

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

**Sent on:** Thursday, July 18, 2024 4:44:05 PM

**To:** LaJeunesse, Kristen<Kristen.Lajeunesse@vermont.gov>; Watson, Hilary<Hilary.Watson@vermont.gov>; Melamed, Marisa<Marisa.Melamed@vermont.gov>; Barrett, Susan<Susan.Barrett@vermont.gov>; Foster, Owen<Owen.Foster@vermont.gov>; Holmes, Jessica A.<Jessica.A.Holmes@vermont.gov>; Lunge, Robin<Robin.Lunge@vermont.gov>; Murman, David<David.Murman@vermont.gov>; Walsh, Thom<Thom.Walsh@vermont.gov>; Berube, Alena<Alena.Berube@vermont.gov>; AHS - Health Care Reform<AHS.HealthCareReform@vermont.gov>

**Subject:** Public Comment: Community Engagement: Hospital Sustainability and Act 167 2024-07-18T16:44:02Z

A new GMCB Public Comment has been received.

**Submit Time:** 7/18/2024 4:44:02 PM

**Name:** Rebecca Bartlett

**Affiliation:** retired

**Town/City:** Brattleboro

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

**Comment:** 1) It might help built the healthcare workforce if training opportunities were available to people who want to change fields in mid-life. All the information I see about local training programs seems to be focused on high school students and recent graduates. I was seeking a job ten years ago and couldn't find a way into healthcare. 2) Family care-givers need more support; they are an important part of the system! Vermont needs to pass a paid medical leave act. Are there benefits the state can make available to care-givers (retirement plan contributions? Housing, childcare and healthcare assistance)? Our Congressional delegation should be encouraged to support S.1211, the Social Security Caregiver Credit Act introduce by Senator Christopher Murphy (D-CT) in 2023. 3) I was at your Brattleboro meeting last night and heard the provider tax mentioned, so I looked it up. How does that make sense, when all the hospitals are little non-profits? It's as if the state taxed bakers, and used the funds to help people buy bread. Why wouldn't they tax wine importers to fund the bread subsidy? Tax somebody who's making some money!

**Post Comment:** Yes