



May 20, 2024

State of Vermont  
Green Mountain Care Board

Re: UVMMC Outpatient Surgery Center  
Docket No. GMCB-004-23con

### Lake Champlain Chamber Comments on UVMMC Proposed Outpatient Surgery Center

The Lake Champlain Chamber (LCC) is a nonpartisan business membership organization dedicated to creating economic opportunities for all Vermonters. Our members are concentrated in Northwest Vermont although we do work statewide.

LCC supports UVMMC's proposed construction of an Outpatient Surgery Center because it meets the needs of our member businesses and the tens of thousands of employees they work with, who all struggle today to get timely access to surgical care. We hear frequently from employers and employees who must leave our state to obtain such care for themselves or a family member. In addition to the economic consequences, the anecdotes shared with us lead us to believe that such travel is not ideal for the patients or their families.

We work with individuals and organizations looking to relocate to our region. They're attracted by our work/life balance, our dedication to our natural environment, and our talented workforce. This project fosters economic development in the region, as employers – especially those looking to relocate here or expand here – are looking to ensure high quality infrastructure, like schools and health care providers, are able to provide necessary services.

We know care provided in an outpatient setting is less costly than care provided in an inpatient setting, and we agree that this will, over time, help reduce the pressure on increasing health care costs in our state.

We appreciate the Board's thorough review of this proposal as well as any significant investment in our healthcare infrastructure. Health care is a significant expense for our employers and their families and we appreciate your diligence on Vermonters' behalf. Thank you for your consideration of our comments and our support for the UVMMC Outpatient Surgery Center.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Catherine Z. Davis', written in a cursive style.

Catherine Z. Davis  
President & CEO