

David Bellini

David Bellini, Chair
Retired Employees' Committee on Insurance
20 Liberty Street
Montpelier, VT 05602

November 9, 2022

Kristin L. Clouser, Secretary
Vermont Agency of Administration
109 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05602

Re: Retired State Employee's Health Insurance

Dear Secretary Clouser,

The Retired Employees' Committee on Insurance (RECI) met on November 1, 2022. At this meeting, the committee members discussed Governor Scott's proposal concerning retirees' health care coverage.

RECI members voted to send a letter to you to convey that we are vehemently opposed to the governor's proposal to remove retirees from the self-funded state healthcare plan and force us into a Medicare advantage plan. Committee members expressed several concerns about this proposal, including the fact that, as a condition of our employment, we were guaranteed the same health insurance coverage in retirement as working state employees have. While we are being told that we will have the same benefits, we have no way of knowing whether CIGNA will offer these same benefits at the end of the first contract, or what the cost of those benefits will be.

We understand that healthcare costs are continuing to increase. Removing retirees from the healthcare plan negotiated for working state employees is a breach of promise that will result in future increased costs to retirees, who are living on fixed incomes and can least afford these increases.

We appreciate your consideration of our viewpoint and hope that you will support us in our efforts to defeat this proposal.

Very truly yours,

David Bellini

David Bellini, Chair