

Sam

APR06'22 AM11:42 RCUD



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

FIS 22 149



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

for

EMERGENCY RELIEF AND RECOVERY

April 4, 2022

The Honorable Karen Umberger, Chairman
Fiscal Committee of the General Court
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
And the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI, authorize the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR) to accept and expend funds in the amount of \$2,064,061 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) for the Judicial Branch to improve the processing of Involuntary Emergency Admissions (IEA) cases by the Circuit Court upon approvals of the Fiscal Committee and Governor and Executive Council through June 30, 2023. This is an allowable use of ARPA SFRF funds under Section 602 (c)(1)(A) to respond to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts. 100% Federal Funds.

Funds are to be budgeted in FY2022 in the following account:

Table with 5 columns: CLASS, ACCOUNT, FY2022 CURRENT MODIFIED BUDGET, FY2022 BUDGET REQUEST, FY2022 REVISED BUDGET. Rows include EXPENDITURES, 040 - Indirect Costs, 041 - Audit Fund Set Aside, 042 - Additional Fringe Benefits, 072 - Grants Federal, 085 - Interagency Xfr Out of Fed Fn, 103 - Contracts for Op Services, TOTAL EXPENSES, and SOURCE OF FUNDS.

1 All direct program costs will be accounted for using activity 00FRF602PH0220A and all administrative and indirect costs will be accounted for using activity 00FRF602PH0220Z. Accounting classifications may be subject to technical changes at the discretion of the Department of Administrative Services' Division of Accounting Services.

The Honorable Karen Umberger, Chairman
Fiscal Committee of the General Court

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
And the Honorable Council
Page 2 of 2

000 – Federal Funds	400338	\$73,866,710	\$2,064,061	\$75,930,771
TOTAL REVENUE		\$73,866,710	\$2,064,061	\$75,930,771

EXPLANATION

This proposal would transform how the Circuit Court handles involuntary emergency admissions (IEA) cases with the creation of a single, statewide mental health docket. By replacing the current system of processing and hearing IEA cases at multiple locations throughout the State with a centralized process significantly improving efficiencies.

The Court has been working to improve its processes to respond to a recent State Supreme Court holding, which requires the Court to provide for probable cause hearings within three days of when an IEA certificate is completed. However, the current process is resource intensive and is not sustainable on a long-term basis.

This request is to provide for the initial costs to establish a centralized and sustainable solution for the processing of these cases with judges and staff dedicated to a single, statewide mental health docket. As set forth below, a portion of that cost is one-time investments in technology, and a portion is the salary and benefits of court staff and judges.

Under this program, GOFERR will transfer ARPA SFRF funds to the New Hampshire Judicial Branch pursuant to terms and conditions set forth in an MOU.

Funds are being budgeted in the classes listed below as follows:

Class 040 – Indirect Costs to recover, per by RSA 21-I:75, a proportional share of the outside funding source to alleviate agency indirect costs.

Class 041 – Audit Fund Set Aside to comply with RSA 124:16 that requires all agencies that receive federal funds to set aside a percentage (0.1%) of the federal revenue amount received to pay for financial and compliance audits.

Class 085 – Interagency Xfer Out of Fed Funds

In the event that Federal Funds become no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support this program.

Respectfully submitted,



Taylor Caswell,
Executive Director, GOFERR