

Public Comment from Vermont Futures Project

I would like to say that this is very complete report and I enjoyed reading it. I have had a long career in population health, prevention and wellness but now I am the Executive Director of the [Vermont Futures Project](#).

I wanted to make sure your board was aware of our work using data and research to help secure Vermont's economy for the future. Please note our recommendations for workforce align with many of the [recommendations](#) outlined in your report. Also, our most recent pillar recommendations for [Innovation and Entrepreneurship](#) includes the following relevant recommendation to research:

Vermont Innovation Technology Center: Establish a private sector center to boost innovations around the key Vermont sector strength of healthcare services for rural and aging in place populations. Focus on in-home support and healthcare for the aging in place Vermont population. The center will conduct cutting edge research to develop Intellectual Property and spin off new businesses to monetize the opportunities. Due to limited resources we recommend partnerships with existing groups such as the MIT and Hartford CT centers for aging support.

We congratulate the work of the board presenting this work and data and would appreciate an opportunity to further educate and/or collaborate on this important topic. Rural health care is critical to Vermont's future and our economy.

Thank you,
Lori

Lori Smith
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