

1 H.441

2 Introduced by Representative Burditt of West Rutland

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force; cannabis excise tax

6 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to direct two  
7 percent, but not to exceed \$500,000.00 per year, of cannabis excise tax revenue  
8 to the Office of the Attorney General to fund positions for an administrator and  
9 two detectives within the Vermont Internet Crimes Against Children (VT-  
10 ICAC) Task Force.

11 An act relating to funding for the Vermont Internet Crimes Against  
12 Children (VT-ICAC) Task Force

13 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

14 \* \* \* Cannabis Excise Tax Revenue; Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025 \* \* \*

15 Sec. 1. 32 V.S.A. § 7909 is amended to read:

16 § 7909. ~~SUBSTANCE MISUSE PREVENTION FUNDING~~ CANNABIS

17 EXCISE TAX REVENUE DISTRIBUTION

18 (a) Substance misuse prevention funding.

19 (1) Thirty percent of the ~~revenues raised by the cannabis excise tax~~  
20 ~~imposed by section 7902 of this title~~ unexpended and unobligated balance of

1 the Cannabis Regulation Fund that is transferred to the General Fund pursuant  
2 to 7 V.S.A. § 845(d)(1), not to exceed \$10,000,000.00 per fiscal year, shall be  
3 used to fund substance misuse prevention programming in the subsequent  
4 fiscal year.

5 ~~(b)~~(2) If any General Fund appropriations for substance misuse prevention  
6 programming remain unexpended at the end of a fiscal year, that balance shall  
7 be carried forward and shall only be used for the purpose of funding substance  
8 misuse prevention programming in the subsequent fiscal year.

9 ~~(e)~~(3) Any appropriation balance carried forward pursuant to ~~subsection (b)~~  
10 subdivision (2) of this section subsection shall be in addition to revenues  
11 allocated for substance misuse prevention programming pursuant to  
12 ~~subsection (a) subdivision (1) of this section subsection.~~

13 (b) Vermont Internet Crimes Against Children (VT-ICAC) Task Force.  
14 Two percent of the unexpended and unobligated balance of the Cannabis  
15 Regulation Fund that is transferred to the General Fund pursuant to 7 V.S.A.  
16 § 845(d)(1), not to exceed \$500,000.00 per fiscal year, shall be used to support  
17 the VT-ICAC Task Force and fund two dedicated Criminal Investigators and  
18 one dedicated Administrator. This shall be in addition to any other  
19 appropriations to the Office of the Attorney General for the VT-ICAC Task  
20 Force.

1 Sec. 2. REPEAL

2 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. E.240.2 is repealed.

3 Sec. 3. 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. H.100(d) is amended to read:

4 (d) Secs. E.240.1 (7 V.S.A. § 845); ~~E.240.2 (32 V.S.A. § 7909)~~; E.702  
5 (Fish and Wildlife); F.100(b), F.101(b), F.102(b) and F.103 (Executive  
6 Branch; Exempt Employees, Misc. Statutory Salaries; Fiscal Year 2024);  
7 F.104–106 (Judicial Branch; Statutory Salaries, Fiscal Year 2024); F.107  
8 (Sheriffs, Statutory Salaries, Fiscal Year 2024); F.108 (State’s Attorney’s;  
9 Statutory Salaries; Fiscal Year 2024); and Secs. F.109(a)(2), F.109(b)(3), and  
10 F.109(c)(2) (Appropriations; Fiscal Year 2024) shall take effect on July 1,  
11 2023.

12 \* \* \* Cannabis Excise Tax Revenue; Commencing in Fiscal Year 2026 \* \* \*

13 Sec. 4. 32 V.S.A. § 7909 is amended to read:

14 § 7909. CANNABIS EXCISE TAX REVENUE DISTRIBUTION

15 (a) Substance misuse prevention funding.

16 (1) Thirty percent of the ~~unexpended and unobligated balance of the~~  
17 ~~Cannabis Regulation Fund that is transferred to the General Fund pursuant to 7~~  
18 ~~V.S.A. § 845(d)(1)~~ revenues raised by the cannabis excise tax imposed by  
19 section 7902 of this title, not to exceed \$10,000,000.00 per fiscal year, shall be  
20 used to fund substance misuse prevention programming in the subsequent  
21 fiscal year.

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\* \* \*

(b) Vermont Internet Crimes Against Children (VT-ICAC) Task Force.  
Two percent of the ~~unexpended and unobligated balance of the Cannabis Regulation Fund that is transferred to the General Fund pursuant to 7 V.S.A. § 845(d)(1)~~ revenues raised by the cannabis excise tax imposed by section 7902 of this title, not to exceed \$500,000.00 per fiscal year, shall be used to support the VT-ICAC Task Force and fund two dedicated Criminal Investigators and one dedicated Administrator. This shall be in addition to any other appropriations to the Office of the Attorney General for the VT-ICAC Task Force.

Sec. 5. REPEAL

2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. E.240.6 is repealed.

Sec. 6. 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. H.100(b) is amended to read:

(b) ~~Sees. Sec. E.240.5 (7 V.S.A. § 845) and E.240.6 (32 V.S.A. § 7909(a))~~ shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

\* \* \* VT-ICAC; New Positions \* \* \*

Sec. 7. NEW POSITIONS

(a) The following three positions are created in the Criminal Division of the Office of the Attorney General: two full-time, classified Criminal Investigators staffed to the Vermont Internet Crimes Against Children (VT-

1 ICAC) Task Force; and one full-time, classified Administrator staffed to the  
2 VT-ICAC Task Force.

3 (b) The sum of \$360,000.00 for personal services and \$10,000.00 for  
4 operating expenses is appropriated from the General Fund to the Office of the  
5 Attorney General for these positions in fiscal year 2024.

6 \* \* \* Effective Dates \* \* \*

7 Sec. 8. EFFECTIVE DATES

8 (a) Sec. 4 (32 V.S.A. § 7909; cannabis excise tax revenue starting in fiscal  
9 year 2026) shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

10 (b) All other sections shall take effect on July 1, 2023.