



**Vermont  
Association of  
Area Agencies  
on Aging**

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**Member Agencies:**  
Age Well  
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Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging  
Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging  
Senior Solutions

## **Senate Health and Welfare Committee**

### **Testimony on H.608: Creating an Older Vermonters Act Work Group Janet Hunt, Executive Director Vermont Association of Area Agencies on Aging March 16, 2018**

My name is Janet Hunt and I am the Executive Director for the Vermont Association of Area Agencies on Aging, otherwise known as V4A.

I represent the five non-profit Area Agencies on Aging located throughout Vermont. These agencies respond to the needs and directions of older Vermonters and their families by offering information, referral and assistance, health insurance counseling – specifically Medicare, options counseling, family caregiver support, nutrition counseling and connections to meals, wellness programs and supports to Veterans to live independently in their own homes.

We believe that the Older Vermonters Act Work Group is inclusive of partner agencies and adult citizens of Vermont who will provide comprehensive recommendations and strategic plans to support the Older Americans Act, Choices for Care and the Vermont State Plan on Aging.

The role of the Older Vermonters Act Work Group will ensure that critical services are needed to keep older adults healthy and independent. The recommendations and outcomes from the work group will be a major vehicle for collaboration, coordination and organization of a wide delivery of services to older adults and their caregivers.

The Older Vermonters Act Work Group provides a pivotal opportunity for all of us to embrace healthy aging and commit to prepare for and invest in the later stages of the lives of all adults in our state.

V4A wholeheartedly supports H.608.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify before you today.