

Letter in support of H.238/S.176 An Act creating an income tax credit for home modifications required by a disability or physical hardship

To the Members of the Vermont General Assembly:

As a woman with multiple sclerosis, I have needed multiple home modifications to several dwellings since I was diagnosed in April 2003, from adding tub safety stickers to grab bars. And, most recently, building a ramp in the garage of the house we now rent so I don't have any stairs to enter.

The costs for these additions are substantial, but necessary. As a family physician, I have seen Vermonters go without making modifications because of expense. These vulnerable people lose the ability to shower safely, feel less confident about themselves, lose access to parts of their homes, and ultimately have dangerous falls, causing even higher healthcare expenditures to the community.

I believe this bill, H.238/S.176, will offer some relief for Vermonters needing to make some changes. Please pass this without reservation. I offer it my full support as both a citizen with a disability and a physician.



Alicia T. Guilford, MD
Sheldon, Vermont