

## Cover note for Additional information re two funding changes for Vermont Legal Aid

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From: Maria Belliveau  
To: Ann Pugh; William Lippert  
Cc: Loring Starr; Julie Tucker; Katie McLinn; Jennifer Carbee; Nolan Langweil  
Subject: FW: Funding for Vermont Legal Aid

Sent: Wed 2/10/2016 4:39 PM

Message Summary of Vermont Legal Aid Funding.pdf (210 KB)

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**From:** Maria Belliveau  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 10, 2016 4:34 PM  
**To:** Maxine Grad  
**Cc:** 'Kate Wilson'; Erik Fitzpatrick; Brynn Hare; Theresa Utton-Jerman ([tutton@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:tutton@leg.state.vt.us)); Mitzi Johnson ([mitzivt@gmail.com](mailto:mitzivt@gmail.com))  
**Subject:** Funding for Vermont Legal Aid

I would like to give you additional information regarding two funding changes in the FY 2017 budget for Vermont Legal Aid as proposed by the Governor. The funding changes are in two places, first, a reduction of \$47,500 in the Secretary of the Agency of Human Services grant to VLA (10% of the general fund dollars) and, second, a reduction of \$160,716 in the Secretary of Administration's Office for the Health Care Advocate.

Please see the attached summary of funding streams received by VT legal Aid put together by Eric Avildsen of VT legal Aid. Below is an explanation from the Department of Finance and Management, not included in the attached document, about why the grant for the Office of the Health Care Advocate has been reduced in the Governor's FY 2017 proposal by \$160,716. There is language included in the budget bill that I copied below regarding the reduction to the Office of the Health Care Advocate.

From the Administration:  
Office of Health Care Advocate (formerly the Office of the Health Care Ombudsman) provides help to Vermonters that have problems and questions about health care and health insurance through a telephone hotline service and protects the health, welfare and rights of people who live in long term care facilities. This office is funded through a \$1,458,122 interdepartmental transfer from AHS, the Department of Financial Regulation, and the Green Mountain Care Board to the Agency of Administration in FY2016.

In FY2017 the Federal CAP Grant \$110,716 (Department of Financial Regulation) and Rate Review Grant (Green Mountain Care Board) \$50,000 will expire decreasing available funds by \$160,716. Accordingly, the Governor's recommendation for FY2017 is \$1,297,406.

Language included in the Governor's FY 2017 budget  
**Sec. E.100.4** Funding for the Office of the Health Care Advocate  
(a) Of the funds appropriated in Sec. B.100, \$ 1,297,406 shall be used for the contract with the Office of the Health Care Advocate.

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