Dear Chair Houghton,

During yesterday's H.766 discussion, there were valid concerns raised by committee members about the bill potentially increasing costs for Vermonters. HealthFirst has that concern as well, particularly since most of our practices purchase health insurance for their businesses on the exchange. However, we believe the benefits of the bill will exceed the potential cost increases alleged by some of the payers. We just wanted to point this out, i.e. that our practices are affected on both sides, yet we stand firm in our support for H.766.

Feel free to read this in committee or otherwise share with them.

Thank you,

Susan E. Ridzon

Executive Director Vermont HealthFirst