

# Reclaiming the Promise

Only 16% of revenues for Vermont State Colleges comes from the state and our in-state tuition ranks among the highest in the nation! In fact, 84% of VSC revenue comes from tuition, placing an unfair burden on Vermont students and families.

When the Vermont State Colleges were created in 1961, the enabling legislation explicitly stated that the state would support the VSC "in whole or substantial part." This is no longer true. We urge the legislature to increase funding THIS YEAR, and to make an ongoing commitment to returning to that level of support for Vermont families and our communities.

The lack of state funding is detrimental to the VSC community in the following way:

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As a student who is graduating, I fear the amount of debt I will have to pay off. I wonder if I will ever be able to live by myself while being financially stable. I am truly scared for my little brother's future and the stress and issues he'll have financially. It's terrifying

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Please support the request for \$4 million increase to the VSC System, along with an annual inflator.

Sincerely,

Name BreAnna Morse Voting Town Castleton

Home email brm09136@castleton.edu Cell Phone # 802-989-2382

I am a Senior at Castleton University

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The lack of state funding is detrimental to the VSC community in the following way:

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I have been fortunate enough to have my parents pay for my education. Some of my friends rather do not. I am so upset at seeing my friends that are extremely intelligent and productive drop out because of the cost of school. There are too many kind, smart, and good people that could have changed the world if they were given the opportunity to get a degree. Please hear me out. Help us.

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Please support the request for \$4 million increase to the VSC System, along with an annual inflator.

Sincerely,

Name Corey Alberico Voting Town Castleton

Home email alberico58@gmail.com Cell Phone # 603 401 6164

I am a Senior at Castleton University

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Many of my peers and I struggle on a daily basis to remain full time students due to lack of money. The lack of state funding that we receive seriously hurts and affects us to the point of dropping out all together. Remaining in an undergrad program is crucial to getting a decent paying job in the future, and we all need to work to survive. We are in fear that none of this will come true and that dropping out is the only solution.

Please support the request for \$4 million increase to the VSC System, along with an annual inflator.

Sincerely,

Name Lyss Eaton Voting Town Tinmouth

Home email are12280@castleton.edu Cell Phone # 802-393-4314

I am a Sophomore at Castleton University

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The lack of state funding is detrimental to the VSC community in the following way:

I am a first year student who fears for my financial future because I will be so much in college debt. My older brother, who was at Castleton but transferred to ~~VT~~ Vermont Tech for his degree, so my family could afford both of us to get a college education. He is willing to sacrifice ~~but~~ but even at a tech school we struggle with other expenses. I would love my brother to be able to join me at Castleton, <sup>when he should be</sup>

Please support the request for \$4 million increase to the VSC System, along with an annual inflator.

Sincerely,

Name Sarah Robbins Voting Town Williston

Home email \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone # (802) 383-8777

I am a CU student at Castleton University

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In My experience, the state of Vermont is suffering economically. The best way to stop the loss of Vermont workers, would be to keep Vermont students here. The other side of this coin is the fact that most of Vermonters are suffering. The biggest obstacle ~~for~~ ~~for~~ in the way for most students is the ~~debt~~ debt.

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Please support the request for \$4 million increase to the VSC System, along with an annual inflator.

Sincerely,

Name Mitchell Robert Stowell Voting Town Lyndon

Home email M1508270@CSC.VT.edu Cell Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

I am a sophomore at Castleton

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The lack of state funding is detrimental to the VSC community in the following way:

As of right now I expect to have over 50 thousand dollars in debt once I graduate. During the summer I work full time to pay for a portion of my college loans. My parents both work full time as well to help me pay for school. Sometimes it feels like them working as much as they do it's not enough to pay for my loans. I am not a first generation college student so my parents know as well that college is getting harder and harder to pay for compared to when they went to college.

Please support the request for \$4 million increase to the VSC System, along with an annual inflator.

Sincerely,

Name Dillon Danyew Voting Town Windsor

Home email dd209090@castleton.edu Cell Phone # 802-230-8138

I am a Senior at Castleton University

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The lack of state funding is detrimental to the VSC community in the following way:

Coming from a single parent family I have ~~so~~ experienced the stress and hardships of watching my mom put two children through college. Currently, my mom is resorting to selling my childhood home because of the two tuitions. Even though this isn't the ideal situation, I saw this coming because of the rising cost of college across the country. We knew what we were getting into.

Please support the request for \$4 million increase to the VSC System, along with an annual inflator.

Sincerely,

Name Jacob Coburn Voting Town Newport VT

Home email tcob111@Castleton.edu Cell Phone # 802-323-9751

I am a Junior at Castleton

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The lack of state funding is detrimental to the VSC community in the following way:

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The rising cost of tuition has greatly burdened my family. Both of my parents have to now work longer hours in order to pay for my college. My father works 7 days a week which means I barely get to see him while I'm here. My mother works 5 days a week and also is never around. My parents are making great sacrifices so I can get an education. However, I fear paying for it is running them into the ground.

Please support the request for \$4 million increase to the VSC System, along with an annual inflator.

Sincerely,

Name Hunter D'Agostino Voting Town Barre, Vermont

Home email hunterdays@gmail.com Cell Phone # 802 498 8027

I am a Student at Castleton

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The lack of state funding is detrimental to the VSC community in the following way:

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I am a Vermont resident who will have accumulated approximately \$60,000 in debt upon graduation. I receive some assistance from my family ~~but~~ my younger brother will soon start college as well. I come from a single parent household but my father makes just over the amount to receive little to no financial assistance. I work three jobs at just under 40 hours a week to help pay for school on top of being a student. I request that you consider hardworking students and their families from our state. Please support the request for \$4 million increase to the VSC System, along with an annual inflator.

Sincerely,

Name Erna Blaklock Voting Town Woodstock, VT

Home email egbol020@castleton.edu Cell Phone # 802-299-6738

I am a student at Castleton University

# Reclaiming the Promise

*Only 16% of revenues for Vermont State Colleges comes from the state and our in-state tuition ranks among the highest in the nation! In fact, 84% of VSC revenue comes from tuition, placing an unfair burden on Vermont students and families.*

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*The lack of state funding is detrimental to the VSC community in the following way:*

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*Being an out-of-state student, who relies on student loans, the high tuition rates have severely affected my finances. The high cost of school in addition to the ungodly interest rates have left me no choice to make monthly payments towards my loans while in school.*

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*Please support the request for \$4 million increase to the VSC System, along with an annual inflator.*

Sincerely,

Name Grace Durcell Voting Town Roughneck, NY

Home email ged02070@castleton.edu Cell Phone # (845)-453-1302

I am a Student at Castleton University

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The lack of state funding is detrimental to the VSC community in the following way:

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I have accumulated over 20,000 dollars in debt even after working around 30 hours a week in addition to an 18 credit work load. This education is important to me and my family because as I am a first generation college student it seems to be the only hope I have to progress in life. In addition to this most people are required to have family assistance in order to pay for their education, this not the reality of the situation. My mother who is a single parent of three cannot afford this and because of this the expected help that is supposed to come from her falls back onto my shoulders making my financial burden even harder.

Please support the request for \$4 million increase to the VSC System, along with an annual inflator.

Sincerely,

Name Kyle Gosley Voting Town Arlington VT

Home email Kystgosley@gmail.com Cell Phone # (802) 375-4814

I am a Junior at Castleton University

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The lack of state funding is detrimental to the VSC community in the following way:

As a student in the VSC community, I feel that <sup>only</sup> 16% of is [unclear] family not enough to support a genuine; it's not the most genuine in the whole country; population of college students who look to make a difference in this great country.

Please support the request for \$4 million increase to the VSC System, along with an annual inflator.

Sincerely,

Name Thomas Bann Voting Town Reading VT.

Home email nbannmar23@gmail.com Cell Phone # 1802 356 9972

I am a Freshman at Castleton

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The lack of state funding is detrimental to the VSC community in the following way:

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I haven't accumulated much debt yet, but expect to be in the 15-20k range when I graduate. I currently don't work to pay for school. My education is important to me because it will help me get a good job. I'm a second generation college student (as far as I know).

---

Please support the request for \$4 million increase to the VSC System, along with an annual inflator.

Sincerely,

Name Jacob Peet Voting Town Richmond, VT

Home email jpeetfarm@gmail.com Cell Phone # 802-825-8729

I am a freshman at Castleton University

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The lack of state funding is detrimental to the VSC community in the following way:

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I am a first generation student who is expected to have at least 20,000 dollars in debt. I work at least one hour per week for my education, as it is important for me to obtain my degree(s) and pursue my future goals. My family is expected to have to make financial sacrifices, which could be a burden on them. I expect that many of my peers will face the same thing and may take the rest of their lives to pay their college debts.

---

Please support the request for \$4 million increase to the VSC System, along with an annual inflator.

Sincerely,

Name Marcello Taravella Voting Town Rutland, VT

Home email M.a. taravella@gmail.com Cell Phone # 802-348-0714

I am a First Year at Castleton University

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The lack of state funding is detrimental to the VSC community in the following way:

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I have accumulated around \$12,000 in debt after my freshman year of college. I work around 10-20 hours a week during the summer and save for when I go to school. Education is very important to me, I am the youngest of ten siblings and a first generation college student. Without friends pushing me and wanting to attend college - I wouldn't be here.

---

Please support the request for \$4 million increase to the VSC System, along with an annual inflator.

Sincerely,

Name Sasha Bouchard Voting Town Swanton VT

Home email Sab10360@Castleton.edu Cell Phone # 802.393.2023

I am a freshman at Castleton University

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The lack of state funding is detrimental to the VSC community in the following way:

- 
- 20 thousand
  - 20 hrs / week
  - education is very important - need my license to teach.
  - not a 7<sup>th</sup> gen college student
  - ~~not~~ My mom had to get a new job to help pay for my college.
- 
- 

Please support the request for \$4 million increase to the VSC System, along with an annual inflator.

Sincerely,

Name Rachael Emery Voting Town Woodstock, VT

Home email 16Emerra@uvsu.net Cell Phone # (802) 291-0280

I am a Freshmen at Castleton

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The lack of state funding is detrimental to the VSC community in the following way:

The debt I expect to accumulate is upwards of \$20,000 despite attending Castleton for only 2 years and coming from a low income family. I am a first generation college student, and my parents will be unable to assist me with paying off my debt. Because of this, my ability to contribute to our state's economy will be severely hindered for several years after my graduation. I will also likely have to live at home for a few years in order to have the financial resources to pay my debt off in a timely fashion and avoid being buried with interest.

Please support the request for \$4 million increase to the VSC System, along with an annual inflator.

Sincerely,

Name Dylan Blair Voting Town White River Junction  
Home email dblair12345@gmail.com Cell Phone # 802-369-4803  
I am a Junior at Castleton University