



Vermont State Employees' Association

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Al Gobeille
Chair, Green Mountain Care Board
89 Main Street, Third Floor, City Center
Montpelier, Vermont 05620

Dear Mr. Gobeille,

On behalf of the Vermont State Employees Association, an organization that represents approximately 25,000 consumers of health care in Vermont, we are writing in support of the Certificate Of Need application to establish a freestanding ambulatory surgery center in Chittenden County owned and operated by local independent physicians.

As good stewards of our members benefits, with acute awareness of the pressures on health care costs, and with a strong commitment to quality health care for our members, we are convinced that establishing an ambulatory surgery center would provide a lower cost, high quality consumer option for our members. Currently, Vermont is last in the nation in terms of access to non-hospital based alternatives for outpatient surgical procedures. This fact exists despite the trend toward lower cost, high quality surgical centers across the country and in our region. As we look at controlling costs associated with health care, the lack of such options is something that Vermont must begin to change.

VSEA values our community hospitals and understands the important role they play. However, we are convinced that there is room for more outpatient care options in Chittenden County than solely those offered by the University of Vermont Medical Center, and that the benefits of establishing such a center are compelling for our members and Vermonters more broadly.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter and we look forward to having this option available to our members and their families.

On Behalf of the Board of Trustees
and Members of VSEA,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Shelley Martin' in a cursive script.

Shelley Martin
President

On Behalf of the Benefit Advisory
Committee,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Dave Bellini' in a cursive script.

Dave Bellini
Chair