

A Vermont Healthcare Advocate

Ms. Mary Alice Bisbee, M.S., Human Services Administration
3 Prospect Street, Apt. 308
Montpelier, VT 05602

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**Dear Senator Virginia Lyons and ALL members of the VT Senate
Health and Welfare Committee:**

Please note that this is a last minute request to ALL of you: Please do not pass out **S.151** in its current form, **version 3.2** of a draft which I walked through with you this afternoon. Although I am a member of several healthcare advocacy organizations, all of which begged you not to pass S. 230 earlier this year, it looks as if the current version of **S.151** is a modified way of getting around what we all have urged you not to pass in **S. 230**. Now the bill just is putting AHS in as a co-regulator of ALL healthcare, along with the GMCB which has the sole right, currently, to make these decisions with CMI and CMMI, the federal government.

AHEAD is only a revised version of the REACH program, which has lead to nationwide problems of administration. There is absolutely no reason Vermont should join this long range, 11 year plan, to keep us from considering a universal healthcare state or national plan within this time frame. It is a long range plan that defers any consideration of a single payer, government regulated plan, that will get rid of all the multitude of administrative costs at ALL levels, including ONECAREVT, all national insurers, who are now being told to bow down to ONECAREVT. (I know, as a member of United Healthcare, I am now being told that UHC will share information in their revised Privacy Agreement, with my providers. In my book, that is managed care. Am I right?)

Please, for the sake of all Vermonters, lets not hogtie us to yet another brand new plan that will only cost Vermonters much more money. We do not always have to be in a rush to try out all these so far failed initiatives. And certainly, we should not be giving away the responsibility of the GMCB, to the Agency of Human Services who do not listen to their constituents. Act 48 is still in force, as far as I know, so let's keep it that way by letting GMCB continue to make the big decisions as required in Act 48.

Best regards,

Mary Alice Bisbee