

## COMMISSION'S TRANSMITTAL LETTER

February 8, 2021

Governor Scott, Senate President Balint, Speaker Krowinski, the Senate Finance Committee, and the House Committee on Ways and Means:

We present to you the final report of the Vermont Tax Structure Commission prepared in accordance with Act 11, Sec. H.17 of the 2018 Special Legislative Session. Our principal charge was to recommend changes to Vermont's tax policies that will make the revenue system more sustainable, appropriate, and equitable over the long term.

Our economy, technology, and climate are changing faster than ever. As the current pandemic has demonstrated all too harshly, we need systems – including a tax structure – that can withstand major shocks and will evolve appropriately as our world changes. As the economy grows more complex and global, the task of designing a fair and sustainable state tax system that is as simple as possible becomes even more daunting.

The challenge of modernizing our tax system is complicated, but it is vitally important for the well-being of our Vermont community. We are grateful to everyone in the Legislature and the Administration for your work on this, and for everything you do every day for Vermont. We appreciate the opportunity you gave us to contribute, we hope this report is useful to you, and we stand ready to help in any way we can.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Brighton, Commission Chair  
Stephen Trenholm, Commission Vice-Chair  
Bram Kleppner, Commissioner