



**Department of Disabilities, Aging and
Independent Living
Commissioner's Office**
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Agency of Human Services

1 February 2021

Dear Advisory Board to the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living,


October 5, 2020, Vermont passed the Older Vermonters Act ([Act 156](#)). Section 7 of the Act, creates a Self-Neglect Working Group to “provide recommendations regarding adults who, due to physical or mental impairment or diminished capacity, are unable to perform essential self-care tasks.” Membership in this working group is established in this Act and includes “...an older Vermonter or individual with a disability, selected by the Advisory Board to the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living, who may be a member of that Board” as one of its required members.

Section 7 of the Older Vermonters Act follows this letter, and details the specified powers and duties this working group shall enact. Chiefly in its duties is a report of the Working Group’s findings and recommendations for legislative and non-legislative action. This report is due to the House Committee on Human Services and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare on or before July 1, 2021. The Act details six (6) areas of reporting that will require extensive inventory, study, and coordination towards the final report. As such, we are asking membership to help identify designees that will have the capacity to participate in monthly meetings and assist with the execution of the final report.

Please email Hope Smith, DAIL Operations Administrator at Hope.Smith@vermont.gov to let us know if you or another designee from your organization can serve as a member of the Working Group by March 1, 2021. We will begin scheduling monthly Working Group meetings beginning in April.

Thank you for your consideration and future contributions to this important work.

Regards,

**Monica
Caserta Hutt**  Digitally signed by Monica
Caserta Hutt
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