

ECDL '24 State Budget Workshop

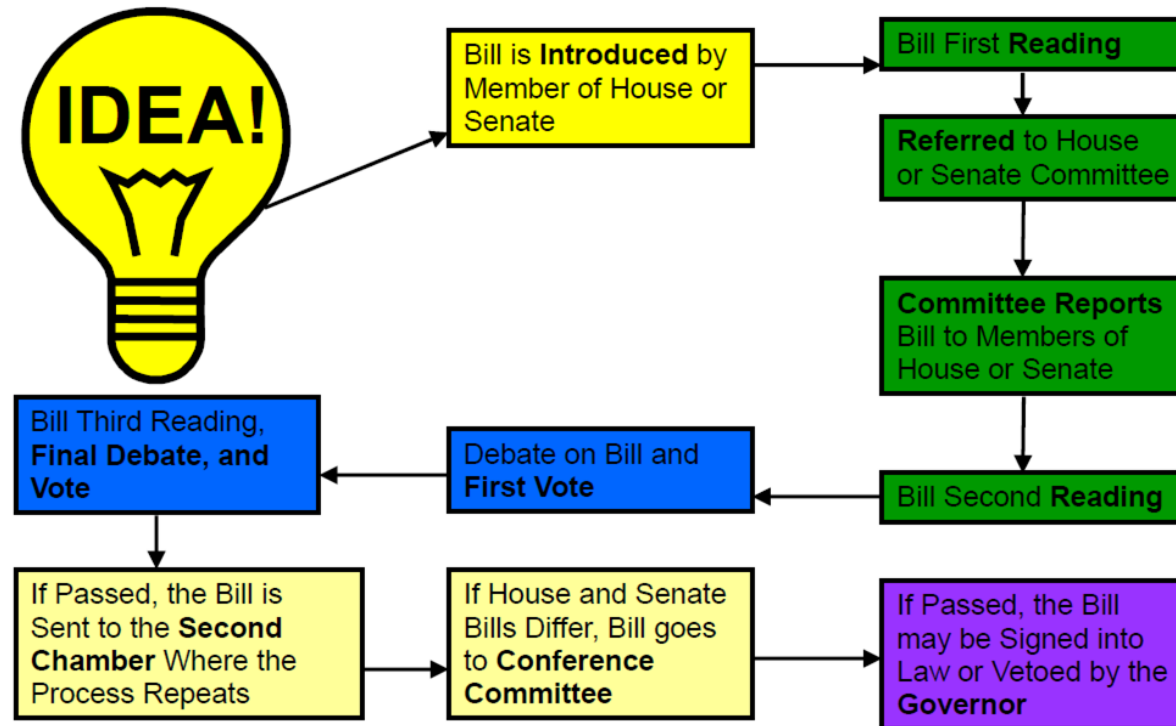
V E R M O N T

EARLY CHILDHOOD
ADVOCACY ALLIANCE

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Bill Consideration Process

How an Idea Becomes a Law



Crafting the State Budget

July 1	Beginning of State Fiscal Year (referred to by calendar year of second half of fiscal year – so July 2017 = FY18)
July-August	Department-level budget requests are developed for the next Fiscal Year
September-October	Agencies review Department budget requests, and develop Agency-wide budget requests to send to the Governor
November-December	Governor's office drafts Governor's Recommended Budget
December (in odd years)/ January (in even years)	House Appropriations Committee begins work on Budget Adjustment Act (BAA) for current Fiscal Year
Mid-January	Governor releases Recommended Budget for next Fiscal Year
Late January – Mid February	BAA finalized and passed

Crafting the State Budget

January-February	House Appropriations Committee reviews Governor's Recommend, works on House version of budget
February-March	Senate Appropriations Committee reviews Governor's Recommended Budget
Late March	House passes their version of the budget
April	Senate Appropriations Committee reviews House Budget, Senate passes their version of the budget
May	House/Senate Conference Committee reviews differences and develops compromise budget, which is passed by both chambers and then sent to the Governor for approval or veto
June 30	End of State Fiscal Year
NOTE:	The Vermont Constitution outlines the state's budget-making process, and requires that any budget bills be passed first in the House, and then be considered by the Senate.

Budget Process for '24

- Normal FY24 Budget Adjustment Process [Jan.-Feb.]
- Normal FY25 Budget Process [Feb.-May]
- Policy Committees in House submitted letters as usual – Senate letters uncertain
- Joint Fiscal Cmte. decision-making process still potentially in play [post-session]

Alliance Leg Agenda Issues – FY25 Budget

Larger

- Temporary Shelter (GA) and Affordable Housing
- Fair Share for VT Revenue proposal
- Act 76 Implementation

Smaller

- PCC Network
- Vermont 211
- Empty Arms (Perinatal Peer Support)

Currently Inactive/Minimal Impact

- Reach Up
- Doula Medicaid Access
- Paid Leave
- VT Tax Credits

Governor's Recommended FY25 Budget

- Relatively few surprises, but some key spending items not included
- Few policy initiatives being proposed
- Two large cuts proposed to CCFAP spending (FY24 and FY25)
- No large cuts or increases in other EC areas
- Significant housing proposals

House FY25 Budget

- Rejects proposed large cut proposed to CCFAP spending (FY25 base)
- No large cuts or increases in other EC areas
- Significant housing proposals (and revenue generation) [H. 829/879]
- Includes Fair Share revenue proposal, Vermont 211 funding
- Does not include PCC Network, Empty Arms requests
- No increases for Reach Up

Complicating factors

- House Appropriations process was not as transparent as usual, especially for one-time proposals
- Several bills/initiatives travelled outside the usual budget process in the House (especially housing H. 829/879)
- House relying heavily on contingency (“waterfall”) for emergency housing
- As a result, House Budget likely to be changed by the Senate more than usual
- Revenue revisions in April and/or July – Joint Fiscal Cmte. will make July decisions

Three Budgeting Committees

House Committee on Appropriations

- Rep. Diane Lanpher, Chair
- Rep. Robin Scheu, Vice Chair
- Rep. Patrick Brennan, Ranking Member
- Rep. Tiffany Bluemle
- Rep. Eileen Dickinson
- Rep. Katherine "Kari" Dolan
- Rep. James Harrison
- Rep. Rebecca Holcombe
- Rep. Marc Mihaly
- Rep. Woodman Page
- Rep. Trevor Squirrell
- Rep. Tristan Toleno

Senate Committee on Appropriations

- Sen. Jane Kitchel, Chair
- Sen. Andrew Perchlik, Vice Chair
- Sen. Richard Westman
- Sen. Robert Starr
- Sen. Dick Sears Jr.
- Sen. Philip Baruth
- Sen. Virginia "Ginny" Lyons

Three Budgeting Committees

Joint Fiscal Committee

- Sen. Jane Kitchel (Chair) [Sen. Approps]
- Rep. Emilie Kornheiser (Vice-Chair) [House Ways & Means]
- Sen. Philip Baruth [Sen. Approps]
- Rep. James Harrison [House Approps]
- Sen. Ann Cummings [Sen. Finance]
- Rep. Diane Lanpher [House Approps]
- Sen. Dick Sears Jr. [Sen. Approps]
- Rep. Robin Scheu [House Approps]
- Sen. Richard Westman [Sen. Approps]
- Rep. Theresa Wood [House Human Svcs.]

We're here for you – please be in touch!

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