



OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

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For Immediate Release:
May 12, 2021

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*****PUBLIC STATEMENT*****

Statement of Lt. Governor Gray on the Senate's Passage of J.R.H.2

Montpelier, Vt. —This afternoon, Lt. Governor Gray released the following statement on the Senate's passage of J.R.H.2, the joint resolution "sincerely apologizing and expressing sorrow and regret to all individual Vermonters and their families and descendants who were harmed as a result of State-sanctioned eugenics policies and practices":

"Vermont has a long and dark history of eugenics policies, of which the State played a role in upholding. I applaud the Vermont Senate, as well as the Vermont House, for their leadership in further bringing this reprehensible part of Vermont's history to light and offering a formal apology to all those who were, and continue to be, harmed by these actions.

I want to express my sincere apology, on behalf of my office, to the countless Vermonters, especially women, whose safety, health, and basic human rights were violated at the hands of the State.

I also want to apologize to all families and decedents who have lived with the continued weight and impact of Vermont's eugenics movement for decades.

This resolution is an important first step in dismantling the legacy and influence of Vermont's eugenics movement and the continued impact of that movement on state laws and policies."

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