

VLCT TESTIMONY

89 Main Street, Montpelier, Vermont 05602

To: Members of the Senate Government Operations Committee
From: Karen Horn, Director, Public Policy and Advocacy
Date: February 19, 2019
Re: Proposal 2 to Amend the Constitution

Thank you for the opportunity to testify regarding Constitutional Amendment Proposal 2 to eliminate reference to slavery in the Vermont Constitution. The need to eliminate the reference to slavery was raised at the VLCT Annual Meeting on October 4, and was adopted unanimously.

“Resolved: that the Vermont League of Cities and Towns calls on the legislature to amend Chapter 1, Article 1, of the Vermont Constitution to read “That all persons are born equally free and independent, and have certain natural, inherent and unalienable rights, among which are enjoying and defending life and liberty; acquiring, possessing and protecting property; and pursuing and obtaining happiness and safety. Slavery and involuntary servitude in all forms are prohibited.”

Offered by Sasha Thayer, Selectperson, Plainfield

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Karen Horn, Director Public Policy & Advocacy
khorn@vlct.org
www.vlct.org