

State of Vermont

Department of Finance & Management 109 State Street, Pavilion Building Montpelier, VT 05620-0401

Agency of Administration

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MEMORANDUM

TO:

Joint Fiscal Committee

CC:

Jeb Spaulding, Sarah Clark, Steve Klein, Stephanie Barrett and Theresa Utton-

Jerman;

FROM:

Jim Reardon Commissioner Food Fight Fund Update

RE:

November 3, 2014 DATE:

Since its establishment in the 2014 session in Act 120 Section 4, the Food Fight Fund has received \$333,000 in donations from individuals and organizations. Through October 31, 2014, \$435,356 has been spent by the Attorney General's office in the implementation and administration of the labeling of food produced from genetic engineering. The majority of these expenses are payments for personal service contracts to provide legal services related to the defense of Act 120.

In addition to donations, the Food Fight Fund may also receive funds from court settlements beyond those amounts that are currently appropriated in the FY 2015 budget. The FY 2015 budget was built relying on \$2,028,000 in settlements from the Attorney General's office. As of October 31, 2014, the Attorney General's office has received \$1,809,000 in settlements, net the funds used by their office to fund operations. Once the FY 2015 budget target is met. up to \$1,500,000 may be deposited into the Food Fight Fund for use in the implementation and administration of Act 120.

Please contact me if you require additional information.

