

Theresa Utton-Jerman

Subject: Budget and CRF Recommendations - House General

From: Tom Stevens

Sent: Wednesday, September 2, 2020 3:44 PM

Subject: Budget and CRF Recommendations

Dear Rep. Toll:

As per your request, here is a short memo detailing the thoughts of the General, Housing and Military Affairs committee with respect to the FY21 Budget, and the use of CRF funding in the coming months.

Budget: After hearing testimony regarding both the Military budget and the Housing budget, your GHMA committee supports the numbers presented to us. Given the COVID crisis, we feel that the adjustments made are reasonable, thoughtful and prudent. We also support the budget language promulgated by Rep. Peter Fagan to adjust the qualification language for the college scholarships offered by the Vermont National Guard. This language will allow students who are interested in this benefit to receive it prior to fulfilling their commitment, with the appropriate ramifications if they choose not to fulfill it at a later date.

CRF Funding: After hearing testimony from stakeholders, including VHCB, we recommend that \$4 million of money remaining in the CRF to be allocated to VHCB for additional housing projects that will alleviate homelessness in Vermont. We also recommend that \$400,000 of the CRF previously appropriated for housing purposes shall be used for the creation of a database of rental properties as to be proposed in S.237, based on extant language in H.739.

Please do not hesitate to call or write with further questions.

With respect,

Tom

Rep. Tom Stevens

Washington-Chittenden

Chair, General, Housing and Military Affairs