



March 25, 2016

Chairwoman Ancel and Committee Members
House Ways & Means Committee
State House

Dear Chairwoman Ancel,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on the portions of H.868 related to the Vermont Employment Growth Incentive (VEGI). We appreciate the Committee's thorough review of the bill.

VEGI is a critically vital tool in assisting in the creation of high value-added, high wage jobs in the State, as well as revenue-creating investments in facilities, equipment, research and development, and people. It is one of Vermont's most essential economic development incentives and one of the only tools in the State's toolbox for retaining and recruiting businesses that are essential to our economy.

We support H.868 and the rewrite of VEGI, making the program easier to understand and utilize for the average applicant, especially those smaller businesses that are not well-versed in government programs. Given the importance of this program to our State, we also emphatically support the extension of the program to 2027.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "KATY", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Katie Taylor
Director of Workforce Development and Entrepreneurship
Lake Champlain Regional Chamber of Commerce & GBIC