



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**VERMONT MEDICAL SOCIETY APPLAUDS HOUSE AND SENATE LEADERS FOR INCLUDING GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND BAN OF FLAVORED E-CIGARETTES IN THEIR 2020 PRIORITIES**

MONTPELIER- The Vermont Medical Society (VMS) applauds the Vermont House and Senate leadership for prioritizing several issues that are critical for the health and welfare of Vermonters. In particular, VMS supports House Speaker Mitzi Johnson's and Senate President Pro Tem Tim Ashe's commitment this morning to:

- Address gun violence
- Eliminate sales of flavored tobacco products
- Reduce carbon emissions
- Ensure that any bill that allows commercial sales of cannabis products addresses youth use and roadside safety.

Speaking to these issues, VMS Executive Director Jessa Barnard highlighted the overlap between policy priorities for VMS, Vermont's largest physician and physician assistant membership organization, and those discussed this morning by legislative leadership: "VMS thanks the legislative leadership for championing policies that are also key priorities for Vermont's physicians and physician assistants. This highlights the emphasis that both Vermont's elected leaders and health care clinicians place on improving public health and health care access for patients."

The VMS looks forward to working with the entire legislature on these critical health care priorities in 2020.

For the full list of VMS' 2020 Policy Priorities, [click here](#).

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