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

Sent on: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 8:19:43 PM

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Subject: Public Comment: Community Engagement: Hospital Sustainability and Act 167 2023-11-

07T20:19:40Z

A new GMCB Public Comment has been received.

Submit Time: 11/7/2023 8:19:40 PM

Name: Jonathan Newhard

**Affiliation:** Northwestern Medical Center

Town/City: Swanton

Topic: Community Engagement: Hospital Sustainability and Act 167

**Comment:** I believe that supporting small, local hospitals should be a primary goal of the GMCB. Having hospitals like Gifford, Porter and NMC provide better proximity for the emergency needs of Vermonters as well as local hubs which can help relieve the pressure of overcrowding on the state's larger hospitals. The sense of community that small businesses (hospitals included) creates, is what makes Vermont a special place to live and deserves to be cherished and protected.

Post Comment: Yes