



# Vermont Police Association

*Representing Vermont's Finest*

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[www.vtpa.org](http://www.vtpa.org)

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January 20, 2026

To: **Chair Alyssa Black**

*Re: H.270, An act relating to confidentiality for peer support counseling among emergency service providers*

Honorable Chair Black,

Thank you again for the work you're doing on the peer support confidentiality bill and for your continued focus on expanding access to meaningful support services for our first responders.

I wanted to respectfully recommend a minor language clarification in the bill's definition of a critical incident stress management program. Specifically, removing the phrase "established by the employer of emergency service providers". The removal of this language would allow for a broader range of peer support counseling services to be utilized, including regional, nonprofit, and independent programs.

This small adjustment would preserve the intent of the bill while expanding access to effective peer support services without limiting them to only employer established programs.

Thank you for your consideration, and I appreciate the opportunity to share this recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

*Christopher R. Hoar*

Christopher R. Hoar  
President  
Vermont Police Association

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