



Lori A. Weaver
Interim Commissioner

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

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June 23, 2023

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

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Commissioner, to make a one-time unencumbered payment to the Town of Hampstead (VC#177515), in the amount of \$178,000 to address property tax base impacts resulting from the acquisition of Hampstead Hospital, effective upon Governor and Council approval. 100% General Funds.

Funds are available in the following account for State Fiscal Year 2024.

05-95-98-980010-2648 HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES, DEPT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SVCS, HAMPSTEAD HOSPITAL, HAMPSTEAD HOSPITAL OPERATIONS

State Fiscal Year	Class / Account	Class Title	Job Number	Total Amount
2024	102-500731	Contracts for Oper Svc	98000001	\$178,000
Total				\$178,000

EXPLANATION

On January 26, 2022, the Governor and Executive Council approved the Department's request to enter into an Asset Purchase Agreement with Hampstead Outlook, Inc. for the acquisition of Hampstead Hospital, which is a facility specializing in children's behavioral health located on a 95-acre property in the Town of Hampstead New Hampshire. The sale was finalized on June 8, 2022.

The purpose of this request is to make payment to the Town of Hampstead to offset the property tax base impact resulting from the State's acquisition of the property. RSA 72:23 exempts the State from paying property taxes. This request is similar to the two items approved by Governor and Executive Council on July 12, 2022, (Item #6) and January 18, 2023 (#8 Item), for payment totaling \$177,941 to the Town of Hampstead during State Fiscal Year 2023.

During the Senate phase of the budget process, the Senate Finance Committee approved a House Bill 2 provision to appropriate \$154,000 of General Funds to the Department. The Senate Finance committee

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also approved language directing said funds, and the existing \$202,000 of general funds budgeted in House Bill 1, as Passed by the House, to be paid to the Town of Hampstead – \$178,000 each year of the biennium – to offset property tax impacts resulting from the State’s acquisition of Hampstead Hospital. However, the aforementioned provision was inadvertently not included in Amendment 2023-2076s that was passed by the Full Senate on June 7, 2023. Consequently, the Senate passed House Bill 2, to which the Full House subsequently concurred, without the provision that would have directed the Department to make payment to the Town of Hampstead in the amount consistent with this request.

The Department has initiated conversations with members of the Legislature to address the property tax base impact resulting from the Hampstead Hospital acquisition during the 2024 Regular Legislative Session.

Respectfully Submitted,



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