



STATE OF VERMONT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

February 6, 2017

The Honorable Philip B. Scott
Governor
Pavilion Office Building
109 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05609-0201

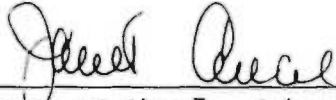
Dear Governor Scott:

The Emergency Board met on January 19, 2017 to reach a consensus as to the official revenue forecast and the Medicaid caseload and expenditure estimates for fiscal year 2018. At this meeting two formal motions were proposed, pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 305a, to determine the official State revenue estimate and the Medicaid caseload and expenditure estimates. These motions passed unanimously with all members of the Board voting to accept these estimates. In both cases, the estimates were based on consensus forecasts with representatives of the General Assembly and the Executive Branch making a joint recommendation to the Board.

The Governor's proposed budget was presented on January 24 and the supporting documents have now been submitted to the respective Appropriations Committees. Our Fiscal Office analysis and review of the proposal indicates that the proposed budget depends on figures that are inconsistent with the Medicaid caseload and expenditure estimate. If our understanding is correct, this is a break with decades of past practice and undermines the consensus process.

We respectfully request that you call a meeting of the Emergency Board to discuss the basis for this apparent inconsistency and if there is additional information obtained after the January 19 meeting that warrants a revision of the Medicaid caseload and expenditure estimates, an opportunity to review and revise those estimates. Given the time frame for developing the budget, we ask that the meeting be scheduled as soon as possible but not later than February 15.

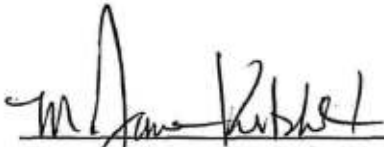
Sincerely,



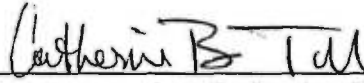
Representative Janet Ancel, Chair
House Committee on Ways and Means



Senator Ann Cummings, Chair
Senate Committee on Finance



Senator Jane Kitchel, Chair
Senate Committee on Appropriations



Representative Catherine Toll, Chair
House Committee on Appropriations