

Dear House Human Services Committee members,

I am writing you on behalf of the Vermont Medical Society (VMS) and our 2,000 physician and physician assistant members to urge you to vote yes on H.57.

Thank you for your thoughtful and careful deliberation on this important bill. There have been many questions and concerns that have come up in your Committee and we have attached a memo in an attempt to answer some of these questions.

First off, this bill would neither enhance nor restrict current access to abortion in Vermont. The goal of this bill is to prevent government interference between a patient and her healthcare practitioner and to allow healthcare practitioners to provide the highest quality, evidence-based, compassionate care that aligns with a patient's goals.

As Dr. MacAfee stated, "At the end of the day, I trust women. I trust that they are making the decision that is right for them at that point in their life. I routinely tell my patients, "I don't walk in your shoes every day. I'm here to provide support, guidance and safe medical care."

Please read our memo and let us know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Jill

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