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Catherine Emil, Director
Vermont Woodworking School
148 Main Street,
Cambridge, VT 05444
catherine@vermontwoodworkingschool.com
Office: (802) 849-2013
Cell: (917) 783-2369

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you from the Vermont Woodworking School, where we are a recent 2023 Working Lands Service Provider Grant recipient! I'm writing to you to ask that you please support the Governor's appropriation of \$4 million for the Working Lands Enterprise Initiative and make the full \$4 million base funding.

The Working Lands Enterprise Fund creates jobs in working lands enterprises and helps keep young entrepreneurs in Vermont.

As a school who trains the next generation of woodworkers, we want to see more opportunities for young people to stay and work in Vermont, and the Working Lands Grants opens up way more of those opportunities. Funding businesses allows us to keep our operations local and therefore keeps jobs local! And our grant has allowed us to help train workers to stick around in Vermont while being highly skilled.

All of this is why I urge you to please support the Governor's appropriation of \$4 million for the Working Lands Enterprise Initiative and make the full \$4 million base funding.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with additional questions.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'CE', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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