

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

Sent on: Wednesday, September 18, 2024 1:24:30 PM

To: GMCB - Health Systems Finances<GMCB.HealthSystemsFinances@vermont.gov>; Foster, Owen<Owen.Foster@vermont.gov>; Barrett, Susan<Susan.Barrett@vermont.gov>; Barber, Michael<Michael.Barber@vermont.gov>; Walsh, Thom<Thom.Walsh@vermont.gov>; Murman, David<David.Murman@vermont.gov>; Lunge, Robin<Robin.Lunge@vermont.gov>; Holmes, Jessica A.<Jessica.A.Holmes@vermont.gov>; Hengstler, Mark<Mark.Hengstler@vermont.gov>; LaJeunesse, Kristen<Kristen.Lajeunesse@vermont.gov>

Subject: Public Comment: Hospital Budget 2024-09-18T13:24:27Z

A new GMCB Public Comment has been received.

Submit Time: 9/18/2024 1:24:27 PM

Name: Vanessa Goodwin

Affiliation: University of Vermont Medical Center

Town/City: Burlington

Topic: Hospital Budget

Comment: I appreciate the time and effort of the Green Board Care Board in navigating these complex issues. I respectfully urge the Green Mountain Care Board to reconsider the decision to reduce funding to the UVMHC hospital budget. While stating the aim of these tremendously impactful restrictions and cuts is to "attempt to balance competing concerns: affordability, access and the viability of the state's hospitals." You are, in fact, doing the opposite. UVMHC provides excellent care to our communities and reducing funding impacts access and viability. The competing concerns you mention are being handed out to the hospital as competing issues with no solution when you ask UVMHC to expand access, lower wait times and serve the community but cut expenses and limit the revenue needed to care for these patients. In order to retain workforce both in and outside of healthcare you will want excellent accessible healthcare, limiting and cutting what UVMHC is able to do will not help with workforce retention. Without a workforce your tax base will be impacted, and more cuts will come. You, as the board representing all of us needs to look at the bigger need and bigger picture and recognize that expansion of access and services is critical and with that comes the need for revenue and expense expansion.

Post Comment: Yes