

# The Vermont Chamber of Commerce 2011-2012 Legislative Report Card

The Vermont Chamber of Commerce has prepared this Legislative Report Card to highlight legislators' voting records on issues that directly affect our membership. The Vermont Chamber is a non-partisan organization dedicated to promoting an economic climate conducive to business growth and preservation of the Vermont quality of life.

The Vermont Chamber of Commerce has selected votes that show support for:

- A healthy business climate;
- Strong economic development programs;
- Sound fiscal policies;
- An increase in tourism base; and
- Sensible environmental regulations.

We have chosen the roll call votes based on our legislative priorities as developed with input from our members, Board of Directors, and Government Affairs Committee.

We assessed our position based both on the roll call of bill being cited in the vote and any amendments that would have changed the overall scope of the bill in our members' favor. When there was more than one roll call vote on a particular bill, we included the vote that provides the most information about legislators' positions on the issue. In some instances, more than one vote on an issue has been selected.

This Legislative Report Card can be used to learn how legislators voted on job and economic opportunity issues, and at the same time, provide a snapshot of the legislative issues for this past biennium. We encourage you to discuss these issues with your senators and representatives; let them know that their work on improving our economy, business climate, and job creation is appreciated. If they are not supportive, ask them why.

## How the Scores Were Calculated

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The scores were calculated by dividing the total number of votes taken, by the number of votes cast by that representative or senator. Absences were not counted in the final score. If a legislator was absent or missed 50% of the voting opportunities, they were not scored.

## Chamber Champions

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In releasing the Legislative Report Card, we recognize that roll call votes are not taken on every issue, and much of the important legislative work is done through the committee process and behind the scenes. Therefore, the Vermont Chamber gives special recognition to the legislators who played a pivotal role in shaping the outcome on critical issues for the Vermont Chamber. We recognize these legislators as Vermont Chamber Champions who worked hard to promote the Vermont economy and job creation.

For more information on the bills and the votes included in this Report Card, contact the Vermont Chamber Legislative Assistant at [jgingras@vtchamber.com](mailto:jgingras@vtchamber.com), or go to the legislative website at <http://leg.state.vt.us>.

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## SENATE VOTES EXPLAINED: 2011

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- 1) **2011 Telecommunications Bill - S.78:** The telecommunications bill allows for an expedited permit process, specifically for Act 250, in an effort to expand broadband services in Vermont. The Vermont Chamber supports the goal of expanding broadband to every last mile, with a laser focus on providing services to those individuals and businesses that are unserved. **A “yes” vote supported the Vermont Chamber position.** Results: **Passed**, 29-1
  
- 2) **Relating to Health Care Reform - H.202:** This roll call vote was taken on an amendment that would have allowed an insurance market to exist outside of the new Health Insurance Exchange after 2014. The Vermont Chamber supported this amendment with the recognition that an outside market would have allowed for greater choice for businesses. **A “yes” vote supported the Vermont Chamber position.** Results: **Failed**, 11-19
  
- 3) **Relating to Health Care Reform - H.202:** This roll call vote was taken on an amendment that would have determined the size of businesses mandated to purchase insurance within the Health Insurance Exchange by defining the “small group market” from businesses with one hundred or fewer employees, to businesses with fifty or fewer. The Vermont Chamber advocated for the passage of this amendment to implement a new system with the least amount of disruption, allowing a smoother transition. **A “yes” vote supported the Vermont Chamber position. \*** Results: **Failed**, 10-20

*\*In March of 2012, the Vermont Chamber was successful in working with the Administration and the Legislature to redefine “small group market” to businesses with fifty or fewer employees in the 2012 health care reform bill, H.559.*

## SENATE VOTES EXPLAINED: 2012

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- 4) **Relating to Health Care Reform - H.559:** Similar to the amendment offered in 2011, this roll call was taken on an amendment that would have delayed the mandatory participation date in the Health Insurance Exchange by one year. Small businesses would have been allowed to voluntarily purchase within the new system in 2014, with the State mandate beginning in 2015. The Vermont Chamber's lobbying team advocated for the passage of this amendment in an effort to ensure that as many options as possible were available for small businesses after the implementation of the Exchange. **A "yes" vote supported the Vermont Chamber position**

Results: **Failed**, 12-15

- 5) **Miscellaneous Tax Changes - H.782:** This roll call vote was taken on an amendment that included language to ban the taxation of cloud computing services, and provide a refund to those individuals and companies who remitted the tax prior to 2010 (but after 2006). A bulletin issued by the Vermont Tax Department in 2010 redefined prewritten software as tangible personal property subject to the State's 6% sales tax. The Vermont Chamber agreed with the Governor's position, and advocated for the passage of this amendment with recognition that many companies were unaware their services, under this clarifying bulletin, were subject the sales tax, and shouldn't be in the future. **A "yes" vote supported the Vermont Chamber position.**

Results: **Passed**, 15-14

- 6) **Comprehensive Energy Bill - S.214:** This roll call vote was taken on the Senate version of the comprehensive energy bill. The bill was improved over the House version by reducing the size of the standard offer and removing the mandatory RPS provision. However, the bill increases the amount of renewable power from costly small scale projects by an additional 77 megawatts, bringing the total requirement to 127 megawatts. The Vermont Chamber opposed the final version of the Senate bill because it believes that utilities should be allowed to negotiate for best prices for electricity rather than requiring higher priced power through a mandated standard offer program. We were pleased that all of our cost containment recommendations were incorporated into the bill. **A "no" vote supported the Vermont Chamber position.**

Results: **Passed**, 21-4

# Senate Report Card

Roll Call Votes	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Chamber Position	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	SCORE
Sen. Timothy Ashe (D-Chittenden)	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	17%
Sen. Claire Ayer (D-Addison)	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	17%
Sen. Phillip Baruth (D-Chittenden)	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	17%
Sen. Joe Benning (R-Caledonia)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	100%
Sen. Randy Brock (R-Franklin)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	100%
Sen. John Campbell (D-Windsor)	Y	N	N	A	N	Y	20%
Sen. Bill Carris (D-Rutland)	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	17%
Sen. Ann Cummings (D-Washington)	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	17%
Sen. William Doyle (R-Washington)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	83%
Sen. Margaret Flory (R-Rutland)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	100%
Sen. Sally Fox (D-Chittenden)	Y	N	N	N	N	A	20%
Sen. Peter Galbraith (D-Windham)	Y	N	N	N	Y	A	40%
Sen. Howard Giard (D-Addison)	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	33%
Sen. Robert Hartwell (D-Bennington)	Y	N	N	Y	A	Y	40%
Sen. Vincent Illuzzi (R-Essex-Orleans)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	83%
Sen. Jane Kitchel (D-Caledonia)	Y	Y	N	A	Y	A	75%
Sen. Sara Branon Kittell (D-Franklin)	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	33%
Sen. Virginia Lyons (D-Chittenden)	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	17%
Sen. Mark MacDonald (D-Orange)	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	17%
Sen. Richard Mazza (D-Grand Isle)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	83%
Sen. Richard McCormack (D-Windsor)	N	N	N	N	N	Y	0%
Sen. Hinda Miller (D-Chittenden)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	83%
Sen. Kevin Mullin (R-Rutland)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	100%
Sen. Alice Nitka (D-Windsor)	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	33%
Sen. Anthony Pollina (P/D/W-Washington)	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	17%
Sen. Richard Sears (D-Bennington)	Y	N	N	Y	N	A	40%
Sen. Diane Snelling (R-Chittenden)	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	50%
Sen. Robert Starr (D-Essex-Orleans)	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	N	100%
Sen. Richard Westman (R-Lamoille)	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	67%
Sen. Jeanette White (D-Windham)	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	17%

Results Key	Senate Issues Key			
<b>Y</b> Vote yes <b>N</b> Vote no <b>A</b> Absent for vote <b>❖</b> Not a member of the Senate at that time <b>P</b> Presiding	<b>1</b> 2011 Telecommunications Bill <b>2</b> 2011 Health Care Bill Amendment <b>3</b> 2011 Health Care Bill Amendment II	<b>4</b> 2012 Health Care Bill Amendment <b>5</b> 2012 Miscellaneous Tax Bill Amendment <b>6</b> 2012 Energy Bill		

## HOUSE VOTES EXPLAINED: 2011

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- 1) **2011 Telecommunications Bill - S.78:** The telecommunications bill streamlines and provides an expedited permit process, specifically for Act 250, in an effort to expand broadband services in Vermont. Using a mixture of federal stimulus and state monies, the bill focuses on regulating the process by which the State plans to achieve universal broadband coverage. The Vermont Chamber advocated in support of the bill, and supports the goal of expanding broadband to every last mile, with a laser focus on providing services to those individuals and businesses that are unserved. **A “yes” vote supported the Vermont Chamber position.**

Results: **Passed**, 124-1

- 2) **Mandatory Work Breaks - H.41:** This roll call vote was taken on a bill that would have mandated work breaks for all Vermont employees. The Vermont Chamber opposed this bill’s prescriptive language that would have contradicted existing Federal and State labor law, as well as attempts to implement a one-size fits all solution to an issue that received no formal complaints at the Department of Labor. Although the bill exempted employers who, for safety reasons, needed more flexibility, the Vermont Chamber advocated against the bill, questioning the need for such a mandate. **A “no” vote supported the Vermont Chamber position.**

Results: **Passed**, 72-61

- 3) **Jobs Bill - H.287:** This vote was taken on the 2011 jobs bill that included a comprehensive package to stimulate job growth in Vermont that expanded across all sectors. The bill enhanced existing workforce development programs, while allocating monies to new programs that would help the agriculture industry, stimulate the growth of manufacturing jobs, create a statewide internship program, and provide support for the strengthening of downtown regions. **A “yes” vote supported the Vermont Chamber position.**

Results: **Passed**, 122-13

- 4) **Health Care Reform - H.202:** This roll call was taken on an amendment that would have exempted self-insured companies, and their employees, from contributing into the finance mechanism created to fund the anticipated single payer system. **A “no” vote supported the Vermont Chamber position.**

Results: **Failed**, 49-88

## HOUSE VOTES EXPLAINED: 2012

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- 5) **Health Care Reform - H.559:** This amendment would have allowed the Health Care Insurance Exchange to be voluntary for small businesses in Vermont rather than mandating participation in 2014. The Vermont Chamber advocated for the passage of this amendment to provide as much choice as possible for small businesses. **A “yes” vote supported the Vermont Chamber position on this amendment.**

Results: **Failed**, 57-80

- 6) **Labor Bill - H.762:** This roll call was taken on the 2012 House labor bill that included Vermont Chamber sponsored provisions that would have created a volunteer certification process for sole contractors in the State, a Vermont Chamber priority. The House omnibus labor bill demonstrated a clear collaboration between the Department of Labor, the House Commerce and Economic Development Committee, and the Vermont Chamber. Unfortunately the Senate did not pass this provision. **A “yes” vote supported the Vermont Chamber position.**

Results: **Passed**, 131-0

- 7) **Comprehensive Energy Bill - H.468:** The House version of the energy bill would have required each of Vermont’s retail electricity providers to either purchase or produce new renewable energy supplies so that renewables represented thirty-five percent of each utility's energy portfolio by 2032. The bill also authorized 150 MW of cumulative standard offer which provides a Public Service Board determined price for small scale renewables. The Vermont Chamber advocated for stringent cost containment language, a more reasonable, balanced RPS goal, and a lower standard offer agreement. We were successful in obtaining a “market-based procurement mechanism” which will set a lower price for the standard offer segment through a bidding process. **A “no” vote supported the Vermont Chamber position.**

Results: **Passed**, 91-46

# House Report Card

Roll Call Votes	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Chamber Position	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	SCORE
Rep. Joe Acinapura (R-Brandon)	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	100%
Rep. Janet Ancel (D-Calais)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Margaret Andrews (D-Rutland City)	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	57%
Rep. William N. Aswad (D-Burlington)	A	Y	A	A	N	Y	A	*
Rep. Kenneth W. Atkins (D-Winooski)	A	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	50%
Rep. John Bartholomew (D-Hartland)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Lynn Batchelor (R-Derby)	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	100%
Rep. Clement Bissonnette (D-Winooski)	Y	A	Y	N	N	Y	Y	50%
Rep. Charles W. Bohi (D-Hartford)	A	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	33%
Rep. Bill Botzow (D-Pownal)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Robert Bouchard (R-Colchester)	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	86%
Rep. Carolyn Branagan (R-)Georgia	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	100%
Rep. Patrick M. Brennan (R-Colchester)	A	N	A	Y	Y	Y	N	100%
Rep. Cynthia M. Browning (D-Arlington)	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	100%
Rep. Thomas Burditt (R-West Rutland)	Y	N	N	Y	Y	A	A	80%
Rep. Mollie S. Burke (P-Brattleboro)	Y	A	Y	N	N	Y	Y	50%
Rep. Sarah Buxton (D-Royalton)	Y	Y	Y	N	A	Y	Y	50%
Rep. Brian Champion (D-Bennington)	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	57%
Rep. William Canfield (R-Fair Haven)	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	71%
Rep. Margaret Cheney (D-Norwich)	Y	Y	Y	N	A	Y	Y	50%
Rep. Kevin Christie (D-Hartford)	Y	Y	Y	A	N	Y	Y	50%
Rep. Gregory S. Clark (R-Vergennes)	A	A	A	A	Y	Y	N	*
Rep. Alison Clarkson (D-Woodstock)	Y	A	Y	N	N	Y	Y	50%
Rep. James Condon (D-Colchester)	A	N	Y	A	Y	Y	N	100%
Rep. Chip Conquest (D-Newbury)	A	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	50%
Rep. Michel Consejo (D-Sheldon)	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	71%
Rep. Sarah Copeland Hanzas (D-Bradford)	Y	A	Y	N	N	A	Y	40%
Rep. Timothy R. Corcoran (D-Bennington)	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	71%
Rep. Gail Courcelle (D-Rutland City)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Howard T. Crawford (R-Burke)	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	100%
Rep. Leigh Dakin (D-Chester)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Susan Davis (P-Washington)	Y	A	Y	N	N	Y	A	60%
Results Key		House Issues Key						
Y	Vote yes	1	2011 Telecommunications Bill	5	2012 Health Care Amendment			
N	Vote no	2	Mandatory Work Breaks Bill	6	2012 Labor Bill			
A	Absent for vote	3	2011 Jobs Bill	7	2012 Energy Bill			
❖	Not a member of the House at that time	4	2011 Health Care Amendment					
P	Presiding							
*	Due to the lack of votes, no % available							

# House Report Card

Roll Call Votes	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Chamber Position	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	SCORE
Rep. David L. Deen (D-Westminster)	Y	Y	Y	N	A	Y	Y	50%
Rep. Dustin Degree (R-St. Albans City)	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	86%
Rep. Dennis Devereux (R-Mount Holly)	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	100%
Rep. Lynn Dickinson (R-St. Albans)	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	100%
Rep. Andrew Donaghy (R-Poultney)	A	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	83%
Rep. Anne Donahue (R-Northfield)	Y	N	N	Y	Y	A	N	83%
Rep. Joey Donovan (D-Burlington)	A	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	33%
Rep. James Eckhardt (R-Chittenden)	Y	N	N	Y	A	A	N	80%
Rep. Sarah Edwards (P-Brattleboro)	Y	Y	Y	N	A	Y	Y	50%
Rep. Rebecca Ellis (D-Waterbury)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	A	50%
Rep. Alice M. Emmons (D-Springfield)	Y	Y	Y	N	A	Y	Y	50%
Rep. Debbie G. Evans (D-Essex)	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	71%
Rep. Peter J. Fagan (R-Rutland City)	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	100%
Rep. Michael Fisher (D-Lincoln)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. William Frank (D-Underhill)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Eldred French (D-Shrewsbury)	A	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	33%
Rep. Patsy French (D-Randolph)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep Gary Gilbert (D-Fairfax)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Maxine Grad (D-Moretown)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Adam Greshin (I-Warren)	Y	N	Y	N	Y	A	N	83%
Rep. Sandy Haas (P-Rochester)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	A	50%
Rep. Helen Head (D- South Burlington)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Marth Heath (D-Westford)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Michael Hebert (R-Vernon)	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	86%
Rep. Robert G. Helm (R-Castleton)	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	71%
Rep. Mark A. Higley (R-Lowell)	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	100%
Rep. Mary Hooper (D-Montpelier)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Adam Howard (R-Cambridge)	Y	N	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	83%
Rep. Richard Howrigan (D-Fairfield)	Y	A	Y	A	N	Y	N	80%
Rep. Ronald Hubert (R-Milton)	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	100%
Rep. Timothy Jerman (D-Essex Junction)	Y	Y	A	Y	N	Y	Y	50%
Rep. William Jewett (D-Ripton)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%

Results Key	House Issues Key	
<b>Y</b> Vote yes <b>N</b> Vote no <b>A</b> Absent for vote <b>❖</b> Not a member of the House at that time <b>P</b> Presiding <b>*</b> Due to the lack of votes, no % available	<b>1</b> 2011 Telecommunications Bill <b>2</b> Mandatory Work Breaks Bill <b>3</b> 2011 Jobs Bill <b>4</b> 2011 Health Care Amendment	<b>5</b> 2012 Health Care Amendment <b>6</b> 2012 Labor Bill <b>7</b> 2012 Energy Bill



# House Report Card

Roll Call Votes	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Chamber Position	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	SCORE
Rep. William Johnson (R-Canaan)	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	A	N	100%
Rep. Mitzi Johnson (D-South Hero)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Kathy Keenan (D-St. Albans City)	A	Y	A	N	N	Y	Y	20%
Rep. Duncan F. Kilmartin (R-Newport City)	Y	N	A	Y	Y	A	N	100%
Rep. Warren Kitzmiller (D-Montpelier)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Tony Klein (D-East Montpelier)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Tom Koch (R-Barre Town)	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	100%
Rep. Patti Komline (R-Dorset)	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	85%
Rep. Bob Krebs (D-South Hero)	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Jill Krowinski (D-Burlington)	❖	❖	❖	❖	N	Y	Y	*
Rep. Michelle Kupersmith (D-So. Burlington)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Diane Lanpher (D-Vergennes)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Leigh B. Larocque (R-Barnet)	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	86%
Rep. Mark Larson (D-Burlington)	Y	Y	Y	N	❖	❖	❖	50%
Rep. Richard Lawrence (R-Lyndon)	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	100%
Rep. Joan Lenas (D-Shelburne)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Lucy Leriche (D-Hardwick)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	P	Y	33%
Rep. Patti J. Lewis (R-Berlin)	A	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	100%
Rep. Robert Lewis (R-Derby)	A	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	100%
Rep. William J. Lippert (D-Hinesburg)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Jason Lorber (D-Burlington)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	A	A	40%
Rep. Terence Macaig (D-Williston)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. John W. Malcolm (D-Pawlet)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Ann Manwaring (D-Wilmington)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Michael J. Marcotte (R-Coventry)	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	100%
Rep. Richard Marek (D-Newfane)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Cynthia Martin (D-Springfield)	Y	Y	Y	N	A	Y	Y	50%
Rep. Linda J. Martin (D-Wolcott)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. James W. Masland (D-Thetford)	Y	A	A	A	N	Y	Y	50%
Rep. Norman H. McAllister (R-Highgate)	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	100%
Rep. James M. McCullough (D-Williston)	Y	A	A	N	N	Y	Y	40%

Results Key		House Issues Key			
Y	Vote yes	1	2011 Telecommunications Bill	5	2012 Health Care Amendment
N	Vote no	2	Mandatory Work Breaks Bill	6	2012 Labor Bill
A	Absent for vote	3	2011 Jobs Bill	7	2012 Energy Bill
❖	Not a member of the House at that time	4	2011 Health Care Amendment		
P	Presiding				
*	Due to the lack of votes, no % available				

# House Report Card

Roll Call Votes	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Chamber Position	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	SCORE
Rep. Francis McFaun (R-Barre Town)	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	100%
Rep. James L. McNeil (R-Rutland Town)	A	N	Y	Y	Y	A	N	100%
Rep. Alice Miller (D-Shaftsbury)	A	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	A	60%
Rep. Mark Mitchell (D-Barnard)	Y	A	A	A	❖	❖	❖	*
Rep. Ann H. Mook (D-Bennington)	Y	N	Y	A	N	Y	Y	67%
Rep. John Moran (D-Wardsboro)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Mary A. Morrissey (R-Bennington)	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	A	A	100%
Rep. Michael Mrowicki (D-Putney)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Robert Munger (D-So. Burlington)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Linda K. Myers (R-Essex)	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	100%
Rep. Betty A. Nuovo (D-Middlebury)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Anne O'Brien (D-Richmond)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	A	Y	33%
Rep. Jean O'Sullivan (D-Burlington)	❖	❖	❖	❖	A	A	Y	*
Rep. Oliver K. Olsen (R-Jamaica)	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	100%
Rep. Carolyn Partridge (D-Windham)	A	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	33%
Rep. Chuck Pearce (R-Richford)	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	100%
Rep. Christopher Pearson (P-Burlington)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Janice L. Peaslee (R-Guildhall)	Y	N	N	Y	Y	A	Y	67%
Rep. Peter Peltz (D-Woodbury)	A	Y	A	N	N	Y	Y	20%
Rep. Peter E. Perley (R-Enosburg)	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	100%
Rep. Paul N. Poirier (D-Barre City)	A	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	33%
Rep. David Potter (D-Clarendon)	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	57%
Rep. Ann Pugh (D-South Burlington)	Y	Y	Y	N	A	A	Y	40%
Rep. Paul Ralston (D-Middlebury)	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	71%
Rep. Kesha K. Ram (D-Burlington)	Y	Y	A	N	N	Y	Y	33%
Rep. Gerald W. Reis (R-St. Johnsbury)	Y	N	Y	A	A	Y	N	100%
Rep. Herb Russell (D-Rutland City)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Brian K. Savage (R-Swanton)	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	100%
Rep. Heidi E. Scheuermann (R-Stowe)	A	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	83%
Rep. Ernest W. Shand (D-Weathersfield)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. David Sharpe (D-Bristol)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Butch Shaw (R-Pittsford)	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	100%

Results Key	House Issues Key	
Y Vote yes	1 2011 Telecommunications Bill	5 2012 Health Care Amendment
N Vote no	2 Mandatory Work Breaks Bill	6 2012 Labor Bill
A Absent for vote	3 2011 Jobs Bill	7 2012 Energy Bill
❖ Not a member of the House at that time	4 2011 Health Care Amendment	
P Presiding		
* Due to the lack of votes, no % available		

# House Report Card

Roll Call Votes	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Chamber Position	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	SCORE
Rep. Shap Smith (D-Morristown)	P	P	P	P	P	A	P	N/A*
Rep. Harvey Smith (R-New Haven)	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	A	N	100%
Rep. Robert South (D-St. Johnsbury)	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	N	75%
Rep. Kristy Spengler (D-Colchester)	A	Y	Y	N	N	Y	A	40%
Rep. William Stevens (I-Shoreham)	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	71%
Rep. Tom Stevens (D-Waterbury)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Vicky Strong (R-Albany)	A	N	Y	Y	A	Y	N	100%
Rep. Valerie Stuart (D-Brattleboro)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Donna Sweaney (D-Windsor)	Y	Y	A	N	N	Y	Y	33%
Rep. Tess Taylor (D-Barre)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. George Till (D-Jericho)	A	A	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	60%
Rep. Kitty Toll (D-Danville)	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	83%
Rep. Lawrence Townsend (D-Randolph)	A	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	67%
Rep. Matt Trieber (D-Rockingham)	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	A	67%
Rep. Donald H. Turner (R-Milton)	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	86%
Rep. Linda Waite-Simpson (D-Essex)	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	57%
Rep. Kate Webb (D-Shelburne)	Y	A	Y	N	N	Y	Y	50%
Rep. Rachel Weston (D-Burlington)	Y	A	A	N	❖	❖	❖	*
Rep. Jeff Wilson (D-Manchester)	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	57%
Rep. Phillip C. Winters (R-Williamstown)	A	A	A	A	Y	Y	N	*
Rep. Suzi Wizowaty (D-Burlington)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Mark Woodward (D-Johnson)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N	57%
Rep. Kurt Wright (R-Burlington)	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	86%
Rep. Michael Yantachka (D-Charlotte)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	43%
Rep. Sam Young (D-Albany)	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N	57%
Rep. Teo Zagar (D-Barnard)	❖	❖	❖	❖	N	Y	Y	*

Results Key		House Issues Key	
Y	Vote yes	1	2011 Telecommunications Bill
N	Vote no	2	Mandatory Work Breaks Bill
A	Absent for vote	3	2011 Jobs Bill
❖	Not a member of the House at that time	4	2011 Health Care Amendment
P	Presiding	5	2012 Health Care Amendment
*	Due to the lack of votes, no % available	6	2012 Labor Bill
		7	2012 Energy Bill

# 2011- 2012 Vermont Chamber Champions

## Vermont Chamber of Commerce Legislative Report Card

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*The Vermont Chamber extends its gratitude to the legislators with high marks, without whom we couldn't accomplish our agenda. We also recognize that much of the legislative work needed to support the Vermont Chamber's agenda is done behind the scenes and in committee. Therefore, the Vermont Chamber of Commerce gives special recognition to the legislators highlighted below who played a pivotal role in shaping the outcome on issues critical for the business community.*

**Representative Bill Botzow (D-Pownal), Chair of the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development:** As Chair, Representative Botzow showed a clear understanding and concern for the issues surrounding the business community. Representative Botzow was successful in bringing the Department of Labor and the business community together to produce a piece of comprehensive labor legislation that showed true collaboration and compromise. Although the omnibus labor bill that emerged from his committee was stalled in the last days of the Senate, it passed unanimously out of the House, a vote count symbolic of the compromise and exemplary leadership that went into creating it.

**Representative Michael Marcotte (R-Coventry), Vice Chair, House Committee on Commerce:** Representative Marcotte continued to provide a quiet but strong voice for businesses in the House over the biennium. The partnership between Representative Marcotte and Chair of the Committee, Representative Botzow, is a powerful one that plays a pivotal role in the admirable compromise and bipartisan support the Committee's bills receive. As a business owner, Marcotte understands fully the challenges of changing labor laws, and his efforts, leadership skills, and knowledge of the day-to-day challenges for small businesses in Vermont were instrumental in the creation of the 2012 omnibus labor bill.

**Senator Vincent Illuzzi (R-Essex/Orleans), Chair of the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs; Member, Senate Appropriations Committee:** Senator Illuzzi continually demonstrates leadership in the Senate on key business issues important to the Vermont Chamber. Senator Illuzzi worked vigorously to keep the pressure on in the Legislature to understand the full impacts of health care reform by being one of the few Senators willing to sponsor pro-business amendments. Senator Illuzzi continued to push the envelope in the 2012 session by bringing to the forefront important tax policy issues and questions. His knowledge and willingness to help the Vermont business community was demonstrated clearly when he successfully passed an amendment to ban the taxation of cloud computing services.

**Senator Hinda Miller (D-Chittenden), Vice Chair, Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs; Member, Senate Committee on Appropriations:** Senator Miller teamed up with Senator Illuzzi in the 2011-2012 biennium to sponsor important health care reform amendments. Senator Miller is credited with spearheading the effort to offer business friendly amendments that would allow for greater choice for businesses within the new Health Insurance Exchange. As an entrepreneur and business person, Senator Miller urged the Senate to consider allowing the Exchange to be voluntary for small businesses, in an

effort to ease the transition. While the full Senate did not heed her recommendation, her tireless support for this key Vermont Chamber agenda item paid off in the end when the Administration allowed a bronze plan be offered in the exchange and changed the definition of “small group” to businesses with fifty or fewer full time employees.

A staunch supporter of business interests, Senator Miller will retire this year after ten years of representing Chittenden County. Her service and dedication to Vermont, and specifically the business community, is one that will be missed.

**Representative Ann Manwaring (D-Wilmington), Member, House Appropriations Committee:**

Representative Manwaring was the lead sponsor of a bill that would establish a permanent tourism funding formula for the Vermont Department of Tourism in the 2012 legislative session. Representative Manwaring spearheaded the effort for this Vermont Chamber priority, building a tri-partisan coalition of more than 25 legislators who signed onto the bill in the name of stable and predictable funding to promote Vermont beyond our borders as a tourism destination. Although the legislation did not move forward, Representative Manwaring encouraged many legislators to evidence their support of the value of the tourism industry as a statewide economic driver. We thank Representative Manwaring for her leadership and efforts to bring this recognition of tourism to the forefront in the Legislature.

The Vermont Chamber also recognizes **Senator Richard Mazza (D-Grand Isle), Senator Jane Kitchel (D-Caledonia), and Senator Bobby Starr (D-Essex-Orleans)** for their leadership and support of the Vermont Chamber agenda. These three legislators regularly approach policymaking with moderation, civility, independence and common sense. This is clearly reflected in their report card scores. Thank you!

## JOIN OUR ACTION NETWORK

The Vermont Chamber’s Action Network keeps you informed about the issues that matter to you and your business! Sign up today!