



Building a Safe Harbor for Older Vermonters through Advocacy and Education

**COVE TESTIMONY ON S.40
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, HOUSING AND
GENERAL AFFAIRS**

1/26/18 – David Mickenberg, COVE Policy Advisor

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on S.40. COVE supports this bill. We have advocated for better pay and improved working conditions for caregivers for many years, and we believe that higher pay for Vermont workers, many of whom take care of our older family members, will increase quality, productivity and retention of those workers.

Older adults who are still in the work force, many of whom are working at lower-wage jobs, will also reap the benefits of S.40, helping them to have a higher quality of life as they age and ultimately are able to retire.

We understand that there will be funding challenges, but we see this as an opportunity to work with the Legislature to get as much money as possible now & into the future to support the individuals & organizations that work with older adults.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of COVE in support of S.40.