## **Theresa Utton-Jerman**

From: Trisha Paradis <trisha.sfc@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2020 11:57 AM

**To:** Theresa Utton-Jerman

**Subject:** Vermonters Feeding Vermonters initiative

Dear House Appropriations Committee,

I am writing to express my support for new state funding in the amount of \$500,000 for the Vermont Foodbank to scale up their Vermonters Feeding Vermonters initiative. Unfortunately, I am unable to attend the public hearing in person, but wanted to submit a written statement.

This initiative is important to me because I believe that all people regardless of socioeconomic status should have access to fresh, nutritious foods. Unfortunately, we live in a society where it has become cheaper to buy heavily processed prepackaged foods than it is healthy nutritious foods. Not only does this impact health, it has an unfortunate impact to farmers being able to sell their product. Granting this support to the Vermont Foodbank will assure all Vermonters who are challenged with food insecurity have access fresh fruits and vegetables. Additionally, the other benefit is that it will help Vermont Farmers provide for their families and be able to remain living in this beautiful state. Let's help Vermonters feed Vermonters.

Thank you for the opportunity to support such an important initiative.

Warmly, Trish

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## Trisha Paradis, Executive Director

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