



Gifford Medical Center

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March 12, 2021

Mr. Kevin Mullin, Chairman
Green Mountain Care Board
144 State Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05602

Dear Chairman Mullin,

In response to the Draft Budget Guidance discussion held on March 10th, 2021; Gifford Medical Center administration would like to express our feedback regarding the following topics:

1. The concept, initially broached by Board Member Holmes, of waiving the budget hearing process should a hospital submit a budget that is within a specific threshold of net patient revenue and change in charge.
2. The perception of an abbreviated administrative process by using the "Financial Workbook."

As it pertains to item one, Gifford would certainly welcome the innovative approach suggested by yourself and Board Member Holmes to waive the hearing process for hospitals based on the submission of net revenue and change in charge requests within a specific threshold. Expectantly, barring the specified threshold is within a relative tolerance of reasonableness to support the inflationary increases hospitals must offset each year when submitting change-in-charge requests.

Secondly, we do caution the notion of a perceived abbreviated submission process by utilizing a financial workbook, if this process will eventually require hospitals to provide the historic level of detail required for our budget submissions. Should this be the case, it would unintentionally add a step to the process.

Thank you for considering our feedback; we always welcome the opportunity to work collaboratively with Board Members and staff on budget related matters.

Sincerely,



Daniel Bennett
President & CEO



Jennifer Bertrand
Chief Financial Officer