



OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Vermont State House

115 State Street

Montpelier, VT 05602

February 18, 2021

Rebecca Chartrand
1712 Shaw Mansion Road
Waterbury, Vermont, 05677

Dear Rebecca,

Thank you for taking the time to contact my office. I appreciate you sharing your valid concerns regarding employment and retirement benefits for Vermont teachers.

I share your concerns on aiding teachers after retirement. Caring for Vermonters from infants to elders is critical to the economic wellbeing of Vermont families. Our teachers have always been essential workers and they deserve our unwavering support. I know we must also work to address soaring healthcare costs in Vermont.

As you may know, the Lieutenant Governor does not have a direct role in the legislative process, but I will certainly keep your comments, and the shared concerns top of my as I meet Legislative leadership and Governor Scott.

I am deeply committed to elevating the voices of Vermonters, and I hope you will not hesitate to contact my office again. I also look forward to seeing you in your community soon.

I wish you good health as we work together to ensure Vermont recovers stronger from this pandemic.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Molly R. Gray".

Molly R. Gray
Lieutenant Governor of Vermont

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As your constituent and a registered voter, I am writing to ask that you oppose any pension plan that slashes benefits, and hikes costs on teachers and retirees. It is shocking that this is even on the table considering teachers have been working tirelessly to educate and keep children safe. We are frontline workers who deserve to be treated with more dignity and respect. Before the pandemic, it was already difficult enough for teachers due to rising health care costs and the costly expenses of trying to survive in this State. Vermont needs to start doing a better job at taking care of its own; we need to make people want to continue living here. Teachers are essential to Vermont's prosperity as a state, and if you can't keep teachers due to slashing benefits, you're going to lose good, hardworking Vermonters. Please, I implore you to think of the big picture. I love this State; I have lived here my whole life, but this current talk about the pension makes me want to move my family to a more supportive and financially feasible place. Thank you for considering,