



5/1/18

Greetings:

We write today to express our opposition to S.105 – An act relating to consumer justice enforcement which is currently being considered by the House Committee on Judiciary.

Vermont City Marathon and Relay ("VCM") will be celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary on May 27. Although in year 30 of running the largest one-day sporting event in Vermont, RunVermont was established in its present 501(c) status in 2004.

Not only does RunVermont host this amazing nationally touted race, but also RunVermont puts on several other running races throughout the year, RunVermont provides running programs for youth ages four to 12 throughout the state. We foster healthy lifestyles through excellent training programs. VCM provides a platform for fundraising for other non-profits throughout the state and, over the years, has assisted with raising over \$500,000 for various Vermont non-profits.

VCM race weekend occurs over Memorial Day weekend each year. We are proud to claim that the weekend festivities add approximately \$3.5 million to the State's tourism revenue.

Vermont should not and cannot afford to lose these important dollars, or risk losing programs that contribute to a healthy Vermont population. In our opinion, S.105 could serve as a vehicle that causes such a devastating loss.

The Vermont judiciary is well-suited to evaluate on a case-by-case basis whether contract and waiver language are unconscionable. To enact such hardline legislation would jeopardize RunVermont's ability to grow its events and align with critical corporate sponsors.

Being vulnerable to potential consumer fraud claims and massive fines for unconscionable language places many non-profits in an untenable position. Such claims heretofore were adequately addressed by our court system.

As a non-profit dedicated to the health and well-being of all Vermonters with the ability to bring in significant revenue to the State, we respectfully request that you vote NO on S.105.

Respectfully submitted,

*Karen Allen*

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