



Vermont Community Broadband Board (VCBB)

112 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05620-2601
<https://publicservice.vermont.gov/vcbb>

March 18, 2024

Dear Speaker of the Vermont House of Representatives, Representative Jill Krowinski, and Honorable Members of the House Committee on Environment and Energy:

I am writing to express the Vermont Community Broadband Board's (VCBB) support for legislation pending in your committee. Specifically, the Board has authorized me to express its unanimous support for the Communications Union Districts (CUDs) proposed merger legislation, S. 199. Although CUDs are currently statutorily authorized to withdraw and add memberships pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §§ 3081-82, the proposed legislation would greatly facilitate mergers of CUDs.

As you know, the VCBB's mission is to "coordinate, facilitate, support and accelerate the development and implementation of universal community broadband solutions." It is VCBB's opinion that providing the specific statutory process for facilitating mergers of CUDs is essential so that CUDs have the flexibility and efficiencies needed to succeed in delivering communications services to their member communities.

We are always available to discuss this issue further and/or to provide testimony on the need for CUDs to have the flexibility to efficiently merge when necessary. Thank you for your time and attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

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Executive Director Christine Hallquist

