Journal of the House

Wednesday, March 12, 2025

At one o'clock in the afternoon, the Speaker called the House to order.

Devotional Exercises

Devotional exercises were conducted by Marjorie Ryerson, poet and former Representative, Randolph.

House Bills Introduced

House bills of the following titles were severally introduced, read the first time, and referred to committee or placed on the Notice Calendar as follows:

H. 462

By Rep. Hooper of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to approval of an amendment to the charter of the City of Burlington concerning just cause eviction

To the Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs.

H. 463

By the Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to technical corrections for the 2025 legislative session

Pursuant to House Rule 48, placed on the Notice Calendar.

H. 464

By Reps. Waszazak of Barre City and Galfetti of Barre Town,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to flood response and the duties of the Division of Emergency Management

To the Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs.

H. 465

By Reps. Waszazak of Barre City and Galfetti of Barre Town,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to flood response and financial assistance for municipalities

To the Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs.

H. 466

By Reps. Waszazak of Barre City and Galfetti of Barre Town,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to flood response and the creation of a voluntary buy-out program

To the Committee on General and Housing.

H. 467

By Reps. Waszazak of Barre City and Galfetti of Barre Town,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to flood response and the duties of the Agency of Transportation

To the Committee on Transportation.

H. 468

By Reps. Galfetti of Barre Town and Waszazak of Barre City,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to flood response and assistance programs for flood resilient infrastructure improvements

To the Committee on Environment.

H. 469

By Reps. Waszazak of Barre City and Galfetti of Barre Town,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to flood response and the duties of the Agency of Natural Resources

To the Committee on Environment.

H. 470

By Reps. Waszazak of Barre City and Galfetti of Barre Town,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to flood response and flood alert systems for municipalities

To the Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs.

H. 471

By Reps. Waszazak of Barre City and Galfetti of Barre Town,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the transfer of State-owned property in the Town of Waterbury

To the Committee on Corrections and Institutions.

H. 472

By the Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to professions and occupations regulated by the Office of Professional Regulation

Pursuant to House Rule 35(a), affecting the revenue of the State, was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Bill Referred to Committee on Appropriations

H. 67

House bill, entitled

An act relating to legislative operations and government accountability

Appearing on the Notice Calendar, and pursuant to House Rule 35(a), carrying an appropriation, was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

Joint Senate Resolution Placed on Calendar

J.R.S. 16

By Senator Collamore,

J.R.S. 16 Joint resolution providing for a Joint Assembly to vote on the retention of seven Superior Court Judges and one Magistrate.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the two Houses meet in Joint Assembly on Thursday, March 20, 2025, at ten o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon to vote on the retention of seven Superior Court Judges and one Magistrate. In case the vote to retain said Judges and Magistrate shall not be made on that day, the two Houses shall meet in Joint Assembly at ten o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon, on each succeeding day, Saturdays and Sundays excepted, and proceed until the above is completed.

Was read by title and placed on the Action Calendar on the next legislative day pursuant to House Rule 52.

Joint Senate Resolution Adopted in Concurrence

J.R.S. 17

By Senator Baruth,

J.R.S. 17. Joint resolution relating to weekend adjournment on March 14, 2025.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That when the two Houses adjourn on Friday, March 14, 2025, it be to meet again no later than Tuesday, March 18, 2025.

Was taken up, read, and adopted in concurrence.

Ceremonial Readings

H.C.R. 44

Offered by Representatives Krasnow of South Burlington, Burkhardt of South Burlington, LaLonde of South Burlington, Minier of South Burlington, and Nugent of South Burlington

House concurrent resolution recognizing July 2025 as Park and Recreation Month in Vermont and designating July 18, 2025 as Vermont Park and Recreation Professionals Day in Vermont

Whereas, Vermont’s park and recreation programs are an integral part of our State and local communities, and

Whereas, their presence in a community promotes an active lifestyle, offers environmental protection, and serves as an economic resource, and

Whereas, park and recreation programs support the effectiveness of therapeutic recreational services for persons with disabilities, and

Whereas, in 1985, the National Recreation and Park Association established July as Park and Recreation Month, and, in 2009, the U.S. House of Representatives adopted H.R. 288, a resolution “Recognizing the importance of park and recreation facilities and expressing support for the designation of the month of July as ‘National Park and Recreation Month,’”
now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes July 2025 as Park and Recreation Month in Vermont and designates July 18, 2025 as Vermont Park and Recreation Professionals Day, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Recreation and Parks Association.

Having been adopted in concurrence on Friday, February 28, 2025 in accord with Joint Rule 16b, was read.

H.C.R. 47

Offered by Representative Noyes of Wolcott

House concurrent resolution recognizing March 2025 as National Senior Nutrition Program Month in Vermont

Whereas, approximately 28 percent of Vermont’s population is 60 years of age or older, and according to the Vermont Foodbank, the threat of hunger confronts 12 percent of older Vermonters, and

Whereas, on March 22, 1972, President Richard Nixon signed Public Law 92-258, an amendment to the Older Americans Act of 1965, that established the national Senior Nutrition Program for older Americans, and

Whereas, the impetus for the national Senior Nutrition Program was the recognition that persons in this age group may not eat adequately due to a lack of finances, an inability to prepare nourishing meals, limited mobility, and feelings of loneliness, and

Whereas, in Vermont, the national Senior Nutrition Program is administered through the State Unit on Aging at the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living and the area agencies on aging, and

Whereas, Meals on Wheels is a key element of the national Senior Nutrition Program through its provision of nutritious meals, safety checks, and friendly visits to those at risk of hunger and isolation, and

Whereas, in 2024, 42 Meals on Wheels providers delivered 986,662 nutritious home-delivered meals to thousands of older Vermonters, greatly improving their daily physical and emotional lives, and

Whereas, Meals on Wheels is an important component of Age Strong VT, a 10-year program designed to make Vermont "a great place for all ages and stages of life," and

Whereas, each March, the federal Administration for Community Living celebrates the establishment of the national Senior Nutrition Program, and the theme for 2025 is "A Place at the Table," "[recognizing] the importance of local nutrition programs and the meals being served across the country," *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*:**

That the General Assembly recognizes March 2025 as National Senior Nutrition Program Month in Vermont, *and be it further*

***Resolved*:** That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living and the Vermont Association of Senior Centers and Meal Providers.

Having been adopted in concurrence on Friday, February 28, 2025 in accord with Joint Rule 16b, was read.

Committee Relieved of Consideration and Bill Committed to Other Committee

H. 420

Rep. Kornheiser of Brattleboro moved that the Committee on Ways and Means be relieved of House bill, entitled

An act relating to tax increment financing for flood-impacted communities

And that the bill be committed to the Committee on Commerce and Economic Development, which was agreed to.

Committee Relieved of Consideration and Bill Committed to Other Committee

H. 342

Rep. LaLonde of South Burlington moved that the Committee on Judiciary be relieved of House bill, entitled

An act relating to protecting the personal information of certain public servants

And that the bill be committed to the Committee on Commerce and Economic Development, which was agreed to.

Third Reading; Bill Passed

H. 96

House bill, entitled

An act relating to increasing the monetary thresholds for certificates of need

Was taken up, read the third time, and passed.

Second Reading; Bill Amended; Third Reading Ordered

H. 50

Rep. Gregoire of Fairfield, for the Committee on Corrections and Institutions, to which had been referred House bill, entitled

An act relating to identifying State real property suitable for conversion into affordable housing

Reported in favor of its passage when amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 29 V.S.A. § 165 is amended to read:

§ 165. SPACE ALLOCATION, INVENTORY, AND USE; LEASING PROPERTY; COMMISSIONER'S PREAPPROVAL REQUIRED

* * *

(e) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services shall maintain an inventory of all State-owned buildings <u>and land</u> and shall biannually compile and update the information received under subsection (g) of this section, which shall be considered once available in making spacing allocations and designating uses under subsection (c) of this section.

* * *

(g) The head of each agency shall prepare and forward to the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services ~~when requested by the Commissioner~~ <u>annually</u> in a format prescribed by the Commissioner an inventory of~~:~~ square footage available for use; square footage in actual use; square footage not in use; square footage used for storage; square footage that is unfinished; cost per square foot for rent; cost per square foot for operation and maintenance; and the source of funds for rent, operation, and maintenance, including the act and section numbers of a legislative directive if applicable. <u>The head of each agency shall additionally indicate in its inventory in a format</u>

prescribed by the Commissioner whether any building is vacant and whether any land is unnecessary for State purposes.

* * *

(j) On or before January 15 of each new legislative biennium, the Commissioner shall submit to the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committee on Institutions the inventory maintained under subsection (e) of this section.

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.

and that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read: "An act relating to identifying underutilized State buildings and land"

The bill, having appeared on the Notice Calendar, was taken up, read the second time, the report of the Committee on Corrections and Institutions agreed to, and third reading ordered.

Report of Committee of Conference Adopted; Bill Ordered Delivered to Governor Forthwith

H. 141

The Speaker placed before the House the following Committee of Conference report:

TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

The Committee of Conference to which were referred the disagreeing votes of the two Houses upon House Bill entitled:

H.141. An act relating to fiscal year 2025 budget adjustments.

Respectfully reports that it has met and considered the same and recommends that the Senate recede from its proposal of amendment and that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.105 is amended to read:

Sec. B.105 Agency of digital services - communications and information technology

Personal services	82,994,362	82,994,362
Operating expenses	~~62,547,212~~	61,761,212
Total	~~145,541,574~~	144,755,574
Source of funds		
General fund	209,808	209,808

Special funds	511,723	511,723
Internal service funds	~~144,820,043~~	144,034,043
Total	~~145,541,574~~	144,755,574

Sec. 2. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.145 is amended to read:

Sec. B.145 Total general government

Source of funds		
General fund	117,405,610	117,405,610
Transportation fund	4,292,149	4,292,149
Special funds	31,882,209	31,882,209
Federal funds	1,467,374	1,467,374
Internal service funds	~~214,635,950~~	213,849,950
Interdepartmental transfers	7,053,789	7,053,789
Enterprise funds	4,298	4,298
Pension trust funds	4,800,305	4,800,305
Private purpose trust funds	1,329,205	1,329,205
Total	~~382,870,889~~	382,084,889

Sec. 3. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.200 is amended to read:

Sec. B.200 Attorney general

Personal services	~~14,435,517~~	14,463,317
Operating expenses	2,015,028	2,015,028
Grants	20,000	20,000
Total	~~16,470,545~~	16,498,345
Source of funds		
General fund	~~7,391,661~~	7,419,461
Special funds	2,355,424	2,355,424
Tobacco fund	422,000	422,000
Federal funds	1,743,215	1,743,215
Interdepartmental transfers	4,558,245	4,558,245
Total	~~16,470,545~~	16,498,345

Sec. 4. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.204 is amended to read:

Sec. B.204 Judiciary

Personal services	~~58,439,095~~	58,827,799
Operating expenses	~~12,479,384~~	14,640,960
Grants	121,030	121,030
Total	~~71,039,509~~	73,589,789
Source of funds		
General fund	~~63,414,698~~	65,964,978
Special funds	4,503,401	4,503,401

Federal funds	953,928	953,928
Interdepartmental transfers	2,167,482	2,167,482
Total	~~71,039,509~~	73,589,789

Sec. 5. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.205 is amended to read:

Sec. B.205 State's attorneys

Personal services	~~17,309,679~~	17,548,979
Operating expenses	~~2,034,016~~	2,202,516
Total	~~19,343,695~~	19,751,495
Source of funds		
General fund	~~18,734,634~~	19,142,434
Federal funds	31,000	31,000
Interdepartmental transfers	578,061	578,061
Total	~~19,343,695~~	19,751,495

Sec. 6. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.206.1 is amended to read:

Sec. B.206.1 Crime Victims Advocates

Personal services	3,016,156	3,016,156
Operating expenses	~~104,396~~	142,396
Total	~~3,120,552~~	3,158,552
Source of funds		
General fund	~~3,120,552~~	3,158,552
Total	~~3,120,552~~	3,158,552

Sec. 7. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.208 is amended to read:

Sec. B.208 Public safety - administration

Personal services	~~4,620,756~~	5,397,783
Operating expenses	6,022,923	6,022,923
Total	~~10,643,679~~	11,420,706
Source of funds		
General fund	~~6,179,193~~	8,092,770
Special funds	4,105	4,105
Federal funds	396,362	396,362
Interdepartmental transfers	~~4,064,019~~	2,927,469
Total	~~10,643,679~~	11,420,706

Sec. 8. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.210 is amended to read:

Sec. B.210 Public safety - criminal justice services

Personal services	~~5,387,100~~	4,705,897
Operating expenses	2,152,467	2,152,467
Total	~~7,539,567~~	6,858,364

Source of funds		
General fund	~~1,829,099~~	2,172,295
Special funds	~~4,975,847~~	3,951,448
Federal funds	734,621	734,621
Total	~~7,539,567~~	6,858,364

Sec. 9. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.236 is amended to read:

Sec. B.236 Human rights commission

Personal services	~~927,697~~	992,259
Operating expenses	~~115,103~~	125,378
Total	~~1,042,800~~	1,117,637
Source of funds		
General fund	~~953,800~~	1,028,637
Federal funds	89,000	89,000
Total	~~1,042,800~~	1,117,637

Sec. 10. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.241 is amended to read:

Sec. B.241 Total protection to persons and property

Source of funds		
General fund	~~228,238,448~~	233,593,938
Transportation fund	20,250,000	20,250,000
Special funds	~~119,824,272~~	118,799,873
Tobacco fund	672,579	672,579
Federal funds	162,959,452	162,959,452
Interdepartmental transfers	~~16,031,869~~	14,895,319
Enterprise funds	15,070,107	15,070,107
Total	~~563,046,727~~	566,241,268

Sec. 11. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.300 is amended to read:

Sec. B.300 Human services - agency of human services - secretary's office

Personal services	~~16,219,746~~	18,219,746
Operating expenses	~~7,220,486~~	6,062,286
Grants	3,795,202	3,795,202
Total	~~27,235,434~~	28,077,234
Source of funds		
General fund	~~12,913,202~~	11,923,905
Special funds	135,517	135,517
Federal funds	~~13,565,080~~	11,606,177
Global Commitment fund	~~0~~	4,300,000
Interdepartmental transfers	~~621,635~~	111,635
Total	~~27,235,434~~	28,077,234

Sec. 12. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.301 is amended to read:

Sec. B.301 Secretary's office - global commitment

Grants	~~2,039,512,911~~	2,164,607,988
Total	~~2,039,512,911~~	2,164,607,988
Source of funds		
General fund	~~668,380,623~~	716,109,638
Special funds	32,047,905	32,047,905
Tobacco fund	21,049,373	21,049,373
State health care resources fund	28,053,557	28,053,557
Federal funds	~~1,285,494,243~~	1,363,223,270
Interdepartmental transfers	~~4,487,210~~	4,124,245
Total	~~2,039,512,911~~	2,164,607,988

Sec. 13. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.305 is amended to read:

Sec. B.305 AHS - administrative fund

Personal services	330,000	330,000
Operating expenses	~~13,170,000~~	16,870,000
Total	~~13,500,000~~	17,200,000
Source of funds		
Interdepartmental transfers	~~13,500,000~~	17,200,000
Total	~~13,500,000~~	17,200,000

Sec. 14. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.306 is amended to read:

Sec. B.306 Department of Vermont health access - administration

Personal services	~~134,929,148~~	136,693,560
Operating expenses	~~44,171,193~~	39,250,661
Grants	3,112,301	3,112,301
Total	~~182,212,642~~	179,056,522
Source of funds		
General fund	~~39,872,315~~	42,023,781
Special funds	4,733,015	4,733,015
Federal funds	~~128,790,580~~	124,836,223
Global Commitment fund	4,308,574	4,308,574
Interdepartmental transfers	~~4,508,158~~	3,154,929
Total	~~182,212,642~~	179,056,522

Sec. 15. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.307 is amended to read:

Sec. B.307 Department of Vermont health access - Medicaid program – global commitment

Personal services	547,983	547,983

Grants	~~899,550,794~~	964,407,046
Total	~~900,098,777~~	964,955,029
Source of funds		
Global Commitment fund	~~900,098,777~~	964,955,029
Total	~~900,098,777~~	964,955,029

Sec. 16. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.309 is amended to read:

Sec. B.309 Department of Vermont health access - Medicaid program – state only

Grants	~~63,033,948~~	67,780,595
Total	~~63,033,948~~	67,780,595
Source of funds		
General fund	~~62,151,546~~	62,308,757
Global Commitment fund	~~882,402~~	5,471,838
Total	~~63,033,948~~	67,780,595

Sec. 17. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.310 is amended to read:

Sec. B.310 Department of Vermont health access - Medicaid non-waiver matched

Grants	~~34,994,888~~	38,232,431
Total	~~34,994,888~~	38,232,431
Source of funds		
General fund	~~12,511,405~~	13,459,034
Federal funds	~~22,483,483~~	24,773,397
Total	~~34,994,888~~	38,232,431

Sec. 18. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.311 is amended to read:

Sec. B.311 Health - administration and support

Personal services	8,373,168	8,373,168
Operating expenses	~~7,519,722~~	8,166,662
Grants	7,985,727	7,985,727
Total	~~23,878,617~~	24,525,557
Source of funds		
General fund	~~3,189,843~~	3,513,313
Special funds	2,308,186	2,308,186
Federal funds	~~11,040,433~~	11,363,903
Global Commitment fund	7,173,924	7,173,924
Interdepartmental transfers	166,231	166,231
Total	~~23,878,617~~	24,525,557

Sec. 19. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.312 is amended to read:

Sec. B.312 Health - public health

Personal services	67,812,371	67,812,371
Operating expenses	11,025,497	11,025,497
Grants	~~46,766,832~~	46,866,832
Total	~~125,604,700~~	125,704,700
Source of funds		
General fund	~~12,908,892~~	13,008,892
Special funds	24,906,804	24,906,804
Tobacco fund	1,088,918	1,088,918
Federal funds	64,038,301	64,038,301
Global Commitment fund	17,036,150	17,036,150
Interdepartmental transfers	5,600,635	5,600,635
Permanent trust funds	25,000	25,000
Total	~~125,604,700~~	125,704,700

Sec. 20. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.313 is amended to read:

Sec. B.313 Health - substance use programs

Personal services	6,570,967	6,570,967
Operating expenses	511,500	511,500
Grants	~~58,215,510~~	59,240,635
Total	~~65,297,977~~	66,323,102
Source of funds		
General fund	~~6,672,061~~	7,697,186
Special funds	2,413,678	2,413,678
Tobacco fund	949,917	949,917
Federal funds	15,456,754	15,456,754
Global Commitment fund	39,805,567	39,805,567
Total	~~65,297,977~~	66,323,102

Sec. 21. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.314 is amended to read:

Sec. B.314 Mental health - mental health

Personal services	50,191,086	50,191,086
Operating expenses	~~5,517,999~~	5,709,973
Grants	~~270,625,138~~	272,536,080
Total	~~326,334,223~~	328,437,139
Source of funds		
General fund	~~25,555,311~~	26,279,270
Special funds	1,718,092	1,718,092
Federal funds	~~11,436,913~~	12,661,803
Global Commitment fund	~~287,609,767~~	287,763,834

Interdepartmental transfers	14,140	14,140
Total	~~326,334,223~~	328,437,139

Sec. 22. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.316 is amended to read:

Sec. B.316 Department for children and families - administration & support services

Personal services	~~46,644,080~~	44,844,080
Operating expenses	~~17,560,755~~	19,402,705
Grants	5,627,175	5,627,175
Total	~~69,832,010~~	69,873,960
Source of funds		
General fund	~~39,722,724~~	40,113,958
Special funds	2,781,912	2,781,912
Federal funds	~~24,448,223~~	24,098,939
Global Commitment fund	2,417,024	2,417,024
Interdepartmental transfers	462,127	462,127
Total	~~69,832,010~~	69,873,960

Sec. 23. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.317 is amended to read:

Sec. B.317 Department for children and families - family services

Personal services	~~45,197,694~~	45,286,553
Operating expenses	5,315,309	5,315,309
Grants	~~98,251,027~~	97,732,465
Total	~~148,764,030~~	148,334,327
Source of funds		
General fund	~~58,838,741~~	59,984,059
Special funds	729,587	729,587
Federal funds	~~34,666,196~~	36,180,206
Global Commitment fund	~~54,514,506~~	51,425,475
Interdepartmental transfers	15,000	15,000
Total	~~148,764,030~~	148,334,327

Sec. 24. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.318 is amended to read:

Sec. B.318 Department for children and families - child development

Personal services	5,908,038	5,908,038
Operating expenses	813,321	813,321
Grants	~~223,329,336~~	211,815,836
Total	~~230,050,695~~	218,537,195
Source of funds		
General fund	~~76,723,518~~	51,443,165
Special funds	~~96,312,000~~	109,512,000

Federal funds	~~43,511,414~~	42,902,383
Global Commitment fund	~~13,503,763~~	14,679,647
Total	~~230,050,695~~	218,537,195

Sec. 25. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.319 is amended to read:

Sec. B.319 Department for children and families - office of child support

Personal services	~~13,157,660~~	13,061,794
Operating expenses	3,759,992	3,759,992
Total	~~16,917,652~~	16,821,786
Source of funds		
General fund	~~5,200,064~~	5,163,429
Special funds	455,719	455,719
Federal funds	~~10,874,269~~	10,815,038
Interdepartmental transfers	387,600	387,600
Total	~~16,917,652~~	16,821,786

Sec. 26. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.320 is amended to read:

Sec. B.320 Department for children and families - aid to aged, blind and disabled

Personal services	~~2,252,206~~	2,481,741
Grants	~~10,717,444~~	10,369,155
Total	~~12,969,650~~	12,850,896
Source of funds		
General fund	~~7,376,133~~	7,368,843
Global Commitment fund	~~5,593,517~~	5,482,053
Total	~~12,969,650~~	12,850,896

Sec. 27. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.321 is amended to read:

Sec. B.321 Department for children and families - general assistance

Personal services	15,000	15,000
Grants	~~11,054,252~~	10,702,625
Total	~~11,069,252~~	10,717,625
Source of funds		
General fund	~~10,811,345~~	10,486,987
Federal funds	~~11,320~~	11,070
Global Commitment fund	~~246,587~~	219,568
Total	~~11,069,252~~	10,717,625

Sec. 28. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.322 is amended to read:

Sec. B.322 Department for children and families - 3SquaresVT

Grants	~~44,377,812~~	45,677,812

Total	~~44,377,812~~	45,677,812
Source of funds		
Federal funds	~~44,377,812~~	45,677,812
Total	~~44,377,812~~	45,677,812

Sec. 29. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.323 is amended to read:

Sec. B.323 Department for children and families - reach up

Operating expenses	23,821	23,821
Grants	~~37,230,488~~	36,730,493
Total	~~37,254,309~~	36,754,314
Source of funds		
General fund	~~24,733,042~~	24,233,047
Special funds	5,970,229	5,970,229
Federal funds	2,806,330	2,806,330
Global Commitment fund	3,744,708	3,744,708
Total	~~37,254,309~~	36,754,314

Sec. 30. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.325 is amended to read:

Sec. B.325 Department for children and families - office of economic opportunity

Personal services	~~817,029~~	1,042,639
Operating expenses	100,407	100,407
Grants	~~35,466,283~~	35,812,536
Total	~~36,383,719~~	36,955,582
Source of funds		
General fund	~~28,178,010~~	28,687,068
Special funds	83,135	83,135
Federal funds	~~4,935,273~~	4,998,078
Global Commitment fund	3,187,301	3,187,301
Total	~~36,383,719~~	36,955,582

Sec. 31. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.329 is amended to read:

Sec. B.329 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - administration & support

Personal services	~~45,217,977~~	46,217,977
Operating expenses	~~6,472,558~~	6,714,680
Total	~~51,690,535~~	52,932,657
Source of funds		
General fund	~~22,916,281~~	24,037,342
Special funds	1,390,457	1,390,457
Federal funds	~~26,063,097~~	26,184,158

Global Commitment fund	35,000	35,000
Interdepartmental transfers	1,285,700	1,285,700
Total	~~51,690,535~~	52,932,657

Sec. 32. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.330 is amended to read:

Sec. B.330 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - advocacy and independent living grants

Grants	~~24,571,060~~	24,781,798
Total	~~24,571,060~~	24,781,798
Source of funds		
General fund	~~8,392,303~~	8,504,605
Federal funds	7,321,114	7,321,114
Global Commitment fund	~~8,857,643~~	8,956,079
Total	~~24,571,060~~	24,781,798

Sec. 33. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.332 is amended to read:

Sec. B.332 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - vocational rehabilitation

Grants	~~10,179,845~~	9,179,845
Total	~~10,179,845~~	9,179,845
Source of funds		
General fund	~~1,371,845~~	371,845
Federal funds	7,558,000	7,558,000
Interdepartmental transfers	1,250,000	1,250,000
Total	~~10,179,845~~	9,179,845

Sec. 34. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.333 is amended to read:

Sec. B.333 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - developmental services

Grants	~~329,299,344~~	331,262,271
Total	~~329,299,344~~	331,262,271
Source of funds		
General fund	132,732	132,732
Special funds	15,463	15,463
Federal funds	403,573	403,573
Global Commitment fund	~~328,697,576~~	330,660,503
Interdepartmental transfers	50,000	50,000
Total	~~329,299,344~~	331,262,271

Sec. 35. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.334 is amended to read:

Sec. B.334 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - TBI home and community based waiver

Grants	~~6,845,005~~	6,864,520
Total	~~6,845,005~~	6,864,520
Source of funds		
Global Commitment fund	~~6,845,005~~	6,864,520
Total	~~6,845,005~~	6,864,520

Sec. 36. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.334.1 is amended to read:

Sec. B.334.1 Disabilities, aging and independent living - Long Term Care

Grants	~~293,584,545~~	347,376,122
Total	~~293,584,545~~	347,376,122
Source of funds		
General fund	498,579	498,579
Federal funds	2,450,000	2,450,000
Global Commitment fund	~~290,635,966~~	344,427,543
Total	~~293,584,545~~	347,376,122

Sec. 37. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.338 is amended to read:

Sec. B.338 Corrections - correctional services

Personal services	~~147,472,104~~	148,472,104
Operating expenses	~~24,914,205~~	25,249,795
Total	~~172,386,309~~	173,721,899
Source of funds		
General fund	~~162,807,888~~	163,643,478
Special funds	935,963	935,963
ARPA State Fiscal	5,000,000	5,000,000
Federal funds	~~499,888~~	999,888
Global Commitment fund	2,746,255	2,746,255
Interdepartmental transfers	396,315	396,315
Total	~~172,386,309~~	173,721,899

Sec. 38. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.342 is amended to read:

Sec. B.342 Vermont veterans' home - care and support services

Personal services	~~17,631,222~~	17,595,290
Operating expenses	~~5,013,462~~	13,247,462
Grants	0	1,583,157
Total	~~22,644,684~~	32,425,909

Source of funds		
General fund	~~4,320,687~~	11,224,018
Special funds	~~10,051,903~~	12,450,095
Federal funds	~~8,272,094~~	8,751,796
Total	~~22,644,684~~	32,425,909

Sec. 39. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.347 is amended to read:

Sec. B.347 Total human services

Source of funds		
General fund	~~1,328,118,806~~	1,364,156,647
Special funds	~~202,800,452~~	218,398,644
Tobacco fund	23,088,208	23,088,208
State health care resources fund	28,053,557	28,053,557
ARPA State Fiscal	5,000,000	5,000,000
Federal funds	~~1,803,398,922~~	1,882,012,745
Global Commitment fund	~~1,980,839,553~~	2,108,560,133
Internal service funds	490,853	490,853
Interdepartmental transfers	~~32,893,535~~	34,367,341
Permanent trust funds	25,000	25,000
Total	~~5,404,708,886~~	5,664,153,128

Sec. 40. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.501 is amended to read:

Sec. B.501 Education - education services

Personal services	~~28,237,700~~	28,312,700
Operating expenses	1,134,912	1,134,912
Grants	322,345,763	322,345,763
Total	~~351,718,375~~	351,793,375
Source of funds		
General fund	~~6,387,955~~	6,462,955
Special funds	3,033,144	3,033,144
Tobacco fund	750,388	750,388
Federal funds	340,584,414	340,584,414
Interdepartmental transfers	962,474	962,474
Total	~~351,718,375~~	351,793,375

Sec. 41. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.503 is amended to read:

Sec. B.503 Education - state-placed students

Grants	~~20,000,000~~	19,000,000
Total	~~20,000,000~~	19,000,000
Source of funds		
Education fund	~~20,000,000~~	19,000,000

Total	~~20,000,000~~	19,000,000

Sec. 42. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.504 is amended to read:

Sec. B.504 Education - adult education and literacy

Grants	~~4,694,183~~	4,997,820
Total	~~4,694,183~~	4,997,820
Source of funds		
General fund	~~3,778,133~~	4,081,770
Federal funds	916,050	916,050
Total	~~4,694,183~~	4,997,820

Sec. 43. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.504.1 is amended to read:

Sec. B.504.1 Education - Flexible Pathways

Grants	~~11,361,755~~	11,564,179
Total	~~11,361,755~~	11,564,179
Source of funds		
General fund	921,500	921,500
Education fund	~~10,440,255~~	10,642,679
Total	~~11,361,755~~	11,564,179

Sec. 44. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.505 is amended to read:

Sec. B.505 Education - adjusted education payment

Grants	~~1,893,267,394~~	1,882,267,394
Total	~~1,893,267,394~~	1,882,267,394
Source of funds		
Education fund	~~1,893,267,394~~	1,882,267,394
Total	~~1,893,267,394~~	1,882,267,394

Sec. 45. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.508 is amended to read:

Sec. B.508 Education - nutrition

Grants	~~20,400,000~~	17,500,000
Total	~~20,400,000~~	17,500,000
Source of funds		
Education fund	~~20,400,000~~	17,500,000
Total	~~20,400,000~~	17,500,000

Sec. 46. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.516 is amended to read:

Sec. B.516 Total general education

Source of funds		
General fund	~~228,890,519~~	229,269,156
Special funds	23,651,687	23,651,687

Tobacco fund	750,388	750,388
Education fund	~~2,323,283,242~~	2,308,585,666
Federal funds	354,654,849	354,654,849
Global Commitment fund	260,000	260,000
Interdepartmental transfers	1,467,771	1,467,771
Pension trust funds	3,572,780	3,572,780
Total	~~2,936,531,236~~	2,922,212,297

Sec. 47. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.704 is amended to read:

Sec. B.704 Forests, parks and recreation - forestry

Personal services	~~7,880,566~~	7,913,766
Operating expenses	1,005,046	1,005,046
Grants	~~1,712,423~~	1,713,923
Total	~~10,598,035~~	10,632,735
Source of funds		
General fund	~~6,299,512~~	6,334,212
Special funds	547,215	547,215
Federal funds	3,394,931	3,394,931
Interdepartmental transfers	356,377	356,377
Total	~~10,598,035~~	10,632,735

Sec. 48. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.710 is amended to read:

Sec. B.710 Environmental conservation - air and waste management

Personal services	27,995,328	27,995,328
Operating expenses	~~10,788,954~~	10,816,954
Grants	4,943,000	4,943,000
Total	~~43,727,282~~	43,755,282
Source of funds		
General fund	~~199,372~~	227,372
Special funds	24,643,580	24,643,580
Federal funds	18,800,064	18,800,064
Interdepartmental transfers	84,266	84,266
Total	~~43,727,282~~	43,755,282

Sec. 49. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.711 is amended to read:

Sec. B.711 Environmental conservation - office of water programs

Personal services	50,153,806	50,153,806
Operating expenses	~~8,362,915~~	8,370,915
Grants	92,365,140	92,365,140
Total	~~150,881,861~~	150,889,861

Source of funds		
General fund	~~11,887,629~~	11,895,629
Special funds	30,967,150	30,967,150
Federal funds	107,154,542	107,154,542
Interdepartmental transfers	872,540	872,540
Total	~~150,881,861~~	150,889,861

Sec. 50. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.714 is amended to read:

Sec. B.714 Total natural resources

Source of funds		
General fund	~~42,792,800~~	42,863,500
Special funds	81,275,829	81,275,829
Fish and wildlife fund	10,418,331	10,418,331
Federal funds	152,068,301	152,068,301
Interdepartmental transfers	14,131,324	14,131,324
Total	~~300,686,585~~	300,757,285

Sec. 51. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.1100 is amended to read:

Sec. B.1100 MISCELLANEOUS FISCAL YEAR 2025 ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS

* * *

(d) Department of Health. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

* * *

(8) $835,073 General Fund for the Bridges to Health Program; ~~and~~

(9) ~~$400,000~~ $550,000 General Fund for the Vermont Household Health Insurance Survey; and

(10) $500,000 General Fund for community grants related to health equity.

(e) Department for Children and Families. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) ~~$16,500,000~~ $18,340,304 General Fund for the General Assistance Emergency Housing program;

(2) $1,034,065 General Fund to extend 10 Economic Services Division limited service positions, including associated operating costs, in support of the General Assistance Emergency Housing program; ~~and~~

(3) $332,000 General Fund for a 2-1-1 service line contract to operate 24 hours seven days per week;

(4) $340,000 General Fund and $660,000 federal funds for the Office of Child Support mainframe transition planning. Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 703, unless otherwise reverted by a future act of the General Assembly, these appropriations shall carry forward until fully expended; and

(5) $1,800,000 General Fund shall be added to the appropriation made in Sec. B.1102(b)(4) of this act for the Comprehensive Child Welfare Information System.

* * *

(n) Agency of Human Services Secretary's Office. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) ~~$3,913,200~~ $5,586,324 General Fund and ~~$5,366,383~~ $7,713,259 federal funds to be used for Global Commitment match for the Medicaid Global Payment Program. To the extent that at a future date the Global Payment Program ceases to operate as a program or changes methodology to a retrospective payment program, any resulting one-time General Fund spending authority remaining at that time shall be reverted. If the Human Services Caseload Reserve established in 32 V.S.A. § 308b has not been replenished in accordance with subdivision (b)(21) of Sec. B.1102 of this act, the remaining unallocated General Fund balance shall be reserved in the Human Services Caseload Reserve established in 32 V.S.A. § 308b up to the amount appropriated in this subdivision.

(o) Department of Vermont Health Access. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) ~~$9,279,583~~ $13,299,583 Global Commitment for the Medicaid Global Payment Program;

(2) $150,000 General Fund to conduct a technical analysis of Vermont's health insurance markets; ~~and~~

(3) $100,000 General Fund to implement the expansion of Medicare Savings Programs eligibility;

(4) $10,000,000 General Fund for Provider Stabilization Grants; and

(5) $11,000,000 General Fund for an alternative payment model reconciliation payment to Brattleboro Retreat. All or a portion of these funds may also be used as matching funds to the Agency of Human Services Global Commitment Program to provide State match. If funds are used as matching funds to the Agency of Human Services Global Commitment Program to provide State match, the commensurate amount of Global Commitment Fund spending authority may be requested during the Global Commitment Transfer process pursuant to Sec. E.301.1 of this act.

* * *

(v) Agency of Administration. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) ~~$200,000 General Fund for local economic damage grants to municipalities that were impacted by the August and December 2023 flooding events in counties that are eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency Public Assistance funds under federal disaster declarations DR-4744-VT and DR-4762-VT. It is the intent of the General Assembly that these local economic damage grants be distributed to municipalities throughout the State to address the secondary economic impacts of the August and December 2023 flooding events. Monies from these grants shall not be expended on Federal Emergency Management Agency related projects~~

$1,800,000 General Fund for local economic damage grants to municipalities in counties that are eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance funds under federal disaster declarations DR-4810-VT and DR-4744-VT. It is the intent of the General Assembly that these local economic damage grants be distributed to municipalities throughout the State to address the secondary economic impacts of 2023 and 2024 flooding events. Monies from these grants shall not be expended on FEMA-related projects.

(A) The funds appropriated in this subdivision (v)(1) for local economic damage grants shall be distributed as follows:

(i) $75,000 to each municipality that as of June 1, 2025 has at least $5,000,000 in estimated reported damages to public infrastructure relating to 2023 and 2024 flooding events.

(ii) $50,000 to each municipality that as of June 1, 2025 has less than $5,000,000 and at least $2,000,000 in estimated reported damages to public infrastructure relating to 2023 and 2024 flooding events.

(iii) $30,000 to each municipality that as of June 1, 2025 has less than $2,000,000 and at least $1,000,000 in estimated reported damages to public infrastructure relating to 2023 and 2024 flooding events.

(iv) $20,000 to each municipality that as of June 1, 2025 has less than $1,000,000 and at least $250,000 in estimated reported damages to public infrastructure relating to 2023 and 2024 flooding events.

(v) $10,000 to each municipality that as of June 1, 2025 has less than $250,000 and at least $100,000 in estimated reported damages to public infrastructure relating to 2023 and 2024 flooding events.

(B) To the extent that the funds appropriated in this subdivision (v)(1) have not been granted on or before June 30, 2025, they shall revert to the General Fund and be transferred to the Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund.

(C) To the extent that the funds appropriated in this subdivision (v)(1) are insufficient to distribute grants to all eligible municipalities in their full amount, the Commissioner of Finance and Management shall, pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 511, utilize excess receipt authority to expend funds from the PILOT Special Fund for this purpose.

(w) Vermont Housing and Conservation Board. In fiscal year 2025, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) $8,600,000 General Fund to provide support and enhance capacity for the production and preservation of: affordable mixed-income rental housing and homeownership units including improvements to manufactured homes and communities; permanent homes and emergency shelter for those experiencing homelessness; recovery residences; and housing available to farm workers, refugees, and individuals who are eligible to receive Medicaid-funded home- and community-based services; and

(2) $2,800,000 General Fund to complete pilot projects identified pursuant to 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 186.

Sec. 52. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. D.100 is amended to read:

Sec. D.100 ALLOCATIONS; PROPERTY TRANSFER TAX

(a) This act contains the following amounts allocated to special funds that receive revenue from the property transfer tax. These allocations shall not exceed available revenues.

(1) The sum of $575,662 is allocated 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 in excess of $575,662 from the property transfer tax deposited into the Current Use Administration Special Fund shall be transferred into the General Fund.

(2) Notwithstanding 10 V.S.A. § 312, amounts in excess of ~~$22,106,740~~ $28,238,050 from the property transfer tax and surcharge established in 32 V.S.A. § 9602a 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 pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 314 shall 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 in 32 V.S.A. § 9602a. The fiscal year 2025 appropriation of ~~$22,106,740~~ $28,238,050 to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board 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 the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board shall be restored.

(3) Notwithstanding 24 V.S.A. § 4306(a), amounts in excess of ~~$7,772,373~~ $9,052,113 from the property transfer tax deposited into the Municipal and Regional Planning Fund shall be transferred into the General Fund. The ~~$7,772,373~~ $9,052,113 shall be allocated as follows:

(A) ~~$6,404,540~~ $7,300,358 for disbursement to regional planning commissions in a manner consistent with 24 V.S.A. § 4306(b);

(B) ~~$931,773~~ $1,187,721 for disbursement to municipalities in a manner consistent with 24 V.S.A. § 4306(b); and

(C) ~~$436,060~~ $564,034 to the Agency of Digital Services for the Vermont Center for Geographic Information.

Sec. 53. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. D.101 is amended to read:

Sec. D.101 FUND TRANSFERS

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the following amounts are transferred from the funds indicated:

(1) From the General Fund to the:

(A) General Obligation Bonds Debt Service Fund (#35100): ~~$73,212,880~~ $78,235,088.34.

* * *

(J) Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund (#21555): ~~$830,000~~ $6,500,000.

(K) Education Fund (#20205): $25,000,000.

(L) Medical Insurance Fund (#55100): $18,500,000.

(M) Correctional Industries Fund (#59100): $3,135,443.

(N) Act 250 Permit Fund (#21260): $900,000.

(O) State Liability Self-Insurance Fund (#56200): $3,000,000.

(P) Emergency Personnel Survivor's Benefit Fund (#21884): $220,000.

(Q) Other Infrastructure, Essential Investments, and Reserves Fund (#21953): $133,700,000.

(2) From the Transportation Fund to the:

(A) ~~Vermont Recreational Trails Fund (#21455): $370,000.~~

~~(B)~~ Downtown Transportation and Related Capital Improvements Fund (#21575): $523,966.

~~(C)~~(B) General Obligation Bonds Debt Service Fund (#35100): $316,745.

~~(D)~~(C) Notwithstanding 19 V.S.A. § 13(c), the Transportation Fund transfer to the Central Garage fund in fiscal year 2025 shall be $0.

* * *

(b) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, in fiscal year 2025:

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

(A) Cannabis Regulation Fund (#21998): ~~$12,000,000~~ $15,417,084.32.

(B) AHS Central Office Earned Federal Receipts (#22005): $4,641,960.

(C) Sports Wagering Enterprise Fund (#50250): ~~$7,000,000~~ $6,139,162.

(D) Liquor Control Fund (#50300): ~~$21,100,000~~ $9,543,353.

(E) ~~Tobacco Litigation Settlement Fund (#21370): $3,000,000.~~

~~(F)~~ Financial Institutions Supervision Fund (#21065): $1,100,000.

(F) Workforce Education and Training Fund (#21913): $2,598,921.75.

(G) Vermont Traumatic Brain Injury Fund (#21994): the balance of the fund at the close of fiscal year 2025.

(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.

(A) AG-Fees & Reimbursements-Court Order Fund (#21638): $2,000,000.

(B) Unclaimed Property Fund (#62100): ~~$6,500,000~~ $10,995,595.

(3) ~~$66,935,000~~ $63,560,450.50 of the net unencumbered fund 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.

(c)(1) Notwithstanding Sec. 1.4.3 of the Rules for State Matching Funds under the Federal Public Assistance Program, in fiscal year 2025, the Secretary of Administration may provide funding from the Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund that was transferred pursuant to subdivision (a)(1)(J) of this section to subgrantees prior to the completion of a project. In fiscal ~~year~~ years 2025 and 2026, up to 70 percent of the State funding match on the nonfederal share of an approved project for municipalities that were impacted by ~~the August and December~~ 2023 and 2024 flooding events in counties that are eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency Public Assistance funds under federal disaster declarations DR-4744-VT ~~and~~, DR-4762-VT, DR-4810-VT, DR-4816-VT, and DR-4826-VT may be advanced at the request of a municipality.

(2) Notwithstanding Sec. 1.4.1 of the Rules for State Matching Funds Under the Federal Public Assistance Program, the Secretary of Administration shall increase the standard State funding match on the nonfederal share of an approved project to the highest percentage possible given available funding for municipalities in counties that were impacted by ~~the August and December~~ 2023 and 2024 flooding events and are eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency Public Assistance funds under federal disaster declarations DR-4744-VT ~~and~~, DR-4762-VT, DR-4810-VT, DR-4816-VT, and DR-4826-VT.

Sec. 54. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. D.102 is amended to read:

Sec. D.102 REVERSIONS

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, in fiscal year 2025, the following amounts shall revert to the General Fund from the accounts indicated:

* * *

3150892104 MH – Case Management Serv ~~$350,000.00~~ $350,199.34

* * *

1100892208 AOA – VT Housing Finance Agency	$3,000,000.00
1100892403 AOA – Health Equity Community Grants	$500,000.00
1120020000 Tuition Assistance Program	$133,877.86
1120892401 DHR – New Position in DHR Ops	$477,769.00
1120892402 DHR – New Position in VTHR Ops	$40,726.07
1140010000 Tax Operation Costs	$1,267,062.22
1140060000 Reappraisal and Listing Payments	$35,270.75
1140070000 Use Tax Reimbursement Program	$37,864.25
1140330000 Renter Rebates	$2,186,940.33
1140892403 Tax – Child Care Contr Positions	$3,591,823.02
1260892201 TRE – Bond Redemption	$2,000,000.00
1260980000 Debt Service	$235,445.15
1266892401 VPIC – Pension System Assets	$5,000.00
2100892201 AG – Racial Disparities	$48,465.00
2130400000 SIUS Parent Account	$395,749.64
2150010000 Mil Admin/TAGO	$142,789.80
2150050000 Mil Vet Affairs Office	$100,000.00
2160892201 CCVS – VT Forensic Nursing	$246.43
2160892304 CCVS – Kurn Hattin Survivor	$250.00
2200010000 Administration Division	$167,222.00
3310000000 Commission on Women	$25,390.43
3330892401 GMCB – VHCURES Database Implemen	$545,782.90
3400892111 Supp New Americans Refugee	$23,431.00
3400892301 AHSCO – Refugee Resettlement	$1,293.00
3420892405 HD – Regional Emergency Med	$8,295.01
3440050000 DCFS – AABD	$35,310.73
3440892110 DCF – Grants to Reachup	$5.10
3440892203 DCF – Parent Child Ctrs Cap Imp	$20,708.22
3440892214 DCF – Child Care Provider Workfor	$294.79

4100500000 VT Department of Labor	$8,000,000.00
5100070000 Education Services	$100,000.00
5100892101 AOE – VSC Committee Per Diem	$16,295.33
5100892102 AOA – Advisory Group Per Diem	$9,018.00
5100892103 AOE – ESESAG Per Diems	$8,960.00
5100892201 AOE – Comm Pub Sch Emp Hlth Ben	$29,050.00
5100892202 AOE – Task Force Equit Inclusive	$6,150.00
5100892302 AOE – Ethnic&Social Equity Per D	$14,386.24
6100010000 Administration Management and Planning	$402,052.99
6100040000 Property Tax Assessment Approp	$11,692.11
6140880005 152/00 State Asst Munic Poll Cont	$126.26
7100892301 Everyone Eats	$144,565.43
7120892304 DED – Relocated and Remote Worker	$127,314.33
8100002100 Department of Motor Vehicles	$2,482.81

* * *

(c) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, in fiscal year 2025, the following amounts shall revert to the Education Fund from the accounts indicated:

5100010000 Administration	$301,041.03
5100050000 State-Placed Students	$13,687,528.41
5100090000 Education Grant	$359,570.31
5100110000 Small School Grant	$593,700.00
5100200000 Education – Technical Education	$1,802,347.44
5100210000 Education – Flexible Pathways	$1,312,334.72
5100892405 AOE – Universal School Meals	$6,201,479.69

Sec. 55. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. D.103 is amended to read:

Sec. D.103 RESERVES

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, in fiscal year 2025, the following reserve transactions shall be implemented for the funds provided:

(1) General Fund.

(A) Pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 308, an estimated amount of ~~$15,168,663~~ $15,168,660.85 shall be added to the General Fund Budget Stabilization Reserve.

(B) $5,480,000 shall be added to the 27/53 reserve in fiscal year 2025. This action is the fiscal year 2025 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.

(C) Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 308b, $3,913,200 shall be unreserved from the Human Services Caseload Reserve established within the General Fund in 32 V.S.A. § 308b.

* * *

Sec. 56. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. E.100 is amended to read:

Sec. E.100 POSITIONS

(a) The establishment of ~~43~~ 47 permanent positions is authorized in fiscal year 2025 for the following:

(1) Permanent classified positions:

* * *

(H) Office of the Attorney General:

(i) one Court Diversion Assistant Director.

* * *

(2) Permanent exempt positions:

* * *

(G) Human Rights Commission:

(i) one Intake Specialist; and

(ii) one Staff Attorney Investigator.

(H) Office of the Attorney General:

(i) one Assistant Attorney General.

* * *

(d) The conversion of eight limited service positions to exempt permanent status is authorized in fiscal year 2025 as follows:

(1) Office of the Defender General:

(A) one Administrative Services Tech;

(B) two DG IT Specialist II's;

(C) one ODG Legal Assistant I;

(D) two Staff Attorney I's;

(E) one Financial Specialist III; and

(F) one Admin Secretary.

* * *

Sec. 57 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. E.100, as amended by 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 87, Sec. 56, is further amended to read:

Sec. E.100 EXECUTIVE BRANCH POSITIONS

(a) The establishment of 75 permanent positions is authorized in fiscal year 2024 for the following:

* * *

(2) Permanent exempt positions:

* * *

(F) Office of the State Treasurer:

(i) one Director – ~~VT Saves~~ Economic Empowerment Division; and

(ii) one Communications and Outreach Manager – ~~VT Saves~~ Economic Empowerment Division;

* * *

Sec. 58. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. E.301 is amended to read:

Sec. E.301 SECRETARY'S OFFICE; GLOBAL COMMITMENT

* * *

(b) In addition to the State funds appropriated in Sec. B.301 of this act, a total estimated sum of ~~$24,301,185~~ $28,307,335 is anticipated to be certified as State matching funds under Global Commitment as follows:

(1) ~~$21,295,850~~ $25,302,000 certified State match available from local education agencies for eligible special education school-based Medicaid services under Global Commitment. This amount, combined with ~~$29,204,150~~ $34,698,000 of federal funds appropriated in Sec. B.301 of this act, equals a total estimated expenditure of ~~$50,500,000~~ $60,000,000. 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) $3,005,335 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 ~~$4,487,210~~ $3,614,245 is transferred from the Agency of Human Services Federal Receipts Holding Account to the Interdepartmental Transfer Fund consistent with the amount appropriated in Sec. B.301 of this act.

Sec. 59. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. G.109 is amended to read:

Sec. G.109 PAY ACT APPROPRIATIONS; FISCAL YEARS 2025 AND 2026

(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, 2024 through June 30, 2026; the collective bargaining agreement with the Vermont Troopers' Association for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2026; and salary increases for employees in the Executive Branch not covered by the bargaining agreements shall be funded as follows:

(1) Fiscal year 2025.

* * *

(D) Transfers. With due regard to the possible availability of other funds, for fiscal year 2025, the Secretary of Administration may transfer from the various appropriations and various funds and from the receipts of the Liquor Control ~~Board~~ Fund 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 2026.

* * *

(D) Transfers. With due regard to the possible availability of other funds, for fiscal year 2026, the Secretary of Administration may transfer from the various appropriations and various funds and from the receipts of the Liquor Control ~~Board~~ Fund 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.

* * *

Sec. 60. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 145, Sec. 7 is amended to read:

Sec. 7. TELEPHONE TAX; REPEAL; TRANSITION

(a) 32 V.S.A. § 8521 (telephone personal property tax) is repealed on July 1, ~~2025~~ 2026. The final monthly installment payment of the telephone personal property tax under 32 V.S.A. § 8521 levied on the net book value of the taxpayer's personal property as of December 31, ~~2024~~ 2025 shall be due on or before July 25, ~~2025~~ 2026.

(b) 32 V.S.A. § 8522 (alternative telephone gross revenues tax) is repealed on January 1, ~~2026~~ 2027. The final quarterly payment of the alternative tax under 32 V.S.A. § 8522 shall be due on or before January 25, ~~2026~~ 2027.

(c) Any taxpayer who paid the alternative tax imposed by 32 V.S.A. § 8522 prior to the repeal of the tax on January 1, ~~2026~~ 2027 shall become subject to the income tax imposed under 32 V.S.A. chapter 151 beginning with the taxpayer's first income tax year starting on or after January 1, ~~2025~~ 2026. No alternative tax under 32 V.S.A. § 8522 shall be due for any period included in the taxpayer's income tax filing for tax years starting on or after January 1, ~~2025~~ 2026.

(d) In fiscal year ~~2025~~ 2026, the Division of Property Valuation and Review of the Department of Taxes and all communications service providers with taxable communications property in Vermont shall be subject to the inventory and valuation provisions prescribed in 32 V.S.A. § 4452, as applicable.

Sec. 61. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 145, Sec. 15 is amended to read:

Sec. 15. EFFECTIVE DATES

This act shall take effect on passage, except that:

* * *

(3) Secs. 8–12 (communications property tax) shall take effect on July 1, ~~2025~~ 2026 and shall apply to grand lists lodged on or after April 1, ~~2025~~ 2026.

Sec. 62. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 166, Sec. 15 is amended to read:

Sec. 15. TRANSFER AND APPROPRIATION

Notwithstanding 7 V.S.A. § 845(c), in fiscal year 2025:

(1) $500,000~~.00~~ is transferred from the Cannabis Regulation Fund established pursuant to 7 V.S.A. § 845 to the Cannabis Business Development Fund established pursuant to 7 V.S.A. § 987; and

(2) $500,000.00 is appropriated from the Cannabis Business ~~19~~ Development Fund to the ~~Agency of Commerce and Community Development~~ Department of Economic Development to fund technical assistance and provide loans and grants pursuant to 7 V.S.A. § 987.

Sec. 63. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 181, Sec. 78 is amended to read:

Sec. 78. ~~TRANSFERS; PROPERTY TRANSFER TAX~~

~~Notwithstanding 10 V.S.A. § 312, 24 V.S.A. § 4306(a), 32 V.S.A. § 9610(c), or any other provision of law to the contrary, amounts in excess of $32,954,775.00 from the property transfer tax shall be transferred into the General Fund. Of this amount:~~

~~(1) $6,106,335.00 shall be transferred from the General Fund into the Vermont Housing and Conservation Trust Fund.~~

~~(2) $1,279,740.00 shall be transferred from the General Fund into the Municipal and Regional Planning Fund.~~ [Repealed.]

Sec. 64. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 181, Sec. 96 is amended to read:

Sec. 96. APPROPRIATION; RENT ARREARS ASSISTANCE FUND

The sum of $2,500,000~~.00~~ is appropriated from the General Fund to the ~~Vermont State Housing Authority~~ Department of Housing and Community Development in fiscal year 2025 for the Rent Arrears Assistance Fund established by 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 47, Sec. 45.

Sec. 65. 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 182, Sec. 3, as amended by 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 3, Sec. 75, 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. C.119, and 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 181, Sec. 106, is further amended to read:

Sec. 3. MANUFACTURED HOME IMPROVEMENT AND REPAIR PROGRAM

(a) ~~Amounts~~ Of the amounts available from the American Rescue Plan Act – State Fiscal Recovery funds, $4,000,000 is appropriated to the Department of Housing and Community Development for the Manufactured Home Improvement and Repair Program and shall be used for one or more of the following purposes:

* * *

Sec. 66. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 181, Sec. 113b is amended to read:

Sec. 113b. APPROPRIATION; ~~NATURAL RESOURCES~~ LAND USE REVIEW BOARD

The sum of ~~$1,300,000.00~~ $400,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to the ~~Natural Resources~~ Land Use Review Board in fiscal year 2025.

Sec. 67. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 183, Sec. 24a is amended to read:

Sec. 24a. COMPENSATION FOR OVERPAYMENT

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, ~~the sum of $29,224.00~~ a $29,224 credit shall be ~~transferred from the Education Fund to the Town of~~ applied to the Canaan Town School District's education spending, as defined per 16 V.S.A. § 4001(6), in fiscal year 2025 to compensate the homestead taxpayers of the ~~Town of~~ Canaan Town School District for an overpayment of education taxes in fiscal year 2024 due to erroneous accounting of certain students for the purposes of calculating average daily membership. ~~The transfer under this subsection shall be made directly to the Town of Canaan.~~

(b) ~~Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the sum of $5,924.00 shall be transferred from the Education Fund to the Town of Bloomfield in fiscal year 2025 to compensate the homestead taxpayers of the Town of Bloomfield for an overpayment of education taxes in fiscal year 2024 due to erroneous accounting of certain students for the purposes of calculating average daily membership. The transfer under this subsection shall be made directly to the Town of Bloomfield.~~

~~(c) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the sum of $2,575.00 shall be transferred from the Education Fund to the Town of Brunswick in fiscal year 2025 to compensate the homestead taxpayers of the Town of Brunswick for an overpayment of education taxes in fiscal year 2024 due to erroneous accounting of certain students for the purposes of calculating average daily membership. The transfer under this subsection shall be made directly to the Town of Brunswick.~~

~~(d) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the sum of $6,145.00 shall be transferred from the Education Fund to the Town of East Haven in fiscal year 2025 to compensate the homestead taxpayers of the Town of East Haven for an overpayment of education taxes in fiscal year 2024 due to erroneous accounting of certain students for the purposes of calculating average daily membership. The transfer under this subsection shall be made directly to the Town of East Haven.~~

~~(e) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the sum of $2,046.00 shall be transferred from the Education Fund to the Town of Granby in fiscal year 2025 to compensate the homestead taxpayers of the Town of Granby for an overpayment of education taxes in fiscal year 2024 due to erroneous accounting of certain students for the purposes of calculating average daily membership. The transfer under this subsection shall be made directly to the Town of Granby.~~

~~(f) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the sum of $10,034.00 shall be transferred from the Education Fund to the Town of Guildhall in fiscal year 2025 to compensate the homestead taxpayers of the Town of Guildhall for an overpayment of education taxes in fiscal year 2024 due to erroneous accounting of certain students for the purposes of calculating average daily membership. The transfer under this subsection shall be made directly to the Town of Guildhall.~~

~~(g) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the sum of $20,536.00 shall be transferred from the Education Fund to the Town of Kirby in fiscal year 2025 to compensate the homestead taxpayers of the Town of Kirby for an overpayment of education taxes in fiscal year 2024 due to erroneous accounting of certain students for the purposes of calculating average daily membership. The transfer under this subsection shall be made directly to the Town of Kirby.~~

~~(h) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the sum of $2,402.00 shall be transferred from the Education Fund to the Town of Lemington in fiscal year 2025 to compensate the homestead taxpayers of the Town of Lemington for an overpayment of education taxes in fiscal year 2024 due to erroneous accounting of certain students for the purposes of calculating average daily membership. The transfer under this subsection shall be made directly to the Town of Lemington.~~

~~(i) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the sum of $11,464.00 shall be transferred from the Education Fund to the Town of Maidstone in fiscal year 2025 to compensate the homestead taxpayers of the Town of Maidstone for an overpayment of education taxes in fiscal year 2024 due to erroneous accounting of certain students for the purposes of calculating average daily membership. The transfer under this subsection shall be made directly to the Town of Maidstone.~~

~~(j) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the sum of $4,349.00 shall be transferred from the Education Fund to the Town of Norton in fiscal year 2025 to compensate the homestead taxpayers of the Town of Norton for an overpayment of education taxes in fiscal year 2024 due to erroneous accounting of certain students for the purposes of calculating~~

~~average daily membership. The transfer under this subsection shall be made directly to the Town of Norton.~~

~~(k) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the sum of $2,657.00 shall be transferred from the Education Fund to the Town of Victory in fiscal year 2025 to compensate the homestead taxpayers of the Town of Victory for an overpayment of education taxes in fiscal year 2024 due to erroneous accounting of certain students for the purposes of calculating average daily membership. The transfer under this subsection shall be made directly to the Town of Victory.~~

Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, a $68,132 credit shall be applied to the Northeast Kingdom Choice School District’s education spending, as defined per 16 V.S.A. § 4001(6), in fiscal year 2025 to compensate the homestead taxpayers of the Northeast Kingdom Choice School District for an overpayment of education taxes in fiscal year 2024 due to erroneous accounting of certain students for the purposes of calculating average daily membership.

Sec. 68. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. B.1100, as amended by 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 87, Sec. 40 and 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. C.101, is further amended to read:

Sec. B.1100 MISCELLANEOUS FISCAL YEAR 2024 ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS

(a) Agency of Administration. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) $2,300,000 General Fund to create, implement, and oversee a comprehensive statewide language access plan~~;~~.

(2) $15,000,000 General Fund to be used to offset the cost of denied claims for ~~Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)~~ federal reimbursement related to presidentially declared disasters in fiscal year 2024 or 2025, or to fund unanticipated statewide costs related to recovery efforts from declared disasters or administering programs created by funds from the American Rescue Plan Act – State Fiscal Recovery Fund, including the costs of related limited-service positions, and contracting for programs and services.

(3) $500,000 General Fund for community grants related to health equity. These funds shall not be released until the recommendation and report required by Sec. E.100.1 of this act, regarding the permanent administrative location for the Office of Health Equity, is provided to the committees of jurisdiction listed in Sec. E.100.1 of this act and the positions in the Office of Health Equity created by this act are filled.

* * *

(l) Agency of Human Services Central Office. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:

* * *

(2) $8,834,000 General Fund and $11,483,302 Federal Revenue Fund #22005 for a ~~two-year~~ pilot to expand the Blueprint for Health Hub and Spoke program. Funds shall be used to expand the substances covered by the program, include mental health and pediatric screenings, and make strategic investments with community partners; unexpended appropriations shall carry forward into subsequent fiscal years and remain available for this purpose;

* * *

(m) Department of Vermont Health Access. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) $366,066 General Fund and $372,048 Federal Revenue Fund #22005 for a ~~two-year~~ pilot to expand the Blueprint for Health Hub and Spoke program; unexpended appropriations shall carry forward into subsequent fiscal years and remain available for this purpose;

(2) $15,583,352 Global Commitment Fund #20405 for a ~~two-year~~ pilot to expand the Blueprint for Health Hub and Spoke program; unexpended appropriations shall carry forward into subsequent fiscal years and remain available for this purpose; and

* * *

(n) Department of Health. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) $4,595,448 Global Commitment Fund #20405 to the Division of Substance Use Programs for a ~~two-year~~ pilot to expand the Blueprint for Health Hub and Spoke program; unexpended appropriations shall carry forward into subsequent fiscal years and remain available for this purpose;

* * *

(x) Judiciary. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1)(A) $4,680,000 General Fund for the Judiciary network replacement project.

(B) Judiciary shall update the Joint Information Technology Oversight Committee on the status of this project on or before December 1, 2023.

(2) $300,000 General Fund for the Essex County Courthouse renovation planning. Of this amount, $50,000 may be used to construct bathrooms compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act in the Essex Meeting House.

* * *

(ee) Joint Fiscal Office. In fiscal year 2024, funds are appropriated for the following:

(1) $250,000 for ~~per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses for members of the Task Force on Economic Development Incentives and for consulting services approved by the Task Force~~ consulting services related to legislative needs identified in the 2025-2026 biennium, including analysis of legislative staff compensation and organizational structure and implementation of adjustments in accordance with policies adopted by the Joint Legislative Management Committee.

* * *

Sec. 69. 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. B.1102, as added by 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 3, Sec. 47, is amended to read:

Sec. B.1102 FISCAL YEAR 2023 ONE-TIME TECHNOLOGY MODERNIZATION SPECIAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS

(a) In fiscal year 2023, funds are appropriated from the Technology Modernization Special Fund (21951) for new and ongoing initiatives as follows:

(1) $40,010,000 to the Agency of Digital Services to be used as follows:

(A) $11,800,000 for Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system upgrade of Human Capital Management and core statewide financial accounting system and integration with the Department of Labor and Agency of Transportation financial systems;

* * *

Sec. 70. 3 V.S.A. § 3306 is amended to read:

§ 3306. TECHNOLOGY MODERNIZATION SPECIAL FUND

* * *

(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.

* * *

Sec. 71. WORKFORCE EDUCATION AND TRAINING FUND; REPEAL

(a) 10 V.S.A. § 543 (Workforce Education and Training Fund) is repealed.

Sec. 72. 18 V.S.A. § 9502 is amended to read:

§ 9502. TOBACCO TRUST FUND

(a)(1) The Tobacco Trust Fund is established in the Office of the State Treasurer for the purposes of creating a self-sustaining, perpetual fund for tobacco cessation and prevention that is not dependent upon tobacco sales volume.

(2) The Trust Fund shall ~~comprise~~ be composed of:

(A) ~~appropriations~~ transfers made by the General Assembly; and

(B) ~~transfers from the Litigation Settlement Fund pursuant to subdivision (b) of this section; and~~

~~(C)~~ contributions from any other source.

(3) The State Treasurer shall not disburse monies from the Trust Fund, except upon appropriation by the General Assembly. In any fiscal year, total appropriations from the Trust Fund shall not exceed seven percent of the fair market value of the Fund at the end of the prior fiscal year.

(4) The Trust Fund shall be administered by the State Treasurer. The Treasurer may invest monies in the Fund in accordance with the provisions of 32 V.S.A. § 434. All balances in the Fund at the end of the fiscal year shall be carried forward. Interest earned shall remain in the Fund. The Treasurer's annual financial report to the Governor and the General Assembly shall contain an accounting of receipts, disbursements, and earnings of the Fund.

(b) ~~Unless otherwise authorized by the General Assembly on or before June 30, 2000, and on June 30 of each subsequent fiscal year, any unencumbered balance in the Litigation Settlement Fund shall be transferred to the Trust Fund.~~ [Repealed.]

Sec. 73. 30 V.S.A. chapter 86 is amended to read:

CHAPTER 86. UNDERGROUND UTILITY DAMAGE PREVENTION SYSTEM

* * *

§ 7006. MARKING OF UNDERGROUND UTILITY FACILITIES

A company notified in accordance with section 7005 of this title shall, within ~~48~~ 72 hours, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays, of the receipt of the notice, mark the approximate location of its underground utility facilities in the area of the proposed excavation activities; provided, however, if the company advises the person that the proposed excavation area is of such length or size that the company cannot reasonably mark all of the underground utility facilities within ~~48~~ 72 hours, the person shall notify the company of the specific locations in which the excavation activities will first occur and the company shall mark facilities in those locations within ~~48~~ 72 hours and the remaining facilities within a reasonable time thereafter. A company and an excavator may by agreement fix a later time for the company's marking of the facilities, provided the marking is made prior to excavation activities. For the purposes of this chapter, the approximate location of underground facilities shall be marked with stakes, paint, or other physical means as designated by the Commission.

§ 7006a. MAINTENANCE OF UNDERGROUND UTILITY FACILITY MARKINGS

After a company has marked its underground facilities in accordance with section 7006 of this title, the excavator shall be responsible for maintenance of the designated markings. In the event said markings are obliterated, destroyed, or removed, the person engaged in excavation activities shall notify the System referred to in section 7002 of this title that remarking is needed. The System shall then notify all member companies whose facilities may be affected. The company shall within ~~48~~ 72 hours, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays, following receipt of the notice, remark the location of its underground utility facilities.

* * *

Sec. 74. 32 V.S.A. § 5 is amended to read:

§ 5. ACCEPTANCE OF GRANTS

(a) Definitions. As used in this section:

(1) "Loan" means a loan that is interest free or below market value.

(2) "State agency" means an Executive Branch agency, department, commission, office, or board.

* * *

Sec. 75. 32 V.S.A. § 706 is amended to read:

§ 706. TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS

Notwithstanding any authority granted elsewhere, all transfers of appropriations shall be made pursuant to this section upon the initiative of the Governor or upon the request of a secretary or commissioner.

(1) With the approval of the Governor, the Commissioner of Finance and Management may transfer balances of appropriations not to exceed ~~$50,000.00~~ $100,000 made under any appropriation act for the support of the government from one component of an agency, department, or other unit of State government to any component of the same agency, department, or unit.

(2) Except as specified in ~~subdivisions~~ subdivision (1) ~~and (4)~~ of this section, the transfer of balances of appropriations may be made only with the approval of the Emergency Board.

(3) For the specific purpose of balancing and closing out fund accounts at the end of a fiscal year, the Commissioner of Finance and Management may adjust a balance within an account of an agency or department in an amount not to exceed ~~$100.00~~ $200.

* * *

Sec. 76. 32 V.S.A. § 902 is amended to read:

§ 902. AUTHORIZATION TO BORROW MONEY

* * *

(b) The State Treasurer shall pay the interest on, principal of and expenses of preparing, issuing, and marketing of such notes as the same fall due without further order or authority from the ~~General Fund or from the Transportation or other applicable funds or from the proceeds of bonds or notes~~ governmental debt service funds established in section 951a of this chapter. The authority hereby granted is in addition to and not in limitation of any other authority. Such notes shall be sold at public or private sale with or without published notice, as the State Treasurer may determine to be in the best interests of the State.

Sec. 77. 32 V.S.A. § 951a is amended to read:

§ 951a. DEBT SERVICE FUNDS

(a) Three governmental debt service funds are hereby established:

* * *

(b) Financial resources in each fund shall consist of ~~appropriations by the General Assembly to fulfill debt service obligations,~~ the transfer of funding sources by the General Assembly to fulfill future debt service obligations, bond proceeds raised to fund a permanent reserve required by a trust agreement entered into to secure bonds, transfers of appropriations effected pursuant to section 706 of this title, investment income earned on balances held in trust agreement accounts as required by a trust agreement, and such other amounts as directed by the General Assembly or that are specifically authorized by provisions of this title. Each debt service fund shall account for the accumulation of resources and the fulfillment of debt service obligations within the current fiscal year and the accumulation of resources for debt service obligations maturing in future fiscal years.

* * *

Sec. 78. 32 V.S.A. § 954 is amended to read:

§ 954. PROCEEDS

(a) The proceeds arising from the sale of bonds, inclusive of any premiums, shall be applied to the purposes for which they were authorized, and the purposes ~~shall~~ may be considered to include ~~the expenses of preparing, issuing, and marketing the bonds and any notes issued under section 955 of this title, and~~ underwriters' fees and amounts for reserves, but no purchasers of the bonds shall be in any way bound to see to the proper application of the proceeds. The State Treasurer shall pay the interest on, principal of, investment return on, and maturity value of the bonds and notes as the same fall due or accrue without further order or authority. The State Treasurer, with the approval of the Governor, may establish sinking funds, reserve funds, or other special funds of the State as the State Treasurer may deem for the best interests of the State. To the extent not otherwise provided, the amount necessary each year to fulfill the maturing principal and interest of, investment return and maturity value of, and sinking fund installments on all the bonds then outstanding shall be included in and made a part of the annual appropriation bill for the expense of State government, and the principal and interest on, investment return and maturity value of, and sinking fund installments on the bonds as may come due before appropriations for their fulfillment have been made shall be fulfilled from the applicable debt service fund.

(b) The ~~State Treasurer is authorized to allocate the~~ estimated cost of bond issuance or issuances ~~to the entities to which funds are appropriated by a capital construction act and for which bonding is required as the source of funds. If estimated receipts are insufficient, the State Treasurer shall allocate additional costs to the entities. Any remaining receipts shall not be expended, but carried forward to be available for future capital construction acts. If the source of funds appropriated by a capital construction act is other than by issuance of bonds, the State Treasurer is authorized to allocate the estimated cost of ongoing debt management services to the entities to which those funds are appropriated~~ shall be appropriated annually from the funds from which transfers are made to fund debt service costs.

* * *

Sec. 79. VERMONT TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY FUND; REPEAL

<u>(a) 33 V.S.A. chapter 78 (Vermont Traumatic Brain Injury Fund) is repealed.</u>

Sec. 80. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 47, Sec. 38 is amended to read:

Sec. 38. RENTAL HOUSING REVOLVING LOAN PROGRAM

(a) Creation; administration. The Vermont Housing Finance Agency shall design and implement a Rental Housing Revolving Loan Program and shall create and administer a revolving loan fund to provide subsidized loans for rental housing developments that serve middle-income households.

(b) Loans; eligibility; criteria.

* * *

(7) The Agency shall use one or more legal mechanisms to ensure that:

(A) a subsidized unit remains affordable to a household earning the applicable percent of area median income for the longer of:

(i) seven years; or

(ii) full repayment of the loan plus three years; and

(B) during the affordability period determined pursuant to subdivision (A) of this subdivision (7), the annual increase in rent for a subsidized unit does not exceed three percent <u>or an amount otherwise authorized by the Agency</u>.

* * *

Sec. 81. 32 V.S.A. § 308b is amended to read:

§ 308b. HUMAN SERVICES CASELOAD RESERVE

(a) There is created within the General Fund a Human Services Caseload Reserve. Expenditures from the Reserve shall be subject to an appropriation by the General Assembly or approval by the Emergency Board. Expenditures from the Reserve shall be limited to Agency of Human Services caseload-related needs primarily in the Departments for Children and Families, of Health, of Mental Health, of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living, of Vermont Health Access, and settlement costs associated with managing the Global Commitment waiver.

(b) The Secretary of Administration may transfer to the Human Services Caseload Reserve any General Fund ~~carry-forward~~ <u>carryforward</u> directly attributable to Agency of Human Services caseload reductions and the effective management of related federal receipts, with the exclusion of the Department of Corrections.

(c) The Human Services Caseload Reserve shall contain two ~~sub-accounts~~ subaccounts:

(1) A ~~sub-account~~ subaccount for incurred but not reported Medicaid expenses. Each fiscal year ~~beginning with fiscal year 2020~~, the Department of Finance and Management shall adjust the amount reserved for incurred but not reported Medicaid expenses to equal the amount specified in the ~~Comprehensive~~ Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the fiscal year occurring two years prior for the estimated amount of incurred but not reported Medicaid expenses associated with the current Medicaid Global Commitment waiver.

* * *

Sec. 82. CHILD CARE CONTRIBUTION SPECIAL FUND; UNALLOCATED AND UNRESERVED BALANCE

(a) In fiscal year 2025, the Secretary of Administration shall unreserve and transfer funds from the Human Services Caseload Reserve to the Child Care Contribution Special Fund established in 32 V.S.A. § 10554 as necessary to maintain a balance that appropriately supports the State's statutory obligations under the Child Care Financial Assistance Program established in 33 V.S.A. §§ 3512 and 3513.

(b) It is the intent of the General Assembly that any unreserved and unallocated balance in the Child Care Contribution Special Fund shall remain in the Fund to support the future establishment of a reserve for the Child Care Financial Assistance Program.

Sec. 83. DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS; FACILITY WORK PROGRAMS; STRATEGIC PLAN

(a) Findings and intent.

(1) The General Assembly finds that a significant budget deficit has developed within previously existing programs despite a wage structure that pays incarcerated individuals in Vermont at rates ranging from $0.25 to $1.35 per hour, significantly below the federal minimum wage.

(2) It is the intent of the General Assembly that all Department of Corrections facility work programs operate in a manner that is fiscally sustainable to the extent possible within current statutory limitations and effective in preparing offenders for meaningful employment upon release.

(b) Strategic plan. On or before December 15, 2025, the Department of Corrections shall, in consultation with the Department of Labor, submit a strategic plan with proposed benchmarks for improvement to the House Committees on Appropriations and on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committees on Appropriations, on Institutions, and on Judiciary. The strategic plan shall include:

(1) A business plan to improve program efficiency and self-sustainability to ensure all facility work programs, including Vermont Correctional Industries, vocational training programs, and other paid facility duties, operate without recurring deficits or to clearly identify funding sources to address the deficits.

(2) A comprehensive evaluation of the skills provided through facility work programs to determine if those skills are transferable to employment opportunities post-incarceration. The evaluation shall include consideration of expanding technical training and certification opportunities that carry recognized value in the labor market.

(3) An analysis of facility work programs to determine if each program serves a sufficient portion of the incarcerated population to justify its administration. The analysis shall also consider whether participants gain meaningful and valuable work experiences.

(4) A review of wages paid to facility work program participants, the implications of wage structures on program outcomes, and the appropriate use of funds in relation to program objectives.

(c) In fiscal years 2025 and 2026, the Department of Corrections shall submit timely reports to the House Committees on Appropriations and on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committees on Appropriations, on Institutions, and on Judiciary, or the Joint Fiscal Committee and the Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee when the General Assembly is not in session, on the development of facility work program deficits. The Department shall include in these reports any financial or operational actions taken to address deficits, increase oversight, and prevent future deficits.

Sec. 84. MEDICAID PROVIDERS WITH STABILIZATION NEEDS; GRANT ELIGIBILITY

(a) All Vermont Medicaid participating providers with demonstrated stabilization needs and a plan to achieve sustainability shall be eligible to apply for funds appropriated pursuant to 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.1100(o)(4), including substance use residential treatment facilities, federally qualified health centers, residential mental health providers, and other providers of health care and human services.

(b) On or before December 15, 2025, the Department of Vermont Health Access shall submit a report to the House Committees on Health Care and on Appropriations and the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Appropriations. The report shall include:

(1) A detailed account of grants distributed pursuant to the appropriation made in 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. B.1100(o)(4), as added by this act. This shall include the dollar amount and recipient of each grant.

(2) A description of each grant recipient's financial status prior to receipt of the grant, a summary of the impact of the grant for each recipient, and a summary of a revised long-term sustainability plan for each grant recipient.

(3) An analysis of grant outcomes and any recommendations for enhancing the financial stability of Vermont Medicaid providers.

Sec. 85. ADULT DIPLOMA PROGRAM AND HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION PROGRAM TRANSITIONAL STUDENTS

(a) Notwithstanding 16 V.S.A. § 945 and any other provision of law to the contrary, a high school may award a high school diploma to any student who meets the following criteria:

(1) Prior to July 1, 2024, the student was participating in the High School Completion Program as the program existed under 16 V.S.A. § 943 on June 30, 2024.

(2) The student has met the requirements of the student's individual graduation plan and would have been eligible to receive a diploma pursuant to the High School Completion Program as it existed under 16 V.S.A. § 943 on June 30, 2024.

(b) This section is repealed on July 1, 2025.

Sec. 86. SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM; DISCRETIONARY EXEMPTIONS

(a) For the remainder of federal fiscal year 2025, the Department for Children and Families shall utilize the State's allocation of discretionary exemptions in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program to the extent permitted by federal regulation for the purposes of:

(1) extending benefits to Program participants who would otherwise experience a disruption of benefits; and

(2) ensuring that Program participants are not accruing any time-limited benefit work requirement countable months.

Sec. 87. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 19, Secs. 5 and 6 are amended to read:

Sec. 5. [Deleted.]

Sec. 6. EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) Sec. 4 (marriage licenses; 32 V.S.A. § 1712) shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

(b) ~~Sec. 5 (marriage licenses; 32 V.S.A. § 1712) shall take effect on July 1, 2025.~~

~~(c)~~ All other sections shall take effect 30 calendar days after passage.

Sec. 88. 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 83, Sec. 53, as amended by 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. C.102 is further amended to read:

Sec. 53. FISCAL YEAR 2022 UNALLOCATED RESERVE

* * *

(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:

* * *

(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~~, $4,920,000 is to replace HVAC in county court houses, and $800,000 is to upgrade the network wiring and security systems in county court houses.

* * *

Sec. 89. 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 69, Sec. 15b, as added by 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 162, is amended to read:

Sec. 15b. SERGEANT AT ARMS

(a) The sum of ~~$100,000.00~~ $100,000 is appropriated in ~~FY~~ fiscal year 2025 to the Sergeant at Arms for the following projects:

(1) the replacement of State House cafeteria furnishings; and

(2) the purchase and installation at the State House of an X-ray machine designed to screen baggage.

Sec. 90. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. E.321 is amended to read:

Sec. E.321 GENERAL ASSISTANCE EMERGENCY HOUSING

* * *

(b)(1) General Assistance Emergency Housing shall be provided in a community-based shelter whenever possible. If there is inadequate community-based shelter space available within the Agency of Human Services district in which the household presents itself, the household shall be provided emergency housing in a hotel or motel within the district, if available, until adequate community-based shelter space becomes available in the district. The utilization of hotel and motel rooms pursuant to this subdivision shall be capped at 1,100 rooms per night between September 15, 2024 through November 30, 2024 ~~and between April 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025~~.

* * *

(3) The Department shall provide emergency winter housing to households meeting the eligibility criteria in subsection (a) of this section between December 1, 2024 and ~~March 31,~~ June 30, 2025. Emergency housing in a hotel or motel provided pursuant to this subdivision shall not count toward the maximum days of eligibility per 12-month period provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection.

* * *

Sec. 91. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 82, Sec. 1, as amended by 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 108, Sec. 3, is further amended to read:

Sec. 1. REIMBURSEMENT TO MUNICIPALITIES OF STATE EDUCATION PROPERTY TAXES THAT WERE ABATED DUE TO FLOODING

(a)(1) The Commissioner of Taxes may approve an application by a municipality for reimbursement of State education property tax payments owed under 32 V.S.A. § 5402(c) and 16 V.S.A. § 426. To be eligible for reimbursement under this section, prior to November 15, ~~2024~~ 2025, a municipality must have abated, in proportion to the abated municipal tax, under 24 V.S.A. § 1535 the State education property taxes that were assessed on eligible property, after application of any property tax credit allowed under 32 V.S.A. chapter 154.

(2) As used in this subsection, "eligible property" means property lost or destroyed due directly or indirectly to severe storms and flooding in an area that was declared a federal disaster between July 1, 2023 and ~~October 15, 2023~~ December 31, 2024, provided the loss or destruction resulted in one or more of the following:

(A) a 50 percent or greater loss in value to the primary structure on the property;

(B) loss of use by the property owner of the primary structure on the property for 60 days or more;

(C) loss of access by the property owner to utilities for the primary structure on the property for 60 days or more; or

(D) condemnation of the primary structure on the property under federal, State, or municipal law, as applicable.

(b) If a municipality demonstrates that, due to disruption to tax collections resulting from flooding in an area that was declared a federal disaster between July 1, 2023 and ~~October 15, 2023~~ December 31, 2024, the municipality incurred unanticipated interest expenses on funds borrowed to make State education property tax payments owed under 32 V.S.A. § 5402(c) and 16 V.S.A. § 426, the municipality may be reimbursed by an amount equal to its reasonable interest expenses under this subsection, provided the amount of reimbursed interest expenses shall not exceed eight percent.

* * *

Sec. 92. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 113, Sec. E.106 is amended to read:

Sec. E.106 CORONAVIRUS STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND APPROPRIATIONS; REVERSION AND ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW SPENDING AUTHORITY

* * *

(b) The Commissioner of Finance and Management shall revert all unobligated American Rescue Plan Act – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund spending authority prior to December 31, 2024. The total amount of American Rescue Plan Act – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund spending authority reverted in accordance with this subsection shall equal the amount of new spending authority established pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 511 for the following purposes in the following order:

* * *

(3) $30,000,000 to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board to provide support and enhance capacity for the production and preservation of: affordable mixed-income rental housing and homeownership units~~,~~ including improvements to manufactured homes and communities~~,~~; permanent homes and emergency shelter for those experiencing homelessness~~,~~; recovery residences~~,~~; and housing available to farm workers, refugees, and individuals who are eligible to receive Medicaid-funded home and community based services.

Sec. 93. CARRYFORWARD AUTHORITY

(a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law and subject to the approval of the Secretary of Administration, General Fund, Transportation Fund, Transportation Infrastructure Bond Fund, Education Fund, Technology Modernization Special Fund (21951), Clean Water Fund (21932), and Agricultural Water Quality Fund (21933) appropriations remaining unexpended on June 30, 2025 in the Executive Branch shall be carried forward and shall be designated for expenditure.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law to the contrary, General Fund appropriations remaining unexpended on June 30, 2025 in the Legislative and Judicial Branches shall be carried forward and shall be designated for expenditure.

Sec. 94. EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) This act shall take effect on passage, except that, notwithstanding 1 V.S.A. § 214:

(1) Sec. 67 shall take effect retroactively on July 1, 2024; and

(2) Sec. 91 shall take effect retroactively on November 15, 2024.

And by renumbering all of the sections of the bill to be numerically correct (including internal references) and adjusting all of the totals to be arithmetically correct.

ANDREW J. PERCHLIK
VIRGINIA V. LYONS

Committee on the part of the Senate

ROBIN P. SCHEU
TIFFANY BLUEMLE
TREVOR J. SQUIRRELL

Committee on the part of the House

Which was considered and adopted on the part of the House.

On motion of **Rep. McCoy of Poultney**, the bill was ordered delivered to the Governor forthwith pursuant to Joint Rule 15.

Second Reading; Consideration Interrupted; Amendment Offered; Bill Amended; Third Reading Ordered

H. 2

Rep. LaLonde of South Burlington, for the Committee on Judiciary, to which had been referred House bill, entitled

An act relating to increasing the minimum age for delinquency proceedings

Reported in favor of its passage when amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

* * * Family Division Delinquency Jurisdiction * * *

Sec. 1. 33 V.S.A. § 5102 is amended to read:

§ 5102. DEFINITIONS AND PROVISIONS OF GENERAL APPLICATION

As used in the juvenile judicial proceedings chapters:

* * *

(2) "Child" means any of the following:

* * *

(C) an individual who has been alleged to have committed or has committed an act of delinquency after becoming ~~10~~ 12 years of age and prior to becoming 22 years of age, unless otherwise provided in chapter 52 or 52A of this title; provided, however~~:~~

~~(i) that an individual who is alleged to have committed an act before attaining 10 years of age that would be murder as defined in 13 V.S.A. § 2301 if committed by an adult may be subject to delinquency proceedings; and~~

~~(ii)~~, that an individual may be considered a child for the period of time the court retains jurisdiction under section 5104 of this title.

* * *

Sec. 2. 33 V.S.A. § 5103(c) is amended to read:

(c)(1) Except as otherwise provided by this title and by subdivision (2) of this subsection, jurisdiction over a child shall not be extended beyond the child's 18th birthday.

(2)(A) Jurisdiction over a child with a delinquency may be extended until six months beyond the child's:

(i) ~~19th~~ 20th birthday if the child was 16 or 17 years of age when ~~he or she~~ the child committed the offense; or

(ii) ~~20th~~ 21st birthday if the child was 18 years of age when ~~he or she~~ the child committed the offense.

* * *

* * * Raise the Age * * *

Sec. 3. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 125, Secs. 7–11 are amended to read:

Sec. 7. [Deleted.]

Sec. 8. [Deleted.]

Sec. 9. [Deleted.]

Sec. 10. [Deleted.]

Sec. 11. [Deleted.]

Sec. 4. 2024 Acts and Resolves No. 125, Sec. 21 is amended to read:

Sec. 21. EFFECTIVE DATES

* * *

(b) ~~Secs. 7–11 shall take effect on April 1, 2025.~~ [Deleted.]

Sec. 5. 33 V.S.A. § 5201(d) is amended to read:

(d) Any proceeding concerning a child who is alleged to have committed any offense other than those specified in subsection 5204(a) of this title or subdivision (c)(2) or (3) of this section before attaining ~~19~~ 20 years of age shall originate in the Family Division of the Superior Court, provided that jurisdiction may be transferred in accordance with this chapter.

Sec. 6. 33 V.S.A. § 5203 is amended to read:

§ 5203. TRANSFER FROM OTHER COURTS

(a) If it appears to a Criminal Division of the Superior Court that the defendant was under ~~19~~ 20 years of age at the time the offense charged was alleged to have been committed and the offense charged is an offense not specified in subsection 5204(a) or subdivision 5201(c)(2) or (3) of this title, that court shall forthwith transfer the proceeding to the Family Division of the Superior Court under the authority of this chapter, and the minor shall then be considered to be subject to this chapter as a child charged with a delinquent act.

* * *

(c) If it appears to the State's Attorney that the defendant was under ~~19~~ 20 years of age at the time the felony offense charged was alleged to have been committed and the felony charged is not an offense specified in subsection

5204(a) or subdivision 5201(c)(2) or (3) of this title, the State's Attorney shall file charges in the Family Division of the Superior Court, pursuant to section 5201 of this title. The Family Division may transfer the proceeding to the Criminal Division pursuant to section 5204 of this title.

* * *

Sec. 7. 33 V.S.A. § 5204 is amended to read:

§ 5204. TRANSFER FROM FAMILY DIVISION OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(a) After a petition has been filed alleging delinquency, upon motion of the State's Attorney and after hearing, the Family Division of the Superior Court may transfer jurisdiction of the proceeding to the Criminal Division of the Superior Court if the child had attained 16 years of age but not ~~19~~ 20 years of age at the time the act was alleged to have occurred and the delinquent act set forth in the petition is a felony not specified in subdivisions (1)–(11) of this subsection or if the child had attained 12 years of age but not 14 years of age at the time the act was alleged to have occurred, and if the delinquent act set forth in the petition was any of the following:

* * *

Sec. 8. 33 V.S.A. § 5103(c) is amended to read:

(c)(1) Except as otherwise provided by this title and by subdivision (2) of this subsection, jurisdiction over a child shall not be extended beyond the child's 18th birthday.

(2)(A) Jurisdiction over a child with a delinquency may be extended:

(i) until six months beyond the child's:

~~(i)~~(I) 20th birthday if the child was 16 or 17 years of age when the child committed the offense; or

~~(ii)~~(II) 21st birthday if the child was 18 years of age when the child committed the offense; or

(ii) until the child's 22nd birthday if the child was 19 years of age when the child committed the offense.

* * *

Sec. 9. 33 V.S.A. § 5206 is amended to read:

§ 5206. CITATION OF 16- TO ~~18-YEAR OLDS~~ 19-YEAR-OLDS

(a)(1) If a child was over 16 years of age and under ~~19~~ 20 years of age at the time the offense was alleged to have been committed and the offense is not specified in subsection (b) of this section, law enforcement shall cite the child to the Family Division of the Superior Court.

* * *

Sec. 10. AGENCY OF HUMAN SERVICES PROGRESS REPORTS

(a) On or before July 1, 2026 and December 1, 2026, the Agency of Human Services shall report to the Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee, the Senate and House Committees on Judiciary, the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions, the Senate Committee on Institutions, the House Committee on Human Services, and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare on its progress toward implementing the requirement of this act that the Raise the Age initiative take effect on July 1, 2027. The progress reports required by this section shall describe progress toward implementation of the Raise the Age initiative, as measured by qualitative and quantitative data related to the following priorities:

(1) establishing a secure residential facility;

(2) expanding capacity for nonresidential treatment programs to provide community-based services;

(3) ensuring that residential treatment programs are used appropriately and to their full potential;

(4) expanding capacity for Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) contracts;

(5) expanding capacity for the provision of services to children with developmental disabilities;

(6) establishing a stabilization program for children who are experiencing a mental health crisis;

(7) enhancing long-term treatment for children;

(8) programming to help children, particularly 18- and 19-year-olds, transition to adulthood;

(9) developing district-specific data and information on family services workforce development, including turnover, retention, and vacancy rates; times needed to fill open positions; training opportunities and needs; and instituting a positive culture for employees;

(10) installation of a comprehensive child welfare information system; and

(11) plans for and measures taken to secure funding for the goals listed in this section.

(b) The report required by this section shall provide utilization data for the Red Clover Treatment Facility, including how many youths utilize the Facility on a monthly and annual basis, the length of stay, the treatment needs of the youths who are placed at the Facility, racial and gender demographic data for youths who are placed at the Facility, and any other data deemed relevant by the Department.

(c) Failure to meet one or more of the progress report elements listed in subsection (a) of this section shall not be a basis for extending the implementation of the Raise the Age initiative beyond July 1, 2027.

* * * Effective Dates * * *

Sec. 11. EFFECTIVE DATES; APPLICABILITY

(a) Secs. 1, 2, and 10 shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

(b) Secs. 3 and 4 and this section shall take effect on March 31, 2025.

(c) Secs. 5–9 shall take effect on July 1, 2027.

The bill, having appeared on the Notice Calendar, was taken up, and read the second time.

At two o'clock and eight minutes in the afternoon, the Speaker declared a recess until the fall of the gavel.

At two o'clock and thirty-six minutes in the afternoon, the Speaker called the House to order.

Pending the question, Shall the bill be amended as recommended by the Committee on Judiciary?, **Rep. Maguire of Rutland City** moved to amend the report of the Committee on Judiciary as follows:

First: By striking Secs. 5–11 and their reader assistance headings in their entirety.

Second: By inserting a new Sec. 5 and reader assistance heading to read as follows:

* * * Effective Dates * * *

Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) Secs. 1 and 2 shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

(b) Secs. 3 and 4 and this section shall take effect on March 31, 2025.

Pending the question, Shall the report of the Committee on Judiciary be amended as offered by Rep. Maguire of Rutland City?, **Rep. Maguire of Rutland City** demanded the Yeas and Nays, which demand was sustained by the Constitutional number. The Clerk proceeded to call the roll and the question, Shall the report of the Committee on Judiciary be amended as offered by Rep. Maguire of Rutland City?, was decided in the negative. Yeas, 55. Nays, 86.

Those who voted in the affirmative are:

Bailey of Hyde Park
Bartley of Fairfax
Bosch of Clarendon
Boutin of Barre City
Burditt of West Rutland
Burtt of Cabot
Canfield of Fair Haven
Casey of Hubbardton
Charlton of Chester
Coffin of Cavendish
Demar of Enosburgh
Dickinson of St. Albans Town
Dobrovich of Williamstown
Dolgin of St. Johnsbury
Donahue of Northfield
Feltus of Lyndon
Galfetti of Barre Town
Goslant of Northfield
Gregoire of Fairfield
Hango of Berkshire
Harrison of Chittenden
Harvey of Castleton
Higley of Lowell
Howland of Rutland Town
Kascenska of Burke
Keyser of Rutland City
Labor of Morgan
Laroche of Franklin
Luneau of St. Albans City
Maguire of Rutland City
Malay of Pittsford
Marcotte of Coventry
McCoy of Poultney
McFaun of Barre Town
Micklus of Milton
Morgan, L. of Milton
Morgan, M. of Milton
Morrissey of Bennington
Nelson of Derby
Nielsen of Brandon
North of Ferrisburgh
Page of Newport City
Parsons of Newbury
Pinsonault of Dorset
Powers of Waterford
Pritchard of Pawlet
Quimby of Lyndon
Southworth of Walden
Steady of Milton
Sweeney of Shelburne
Tagliavia of Corinth
Taylor of Milton
Toof of St. Albans Town
Walker of Swanton
Winter of Ludlow

Those who voted in the negative are:

Arsenault of Williston
Austin of Colchester
Bartholomew of Hartland
Berbeco of Winooski
Birong of Vergennes
Bishop of Colchester
Black of Essex
Bluemle of Burlington
Bos-Lun of Westminster
Boyden of Cambridge
Brady of Williston
Brown of Richmond
Burke of Brattleboro
Burkhardt of South Burlington
Burrows of West Windsor
Campbell of St. Johnsbury
Duke of Burlington
Durfee of Shaftsbury
Emmons of Springfield
Garofano of Essex
Goldman of Rockingham
Goodnow of Brattleboro
Graning of Jericho
Greer of Bennington
Harple of Glover
Headrick of Burlington
Holcombe of Norwich
Hooper of Randolph
Hooper of Burlington
Houghton of Essex Junction
Howard of Rutland City
Hunter of Manchester
James of Manchester
Kimbell of Woodstock
Mihaly of Calais
Minier of South Burlington
Morris of Springfield
Morrow of Weston
Mrowicki of Putney
Nigro of Bennington
Noyes of Wolcott
Nugent of South Burlington
O'Brien of Tunbridge
Ode of Burlington
Olson of Starksboro
Pezzo of Colchester
Pouech of Hinesburg
Priestley of Bradford
Satcowitz of Randolph
Scheu of Middlebury
Sheldon of Middlebury
Sibilia of Dover

Carris-Duncan of Whitingham
Casey of Montpelier
Chapin of East Montpelier
Christie of Hartford
Cina of Burlington
Cole of Hartford
Conlon of Cornwall
Cooper of Pownal
Corcoran of Bennington
Critchlow of Colchester
Dodge of Essex
Dolan of Essex Junction
Kleppner of Burlington
Kornheiser of Brattleboro
Krasnow of South Burlington
Lalley of Shelburne
LaLonde of South Burlington
LaMont of Morristown
Long of Newfane
Masland of Thetford
McCann of Montpelier
McGill of Bridport
Squirrell of Underhill
Stevens of Waterbury
Stone of Burlington
Surprenant of Barnard
Tomlinson of Winooski
Torre of Moretown
Waszazak of Barre City
Waters Evans of Charlotte
White of Waitsfield
White of Bethel
Wood of Waterbury
Yacovone of Morristown

Those members absent with leave of the House and not voting are:

Branagan of Georgia
Cordes of Bristol
Eastes of Guilford
Lipsky of Stowe
Logan of Burlington
Oliver of Sheldon
Rachelson of Burlington
Wells of Brownington

Thereupon, the report of the Committee on Judiciary was agreed to, and third reading ordered.

Second Reading; Bill Amended; Third Reading Ordered

H. 21

Rep. Malay of Pittsford, for the Committee on Judiciary, to which had been referred House bill, entitled

An act relating to service of writs of possession

Reported in favor of its passage when amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 12 V.S.A. § 4854 is amended to read:

§ 4854. JUDGMENT FOR PLAINTIFF; WRIT OF POSSESSION

If the court finds that the plaintiff is entitled to possession of the premises, the plaintiff shall have judgment for possession and rents due, damages, and costs, and when a written rental agreement so provides, the court may award reasonable attorney's fees. A writ of possession shall issue on the date judgment is entered, unless the court for good cause orders a stay. The writ shall direct ~~the~~ <u>any</u> sheriff ~~of the county in which the property or a portion thereof is located~~ to serve the writ upon the defendant and, not earlier than 14 days after the writ is served, to put the plaintiff into possession.

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

<u>This act shall take effect on passage.</u>

The bill, having appeared on the Notice Calendar, was taken up, read the second time, the report of the Committee on Judiciary agreed to, and third reading ordered.

Second Reading; Bill Amended; Third Reading Ordered

H. 105

Rep. Goodnow of Brattleboro, for the Committee on Judiciary, to which had been referred House bill, entitled

An act relating to expanding the Youth Substance Awareness Safety Program

Reported in favor of its passage when amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 7 V.S.A. § 656 is amended to read:

§ 656. PERSON ~~16~~ 12 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER AND UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE MISREPRESENTING AGE, PROCURING, POSSESSING, OR CONSUMING ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES; IMPAIRED DRIVING; CIVIL VIOLATION

(a) Prohibited conduct; ~~offense~~ offenses.

(1) Prohibited conduct. A person ~~16~~ 12 years of age or older and under 21 years of age shall not:

(A) Falsely represent the person's age for the purpose of procuring or attempting to procure malt or vinous beverages, ready-to-drink spirits beverages, spirits, or fortified wines from any licensee, State liquor agency, or other person or persons.

(B) Possess malt or vinous beverages, ready-to-drink spirits beverages, spirits, or fortified wines for the purpose of consumption by the person or other minors, except in the regular performance of duties as an employee of a licensee licensed to sell alcoholic liquor.

(C) Consume malt or vinous beverages, ready-to-drink spirits beverages, spirits, or fortified wines. A violation of this subdivision may be prosecuted in a jurisdiction where the ~~minor~~ person has consumed malt or vinous beverages, ready-to-drink spirits beverages, spirits, or fortified wines or in a jurisdiction where the indicators of consumption are observed.

(D) Operate, attempt to operate, or be in actual physical control on a highway of a vehicle when the person's blood alcohol concentration is 0.02 or more.

(2) ~~Offense~~ Procurement, possession, or consumption penalties. A person who knowingly violates ~~subdivision~~ any of subdivisions (1)(A)–(C) of this subsection commits a civil violation and shall be referred to the Court Diversion Program for the purpose of enrollment in the Youth Substance Awareness Safety Program. A person who fails to complete the program successfully commits a civil violation under the jurisdiction of the Judicial Bureau and shall be subject to the following:

(A) a civil penalty of $300.00 and suspension of the person's operator's license and privilege to operate a motor vehicle for a period of 30 days, for a first offense; and

(B) a civil penalty of not more than $600.00 and suspension of the person's operator's license and privilege to operate a motor vehicle for a period of 90 days, for a second or subsequent offense.

(3) Impaired driver penalties.

(A) A person who violates subdivision (1)(D) of this subsection (a) commits a civil violation, shall be referred to the Court Diversion Program for the purpose of enrollment in the Youth Substance Awareness Safety Program, and shall serve a suspension of the person's operator's license and privilege to operate a motor vehicle in accordance with subdivision (B) of this subdivision (3). A person who fails to complete the Program successfully commits a civil violation under the jurisdiction of the Judicial Bureau and shall be subject to the following:

(i) For a first offense, a civil penalty of $300.00 and suspension of the person's operator's license and privilege to operate a motor vehicle for a period of 180 days and compliance with the requirements of 23 V.S.A. § 1209a(a)(1).

(ii) For a second or subsequent offense, a civil penalty of $600.00 and suspension of the person's operator's license for a period of one year or until the person reaches 21 years of age, whichever is longer, and compliance with the requirements of 23 V.S.A. § 1209a(a)(2).

(iii) A person who violates subdivision (1)(D) of this subsection (a) may also be subject to recall of the person's provisional license under 23 V.S.A. § 607a.

(iv) If a law enforcement officer has reasonable grounds to believe that a person is violating subdivision (1)(D) of this subsection (a), the officer may request the person to submit to a breath test using a preliminary screening device approved by the Commissioner of Public Safety. A refusal to submit to the breath test shall be considered a violation of subdivision (1)(D) of this subsection (a). Notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary in 23 V.S.A. §§ 1202 and 1203 of this title:

(I) the results of the test shall be admissible evidence in a proceeding under this section; and

(II) there shall be no statutory right to counsel prior to the administration of the test.

(v) In a proceeding under this section, if there was at any time within two hours after operating, attempting to operate, or being in actual physical control of a vehicle on a highway a blood alcohol concentration of 0.02 or more, it shall be a rebuttable presumption that the person's blood alcohol concentration was 0.02 or more at the time of operating, attempting to operate, or being in actual physical control.

(vi) No points shall be assessed for a violation of subdivision (1)(D) of this subsection (a).

(vii) The Alcohol and Driving Program required under this section shall be administered by the Department of Health's Division of Substance Use Programs and shall take into consideration any particular treatment needs of operators under 21 years of age.

(viii) An alleged violation of this section shall not bar prosecution for any crime, including a prosecution under 23 V.S.A. § 1201.

(ix) Suspensions imposed under this subdivision (3)(A) or any comparable statute of any other jurisdiction shall run concurrently with suspensions imposed under 23 V.S.A. §§ 1205, 1206, and 1208 or any comparable statutes of any other jurisdiction or with any suspension resulting from a conviction for a violation of 23 V.S.A. § 1091 from the same incident.

(B)(i) For a first offense, a person shall serve suspension of the person's operator's license and privilege to operate a motor vehicle for a period of 90 days and shall be automatically reinstated after the 90-day period.

(ii) For a second or subsequent offense, a person shall serve a suspension of the person's operator's license and privilege to operate a motor vehicle for a period 145 days and shall be automatically reinstated after the 145-day period.

(iii) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall issue a notice of reinstatement to the person serving a suspension under this subdivision (a)(3)(B) upon successful completion of the suspension.

(iv) If a person fails to complete the Youth Substance Awareness Safety Program, the person shall receive credit for any elapsed period of a suspension served pursuant to this subdivision (3)(B) against any suspension imposed pursuant to subdivision (A) of this subdivision (3).

(C) During a suspension issued pursuant to subdivisions (A) or (B) of this subdivision (3), a person may operate a motor vehicle if issued an ignition interlock restricted driver's license or certificate in accordance with 23 V.S.A. § 1213.

(i) A person subject to penalties under subdivision (A)(i) of this subdivision (3) and who elects to operate a motor vehicle with an ignition interlock RDL or certificate shall be reinstated only if the person operates with an ignition interlock RDL or certificate for a period of 180 days, in addition to any extension of this period arising from a violation of 23 V.S.A. § 1213.

(ii) A person subject to penalties under subdivision (A)(i) of this subdivision (3) and who elects to operate a motor vehicle with an ignition interlock RDL or certificate shall be reinstated only if the person operates with an ignition interlock RDL or certificate for a period of one year or until the person reaches 21 years of age, whichever is longer, in addition to any extension of this period arising from a violation of 23 V.S.A. § 1213.

(b) Issuance of notice of violation. A law enforcement officer shall issue a person who violates this section a notice of violation, in a form approved by the Court Administrator. A person shall not be cited for more than one violation of subsection (a) of this section arising out of the same incident. The notice of violation shall require the person to provide the person's name and address and shall explain procedures under this section, including that:

(1) the person shall contact the Diversion Program in the county where the offense occurred within 15 days;

(2) failure to contact the Diversion Program within 15 days will result in the case being referred to the Judicial Bureau, where the person, if found liable for the violation, will be subject to a civil penalty and a suspension of the person's operator's license and may face substantially increased insurance rates;

(3) no money should be submitted to pay any penalty until after adjudication; and

(4) the person shall notify the Diversion Program if the person's address changes.

(c) Issuance of Notice of Suspension.

(1) On behalf of the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, a law enforcement officer issuing a notice of violation in accordance with subsection (b) of this section shall also serve a notice of suspension of the person's operator's license and privilege to operate a motor vehicle in a form prescribed by the Court Administrator. The form shall include the following:

(A) the effective date of the suspension;

(B) the suspension's duration;

(C) an explanation of the consequences of the suspension;

(D) an explanation of the process to operate a motor vehicle with an ignition interlock restricted driver's license or certificate in accordance with 23 V.S.A. § 1213; and

(E) the projected date of reinstatement upon successful completion of the suspension.

(2) A suspension issued pursuant to subdivision (a)(3)(B) of this section shall become effective on the 11th day after the person receives notice in accordance with this subsection (c).

(3) A copy of the notice of suspension shall be sent to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles.

(d) Summons and complaint. When a person is issued a notice of violation under this section, the law enforcement officer shall complete a summons and complaint for the offense and send it to the Diversion Program in the county where the offense occurred. The summons and complaint shall not be filed with the Judicial Bureau at that time.

~~(d)~~(e) Registration in Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program. Within 15 days after receiving a notice of violation, the person shall contact the Diversion Program in the county where the offense occurred and register for the Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program. If the person fails to do so, the Diversion Program shall file the summons and complaint with the Judicial Bureau for adjudication under 4 V.S.A. chapter 29. The Diversion Program shall provide a copy of the summons and complaint to the law enforcement officer who issued the notice of violation and shall provide two copies to the person ~~charged with~~ subject to the violation.

~~(e)~~(f) Notice to report to Diversion. Upon receipt from a law enforcement officer of a summons and complaint completed under this section, the Diversion Program shall send the person a notice to report to the Diversion Program. The notice to report shall provide that:

(1) The person is required to complete all conditions related to the offense imposed by the Diversion Program, including substance abuse screening and, if deemed appropriate following the screening, substance abuse assessment or substance abuse counseling, or both.

(2) If the person does not satisfactorily complete the substance abuse screening, any required substance abuse assessment or substance abuse counseling, or any other condition related to the offense imposed by the Diversion Program, the case will be referred to the Judicial Bureau, where the person, if found liable for the violation, shall be assessed a civil penalty, the person's driver's license will be suspended, and the person's automobile insurance rates may increase substantially.

(3) If the person satisfactorily completes the substance abuse screening, any required substance abuse assessment or substance abuse counseling, and any other condition related to the offense imposed by the Diversion Program, no penalty shall be imposed and the person's operator's license shall not be suspended.

~~(f)~~(g) Diversion Program requirements.

(1) Upon being contacted by a person who has been issued a notice of violation, the Diversion Program shall register the person in the Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program. Pursuant to the Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program, the Diversion Program shall impose conditions on the person. The conditions imposed shall include only conditions related to the offense and in every case shall include a condition requiring satisfactory completion of substance abuse screening using an evidence-based tool and, if deemed appropriate following the screening, substance abuse assessment and substance abuse education or substance abuse counseling, or both. If the screener recommends substance abuse counseling, the person shall choose a State-certified or State-licensed substance abuse counselor or substance abuse treatment provider to provide the services.

(2) Substance abuse screening required under this subsection shall be completed within 60 days after the Diversion Program receives a summons and complaint. The person shall complete all conditions at the person's own expense.

(3) When a person has satisfactorily completed substance abuse screening, any required substance abuse education or substance abuse counseling, and any other condition related to the offense that the Diversion Program has imposed, the Diversion Program shall:

(A) Void the summons and complaint with no penalty due.

(B) Send copies of the voided summons and complaint to the Judicial Bureau and to the law enforcement officer who completed them. Before sending copies of the voided summons and complaint to the Judicial Bureau under this subdivision, the Diversion Program shall redact all language containing the person's name, address, Social Security number, and any other information that identifies the person.

(4) If a person does not satisfactorily complete substance abuse screening, any required substance abuse education or substance abuse counseling, or any other condition related to the offense imposed by the Diversion Program, the Diversion Program shall file the summons and complaint with the Judicial Bureau for adjudication under 4 V.S.A. chapter 29. The Diversion Program shall provide a copy of the summons and complaint to the law enforcement officer who issued the notice of violation and shall provide two copies to the person charged with the violation.

(5) A person aggrieved by a decision of the Diversion Program or alcohol counselor may seek review of that decision pursuant to Rule 75 of the Vermont Rules of Civil Procedure.

(6) Notwithstanding ~~3 V.S.A. §§ 163(a)(2)(C) and 164 (a)(2)(C)~~ any law to the contrary, the adult or juvenile diversion programs shall accept cases from the Youth Substance Awareness Safety Program pursuant to this section. The confidentiality provisions of 3 V.S.A. § 163 or 164 shall become effective when a notice of violation is issued pursuant to subsection (b) of this section and shall remain in effect unless the person fails to register with or complete the Youth Substance Awareness Safety Program.

~~(g) [Repealed.]~~

(h) Record of adjudications; confidentiality; public records exemption.

(1) Upon adjudicating a person in violation of this section, the Judicial Bureau shall notify the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, who shall maintain a record of all such adjudications that shall be separate from the registry maintained by the Department for motor vehicle driving records. The identity of a person in the registry shall be revealed only to the following:

(A) a law enforcement officer determining whether the person has previously violated this section; or

(B) an insurance company or its third-party contractor only for the purposes of recording a license suspension issued pursuant to subdivision (a)(3) of this section.

(2) Except as provided in this subsection (h):

(A) All information related to a suspension issued pursuant to subdivision (a)(3) of this section shall be held strictly confidential and not released without the participant's prior consent.

(B) Any records or information produced or acquired pursuant to a suspension issued pursuant to subdivision (a)(3) of this section shall be exempt from public inspection or copying under Vermont's Public Records Act.

(i) Reporting. Annually, beginning on October 1, 2026, the Office of the Attorney General, and other entities as needed, shall submit a written report to the House and Senate Committees on Judiciary related to impaired driver violations under this section, containing the following:

(1) the number of persons referred to the Youth Substance Awareness Safety Program;

(2) the ages of the persons referred to the Program;

(3) the number of persons who successfully complete the Program;

(4) the number of persons who fail the Program; and

(5) the number of persons who serve suspensions imposed by the Judicial Bureau after failing the Program.

Sec. 2. IMPAIRED DRIVING; OUTCOME MEASURES; REPORT

For the first report submitted pursuant to 7 V.S.A. § 656(i), the Office of the Attorney General, in collaboration with the Vermont Statistical Analysis Center and others as needed, shall propose outcome measures to assess the effectiveness of any suspensions imposed for impaired driver violations and the Youth Substance Awareness Safety Program as a whole.

Sec. 3. 23 V.S.A. § 1209a(a) is amended to read:

(a) Conditions of reinstatement. No license or privilege to operate suspended or revoked under this subchapter~~, except a license or privilege to operate suspended under section 1216 of this title,~~ shall be reinstated except as follows:

* * *

Sec. 4. REPEALS

(a) 7 V.S.A. § 657a (person under 16 years of age misrepresenting age or procuring or possessing alcoholic beverages; delinquency) is repealed.

(b) 23 V.S.A. § 1216 (persons under 21 years of age; alcohol concentration of 0.02 or more) is repealed.

Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

The bill, having appeared on the Notice Calendar, was taken up, read the second time, the report of the Committee on Judiciary agreed to, and third reading ordered.

Adjournment

At three o'clock and thirty-nine minutes in the afternoon, on motion of **Rep. McCoy of Poultney**, the House adjourned until tomorrow at one o'clock in the afternoon.