

Honorable members of the house committee, thank you for the opportunity to be here today.

I appear before you today to testify on behalf of the Vermont State Employees Association and a member of the VSEA legislative Committee. VSEA and I want to offer our strong support of bill H.695 relating to extending equal survivor benefits to law enforcement, firefighters, EMTs and other emergency personnel covered under this bill.

H.695 brings long overdue equity to our Law enforcement and emergency services personnel. Taking into account the very recent tragedies suffered within the emergency services umbrella, we feel it could not be a better time to show the families and their survivors that the state and the legislature support them when struggling through their darkest most painful moments.

VSEA and its emergency services members, urge you to support bill H.695 and stand in solidarity with our first responders and their families.

Thank you all for your attention and commitment to this important matter.

Eric Vitali

VSP

Kyle Young

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Jessica Ebbighausen

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[Signature]
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