

ONE BALDWIN STREET
MONTPELIER, VT 05633-5701

SEN. ANN CUMMINGS, CHAIR
REP. CATHERINE TOLL, VICE CHAIR
REP. PETER FAGAN, CLERK
REP. JANET ANCEL
SEN. TIMOTHY ASHE



TEL: (802) 828-2295
FAX: (802) 828-2483
[HTTPS://LJFO.VERMONT.GOV/](https://ljfo.vermont.gov/)

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STATE OF VERMONT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
LEGISLATIVE JOINT FISCAL COMMITTEE

February 20, 2019

Secretary Susanne Young
Secretary of Administration
Pavilion Office Building
Montpelier, Vermont

Dear Secretary Young:

We are writing to share concerns with the timing of Administration consideration of grants and positions as part of the grant and position approval process.

In looking over the last twelve grants and position requests the Joint Fiscal Committee has received, five have taken between 42 and 96 days from the time the Department or Agency requested approval until the time they were sent to the Joint Fiscal Committee. Generally the problem is more acute with position approvals. Three of the five requests took over 60 days.

We realize that the Administration needs to do a thorough review of these submissions before they come to the Legislature, however, in some cases these delays results in a shortened review period for the Joint Fiscal Committee. Often members of the public or other entities contact Committee members or others about the timing concern.

We share with the Administration an overall desire to ensure that the purpose and underlying activity that the grant or position is designed to accomplish can be done successfully. We ask that the Administration work to reduce the number items which require the longer approval times.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ann Cummings', with a long, sweeping underline.

Senator Ann Cummings
Chair, Joint Fiscal Committee