

# VCBB Legislative Update

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# H.839 – An act relating to FY2024 budget adjustment

7                   (4) \$20,000,000 General Fund for the appropriation established in 2022  
8                   Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. B.1100(a)(28), as amended by 2023 Acts and  
9                   Resolves No. 3, Sec. 45, to replenish the \$20,000,000 of General Fund  
10                  spending authority transferred by the Emergency Board on July 31, 2023, per  
11                  32 V.S.A. §§ 133(b) and 706(2), as directed by order of the Emergency Board  
12                  under Item 5(a) – Business Emergency Gap Assistance Program.

# H.755 and S.199 – Acts relating to mergers and governance of CUDs

2      § 3082a. MERGER

3            (a) Authority. Notwithstanding 24 V.S.A. chapter 49, a district may merge  
4            with one or more other districts as provided in this section. Such merger shall  
5            include all member municipalities of each of the merging districts.

6            Section 3053 of this chapter applies to a new combined district formed  
7            pursuant to this section.

# H.575 and S.181 – Acts relating to the Community Media Public Benefit Fund

3        § 7603. COMMUNITY MEDIA PUBLIC BENEFIT FUND

4        The Community Media Public Benefit Fund is created as a special fund  
5        within the State Treasury. The Fund shall be composed of all receipts from the  
6        pole attachment charge imposed in this chapter, as well as any other funds so  
7        appropriated by the General Assembly and any funds received as grants or  
8        gifts and approved according to the provisions of 32 V.S.A. § 5. Unexpended  
9        balances shall remain in the Fund from year to year.

3                    (d) Exemption. The charge does not apply to pole attachments of publicly  
4                    owned communications facilities.

4                    (a) The General Assembly shall annually appropriate amounts from the  
5                    Fund to the Office of the Secretary of State for the purpose of making grants  
6                    for the operational costs of AMOs pursuant to this section.

# H.657 – An act relating to the modernization of Vermont's communications taxes and fees

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to modernize  
8 Vermont's communications taxes and fees to be more competitively neutral  
9 and to provide a financial structure that equitably and sustainably finances  
10 public benefits related to communications networks in the State.

1. Prewritten Software Accessed Remotely
2. Universal Service Charge Updates – 17% USF to VCBB
3. Communication Property State Assessment – Taxes as Real Property
4. Agency of Transportation Right of Way Lease/Access Fee
5. Adds H.575 language (Community Media Public Benefit Fund)