

VSEA Candidate Survey 2016

Sara Branon Kittell
437 Chester Arthur Rd
Fairfield Vermont 05455
Tel: 802-827-3274
Cell: 802-233-1506
Email: sarakittell@yahoo.com

District:
Franklin County and Alburgh Senate District

1. Yes, the work of State government should be preformed by State employees. State employees and State government have a relationship of setting the standards for the work, monitoring outcomes, and a mutual working together to serve the people of our State.

Contracting for services in the private sector does not have the same relationship as our State employees have to their State government employer.

2. A safe, secure workplace must be a priority. I would review the work of a team that is overseeing safety at the workplace, making sure they have the resources to look at all aspects of safe, secure workplace. Policy recommendations should be presented annually to the House and Senate Government Operations Committees at the legislature.

3. The 2017 Legislative Session will study, and analyse the reports for our future health care system. It is important to me that we see where we are, where we want to go and make sure Vermonters are not losing their health care quality and security with increased costs, or loss of services to families.

4. Yes, I will support collective bargaining and vote against "Right to Work" legislation in any form.

5. I see the role of State employees as people working in a setting of caring for the needs of all Vermonters. State employment means your AOT snowplow driver to your ANR engineer. I would support State employees by ensuring that the State provide an equal playing field, equality, consistent set of standards for employment, with educational and career ladder opportunities.

6. The mechanism to avoid a budget shortfall would be about listening to the different departments in State government actually doing the work, ensure we have a working relationship, have a planning process, goals that have common agreement, a process in place to address crisis needs, and perhaps a 2-year budget plan would help State government do this. Respect and working together, transparency, and communicating with all branches of government would be key to avoiding budget shortfalls.

7. My approach to make higher education more affordable for Vermonters would be first to prioritize Vermonters at all State colleges and Universities. I would also support funding with an index for yearly increases, cost of living. In addition I would work with our State and Federal initiatives for free or reduced tuition costs for two to four years after high school.

8. I would ensure the viability of the state college system by

9. Yes, I support a livable wage for Vermonters. Research shows that \$15.00 per hour is the goal -

\$12.00 by 2020.

10.

10.