



OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Vermont State House

115 State Street

Montpelier, VT 05602

Month ##, #####

Robin Ogg
329 Holden Road
Chittenden, Vermont 05737

Dear Robin:

Thank you for taking the time to contact my office. I appreciate you sharing your valid concerns regarding caring for our teachers during the pandemic and after their retirement.

I share your concerns on providing teachers with livable pensions as well as the COVID-19 vaccine. We must distribute the vaccine to Vermont's most vulnerable populations first in order to promote recovery. We must also acknowledge the role of teachers in the state and care for them financially after their duties are completed and they enter retirement after years of service to our communities. I will continue to express our shared concerns and values to legislative leaders and the Governor. My hope is that both will be addressed in the weeks ahead.

Thank you again for sharing your concerns. I am deeply committed to elevating the voices of Vermonters, and I hope you will not hesitate to contact my office again.

I wish you good health as we work together to ensure Vermont recovers stronger from this pandemic.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Molly R. Gray". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Molly R. Gray
Lieutenant Governor of Vermont

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Greetings,

I am a speech language pathologist working in Rutland city public schools. I am 1.5 years away from retirement so naturally I have been alarmed lately as I follow the news in regards to the underfunded pension fund and the proposed cuts and changes.

I can recall a time about 10-15 years ago when we as teachers were asked to make sacrifices for the sake of the pension's long term health. Years were added and we made higher contributions to help. Now we are asked again to make significant sacrifices during a time when we have never worked so hard under more stressful circumstances. It really feels like a slap in the face (along with being bumped off the vaccine list, but that's another topic).

I'm hoping that with the news today that the state is in wonderful financial shape due to pandemic relief funds, the state could use some of this money to shore up the pension fund- even just a little- to thank the teachers for all that we are doing.