

## Rebecca Buck

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**From:** Karen Lafayette <kmlafayette@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 10, 2017 11:37 PM  
**To:** Jane Kitchel; Alice Nitka; Richard Sears; Robert Starr; Richard McCormack; Tim Ashe; rawestman@gmail.com  
**Cc:** Rebecca Buck  
**Subject:** VCAP Economic Program Testimony on H.518  
**Attachments:** CAA recommendations FINALfor House Commerce 4-17.pdf; MBDP Statewide Two Page 2017 REVISED April.pdf; MBDPTESBillCherry\_CVOEO.docx; MBDP in s.135 as INTRODUCED.docx

Dear Senators

I'm sending you these documents on behalf of the Vermont Community Action Agency Program directors, as their testimony on the FY 2018 Budget proposal.. They were unable to testify in person due to the limited number of time slots. They submitted legislation in the House this year (H.480 <http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0480/H-0480%20As%20Introduced.pdf>) which included requests for increase investment in, and the enhancement of 6 existing economic programs with proven results to help move families out of poverty and on the path to economic independence.

The Senate Committee on Economic Development Housing and General Affairs did take testimony on these programs the CAPs put forth, and did include an increase for the Micro-Business Development Program in S.135. Because the bill had appropriations in it, section H.2 (MBDP) and others were removed from the bill to be considered along with other appropriations in the budget bill.

We hope you can support this important economic program that creates jobs, increases incomes and puts people on the path to economic independence.

Thank You on behalf of

Steve Geller, Executive Director - Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA), President Vermont Community Action Partnership [sgeller@sevca.org](mailto:sgeller@sevca.org)

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