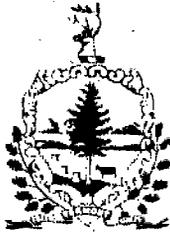115 STATE STREET
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**STATE OF VERMONT**
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## Commission on International Trade & State Sovereignty

Dear Member,

On behalf of the Vermont Commission on International Trade and State Sovereignty, please find the enclosed Memorandum concerning international trade and its potential effects on Vermont.

International trade has many positive impacts on Vermont's economy, supporting over 70,000 jobs and over $4.2 billion in commodity exports as of 2010. However, for all of the benefits that accrue to Vermont and the United States from participation in international trade, the provisions of bilateral and multilateral trade agreements governing such trade have the potential to restrict or preempt Vermont statutes, rules, and regulations in many important areas, including:

- **Agriculture** (*labeling requirements; food safety; subsidies*)
- **Environmental law and land use regulation** (*siting, permitting, takings*)
- **Consumer protection** (*professional licensing; quality standards*)
- **Health care and prescription drugs** (*Medicaid preferred drug lists*)
- **Utilities** (*certificates of public good; permitting standards*)
- **Tobacco regulation** (*labeling; consumer safety requirements*)
- **Government procurement** (*preferences for green or local products*)

We hope you will take a moment to review the enclosed Memorandum, and we further invite you to access international trade materials available on the homepage of the Vermont General Assembly. Finally, please be on the lookout for additional briefings and materials being planned for the upcoming legislative session.

Thank you for all of your work on behalf of Vermont.

Sincerely,

Ginny Lyons
Co-Chair
Senator, Chittenden County

Kathleen Keenan
Co-Chair
Representative, St. Albans

VT LEG #283985 v.1A