

**Joint Fiscal Committee
Mental Health Oversight Committee
October 28, 2009**

Joint Meeting Under Sec. 32(c)(4) of No. 43 of the Acts of 2009

Question

Whether the financing arrangement that places no debt capacity burden on either the state or on Rutland Regional Medical Center (RRMC) is reasonably feasible for a new psychiatric wing at RRMC to replace and expand the existing psychiatric unit?

Motion

Representative Heath moves that pursuant to Section 32(c) of No. 43 of the Acts of 2009 the Joint Fiscal Committee and the Mental Health Oversight Committee do not object to the financing arrangement proposed in the report provided by the Treasurer's Office and the Joint Fiscal Office. The committees ask that the Department of Mental Health and the Treasurer's Office to update the relevant standing committees on or before January 15th on continued planning as regards this financing arrangement.

Section 32(c) of No. 43 of the Acts of 2009

(c)(1) The department of mental health, in collaboration with the joint fiscal office, the treasurer's office, and the Vermont educational and health buildings finance agency, shall obtain an accounting and financial analysis of any proposed bonding structure, including costs of capitalization, to determine **whether a financing arrangement that places no debt capacity burden on either the state or on Rutland Regional Medical Center (RRMC) is reasonably feasible for a new psychiatric wing at RRMC to replace and expand the existing psychiatric unit.**

(2) The joint fiscal office may contract with an independent consultant to provide additional analysis, if needed, for the analysis required under subdivision (1) of this subsection. Upon request of the joint fiscal office, the commissioner of the department of buildings and general services shall transfer up to \$25,000 of unexpended funds appropriated to the department of buildings and general services in prior capital construction acts for Vermont state hospital planning to the joint fiscal office for this purpose.

(3) No later than October 1, 2009, the treasurer's office and the joint fiscal office shall provide a report to the mental health oversight committee and the joint fiscal committee describing the financing arrangement for a new psychiatric wing at RRMC and the results of the accounting and financial analysis, including their conclusions as to whether the financing arrangement is reasonably feasible.

(4) After receipt of the report and no later than November 1, 2009, **the mental health oversight committee and the joint fiscal committee may object at a joint meeting of the two committees to the financing arrangement proposed by the department for a new psychiatric wing at RRMC.** A quorum shall be a majority of the combined membership of the committees and, for voting purposes, a majority of those present shall be authorized to act. If the committees object, the department shall discontinue planning for a new psychiatric wing at RRMC.