

To: Denise Diehl, Committee Assistant,
House Government Operations, "ddiehl"
<ddiehl@leg.state.vt.us>

To: Chair, House Government Operations,
Maida Townsend
<mtownsend@leg.state.vt.us>

VT Acupuncture Association position and
recommendations RE: HB 684

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you in my official context as VTAA board director and treasurer to make clear the position of the VTAA on behalf of the acupuncturists we represent with regard to HB 684 as it regards the scope of practice of acupuncturists.

Following the recommendations of The 'VTAA Governance Committee' the VTAA Board of directors has agreed by vote to recommend legislators pull the acupuncture scope changes out of the OPR bill.

Our membership voted at the annual meeting that if OPR made major changes to our requested changes that the Membership

wanted to consider them. We were blindsided by these significant changes that were introduced with no advance notice. Our profession has not been given reasonable and due process. We are sympathetic to the administrative and regulatory challenges voiced by OPR re: the ADT program; however we've not been presented with any evidence of imminent harm or risk to patients that would justify this rushed action. The membership we have heard from in the past few days have all been concerned about this sudden and drastic change. We would like to work with OPR during the next year to resolve these issues.

We are not opposing the need for changes to the administration of the program but feel that it is unwarranted to rush a change of this magnitude through without allowing us to thoughtfully contribute to the discussion in consultation with our membership and the patients affected by this change. We think legislators will be empathetic to our position.

baylen K. slote, licensed acupuncturist
VTAA board director, treasurer

