



OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Vermont State House
115 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05602

For Immediate Release:
May 18, 2021

CONTACT: Hazel Brewster
802-636-7047

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

Statement of Lt. Governor Gray on the Senate's Action on Vote-by-Mail in Vermont

Montpelier, Vt. —Today, Lt. Governor Gray released the following statement on the Senate's passage of S.15, an act relating to correcting defective ballots:

"S.15 is an historic and important step in expanding voting rights here in Vermont by making universal vote-by-mail a permanent feature of future general elections.

Today, I want to applaud the Vermont Legislature, Secretary of State Jim Condos, the Vermont Public Interest Research Group and the many organizations and advocates involved in promoting a more accessible and inclusive democracy.

At a time when many states are deliberately stripping voters of their rights, Vermont is doing the opposite, sending a clear message to the rest of the country that our democracy is stronger when participation is possible.

A record number of Vermonters voted in the 2020 election, proving that vote-by-mail drastically increases voter participation in our elections and gives voters more opportunity to have their voices heard.

I look forward to working with Vermont policymakers and our Congressional delegation to further expand the vote-by-mail process to all elections."

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