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**To:** Coriell, Scott  
**Subject:** Gov. Shumlin Statement on President Obama's State of the Union Address

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 12, 2016

**Gov. Shumlin Statement on President Obama's State of the Union Address**

**MONTPELIER-** Gov. Peter Shumlin issued the below statement following President Obama's final State of the Union Address this evening.

"Tonight, President Obama reminded us why he has been such a force for positive change over the last seven years. His ability to inspire the American people to work towards a better future is why he has been able to achieve so much from the longest streak of private sector job growth in the history of this country to extending health care to 18 million people. I'm proud that Vermont has stood shoulder to shoulder with the President on issues like extending Pre-K education and health care to all, raising the minimum wage, making college more affordable, and charting a clean energy future that forcefully combats climate change.

"I was especially pleased to hear the President's forceful rejection of the politics of hatred, division, and bigotry that have come to dominate our political dialogue this election season. President Obama's ability to appeal to our better instincts of goodness, compassion, and understanding has always been what makes him a truly great leader."

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