

# ETHICS

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A JOURNEY IN VERMONT



**CAMPAIGN**  
**FOR VERMONT**  
CampaignForVermont.org

# A BRIEF HISTORY

CFV has been part of ethics reform since the beginning.

2013: [Achieving Accountability](#) paper released.

2016: Coalition formed with ACLU, VPIRG, LWV, others

2022: [Act 102](#) created Statewide Code of Ethics

2015: Petition drive gathers 500 signatures in 2 weeks

2017: [Act 79](#) passed, creating Ethics Commission

2024: [Act 171](#) expanded oversight, added municipalities

# TODAY:

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Coalition for Integrity ranks Vermont in the bottom ten for anti-corruption measures, citing that the oversight authority has “limited or no power.”

# GOING FORWARD:

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- Monitor the implementation of Act 171 – build confidence in the ethics framework.
- Maintaining the independence of the Ethics Commission.
- Increasing the investigation and oversight authority of the Commission.

# H.1 – A STEP BACKWARDS

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- Seeking advice and consultation from the Ethics Commission is the **BARE MINIMUM** in terms of ethics oversight.
- Reduces transparency and accountability around ethics complaints.
- Will lead to inequity in how the statewide code of ethics is applied.
- Vermonters expect a basic set of standards for conduct of public officials.
- We should be increasing oversight, not retreating from it.



NCSL: 43 OTHER STATES HAVE ETHICS COMMISSION'S WITH ENFORCEMENT POWERS.

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**If they can find a way, so can we.**

WE CAN

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HAVE A TRANSPARENT,  
ACCOUNTABLE, AND  
EFFECTIVE GOVERNMENT  
THAT WORKS FOR  
VERMONTERS



**QUESTIONS?**

**[INFO@CAMPAIGNFORVERMONT.ORG](mailto:INFO@CAMPAIGNFORVERMONT.ORG)**

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