

# H. 951 – Fiscal Year 2027 Appropriations Act

## As Recommended by the Senate Committee on Appropriations

*Source: JFO Fiscal Year 2027 Budget<sup>1</sup>*

Appropriations (\$ millions)	General Fund	Federal Funds	Transportation Fund	Education Fund	All other funds	Unduplicated Appropriations
FY 2026 (As adjusted by Act 74)	\$2,498.05	\$3,201.77	\$359.15	\$2,429.44	\$699.88	\$9,188.29
FY 2027	\$2,557.09	\$3,247.21	\$360.21	\$2,529.20	\$673.46	\$9,367.17
FY 2027 change over FY 2026	\$59.05	\$45.43	\$1.06	\$99.76	\$(26.42)	\$178.87

*Note: amounts reflect unduplicated appropriations, including other bills with anticipated fiscal impacts. Numbers may not add due to rounding.*

### GENERAL FUND REVENUE OVERVIEW

This budget is built upon the January 2026 official consensus revenue forecast, adjusted for anticipated changes in tax policy, of \$2,540.26 million in addition to other General Fund revenue sources of \$128.00 million. This budget also relies on carryforward funds from fiscal year 2026 in the amount of \$71.67 million, bringing total General Fund sources to \$2,739.93 million.

### BUDGET CONTEXT

This budget fills all statutorily required reserves, meets all pension obligations, and makes essential investments in health care, human services, housing and economic development, education, public safety, and the environment.

To develop this budget, the Senate Committee on Appropriations worked from the House budget and their good work. The Committee met with or heard from administration officials, standing committees, and many interested stakeholders, including members of the public who testified at public hearings or submitted written testimony. General Fund appropriations total \$2.55 billion, a 2.36% increase compared to fiscal year 2026 adjusted appropriations. \$211.67 million is transferred to other funds and reserves, including a one-time \$100.90 million transfer to the Education Fund for property tax relief.

Total appropriations from all funds (unduplicated) are \$9.37 billion, a 1.95% change from fiscal year 2026 appropriations.

The following two pages outline some of the major base increases (appropriations that are expected to be ongoing) and one-time investments (appropriations made for particular purposes only in fiscal year 2027) in H.951.

FY 2027 General Fund Budget Construct (\$ millions)	
<u>Sources</u>	<i>Senate</i>
January 2026 Forecasted Revenue Net Changes in Misc. Tax Bill	2,540.26
Transfers to the GF	118.14
Reversions	9.86
Prior Year Carryforward	71.67
<b>Total Sources (a)</b>	<b>2,739.93</b>
<u>Uses</u>	
Base Appropriations	2,480.45
Estimated Pay Act	28.63
One-time Appropriations	45.44
Other Bills	2.57
<b>Total Uses (b)</b>	<b>2,557.09</b>
Transfers out of GF(c)	197.22
Net Reserves Uses (d)	14.45
<b>Unallocated Surplus (a-b-c+d)</b>	<b>0.07</b>

<sup>1</sup> The full Big Bill web report is available at:

[https://ljfo.vermont.gov/custom\\_reports/reports/BigBill/v1/FY%202027%20Big%20Bill%20Senate%20Web%20Report%20026-04-22%2007\\_47\\_45\\_927.html](https://ljfo.vermont.gov/custom_reports/reports/BigBill/v1/FY%202027%20Big%20Bill%20Senate%20Web%20Report%20026-04-22%2007_47_45_927.html)



## HIGHLIGHTS OF BASE APPROPRIATION INCREASES

### HEALTH CARE AND HUMAN SERVICES

- i. Provides necessary funds across the Agency of Human Services (AHS) for caseload and utilization pressures
- ii. Provides increases for Designated Agencies, Specialized Service Agencies, and Home and Community Based Service providers, including Medicaid skilled home health services
- iii. \$717,111 for the Area Health Education Center (AHEC) to continue offering medical professional primary care loan repayment and primary care provider placement services
- iv. \$924,000 Global Commitment to Vermont's free and referral clinics to support health care services to Vermonters without health insurance, for total funding of \$2.50 million
- v. \$166,000 Global Commitment for 2-1-1 to ensure adequate service during peak demand
- vi. \$450,000 Global Commitment for the Office of the Health Care Advocate
- vii. \$350,000 General Fund for the Bridges to Health Program to support migrant and immigrant workers and families
- viii. \$1.10 million Global Commitment to maintain Medicaid prescription co-pays at \$1 (preferred) and \$3 (non-preferred)

### HOUSING

- i. \$4.00 million General Fund for the Vermont Housing Improvement Program (VHIP)
- ii. Fully allocates statutory Property Transfer Tax amount (\$37.65 million) to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB)
- iii. Fully funds homelessness response base funding initiatives proposed in H.938
- iv. Establishes a new permanent classified Disabilities Housing Coordinator position within the Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living (DAIL)

### OTHER

- i. \$28.63 million General Fund and \$3.00 million Transportation Fund for the fiscal year 2027 Pay Act
- ii. \$9.08 million General Fund to the Agency of Digital Services (ADS) for the adoption of proposed changes to internal billing practices to establish fiscal sustainability
- iii. \$4.11 million General Fund to provide 3% increases to the University of Vermont (UVM), Vermont State Colleges (VSC), and the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation (VSAC)
- iv. \$1.80 million General Fund to the Office of the Secretary of State to support the Vermont Access Network
- v. \$265,000 General Fund to create a licensure program for early childhood educators in the Office of Professional Regulation (OPR) in accordance with S.206
- vi. \$350,000 General Fund for the Defender General for public defense contracting and training needs
- vii. Establishes two new permanent classified position within the Agency of Natural Resources (ANR): one to implement the Flood Safety Act (Act 121 of 2024), and one to implement the Chloride Contamination Reduction Program authorized in S.218
- viii. Establishes a Financial Director position at the Vermont Pension Investment Commission (VPIC) for effective management of Other Post-Employment Benefit (OPEB) assets



# HIGHLIGHTS OF FISCAL YEAR 2027 ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS

## GENERAL GOVERNMENT AND PROTECTION TO PERSONS AND PROPERTY

- i. \$110,000 General Fund to the Agency of Administration for the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Action, Leadership (IDEAL) program within the Office of Racial Equity for an additional year
- ii. \$590,000 General Fund to the Office of the Secretary of State for Local Civic Journalism Awards (\$50,000), community radio station support (\$90,000), and election administration (\$450,000)
- iii. \$150,000 General Fund to the Office of the Treasurer for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program

## HEALTH CARE AND HUMAN SERVICES

- i. \$21.18 million General Fund to DCF for homelessness response initiatives proposed in H.938
- ii. \$180,000 General Fund to DCF for Parent Child Center Network concrete supports programs
- iii. \$894,348 Global Commitment to DAIL for Meals on Wheels
- iv. \$300,000 General Fund (plus \$2.70 million federal funds) to the Department of Vermont Health Access (DVHA) to make information technology updates resulting from federal Medicaid changes
- v. \$1.40 million General Fund to DVHA for provider stabilization grants
- vi. \$206,899 total to DCF to grant to Prevent Child Abuse Vermont for nurturing parenting programs
- vii. \$3.70 million Global Commitment to AHS for primary care case management funding
- viii. \$50,000 to the Office of the Treasurer to study the Public Health Benefit Authority created in S.190

## HOUSING

- i. \$1.00 million General Fund to DHCD for the Rent Arrears Assistance Fund created by Act 47 (2023)
- ii. \$800,000 General Fund to DHCD for the Manufactured Home Improvement and Repair Program (MHIR)
- iii. \$235,000 General Fund to DHCD to expand the HomeShare Vermont program
- iv. \$4.00 million one-time General Fund increase for the renter rebate per changes outlined in H.949

## OTHER

- i. \$200,000 General Fund to the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation (FPR) for Vermont Outdoor Recreation Economic Collaborative (VOREC) grants
- ii. \$125,000 General Fund to the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets (AAFM) for a grant to NOFA Vermont for the Crop Cash, Crop Cash Plus, and Farm Share programs and \$110,000 General Fund to AAFM for a grant to Vermont Foodbank for the Vermonters Feeding Vermonters Program
- iii. \$300,000 General Fund to AAFM for grants to Vermont's Natural Resources Conservation Districts
- iv. \$2.00 million General Fund to the Department of Economic Development (DED) to provide grants to support business relocation and expansion efforts
- v. \$300,000 General Fund to the Agency of Transportation (AOT) for nonemergency medical transportation
- vi. \$1.35 million to AOT to pay for damages to infrastructure in the Northeast Kingdom due to 2025 flooding event that did not receive a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) disaster declaration
- vii. \$150,000 to the Agency of Education (AOE) for the Child and Adult Care Food Program
- viii. \$1.50 million to AOE for education transformation initiatives proposed in H.955
- ix. \$2.32 million Higher Education Endowment Trust Fund to VSAC for Freedom and Unity Scholarships and to raise the family income eligibility threshold for these scholarships from \$65,000 to \$80,000
- x. \$12.00 million Higher Education Endowment Trust Fund to UVM for the Multi-Purpose Center project
- xi. \$600,000 Higher Education Endowment Trust Fund to VSC for a housing transformation project
- xii. Directs 20% of the Cannabis Excise Tax to the Higher Education Endowment Trust Fund beginning in fiscal year 2028

