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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

*DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES*  
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18A

March 5, 2020

The Honorable Mary Jane Wallner, Chairman  
Fiscal Committee of the General Court

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

**REQUESTED ACTION**

1. Pursuant to the provisions of RSA 14:30-a, VI, authorize the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health Services to accept and expend Federal Funds in an amount up to an estimated \$5,000,000 from the Centers For Disease Control for purposes of addressing the COVID-19 virus effective upon date of Fiscal Committee and Governor and Executive Council approvals through June 30, 2021, and further authorize the allocation of these funds in the accounts below. 100% Federal Funds.
2. Contingent upon approval of Requested Action #1, pursuant to RSA 124:15, authorize the Department of Health and Human Services to fund existing, vacant, temporary positions to support the public health event described in Requested Action #1 effective upon Fiscal Committee and Governor and Council approvals through June 30, 2021. 100% Federal funds.

**05-095-090-902510-70390000 HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES, HEALTH AND HUMAN SVCS DEPT OF, HHS: PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION, BUREAU OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE CONTROL, PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS RESPONSE**

Class/Object	Class Title	Current Authorized Budget	This Request	Adjusted Budget
<b>Revenue</b>				
000-400146	Federal Funds	\$ 9,984,527	\$ 5,000,000	\$ 14,984,527
	General Funds	\$ -		\$ -
<b>Total Revenue:</b>		<b>\$ 9,984,527</b>	<b>\$ 5,000,000</b>	<b>\$ 14,984,527</b>
<b>Expense</b>				
018-500106	Overtime	\$ -	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000
020-500200	Current Expenses	\$ 29,056	\$ 250,000	\$ 279,056
030-500321	OfficeEquip&Furn(Replace)	\$ -	\$ 400,000	\$ 400,000
037-500173	Technology-Hardware	\$ 201,120	\$ 50,000	\$ 251,120
038-509038	Technology-Software	\$ 425,408	\$ 20,000	\$ 445,408
041-500801	Audit Fund Set Aside	\$ 7,866	\$ 5,000	\$ 12,866
042-500620	Post Retirements Benefits	\$ -	\$ 45,000	\$ 45,000
049-584910	Transfer to Other State Agency	\$ 84,952	\$ -	\$ 84,952
049-584920	Transfer to Other State Agency	\$ 110,000	\$ -	\$ 110,000
049-584921	Transfer to Other State Agency	\$ 118,864	\$ -	\$ 118,864
050-500109	Other Personal Services	\$ -	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000
059-500117	Temp Full Time	\$ -	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000
060-500601	Benefits	\$ -	\$ 400,000	\$ 400,000
066-500556	Employee Training	\$ 54,966	\$ 25,000	\$ 79,966
070-500700	In State Travel Reimb	\$ 3,108	\$ 50,000	\$ 53,108
080-500710	Out of State Travel Reimb	\$ 17,920	\$ 15,000	\$ 32,920
085-588510	Interagency Xfr Out of Fed	\$ 158,627	\$ -	\$ 158,627
085-588520	Interagency Xfr Out of Fed	\$ 120,000	\$ -	\$ 120,000
085-588521	Interagency Xfr Out of Fed	\$ 127,750	\$ -	\$ 127,750
085-588532	Interagency Xfr Out of Fed	\$ 45,000	\$ -	\$ 45,000
102-500731	Contracts for Program Services	\$ 8,479,890	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 10,979,890
548-500396	Reagents	\$ -	\$ 240,000	\$ 240,000
<b>Total Expense:</b>		<b>\$ 9,984,527</b>	<b>\$ 5,000,000</b>	<b>\$ 14,984,527</b>

**EXPLANATION**

On January 31, 2020, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services declared a public health emergency pursuant to Section 319(e) of the Public Health Service Act, regarding the outbreak of the Novel Coronavirus. In responding to this public health emergency, the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) expects to have many procurement needs. We have requested that the Department of Administrative Services work with the NH DHHS to the extent possible to modify, streamline, and accelerate the routine practices that govern procurement in order to mitigate, respond to and recover from this public health emergency.

As part of our response, NH DHHS is investigating and testing suspect cases of this novel coronavirus. These individuals need to be placed under immediate isolation with monitoring by public health nursing staff. This monitoring may include home visitation which will require the use of personal

protective equipment (PPE). Additional PPE will be distributed to health care providers/facilities by DHHS. Additionally, as part of the federal declaration, mandatory quarantine is being implemented for travelers returning from China. Travelers returning from other countries with significant COVID-19 are being directed to quarantine and self-monitor for symptoms. Any traveler from these countries with symptoms will be monitored by public health nursing staff. The NH DHHS is working with the US DHHS to implement these monitoring program and already has several individuals being monitored in New Hampshire. At any moment, NH DHHS could identify an individual that does not have suitable housing for quarantine or lacks support to meet their basic needs (e.g. family members to bring them food). As such, there could be a need to find people housing (e.g. hotel) or other resources (e.g. groceries) emergently and we will need immediate access to resources.

Based on prior emergency responses, potential purchases that we anticipate needing to rapidly procure during this emergency response include (but are not limited to):

- Laboratory supplies and reagents
- Laboratory equipment (e.g. refrigerator/freezer)
- Personal protective equipment (e.g. gloves, masks, gowns, etc.)
- Thermometers for people who are monitoring for illness
- Lodging for people who are quarantined (e.g. hotel accommodations for up to 14 days)
- Food and other personal care items for people who are quarantined
- Software and technology equipment to support incident communications and messaging (e.g. Zoom webinars and teleconferencing, cell phones with long distance capability, tablets or computers, etc.)

This acceptance is contingent upon New Hampshire receiving federal funds for this public health event. This request is being brought forward in order to have the funds in place once the award is received in order to expedite standing up the staff and services necessary to benefit the citizens of New Hampshire.

Class 018	The funds will be used to pay overtime expense.
Class 020	The funds will be used to pay for current expense items.
Class 030	The funds will be used to pay for equipment.
Class 037	The funds will be used to pay for computer hardware.
Class 038	The funds will be used to pay for computer software.
Class 041	The funds will be used to pay for audit fund set aside.
Class 042	The funds will be used to pay for post retirement expense.
Class 050	The funds will be used to pay for part time positions.
Class 059	The funds will be used to pay for full time temporary positions.
Class 060	The funds will be used to pay for benefits.
Class 066	The funds will be used to pay for employee training.
Class 070	The funds will be used to pay for in-state travel.
Class 080	The funds will be used to pay for out-of-state travel.
Class 102	The funds will be used to pay for contracts.
Class 548	The funds will be used to pay for reagents.

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Page 4 of 4

The following information is provided in accordance with the Comptroller's instructional memorandum dated September 21, 1981.

1. List of personnel involved: Approximately 10 Temporary full and part time nursing, laboratory and administrative positions.
2. Nature, Need, and Duration: The positions will provide for the increased needs caused by the COVID-19 public health event. The positions will be needed while the event is ongoing.
3. Relationship to existing agency programs: This is a new public health event.
4. Has a similar program been requested of the legislature and denied? No
5. Why wasn't funding included in the agency's budget request? At the time of budget submission COVID-19 was not a known public health event.
6. Can portions of the grant funds be utilized? All grant dollars are being used for this request.
7. Estimate the funds required to continue this position(s): The positions necessary for this work will not be permanent.

Funding for the project is 100% Federal Funds.

Area served: Statewide.

Source of Funds: Federal funds from the Centers for Disease Control.

Respectfully submitted,



Lori A. Shubinette  
Commissioner