated to the Department of Labor for the completion of the Department of Labor Unemployment Insurance modernization project.
* * * Weatherization and Other Climate Change Mitigation Investments * * *

Sec. G.600  CLIMATE ACTION INVESTMENTS

(a) In fiscal year 2023, $129,760,000 is appropriated from the American Rescue Plan Act - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds for climate change mitigation initiatives as follows:

(1) $45,000,000 to the Department for Children and Families, Office of Economic Opportunity, Home Weatherization Assistance Program to be used in fiscal years 2023 and 2024. Households approved for assistance in this section will also be offered services outlined in subdivision (4) of this subsection.

(2) $35,000,000 to the Department of Public Service to grant to Efficiency Vermont for the purpose of weatherization incentives to Vermonter with a moderate income. These funds shall be deposited in the Electric Efficiency Fund established under 30 V.S.A. § 209(d)(3) and shall be available for use by Efficiency Vermont through December 31, 2024. Households approved for assistance in this section will also be offered services outlined in subdivision (4) of this subsection.

(3) $2,000,000 to the Agency of Transportation to support the continued build-out of public electric vehicle charging infrastructure along highway networks.
(4) $25,000,000 to the Department of Public Service, of which $20,000,000 is to provide financial and technical assistance for Vermonters with low- and moderate-income to upgrade home electrical systems to enable installation of energy saving technologies, and $5,000,000 is to establish a “Switch and Save” program to provide financial and technical assistance for Vermonters with low and moderate income to install, at low-or no-cost, heat pump water heaters, with a focus on replacing water heaters near the end of their useful life and serving households participating in the electrical system upgrades described in this subsection.

(5) $2,000,000 to the Department of Public Service for load management and storage efforts to assist Vermonters with low and moderate income customers to purchase electric equipment for heating, cooling, and vehicle charging. In addition, investments will be made in load control and management platforms to enable smaller municipal and cooperative utilities to capture and share benefits of load management and funding for municipal back-up electricity storage installations. The same use of funds shall apply to $5,000,000 of the funds appropriated in Sec. G. 600 (a)(5) in No.74 of 2021 Acts and Resolves.

(6) $15,000,000 to improve landscape resilience and mitigate flood hazards to be allocated as follows:
(A) $14,750,000 to the Department of Public Safety, Division of
Emergency Management, for a State-level buyout program for flood-
vulnerable parcels; and

(B) $250,000 to the Department of Environmental Conservation to
provide technical assistance to the statewide hazard mitigation program.

(7) $4,760,000 to the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets to
provide farms in Vermont with financial assistance for the implementation of
soil-based practices that improve soil quality and nutrient retention, increase
crop production, minimize erosion potential, and reduce agricultural waste
discharges. Assistance may take the form of programs that provide education,
training, or instruction to farmers.

(8) $1,000,000 to the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation for
the Urban and Community Forestry (UCF) Program to plant up to 5,000 trees
to improve air quality and reduce heat island effects in urban areas in
accordance with UCF program standards for design, planting, and
maintenance.

(b) In fiscal year 2023, $32,200,000 is appropriated from the General Fund
and $500,000 is appropriated from the Transportation Fund for electric vehicle
charging infrastructure, electrification incentives and public transportation
investments as follows:
(1) $10,000,000 to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development to install at dwellings, workplaces, community venues and attractions in accordance with Sec. E.903 of this act.

(1) $10,000,000 to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development to install level 1, 2, and 3 EVSE at dwellings, workplaces, and community attractions in accordance with Sec. E.903 of this act.

(2) $12,000,000 to the Agency of Transportation for the Incentive Program for New PEVs, established in 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 59, Sec. 34, as amended.

(3) $2,000,000 to the Agency of Transportation for the public-private partnership with Drive Electric Vermont to support the expansion of the plug-in electric vehicle market in the State.

(4) $3,000,000 to the Agency of Transportation to grant to the Community Action Agencies to support the MileageSmart Program, established in 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 59, Sec. 34, as amended.

(5) $3,000,000 to the Agency of Transportation for the Replace Your Ride Program, established in 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 55, Sec. 27, as amended.

(6) $2,200,000 general funds and $500,000 Transportation funds to the Agency of Transportation for the following:
(A) $1,200,000 general funds for transit agencies to, as practicable
and in the sole discretion of the transit agencies, operate routes other than
commuter and LINK Express on a zero-fare basis and provide service at pre-
COVID-19 levels; and

(B) $1,000,000 general funds and $500,000 Transportation funds to
continue administering the Mobility and Transportation Innovation (MTI)
Grant program to support projects that improve both mobility and access to
services for transit-dependent Vermonters, reduce the use of single-occupancy
vehicles, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

(C) $50,000 Transportation funds to the Agency of Transportation for
electric bicycle incentives.

(c) In fiscal year 2023, $8,000,000 is appropriated from the General
Fund to the Department of Public Service to offer up to 70 percent
reimbursement to municipal and cooperative electrical distribution utilities for
the implementation of one or more systems of Advanced Metering
Infrastructure that has been approved by the Public Utility Commission.

(d) Additional funding of $35,000,000 is included in H.518 from ARPA
resources for a Municipal Energy Resilience Grant Program.
(d) Additional grant funding of $45,000,000 from ARPA is included other legislation of the 2022 session for Municipal Energy Resilience Grant Program.

* * * Clean Water Investments * * *

Sec. G.700  WATER AND SEWER INVESTMENTS

(a) In fiscal year 2023, $94,000,000 104,000,000 is appropriated from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds as follows:

(1) $31,000,000 for Stormwater Retrofit Projects to provide three-acre stormwater permitting design and construction support for entities subject to the Vermont 3-9050 Stormwater General Permit and to provide design and construction for practices necessary to restore impaired waters subject to flow restoration plans. These funds shall be allocated as follows:

(A) $30,000,000 to the Department of Environmental Conservation to provide three-acre stormwater permitting design and construction support for entities subject to the Vermont 3-9050 Stormwater General Permit and to provide permitting, design, and construction services; and

(B) $1,000,000 to the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation to support compliance with the three-acre stormwater rule.

(2) $35,000,000 to the Department of Environmental Conservation to support water and wastewater projects and pretreatment activities, as follows:
(A) $15,000,000 to support the design and construction of community-scale water or decentralized wastewater projects, or both, to support underserved designated centers;

(B) $5,000,000 to provide financial assistance to municipalities, Vermont businesses, and nonprofit entities to install or enhance pretreatment processes to address high strength or toxic wastes that otherwise require treatment at municipal expense by publicly owned treatment facilities; and

(C) $10,000,000 to municipalities with small and primarily residential customer bases to upgrade or replace existing water or wastewater treatment systems that are at risk of failure.

(3) $20,000,000 to the Department of Environmental Conservation to assist municipalities to design and construct projects to reduce or eliminate wet weather sewer overflows.

(4) $13,000,000 to make repairs or improvements to water and wastewater systems in Vermont homes to be allocated as follows:

(A) $6,500,000 to the Department of Environmental Conservation for improving water/wastewater systems at coop-owned or nonprofit mobile home parks (MHPs);

(B) $5,000,000 to the Department of Environmental Conservation to replace failed on-site wastewater and water supplies for
Vermonters with low income or who are unable to access or afford market rate loans; and

(C) $1,500,000 to the Department of Housing and Community Development to update leaking service lines, old plumbing, and replacing outdated fixtures (sinks, toilets, dishwashers, laundry) with high-efficiency devices.

Sec. G.701 APPROPRIATIONS: OFFSET CAPITAL BILL FUNDED PROJECTS BY SWAP TO ARPA

(a) Fiscal year 2022. $500,000 in fiscal year 2022 is appropriated from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds to the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation for forestry access road water quality improvements.

(b) Fiscal year 2023. $5,236,781 in fiscal year 2023 is appropriated from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds for projects authorized in the fiscal year 2023 Capital Budget Adjustment Act. as follows:

(1) $600,000 to the Department of Buildings and General Services for three-acre parcel stormwater planning, design, and implementation;

(2) $300,000 to the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation for State parks major maintenance;
(3) $585,000 to the Department of Environmental Conservation for Municipal Pollution Control Grants;
(4) $700,000 to the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation for forestry access road water quality improvements;
(5) $2,451,781 to the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets for water quality grants; and
(6) $600,000 to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board for agricultural water quality projects.

Sec. G.702 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec. G.700(c) is amended to read as follows:

(c) $15,000,000 to be used to the extent capital funds have been appropriated to projects supporting water and sewer infrastructure in fiscal year 2022 and capital appropriations can be offset for reuse for future capital construction projects in the fiscal years 2022–2023 capital budget adjustment process. On or before December 15, 2021, the Commissioner of Finance and Management shall review and recommend water and sewer infrastructure projects funded in fiscal year 2022 that could be funded with ARPA funds to the Chairs of the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committee on Institutions and to the Governor for the fiscal years 2022–2023 capital budget adjustment report.

*** Administration ***
Sec. G.800  ARPA FUNDED LIMITED-SERVICE POSITIONS

(a) The establishment of the following 23 new classified limited-service positions is authorized in fiscal year 2023,

(1) Agency of Administration: one Grants Manager.

(2) Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets: two Water Quality Program Coordinators.

(3) Public Service Department:

   (A) one Administrative Services Coordinator;

   (B) one Outreach Coordinator;

   (C) one Grants Manager;

   (D) one Financial Manager; and

   (E) one Program Coordinator.

(4) Vermont Community Broadband Board:

   (A) one Fiscal and Federal Reporting Specialist;

   (B) one Rural Broadband Technical Specialist;

   (C) one Business Office Manager; and

   (D) one Digital Equity Office Manager.

   (E) Vermont Community Broadband Board: one Fiber Optics Engineer.

(5) Natural Resources Board:

   (A) two District Coordinators; and
(B) one Executive Director.

(6) Agency of Human Services, Office of Economic Opportunity:

(A) one Senior Energy Services Program Officer; and

(B) two Energy Services Program Officers.

(7) Department of Labor: three Program Technicians.

(8) Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation: one Environmental Analyst III.

(9) Agency of Natural Resources, Central Office: one Environmental Analyst III.

(10) Agency of Transportation:

(A) one Grants Management Specialist; and

(B) one Grants Manager.

(11) Department of Libraries

(A) one Grants Administrator

(B) one Buildings Project Manager II

(12) Agency of Commerce and Community Development,

(A) one Community Affairs Planning Coordinator;

(B) two Grants Management Specialists;

(C) one Agency of Transportation Environmental Specialist 1; and

(D) one Historic Resource Specialist.

Sec. G.801 APPROPRIATION FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS
(a) $10,500,000 in fiscal year 2023 is appropriated from the American Rescue Plan Act - Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds to the Agency of Administration to be distributed as needed to address the statewide costs of administering these funds, including the costs of related limited-service positions, and contracting for programs and services.

* * * Effective Dates * * *

Sec. H.100 EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) This section; Secs. C.100 through C.111 (fiscal year 2022 one-time appropriations, adjustments, and amendments); Secs. E.105.1 (Technology Modernization Special Fund), E.106.1 (Capital Cash Expenditure Cash Fund), E.240.1 (7 V.S.A. § 845), E.240.2 (32 V.S.A. § 7909), E.240.3 (repeal of 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 164, Sec. 6(c)), E.240.4 (repeal of 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 164, Sec. 33(h)), and Sec. G.702 (amendment to 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec. G.700(c)); and subsection G.701(a) (offset capital funds by swap to ARPA) shall take effect upon passage.

(b) Secs. E.240.5 (7 V.S.A. § 845) and E.240.6 (32 V.S.A. § 7909(a)) shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

(c) Notwithstanding 1 V.S.A. § 214, Secs. E.709 and E.709.1 (definition of release; PCBs) shall take effect retroactively on July 1, 2021.

(d) Secs. E.240.1 (7 V.S.A. § 845), E.240.2 (32 V.S.A. § 7909), Sec. E.702 (Fish and Wildlife), Secs. F.100(b), F.101(b), F.102(b) and F.103 (Executive
Branch; Exempt Employees, Misc. Statutory Salaries; Fiscal Year 2024), Secs. F.104–106 (Judicial Branch; Statutory Salaries, Fiscal Year 2024); Sec. F.107 (Sheriffs, Statutory Salaries, Fiscal Year 2024); Sec. F.108 (State’s Attorney’s; Statutory Salaries; Fiscal Year 2024); and Secs. F.109(a)(2), F.109(b)(3) and F.109(c)(2) (Appropriations; Fiscal Year 2024) shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

(e) Sec. E.500.7–500.9 of this act shall be effective as of the date of enactment of S.287 (2022).

(f) All remaining sections shall take effect on July 1, 2022.

And by renumbering all the sections of the bill to be numerically correct (including internal references) and adjusting all of the totals to be arithmetically correct.