

Emergency Board Minutes  
January 3, 2012, Called for 1:00 pm

Pursuant to notice, the Emergency Board met in the Governor's Ceremonial Office at the Vermont State House, 115 State Street, Montpelier, Vermont on Tuesday, January 3, 2012 at 1:04 pm.

Members present: Governor Peter Shumlin, Chair; Senator Ann Cummings, Senator Jane Kitchel, Representative Martha Heath, Representative Janet Ancel.

The item on the agenda was as follows:

**Allocation of \$5.1 million to offset reduced federal funding for the Low Income Heating Assistance Program (LIHEAP)**

Governor Shumlin explained the reduction in federally appropriated funds for the Low Income Heating Assistance program (LIHEAP). He described the proposed motion to allocate \$5.1 million to offset reduced federal funding for LIHEAP, as authorized by 2011 Act 63 Sec. C.100, amending 2011 Act 3 Sec. 50(c), and a \$1.5 million repayment from the home heating fuel assistance fund to the home weatherization assistance trust fund.

Following discussion, Representative Heath made the following motion, seconded by Senator Kitchel:

- a) In accordance with 2011 Act 63 Sec. C.110, amending 2011 Act 3 Sec. 50(c), due to reduced federal funding for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), \$5.1 million of the \$7 million in funds appropriated to the Secretary of Administration for federal reductions shall be transferred to the home heating fuel assistance fund for use in fiscal year 2012 to meet expected heating needs.
- b) Under the authority of 32 V.S.A. Sec. 706(2), the Emergency Board hereby approves transfer of \$1.5 million as a repayment from the home heating fuel assistance fund to the home weatherization assistance trust fund, from monies that were loaned to the home heating fuel assistance fund under the provisions of 2011 Act 63 Sec. E.324.1. Pursuant to 33 V.S.A. Sec. 2502(e), the Emergency Board hereby determines that the \$1.5 million repayment is sufficient to maintain the fiscal capacity of the state office of economic opportunity to meet the budgeted obligations of the weatherization program.
- c) The Department for Children and Families is requested to review the LIHEAP program and its funding to identify possible changes that will improve the sustainability and success of the LIHEAP program in the future and submit any recommended changes to the administration and the general assembly by March 1, 2012.

This motion was passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

A true record,

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Alexandra MacLean', written over a horizontal line.

Alexandra MacLean  
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs

cc: Board Members  
State Treasurer  
State Auditor of Accounts  
Other interested parties