

From: Scott, Sharron R.

Sent: Friday, March 25, 2022 4:36 PM

Subject: GMCB Public Comment: Rate Increase Requests UVMMC, RRMC, CVMC

Dear Chair Mullin and Members of the Green Mountain Care Board,

The Vermont State Colleges employ nearly 3,000 Vermonters and provide education and workforce development opportunities to over 10,000 individuals each year. We are a large employer statewide and regional economic anchors in the communities that host our main campuses. We exist for the benefit of Vermont and seek to fulfill that mission every day.

As a large, and self-insured, employer we are concerned to hear of several Vermont hospital's requests (UVMMC, CVMC, RRMC) to increase their rates as of April 1st as this would have an immediate, and significant, impact on our system's health care costs. This substantial increase mid-year is an unplanned expense that we can ill afford. The premiums set for our health plan are predicated on expected claim costs projected on the rates approved by the GMCB for the year. To change those rates this drastically impacts our claims costs and will come at the expense of our students. Put simply, a large increase at this time leaves us with nowhere to pivot.

The Vermont State Colleges, like all Vermont businesses, have to continually adjust to the changing landscape in our markets. We hope our regional hospitals have the reserves necessary to weather the changing conditions in the short term, and the wherewithal to make modest and reasonable adjustments over the long-term. A rate increase of the magnitude proposed would have an unprecedented impact on our bottom line at a time when our own finances are delicate.

We request that the GMCB give serious consideration to the impact of this decision on Vermont businesses and organizations like the VSC, that exist for the benefit of Vermont.

Sincerely,

Sharron R. Scott

Sharron R. Scott
Chief Financial and Operating Officer
Vermont State Colleges



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