



OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Vermont State House
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Montpelier, VT 05602

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*****PRESS RELEASE*****

**Lt. Governor Molly Gray Attends Vermont Ski Areas Association's Annual Meeting
as a Featured Speaker.**

Warren, Vt. – This morning, Lt. Governor Molly Gray participated in the Vermont Ski Areas Association's (Ski Vermont) annual meeting as a featured speaker. The meeting was held at Sugarbush Resort with around 250 people in attendance.

"The natural beauty found in the Green Mountains and across Vermont is an integral part of our state's identity. It is an inspiration to us in our daily work and routines, and it drives folks from all over the world to come to Vermont and experience its beauty firsthand. And there might not be a better way to enjoy that beauty than a day outside at our ski areas, skiing, and snowboarding," said Lt. Governor Gray.

Ski Vermont is a not-for-profit trade association founded in 1969 to help create an environment in which the state's ski industry can grow and prosper, addressing issues including environmental integrity, economic and social contributions to the state's welfare, and competitive positioning of the state as a destination for winter tourism. Ski Vermont members include 20 alpine and 30 cross country resorts.

Lt. Governor Gray's remarks touched on Vermont's and Vermont ski resorts' efforts to address climate change.

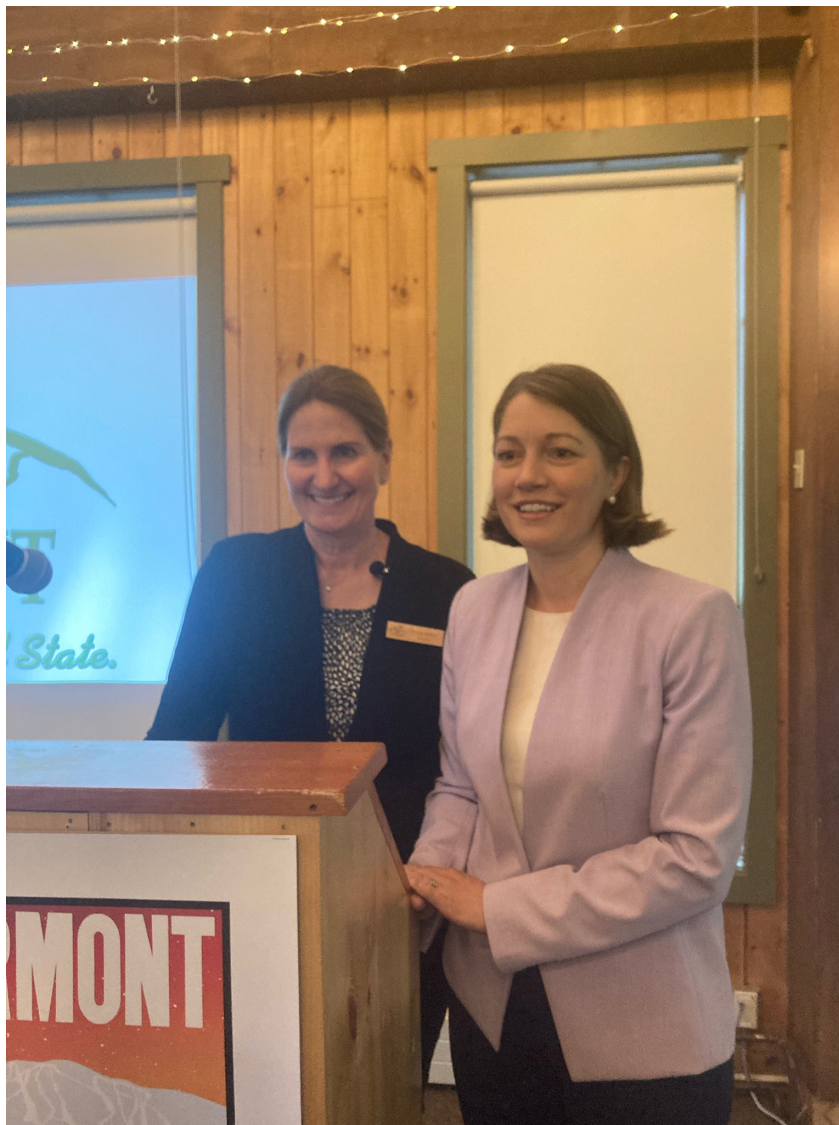
"We know that [winters in Vermont are warming faster than any other time of the year](#). And under a scenario where high carbon emissions continue, by 2080, winter in Vermont could be shortened by one month. Climate change is a direct threat to Vermonters' ways of life and our communities. But we as a state have committed to reducing emissions and are on the right trail," said Lt. Governor Gray.

"We have legally committed to reducing emissions to 26% below 2005 levels by 2025 and 80% below 1990 levels by 2050. If we meet those goals, our winters are projected to fare better than our New England neighbors and our ski areas will be positioned for continued success and growth," said Lt. Governor Gray.

“Our ski areas continue to lead in climate change mitigation and the effort to protect Vermont winters and preserve Vermont traditions and outdoor recreation. We must continue to support their efforts by making bold investments in our environment and in Vermonters, including continued investments in workforce development, housing, and child care,” said Lt. Governor Gray.

Vermont ski areas have completed over 650 efficiency projects since 2000, including investments in low-electricity snowguns, compressed air right sizing, lift terminal heater controls, thermal shells and many other systems and improvements.

The anticipated lifetime savings of these projects is more than 989M kilowatt hours of electricity - equivalent to the power used by 400K homes annually - and 1.77B pounds of CO2 equivalent. The avoided lifetime costs to the Vermont ski industry are estimated at more than \$175M.





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