

Theresa Utton

Subject: FW: VIT Funding

-----Original Message-----

From: bandbstele@myfairpoint.net []

Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 7:40 PM

To: Theresa Utton

Subject: VIT Funding

Dear Chairperson Mitizi Johnson and Committee

My name is Elizabeth Steele and I live in Brattleboro. In 1998 I returned to nursing school to finish my associate's degree in nursing through Vermont Technical College. Fortunately for me, and at that time 8 other practical nurses, this program was offered over Vermont Interactive Technologies. Otherwise, due to the rural area in which we live and the distances we each would have had to travel to access the nearest nursing program, we would not have obtained our associate degree diplomas. In 2007 I once again entered nursing school to complete my bachelor's degree through the University of Vermont. And once again I took that entire program (save one class) through Vermont Interactive Technologies. I am now a professor at Vermont Technical College School of Nursing. At least a third of our students use VIT for the delivery of much and in many cases, most of their nursing education. The closing of Vermont Interactive Technologies would be extremely detrimental to not only Vermont Technical College and the students who use it but to thousands of rural Vermonters who rely on this wonderful technology for education and information delivery.

Please restore the funding to VIT.

Thank you!

Elizabeth Steele
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