

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Vermont State Colleges System Applauds Governor's Proposed Investment in System Transformation

MONTPELIER, VT — Vermont State Colleges System Chancellor Sophie Zdatny today commented on Governor Phil Scott's proposal to boost the Vermont State Colleges with a total proposed appropriation of \$50 million, \$20 million of which is one-time bridge funding to help cover the extraordinary fiscal challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and the underlying structural deficit.

"Governor Scott's proposed fiscal plan will help stabilize the Vermont State College System in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic impacts. For students, future students, faculty, our school host communities and workforce development demands, this is another sign of support from state leaders. We are amidst a serious structural reorganization to unify the college system, improve educational services, and reduce our overall costs and this bridge funding would be another stepping stone on the system modernization path.

The support the VSCS has received from the state in the last two years is incredible and we look forward to continued partnership with the Governor and Legislature as we work to transform our system and position the VSCS for long-term success."

For the benefit of Vermont, the Vermont State Colleges system provides affordable, high quality, student-centered, and accessible education, fully integrating professional, liberal, and career study, consistent with student aspirations and regional and state needs. The Vermont State Colleges system includes Castleton University, the Community College of Vermont, Northern Vermont University, and Vermont Technical College. Learn more at www.vsc.edu.

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