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Sent on: Wednesday, August 7, 2024 12:30:01 PM

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Subject: Public Comment: Community Engagement: Hospital Sustainability and Act 167 2024-08-07T12:29:58Z

A new GMCB Public Comment has been received.

Submit Time: 8/7/2024 12:29:58 PM

Name: Laural Ruggles

Affiliation: retired hospital employee

Town/City: Danville

Topic: Community Engagement: Hospital Sustainability and Act 167

Comment: The GMCB has been very open about their goal to "reduce costs at all costs". Decades of limiting "growth" of our Vermont hospitals has finally caught up with us. It was a tribute to the ingenuity and dedication of the our hospitals that they lasted this long. The people in Vermont have spoken - we value our local hospitals and healthcare systems. There are so many factors out of our control that limit viable solutions out of the this crisis in sustaining our rural healthcare system - demographics (aging population) and just simple small numbers - no economies of scale. There are no quick and simple solutions. It will take the entire state system and leaders in all areas to work together to take the long view and invest in Vermonters. This means a commitment to make long term and ongoing investments in healthcare/hospitals, housing, education, and economic infrastructure (like cell towers and broadband). I'm looking for leaders with vision and the guts to make these long term investments.

Post Comment: Yes