



Charlotte • Hinesburg • Shelburne • St. George • Williston • CVU

February 2, 2021

Dear Legislators,

Thank you for providing us an opportunity to submit written testimony. We are requesting that this letter be entered into the written testimony of the Committee on General, Housing and Military Affairs on H.81 and posted on the Committee's website.

While we understand the Committee on General, Housing, and Military Affairs will be working through H.81, we write in support of H.63. We believe H.63 to be the best way to control health care costs for our district of approximately; 800 employees without jeopardizing current educational programming for our nearly 4000 students. The numbers below should help to support that position.

In our proposed FY22 Budget, 10,146,086 dollars are dedicated to healthcare. This represents 11.9% percent of our total budget and 27% of the 3.5% total budget increase. For the past three years, the healthcare percentage of the total budget was:

11.6% in FY21

11.4% in FY20

11.1% in FY19

The cost of healthcare as a percentage of the average cost of compensation of teachers is approximately 6.3%.

Since 2017, our Board has prescribed a quantitative number for budget increases and our Administration has responded by limiting budget increases to that number. Given the outsized share of healthcare, our administration has been challenged to redistribute education dollars to ensure that significant programming and operations were not cut. This is an unsustainable ask. We urge you to support H.63

Please feel free to contact us with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Lynne Jaunich, CVSD Board Chair

Elaine Pinckney, CVSD Superintendent