TOWN OF GRAFTON

TO: Vermont General Assembly Office of Legislative Council ATTN: Reapportionment 115 State Street Montpelier, VT 05633-5301

FROM: Town of Grafton Board of Civil Authority P.O. Box 180 Grafton, VT 05146

February 15, 2022

RE: 2022 Reapportionment (Redistricting)

EXSUM: The Town of Grafton's Board of Civil Authority (BCA) voted to remain in its current two-member WDH-3 Legislative District.

A majority of the BCA of the Town of Grafton voted on February 7, 2022, in favor of maintaining a 2-Representative District, rather than changing to a 1-Representative District as the LAB proposed. Our rationale is that a two-Representative District allows Grafton voters increased access to State Legislators, increased potential for diversity of political representation within the State House and allows for a better balance of representation between the smaller rural Towns (such as Grafton) and the larger primate Town within the legislative district.

A minority of the BCA voted against maintaining a two-member legislative district.

The BCA of the Town of Grafton also voted to maintain the current WDH-3 District configuration. Our rationale for maintaining the status quo is that Grafton currently shares strong affiliations with the current primate Town within our District (Rockingham): we are both located in Windham County, we are both members of the same (WNESU) School District, we share the Saxtons River watershed, and we have strong historic, social, cultural and economic ties - none of which we share to any similar extent with the Town of Chester, which is part of a separate (Windsor) County and part of a separate (TRSU) School District.

Our rational for opposing the LAB-proposed single-Representative WDM-7 District is that it would dilute the representation of the interests of the voters of a smaller rural Town (Grafton) in favor of those of a larger primate Town (Chester), with which we do not share the same common political, educational, environmental, economic, social and cultural connections and interests that we share with Rockingham and the other member Towns (Athens, Brookline, Windham, and part of Westminster) in our current WDH-3 Legislative District.

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For any questions or additional information, please contact Kim Record, Grafton Town Clerk, at 802 843-2419, clerk@graftonvt.org.

Christopher R. Wallace Chair, Board of Civil Authority Town of Grafton