

Good afternoon,

Thank you for having us! I had a chance to review the bill briefly. I know the vote is fast approaching – no red flags from our end, I wanted to share a few thoughts. It's great to see progress in this area, and I see alignment with VPQ's report.

- It's interesting to me that it's referred to continuously as a security plan versus a comprehensive workplace violence prevention program; I haven't seen that before!
- The Joint Commission has established standards for comprehensive workplace violence prevention programs: <https://www.jointcommission.org/our-priorities/workforce-safety-and-well-being/resource-center/workplace-violence-prevention/> 6/14 Vermont hospitals are accredited by The Joint Commission and need to meet these standards; but many hospitals are not accredited by TJC, and there are likely things in this bill that go over and above
- What mechanisms are in place to ensure hospitals implement this comprehensively and at a high standard? Currently, I think I see that the assessment happens only at the individual hospital level—are there any measures for evaluation across all hospitals?
- Establishing a statewide component & network could help promote policy, procedure, and protocol sharing to support a learning health system and ensure ongoing monitoring.
- Regarding reporting & oversight components (and promoting a culture of safety) the Patient Safety Surveillance & Improvement System serve as a useful reference? <https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/fullchapter/18/043A>

I don't know if any of this is helpful – good luck & thank you for focusing on this!

Best,

*Hillary*

Hillary Wolfley, MSPH  
Pronouns: she, her, hers  
Executive Director

**Vermont Program for Quality in Health Care, Inc.**

132 Main Street, Ste 1, Montpelier, VT 05602

**Phone:** (802) 262-1304 **Fax:** (802) 229-5098

**Email:** [HillaryW@vpqhc.org](mailto:HillaryW@vpqhc.org)



