

Bristol Town Administrator

From: Karen Horn <khorn@vlct.org>
Sent: Monday, November 25, 2019 10:16 AM
To: Karen Horn; Gwynn Zakov; Maura Carroll; Abigail Friedman
Subject: Rural Economic Development Caucus Pre-Session Public Hearing

We have been asked to share the following with you. The Rural Economic Development Working Group is an effective group of legislators looking to grow rural economies in the state.

The Rural Economic Development Working Group (REDWnG) of the Vermont House of Representatives invites Vermonters to share thoughts on **how to sustain and grow the economy in rural areas of the state.**

When: Wednesday, December 11th, 6-8pm.
Where: Room 11, Vermont Statehouse, Montpelier, Vermont.
Who: Vermonters with constructive ideas to share.

In 2017 RDWnG hosted a public hearing before the start of the 2018 legislative session. Because of the hearing, RDWnG advocated for and supported legislation to strengthen the economy in rural Vermont: funding for training and lower worker's compensation rates for the logging industry, funding for community wastewater systems to help communities support development in villages and small towns, increased funding for Working Lands Enterprises to grow more land-based jobs, funding for extending high-speed broadband to unserved and underserved areas, support of a grant-writing specialist to help communities obtain grant moneys from federal and private sources for community initiatives.

In 2019 we are hoping to do the same thing, to get insights from Vermonters in their home towns and communities as to what can be done legislatively to help grow and sustain their economies.

What: We're looking for constructive ideas and insights that will help us to enact new legislation or adjust spending priorities of the state to help the rural areas.

Oral testimony will be limited to 4 minutes per person. If you join us on the 11th, and we hope you do, we want you to be yourself and offer your insights in your own voice without any pressure to gussy it up.

Written testimony can be unlimited and will be shared with all the members of REDWnG. Send written testimony to State Representative Charlie Kimbell at ckimbell@leg.state.vt.us.

If you have questions about the hearing and how you can participate, contact Charlie Kimbell by email at ckimbell@leg.state.vt.us.



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