

Thank you for electing me to represent you at the Vermont State House. It is an honor to be at the State House, working for you, to help restore balance and common sense to Vermont. As I promised, I am focused on our affordability crisis and helping to solve the problems we currently face in education, healthcare and public safety. We, the Legislature, need to be willing to make a lot of bold choices and changes, without financially burdening Vermonters in the process.

I take my work very seriously. I am laser focused on understanding more of the details so that I can help make informed decisions that result in meaningful and realistic improvements that will benefit all of Vermont.

At the State House I was assigned to the House Committee on Environment. As a Vermonter, living totally off grid, in the woods of Corinth, I understand the importance and fragility of our natural resources. It is our responsibility to protect our clean air, water, soil and wildlife. In our committee we have been recently concentrating on water quality status and needs, and reviewing legislation passed in prior years.

A major area of our concentration has also been the issue of PFAS (Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances), also known as “forever chemicals”, and their impact on the health of humans, wildlife and the environment. Last year, the Legislature passed Act.131 which banned the use of PFAS in certain products in Vermont. This year, our committee will be discussing any further actions to be taken to prevent these forever chemicals from polluting Vermont further.

As a former business owner, I know what it takes to work hard to provide quality, affordable services to the community, and at the same time make an acceptable, modest living. It is a delicate balance. Most of you are working really hard and are still struggling to make ends meet. There needs to be a balance between services and programs provided and the costs incurred. Private citizens and local businesses are the backbone of our economy and communities, and they need to be able to thrive.

To help Vermont get back on the right track and ensure affordability, I have signed on to several bills that will help make a difference. Repealing the “Affordable Heat Act”, whose original intent was to increase the cost of heating fuels and financially burden many Vermonters, is a high priority. All the compiled information indicates that this program is not the right fit for Vermont. The report presented by PUC (Public Utilities Commission) confirmed this reality. Our new Bill, H.16, would prevent this costly program from moving forward.

Some of the other Bills I have signed on to:

H.43 – Exempt military retirement and survivor benefit income from Vermont income tax

H.57 – Provide survivor benefits to law enforcement officers

H.62 – Repeal the Global Warming Solutions Act

H.68 – Expand the National Guard Tuition Benefit Program

H.70 – Include current use land in the conserved land inventory

H.74 – Exempt Social Security benefits from Vermont income tax

H.89 - Offer School Choice for all Vermont students

I am excited to be at the State House working for you, and I will do all that I can to help Vermont change course and start heading in a positive direction. I look forward to hearing from you, so please feel free to contact me anytime at [mtagliavia@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:mtagliavia@leg.state.vt.us)

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve and represent you in Montpelier. Be safe, stay informed and stay involved!