

From: Wendy Koenig [mailto:Wendy.Koenig@uvm.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, February 07, 2017 4:01 PM
To: Ron Wild
Subject: Testimony on H.72

To: Members of the House Committee on General, Housing and Military Affairs
From: Wendy Koenig, Director of Federal and State Relations, UVM
Date: February 7, 2017
Re: H.72

Officials from the University of Vermont have recently met with Adjutant General Cray regarding H.72. UVM fully supports this bill in concept. We do have two important issues that we'd like the committee to consider:

1) Striking the sentence beginning on page 2, line 13 of the bill that currently reads, "A member of the Vermont National Guard attending the University of Vermont and State Agricultural College or a Vermont State College under this section shall be charged the applicable resident tuition rate, regardless of the residency status of the member, which shall be paid on behalf of the member by the Corporation." UVM is in accord with all members of the Guard receiving Vermont resident tuition, but would prefer to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding or other similar legal document with VSAC and/or the Vermont National Guard to achieve this result. We would like to avoid an individual piece of legislation modifying our tuition setting or residency requirements. Our respectful suggestion is that this legislation remain silent on matters of tuition and residency, which are uniquely within the governance of the University.

2) There is no provision in the bill for a funding source. UVM supports this initiative, but seeks reassurance that a state funding source will be identified and included in legislation.