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February 15, 2022

To: Representative Janet Ancel, Chair
House Ways & Means Committee

Re: **House Bill H556** A Bill to exempt from the statewide education property tax and the municipal property tax certain properties

Good Morning Representative Ancel,

I have been fortunate to be part of the Vermont community since 2004 and currently own a home in Quechee, VT where I volunteer on the QLLA's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Council. As part of my work on the Council, I have learned much about the Indigenous Peoples of Vermont and have come to recognize their contribution to our community, as well as all they have lost and their current plight in our state. To this end, I very much support the passage of HB 556 which would afford our original settlers some relief on property taxes. I am asking for your full support on this legislation.

I believe we owe our state's original settlers respect, support, and a brighter day forward. And I further believe that HB 556 is a good next step in that direction.

Best,

Mary

Mary McLaughlin
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Quechee, VT