

Comments from public on H.248, An act relating to a universal, publicly financed primary care system

Updated every few days, most recent on top.

As of Noon, Friday 2/24: 42 emails.

Sent to each person:

Thank you for your comments on H.248. I will share your comments with the members of the Committee.

--Loring Starr

2/24/17

I am writing in support of H248, the Universal Primary Care bill, asking the joint fiscal office to generate financing options for universal primary care. As we all know, good primary care actually reduces healthcare costs overall ... as well as it just being the right thing for people to receive appropriate primary care rather than have their primary care be via the ER.

If you could please share my comments with the House Health Care Committee members, I would greatly appreciate it.

Best regards and thank you,

Dorothy Mammen

Middlebury, VT

Dear Rep. Lippert, Senator Ayer, Ms. Starr, Ms. Gihuly and Members of the House Health Care Committee,

I am writing to encourage your committee to consider the Universal Primary Care bill (H248) expected to become law on January 1, 2019. There can be no debate that affordable healthcare availability (or lack of it) affects all Vermont families. Every family has either directly or indirectly been affected by the inadequacies of a health care system that at best is struggling to keep up with needs.

I would like to explain why I feel this bill would be a good starting place for laying the foundation for responsible healthcare.

In addition to providing medical care by primary care doctors and those with specialties such as pediatrics, gynecology and internal medicine, this bill also includes outpatient mental health services and substance abuse providers. As a veteran public school teacher, I can attest to the wide spread need for affordable mental health services. Children mirror the health crises and challenges their families face, whether these be addiction issues, financial insecurity, or chronic illnesses that go undiagnosed and untreated. Primary care professionals are the healthcare providers that first encounter mental health issues in families. With the opiate crisis our state faces, it's imperative that people be able to access the help they need before their health issues deteriorate. Addiction issues strain VT. communities on all levels including an educational system struggling with how to financially provide school based mental health services to children who have witnessed trauma, an unstable workforce, an overtaxed judicial system, hospital emergency rooms and most importantly, the fabric of family life. UPC would allow

people to get the care they need through primary care which includes mental health services. Currently, we are at risk of having a large percentage of these people lose coverage for these services. Vermont is really in the infancy stage of addressing the substance abuse issues and we can't afford a setback.

Access to Primary Care will reduce the need for expensive hospitalizations and costly emergency room visits. Diabetes is prevalent in my family. My siblings, father and maternal and paternal grandparents have all been afflicted with this disease with far ranging consequences. Luckily for my siblings they now receive Medicare and although they struggle with the costs of insulin and prescription costs they can see their doctors regularly to monitor and treat this potential life threatening disease. The Medicare single payer system has allowed them to continue to be relatively healthy adults. My sister (now 69) had limited healthcare coverage although she worked for years as a registered nurse at Rutland Hospital for most of her working life. As a result of high deductibles, her diabetes went untreated for years. Eventually she was eligible for Medicare and was able to receive the medical care that she had needed years before. Of course it was at a cost to her and the medical system that had to respond with necessary medical interventions that could have been prevented if she had had affordable access to primary care. I believe that it's critical that VT. step up to the plate and ensure that all Vermonters receive primary medical care.

We can't wait for the federal government to come up with a plan that will predictably have high deductibles, an ineffective, costly paperwork bureaucracy with multiple insurance plans, coverage that is constantly changing, exclusions and roadblocks at every turn. Governor Scott committed VT to providing health care in his inaugural address. If Vermont adopts a UPC program we will be on our way to realizing this commitment.

I strongly urge you to consider H248.

Sincerely,

Linda Brown

17 Lower Meadow Lane
Bristol, VT. 05443

2/23/17:

I urge you and your colleagues to support universal primary care in Vermont as the first step to universal health care. As a retired geriatric primary care provider I can say with certainty that access to primary care caught illness earlier and saved many trips to the emergency room thereby making this the most cost effective health care.

Thank-you for your consideration.

Joanne Sandberg-Cook, APRN

Thetford Center
802-785-3101

I write to urge you to help pass H248, asking the joint fiscal office to propose financing options for universal primary care. Health care is such a crucial issue for us. Passage of this bill, which would not cost any money, would forward the cause.

Please share my concern with other committee members. Thank you.

Ann M. Ross
Middlebury

2/22/17:

Dear House Healthcare Committee members,

I'm writing to urge you to pass H248, the universal Primary Care bill. I feel strongly that healthcare is a basic right. Moreover, it seems that uncontrolled healthcare insurance costs has negatively affected town government, schools, private companies, individuals, families, etc. Please be a hero and pass H248, and let me know if there's anything I can do to help.

Thank you,

Tracey Kawecki
Peter Kawecki
18 Hazen Street
Norwich, VT

Dear Representative Lippert,

I am writing to you and all House Health Care Committee members to add SUPPORT OF H 284, which provides a path to "Universal, Publicly Funded Primary Care for All Vermonters". I want to emphasize that It will be critical that mental health care, including substance abuse services, are included in this plan!

With all the threats of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) being recklessly dismantled, it is all the more imperative that Vermont is ready to take action and prepare options that will provide universal, publicly funded primary care for all Vermonters.

With the passage of H284, the Joint Fiscal Office can create financing options for consideration by next year's Legislative session, 2018. Accessible, publicly funded primary health care will save Vermont lives and money.

The creation and process for establishing this program has been professionally and thoughtfully laid out.

Please support the passage of H 284! Thank you!

Sincerely,

Brenda Lindemann, MPH
Plainfield, VT 05667

520 Lindemann Lane
(802) 454-8559

I represent the Board of Directors of the Vermont Alliance for Retired Americans (VT ARA), as Board Secretary; and myself as a concerned citizen.

My name is Walter Carpenter and I live in Montpelier, Vermont. I am writing to thank the House Health Committee for taking up H 248, the Universal Primary Care bill. This bill has been sponsored by two dozen representatives, including three members of the House Health Committee: Representative Betsy Dunn, Representative Brian Cina, and ranking member, Representative Timothy Briglin. Due to conflicting schedules with work, I will be unable to be at Friday's introduction to H 248, though I definitely will be there in spirit and in future work on H 248.

By now, we all know that what is coming out of the unpredictable morass of Washington, D.C. on the horizons in health care is most likely not going to be good. Universal Primary Care (UPC) was needed years ago, never mind in the present and the immediate future. As someone who nearly died for want of a primary care physician ten years ago, I know in a personal sense what it means that H 248 will help to save lives. The lives that it spares are our own. Access to primary care is so often blocked by insidious deductibles, co-pays, and network problems. All of these dogged me a decade ago. The end results of these barriers placed in my way to primary care were that, when I finally did get to a primary care physician, it did not look like my future would be ten months, never mind ten years. There was a point where my survival for the next ten weeks was in doubt. One doctor pronounced to me that I had entered “ the prayer phase.” I am sixty-one now and still consider it a miracle of the first magnitude that I can attend the committee meetings on health care like I have been for so long to promote health care reform and stop more Vermonters from going through what I did back then. All of the mental and physical trauma I went through during that ordeal could have been avoided if only I had been able to access primary care at the outset of the disease.

Having health insurance is not enough. At the time I was lucky enough to have employer-sponsored insurance. This insurance, however, did its best to block me from primary care. The Affordable Care Act has all but done the same thing for many Vermonters, stopping access with co-pays and high deductibles while ensuring vast profits for insurance companies. Universal primary care is desperately needed in Vermont and, as someone with my history with primary care can attest, I cannot emphasize this fact any more than to say that UPC is much more than whether it involves taxes or fees, or that Vermont can afford it. Even though this bill contains no appropriations, it should be remembered by all of us involved in working for health care reform that Universal Primary Care is ultimately about lives, our lives, the lives of every Vermonter.

I wanted to express my sincere thanks for the House Health Committee taking it up, the sponsorship of the three representatives on the committee, and the interest in this awfully important issue by the House Health Committee.

Sincerely,

Walter Carpenter, Montpelier, Vermont 05602

wcarpent@gmail.com

I am writing today to urge your support for accessible primary health care in Vermont. Wouldn't it be great if we could lead by example? Here are some reasons why this is important:

Vermonters will save money: Providing publicly-funded primary care would lower health care premiums for every one. Access to Primary Care will reduce the need for expensive hospitalizations and emergency room visits by treating conditions earlier and preventing disease
Vermonters will be healthier: Numerous studies have shown accessible primary care is the single best step to improving health in communities.

Vermonters deserve better: Today, too many Vermonters are put at risk when they lose their jobs or benefits or fall on hard times. It's time to raise the bar in health care access in Vermont!

Thank you for taking the time to hear my concerns. Please take the time to share with committee members.

Sincerely,

Marie Frieze, Burlington

Committee Assistant Starr,

I am writing to voice my support for this Universal Primary Care Bill and to ask you to share this message with the committee members.

Thank you.

Millard Cox, Ripton, Vermont

Dear Rep. Lippert:

I am writing this letter to express my support of bill H.248 (Universal Primary Care) and to also thank your committee for taking up this crucial bill. By ensuring that all Vermonters receive primary health care, regardless of income, we will continue to demonstrate that we are a state that truly cares for the health and wellbeing of our state residents, while at the same time reducing how much the state spends on health care.

In Governor Scott's inaugural address, he stressed that we must meet our moral obligation to provide access to affordable health care and he also stressed the importance of retaining and attracting working age population to the state of Vermont. By implementing Universal Primary Care ("UPC"), I believe it will help Vermont realize both of these important goals.

One of the things that has impressed me about living in Vermont has been its stance on health care. Shortly after retiring, my employer eliminated insurance coverage for its retirees. As a resident of Vermont, I was fortunate to be able to purchase affordable insurance for my family. Similarly, in these uncertain days, I am sure many working age families are struggling with how they will be able to pay for the medical needs of their family. With UPC, Vermont will be a beacon in a sea of darkness making it a desirable place to live and work.

At a time when federal level health care programs are in flux and are at risk of being reduced and/or eliminated, I believe it is even more critical that Vermont adopts a UPC program that will give us the best value for the medical dollars we spend, otherwise, we may in fact have a state medical crisis on our hands. I believe we are in risk of having a large percentage of Vermonters not coverage by health insurance, which will only serve to deteriorate the health of those living in the state and further drive up the cost of health care. I do not believe that we can afford to wait and see what happens at the federal level and must act now to get this important legislation in place.

Sincerely,

Barbara Wilson

977 Bates Road

Shoreham, VT 05770

2/21/17:

Representative Lippert / Assistant Starr,

I believe that House Bill 248 would provide a foundation of health care for every Vermonter. It would allow for substantial savings by reducing emergency room services. Without health care security small problems can become big problems

with attendant inflated costs. Please help provide Universal Primary Care.

Sincerely,

Alton Smith

We are writing to share some encouragement and concerns about S.53 and H.248. We have been supporters of the single-payer health care model for many years. We still are supporters in spite of the fact that we had to spend over 6 hours on the phone with Vermont Health Connect in order to renew our insurance policies this year. We are willing to put up with the flaws in the system because without the Affordable Care Act, we would have no insurance at all.

We are also willing to pay more in taxes if that means we enjoy the benefit of having access to affordable primary health care. However, both my wife and I are going to be getting our health insurance through Medicare in the next few years. (Before the 2019 date set for implementing the all-payer plane.) If we see a large increase in our personal or business taxes at time when we can least afford it, and we receive no added insurance benefit from the increase, we will be forced to move our residence and our business to New Hampshire.

We are sure we are not the only Vermont retirees who will be in the situation. It is our hope that the legislature will find a way to achieve universal access without penalizing retirees on Medicare or forcing them to leave the state

Sincerely,
Greg Soula
Cory Barbis

Dear House Healthcare Committee members:

My wife and I are strongly in favor of Universal Health Care in Vermont. This streamlined coverage will save the state and individuals money through efficiencies in paperwork and earlier intervention to stave off costlier, more serious illnesses.

With the threat to dismantle our present healthcare system by the President and Congress, we need to be proactive and institute an all-payer system for all Vermonters.

Please pass the Universal Primary Care bill H. 248.

Fletcher Dean

PO Box 2

E. Calais, VT 05650

fletcherd@hotmail.com

Doctor's Story for Primary A Care

February 21, 2017

Every day I work at Cambridge Health Center, I am thrilled to provide Primary Care to my patients. As a Family Practice doctor for 22 years, I love the breadth of primary care from caring for newborns such as 3 day old Charlotte whom I saw with her delighted but overwhelmed mother to 85 year old Cullen who came with his wife Flora of sixty years. Listening to his story of increasing shortness of breath, hearing abnormal sounds in his lungs and viewing his chest x-ray, I was able to diagnose and treat his congestive heart failure. He returned the following week feeling much improved after adjusting his medicines. Fortunately both Charlotte's and Cullen's primary care visits were covered respectively by Doctor Dynasaur and Medicare.

Presently as esteemed members of the Vermont legislature, you have the opportunity to pass the Universal Primary Care bill H248 and S53. This legislation does not involve raising funds but asks the joint fiscal office to generate a detailed cost plan for universal primary care. Studies have already shown that primary care access which covers care from cradle to grave including breastfeeding support, orthopedic issues of all ages, mental health and substance abuse

prevention and treatment, dementia and hospice,... ensures a healthier population. The cost savings of outpatient medicine vs emergency/hospital care are enormous. I urge you to support this life enhancing legislation.

Please contact me at any time and many thanks you for all you do.

With sincerity

Anna Carey MD

Family Practice Associates

Cambridge, VT 05444

802 644 5114

annacarey2@gmail.com

cell: 802 363 1575

Hi Loring,

Please let your whole Health Care committee know how pleased i am to learn that you will be walking through H. 248 on Friday. It was hard to see so many consumers there in the Cedar Creek Room last Thursday to support Universal Primary Care with absolutely no press coverage. Yes, with all the great unknowns at the Federal level, we must keep working at the state level to find ways to fund this much needed priority. All this bill does is ask for a funding analysis so that more can be fleshed out for possible implementation in 2019.

Please give it speedy consideration as a way to provide for all Vermonters health care without having to involve businesses participation and thus saving their bottom line.

Peace,

Mary Alice Bisbee

3 Prospect St., Apt. 308

Montpelier,VT 05602

Tel. (802)223-8140

2/20/17

Please pass the universal primary care bill H248 and share this message with the committee members. Thank you very much.

Monique Gerbex

I ask you to please pass the Universal Primary Care bills H248 (House) and S53 (Senate). The current bill asks the joint fiscal office to generate financing options for universal primary care. This legislation will not cost any money, so there is no reason to delay.

My husbands health care premium is low cost but the family plan is outrageously expensive. We used to be subsidized by the Green Mountain Care Board but those subsidies were cut once the ACA was enacted because of what is referred to as the family glitch in the ACA making me ineligible to shop on the open market and receive subsidy. At our income, we are not able to cover the cost of my husbands family plan and I have been without medical insurance from the time the Green Moutnain Care Board cut subsidies nearly two years ago.

I have been unable to find a job offering health care. During a spell of unemployment I received a patient assistance program from NVRH at 100 percent coverage when I was unemployed. I had

some pulmonary function tests done and had to pay for the specialist to evaluate them at another hospital. I was also charged equipment rental fees. Next, I received a part time job which elevated some of our financial stress. My patient assistance program was immediately cut back significantly. I have been told that I need to get a skin cancer screening done due to an unusual mole. I have not done so due to costs. I feel that I live on a wing and a prayer, definitely a second class citizen given my health care situation. I am sure there are numerous stories like my own and because I am so aware as to what life is like without health care I beg that you pass these bills that would at least allow access to all in my situation to primary care. My understanding is that these bills would have a extremely low cost to Vermonters. Please address this crucial matter during this legislative session.

thank you. I look forward to a response.

Danute Karuza

Dana Karuza-Tulp

Dear Loring and other members of the House Health Care Committee,
I am writing to express my support for Universal Healthcare in our state. As an employee of UVM Medical Center and a Patient and Family Volunteer there, I believe that these bills are a great first step to ensuring access to healthcare in Vermont.

From what I have read these bills will provide universal access to primary health providers which will cut down on the more costly trips to the ER that many without insurance are forced to do when they are sick. It will also help people manage chronic conditions to stay healthier and avoid costly hospital stays.

My only concern is that there seems to be a shortage of primary care providers in the state - especially in rural areas - and I believe there needs to be something done to improve this situation to make these bills completely effective. That could be figuring out how to attract more physicians to the state or possibly allowing Nurse Practitioners and Physicians Assistants to assume a larger role in primary care. I'm sure there are other solutions that could help overcome this situation.

Thanks for working to provide healthcare access for all Vermonters.

Best,

Laurinda Hulce

South Burlington, VT

Hello,

I am asking you to please share this letter with House Health Care Committee Members at your earliest convenience.

I feel it is very important that the Universal Primary Health care Bill (H248) be considered during this legislative session, as soon as possible, in fact. This bill asks for no financing currently, but will put into place the mechanism needed to move forward on Primary Health Care for all Vermonters.

This movement is vital for a number of reasons, I feel. Obviously, the Affordable Care Act and Medicare are in jeopardy. If these are repealed, a lot of people will be thrown into the dubious position of having to attend an emergency room for basic care, or deciding to delay care because

of out-of-pocket expense, until a situation worsens and requires much more care at much greater cost.

A strong primary health care system will ensure a high level of health in our population, increasing productivity and reducing the need for more serious medical intervention in many cases. Preventive care makes sense, we should support it in Vermont.

H248 already has much support in Vermont, including Vermont Businesses for Social Responsibility, AFL-CIO VT., and Dr. Alan Ramsey, former member of the Green Mountain Care Board, amongst others. Their testimony would provide more insight as to why this legislation is so important.

I hope you will look into this bill in your committee this week, it matters very much to all Vermonters.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely, Kathryn Tilton

5 Thomas Street

Middlebury, VT 05753

802-233-5196

Dear Legislator,

I am writing to you today to encourage you to support Universal Primary Care bills H248 (House) and S53 (Senate). I have been hoping for this to become law, since attending "Dr. Deb's" first informational gathering, in Greensboro, many years ago. Please consider the excellent reasons for making Universal Health Care, another of Vermont's chances of leading the country into a sustainable health care model.

Thank you very much, Lynette Courtney Greensboro Bend, Vt.

Dear Ms. Starr,

Please share this with the members of the House Health Care Committee (I have written to Rep. Lippert separately):

I am writing to urge you to support Vermont House Bill H248 in order to get the ball rolling on Universal Primary Care for Vermonters. Our state has been a leader for the nation in important areas such as environmental protection and equal rights for all. We demonstrate how these are worthwhile investments that help build a healthy economy and a healthy citizenry. With Universal Primary Care, we have yet another opportunity to lead the country and demonstrate how to achieve affordable health care for all (once we figure it out, which i am confident we will!).

Thank you for your time and ongoing efforts on behalf of Vermonters.

Yours sincerely,

Nina Jaffe

144 Governor Peck Road

Jericho, Vermont 05465

Please pass the Universal Primary Care bills H248 (House) and S53 (Senate).
All Americans need this.
Elouise S. Ohlson

Dear House Committee on Health Care:

This is in support of H.248, which calls for universal, publicly funded primary care for all Vermonters.

The League of Women Voters joined other organizations in support of universal primary care at a press conference at the State House recently.

The League of Women Voters does not jump on bandwagons.

We study an issue and come to member consensus before reaching an advocacy position. The LWVUS used that process before adopting a position in favor of a national single payer health care system more than 20 years ago.

While continuing to pursue that goal, the League recognized that the individual states could provide models for the nation. In Vermont the League conducted its own study, adopted in 2005, to reach a position more amenable to state-level implementation. That position is the basis for the League's strong support for H.248. Our position can be seen at http://www.lwvofvt.org/files/position_on_social_policy.pdf.

Most health care is primary care. Accessible, publicly funded health care will save money. When patients do not delay a doctor visit because of cost, more complex, expensive care is avoided.

Include mental health care and substance abuse counseling to primary care, and even more problems are prevented. Publicly funded primary care is an investment in public health.

Pass this bill to set the framework for this important basic human need. Let the Joint Fiscal Office provide a way to make universal primary care a reality for Vermonters in these uncertain time.

For the League of Women Voters of Vermont,
Catherine Rader, Member of the Board

Loring Starr, Committee Assistant, House Health and Welfare Committee

Dear Ms Starr,

As a citizen advocate for health care for all Vermonters, I am sending this letter with the request that it be shared with each of the members of the Health and Welfare Committee.

Thanks to the members of the House Health Care Committee for advancing H248 on the House calendar this week. I hope that this will be the beginning of a successful effort to provide access to universal primary care for everyone in Vermont.

I was in the State Capitol last week when Drs Deb Richter, Alan Ramsey, and Sue Deppe spoke so clearly about these matters. What I heard convinced me that the legislation that is proposed in S53 and H248 is urgently needed, will save lives and money, and is doable now. And it will have the added beneficial result of helping businesses, school boards, and non-profits provide more affordable insurance for their employees.

This is the time to press forward with legislation that will provide Universal Primary Care for all Vermonters.

People have many reasons for putting off going to a doctor for help when they become ill. Facing high deductibles or not having any insurance, they may be trying to save money. Many

of our citizens are now living on the edge of poverty. When they become ill, they hesitate to go for medical help because it may be a choice between paying a doctor or paying the rent or buying food. Without the attention of a doctor, they may become sicker and finally go to an emergency room. And in some cases a disease that might have been treated earlier develops into a critical or fatal illness.

When these factors are considered, it should be clear that for Vermont to provide universal primary care would save money, save lives, and relieve many people from the fear of getting ill without access to medical care!

Thank you for your efforts on our behalf.

Rev. George Klohck

Middlebury

mgklohck@comcast.net

989-7363

Dear Ms. Starr-

Please convey to the members of the House Health Care Committee that I support the Universal Primary Care bills H248 (House) and S53 (Senate). Everyone deserves health care and education and I am willing to pay for it in a controlled way (through our taxes). As a nurse, it scares me how people are turned away for healthcare due to what they have for insurance. It also scares me how the cost for health insurance is out of control. Every single person in this world will need help with their bodies at some point while they are alive.

Please, please support these bills.

Sincerely,

Stacy McKiernan, RN

Shrewsbury, Vermont

Dear Loring,

As a family nurse practitioner who has worked in Vermont for the last 22 years, I am writing in support of passing the Universal Primary Care bills H248 (House) and S53 (Senate). This is especially important if the current administration guts the national Affordable Care Act.

Universal primary care will save money; lowering health care premiums for every one, reduce the need for expensive hospitalizations and emergency room visits by treating conditions earlier and preventing disease, and is the single best step to improving health in communities.

Please set an example for the nation by passing **UNIVERSAL PRIMARY CARE!**

Thank you,

Deb

Deborah Van Dyke, NP

Family Nurse practitioner

Mad River Family Practice

Waitsfield VT 05673

I hope you support the Primary Health Care bill H 248. The small cost per person would undoubtedly save more money in the long run, because primary care is preventative.

Thank you.

Judith Kniffin, Bennington, VT

Please share this request with the Health Care Committee Members.

Please hold a hearing and pass H248, Universal Primary Care. This bill asks the joint fiscal office to propose financing options. Universal primary health care would be significant for the health and well-being of all Vermonters. H248 is just a first step that will not cost any money. Universal Primary Care in Vermont is supported by Vermont Businesses for Social Responsibility, AFL-CIO Vermont State Labor Council, Vermont Rights and Democracy, and Dr. Alan Ramsey, former member of the Green Mountain Care Board.

Sincerely,
Laurelyn Veatch
Plainfield, VT

Dear Loring,

I think primary care in Vermont is very important, and do not want to see anyone falling through the cracks. My understanding is that HB 248 will fund primary care enabling it to cover all Vermonters, at hardly any extra cost. Please pass House Bill 248. I'm asking you, as committee assistant, to share this with your committee members.

Thanks!
Sincerely,
Jerry Schneider
Hardwick, VT.

Please share this with your committee members.

Just a quick note to say I support H 248. It is past time that we address this health situation. The cost of health care is inequitably borne by citizens in the state. People in need are not being served. The cost to business owners is inappropriate.

Dave Grundy
East Montpelier

I am writing to express my support for the pending bill regarding Universal Primary Health Care. It is past time to consider health care a basic human right. Please support this initiative.

Sincerely,
James D Cahill, MD

Dear House Health Care Committee,

I went to a health rally in at the Burlington High School on January 13, 2017 and was terribly impressed with the information I received there. Not only was i impressed but received and encouraged as Congress gets rid of the ACA pulling the rug out on millions of Americans.

My understanding at that time and now is that this plan would save the day - saving Vermonter's money, catch and cradle our Vermont Health Care System while giving health care for all Vermonters.

While we watch with bated breath waiting for the hammer to fall it would be encouraging for our state to move quickly on passing these laws. Anxiety creates many health care issues and stress is what we are all under watching our Federal Government becomes unglued.

This current bill asks the joint fiscal office to generate financing options for universal primary care. Let's get this legislation voted on and my understanding it will not cost any money, so there is no reason to delay!

Please share with your committee members.

Sincerely,

Cathy Tudhope

1697 Main Street

Isle La Motte, VT 05463

Dear Representative,

I am writing to ask you to support Bill #H248, the Universal Primary Care bill. I think we really need to do this, especially in the face of uncertainty for our national Affordable Care Act. I'm very happy to see Vermont leading the nation in supporting basic human rights at so many levels. Please add this to our list of successes and help to make it a reality this year.

I ask you to please share my request with the entire House Health Care Committee.

Thanks for all you do.

Kate Kinney

North Hero, Vermont

We urge you to be sure Universal Primary Care is considered and passed during this legislative session. Universal Primary Care bills H248 and S53 are very important to us and to most Vermonters. It is way past time for Americans to stop having to worry about basic health care for their families. As with civil unions and other progressive legislation, this effort can start right here in Vermont.

Please share our concerns with your committee members.

Gillian Randall & Ed Davis

68 Woodland Way

Charlotte, Vermont 05445

Please pass the Universal Primary Care bills H248 (House) and S53 (Senate).

Thanks,

-Erik Leo

— 50 Maple Street

Winooski, VT 05404

802-258-0551

Please share H248 with all House health care committee members. Both economically and morally for a healthy population, we need preventative medical care.

Gayle Poinsette

802.479.5460

poinsette@valley.net

Please ask the Committee members to pass H 248 on my behalf.

Thank you, John Oda

Please pass this word on from constituent Martin Maitner:

Please vote yes to pass the Universal Primary Care bill H248.

Sincerely,

Martin Maitner

Sunday 2/19/:

Hi Bill—The UPC bill seems to be a sensible Plan B for the earlier more ambitious efforts. I hope you can support it. —John Pierce

Hi there. We are writing in support of Vermont Health Care for All (Everybody in, nobody out) to urge you to support H248 and S53. We believe strongly in universal healthcare and are proud to live in a state where lots of folks share our views. We urge you to do so too. We believe, in addition to the moral imperative for universal health care, that it will reduce costs and result in a community with better health.

Regards,

Sue and John Morris

Make every dollar you spend a vote for the future you want.

Sue Morris

Editide

1392 VT Rte 232

Marshfield, VT 05658

Please pass the Universal Primary Care bills H248 and S53. Vermont can be a leader and move toward providing health care for our citizens.

--Sally Hillary