



March 1, 2019

Associated General Contractors of Vermont (AGC/VT) is the trade organization for contractors and construction workers in Vermont. We provide industry specific training, Occupational and Safety Health Administration (OSHA) and Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) certifications and are home to nationally recognized safety instruction. Our members employ 15,000-20,000 in Vermont annually with careers offering wages and benefits well above Vermont's livable wage. The association works directly with state agencies including the Agency of Transportation, Building and General Services and Department of Labor to enhance delivery of service to the state.

AGC/VT administers the Project Road Safe program which provides safe driving instruction and training. In addition to providing National Safety Council accredited courses Project Road Safe also has created a new truck driver course and provides ongoing trainings. The program received the 2018 Governors Workplace Safety award at the Vermont Safety and Health Council Expo on behalf of the Department of Labor.

One of the most critical issues facing our industry is the safety of our workforce. In a business that relies on skilled workers injuries can stop work, cause financial hardship and hurts families. Vermont is only one of 22 states that benefit from the OSHA state plan program. VOSHA's first plan was implemented in 1977 and updated in 2000. We support the proposed change to 21 VSA §711 (a) noted in H.351 for the following reasons:

- The strong relationship with VOSHA has improved safety outcomes for Vermont workers
- A local review process provides an efficient appeals process
- Local control provides easier policy adjustments
- VOSHA has been meeting its goals as noted in annual reports
- Oversight is managed locally and not tied to external influence/budgeting

Thank you,

Matt Musgrave  
AGC/VT