

**From:** LaJeunesse, Kristen<Kristen.Lajeunesse@vermont.gov>

**Sent on:** Sunday, December 3, 2023 12:22:31 PM

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**Subject:** Public Comment: Community Engagement: Hospital Sustainability and Act 167 2023-12-03T12:22:27Z

A new GMCB Public Comment has been received.

**Submit Time:** 12/3/2023 12:22:27 PM

**Name:** Andrew Stull

**Affiliation:**

**Town/City:** Colchester

**Topic:** Community Engagement: Hospital Sustainability and Act 167

**Comment:** I listened in and chimed in on the issues with retaining primary care providers and any medical provider in VT. The two biggest barriers seem to be student loans and housing. Student loans for most are between \$500 and \$1500 per month. Why not try and waive taxes either state income or housing taxes for those new medical providers to the state and paying off loans? This isn't going to have a major effect of the state budget since we are talking about a very small percentage of people. The cost of loans is about the same as housing taxes. It could be done monthly or yearly. It could be until loans are paid off or for a temporary period such as 10 years. Could have a cap of say \$500 per month. Many options and minimal effect on the state with high effect on those providers who want to come to Vermont but are unable to because of the high cost and lack of housing. I know of two providers who wanted to move to Vermont, accepted contracts but were unable to find any housing and were unable to afford the cost or time to build. Alternatively could solve the issue by paying/waiving taxes for childcare for these providers since that is another major issue. It is hard to get providers to move to Vermont when they have more options in upstate NY and NH and for the same cost of living make 50% more pay.

**Post Comment:** Yes