



Senate Health & Welfare

April 3, 2026

FY27 Budget

Vermont HealthFirst is an independent physician association representing health care practitioners working at clinician-owned practices throughout the state. We currently have 66 primary & specialty care practices in 11 counties, which includes 127 primary care clinicians caring for about 90,000 patients and 108 specialists offering 25+ speciality care services.

HealthFirst asks that your committee consider reallocating the \$2 million appropriated in the House-passed budget for the Provider Stabilization Fund to instead restore the \$2.01 million DVHA base funding cut (\$5 million gross). This cut eliminates the \$4.75 PMPM payment to primary care practices, which has been critical.

There are a number of cuts to or lack of funding for primary care in the FY27 budget as passed by House, including:

- 0.04% decrease to the Medicaid Professional RBRVS fee schedule
- \$7.7m loss due to end of OneCare's primary care practice payments from January–June 2027 (includes lack of funding for OneCare's Comprehensive Payment Reform practice payments from January–June 2027)
- Insufficient funding to fully restore the Governor's proposed cuts to primary care workforce programs
- No allocation for DULCE (Development Understanding and Legal Collaboration for Everyone program) family support specialists in designated pediatric practices

These various cuts to primary care underscores the importance of restoring the \$2.01 million DVHA based funding cut (\$5 million gross). Vermont HealthFirst believes that redirecting the \$2 million to backfill this cut is a more effective and immediate way to stabilize providers in FY27. These PMPM payments have been essential in helping clinicians remain financially viable.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have any questions, please contact Susan Ridzon, Executive Director (sr@vermonthhealthfirst.org) and Christina McLaughlin, Project & Communication Coordinator (cm@vermonthhealthfirst.org).