

2022 Voter's Guide for People with Disabilities

Voter's Guide for People with Disabilities

The Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002 says that people with disabilities have a right to vote and to have certain accommodations made if a person requires them, in order to be able to exercise their right to vote.

Disability Rights Vermont, Inc. (DRVT) is an agency that receives money from the U. S. Congress under HAVA to help make sure people with disabilities have equal access to the voting process. This guide is one project DRVT is doing to provide that help. In it you will find information about your voting rights, how to register to vote, the different ways you can vote, and the offices to be elected in this year's **November 8th General Election**.

Your Vote is Your Voice!

Voting is very important.

It is a way for you to help choose the people that will run our government.

Our government makes laws, decides how money gets spent, and much more.

Who gets picked to run the government makes a big difference for people with disabilities and their families.

Important Election Dates:

OCTOBER 1, 2022

- Early and absentee ballots are to be mailed to all registered voters for the General Election.

OCTOBER 31, 2022

- Last day to put your absentee ballot in the mail in order for it to be received in time.

NOVEMBER 8, 2022

- All early or absentee ballots must be returned in person to the town clerk's office before close of business (check office hours)
- General Election and Absentee ballots at your polling location are due by close of polls at 7 p.m.

To Contact Us:

Call: **1-800-834-7890** or 1-802-229-1355

On the Web: **www.disabilityrightsvt.org**

Disability Rights Vermont

141 Main St., Suite 7, Montpelier, VT 05602

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Who Can Vote?

You can vote in Vermont elections if you:

- Are a U.S. Citizen
- Are a Vermont resident
- Will be 18 years or older by the day of the election
- Register to vote
- Take the “Voter’s Oath” (you will do this when you register to vote for the first time in Vermont)

If you are a U.S citizen, 18 years old or older and are registered to vote, you can vote in U.S. elections **even if you have a disability**. Not only can you vote it is important to vote so that you have a say in important programs that help people with disabilities!

Voter’s Oath

“You solemnly swear or affirm that whenever you give your vote or suffrage, touching any matter that concerns the State of Vermont, you will do it so as in your conscience you shall judge will most conduce to the best good of the same, as established by the Constitution, without fear or favor of any person.”

What the Voter’s Oath means, in plain English:

You promise that when you vote, you will make your own choice without influence from another person - **you won’t let anyone tell you who to vote for.**

You promise that whenever you vote on anything to do with Vermont, **you will choose what you honestly believe is best for the state.**

What Are My Rights?

In Vermont, you have the right to vote:

- Even if you have a guardian
- Even if you need help reading or filling out a ballot
- Even if you are homeless
- Even if you have been convicted of a crime or are incarcerated
- Even if you are not able to vote in person on Election Day

You also have the right to:

- Contact your Town/City Clerk to request accommodations.
Bring a reminder sheet of who you want to vote for.
- Bring a magnifying glass to help you read the ballot.
- If you have a disability or need help with the ballot, you may bring someone to assist you as long as it is not your employer or a union representative.
- Get a new ballot if you make a mistake (maximum of three ballots).
- Leave some choices blank on the ballot.
- Vote using Vermont's accessible ballot marking system (see page 6)
- Ask questions – elections officials are there to help you understand how to vote.
- Request a sample ballot (to see what you will be voting on before the election).
- Use the accessible vote at home option (see page 7)
- Ask an election official to bring a ballot to your car at your polling place (this is called “curbside voting”)

If you experience problems:

- Ask an election official to help you;
- Call the **Secretary of State's office** toll free at **1-800-439-VOTE (8683)**
- Call **Disability Rights Vermont** toll free at **1-800-834-7890**.
- Call **Vermont Center for Independent Living** toll free at **1-800-639-1522**
- Call **Green Mountain Self Advocates** toll free at **1-800-564-9990**

It is illegal to:

- Knowingly vote more than once either in the same town or in different towns.
- Try to tell another person how to vote once you're inside the building where voting is taking place.
- Mislead the Board of Civil Authority about your own or another person's eligibility to vote.
- Show your marked ballot to others in order to let them know how you voted.
- Make a mark on your ballot that would identify it as yours.

How Do I Register?

In order to vote you must first become a registered voter in the town or city where you live. Vermont now has “same day” voter registration so you may even register to vote at your polling place on Election Day.

To register, you need to complete the “Application for Addition to the Checklist” (voter registration form) and make sure it is returned to the Town/City Clerk’s office in the town or city you live. In Vermont you do not need to register under a specific political party when registering to vote. There are several places you can register.

- At your Town / City Clerk’s office
- Online at “**My Voter Page**” <https://mvp.vermont.gov>
- At the Department of Motor Vehicles (when you register your car or when you get or renew your driver’s license or non-driver’s identification card)
- At voter registration drives
- At a state agency that provides public assistance when applying for benefits such as at DCF’s Economic Services office.

If you are registering to vote in Vermont for the first time by mail or online, they ask for one acceptable form of ID. Acceptable forms are either a valid photo ID (driver’s license or passport), current utility bill, current bank statement, or another government document.

Call your Town/City Clerk or the Vermont Secretary of State’s office if you have any questions about registering to vote. If you are a person with a disability, Disability Rights Vermont can help you register to vote.

My Voter Page

The Vermont Secretary of State’s Office has created an online resource for voting, the “**My Voter Page**.” This can be found online at <https://mvp.vermont.gov>. You may use this system to:

- Register to vote
- Check your voter registration status
- Request an absentee ballot
- Check your absentee ballot status
- Find out where your polling place is
- See a sample ballot for the upcoming election
- Request an electronic ballot for the accessible vote at home option

When Do I Vote?

For the 2022 General Election, you must vote on or before **November 8, 2022**.

- Ballots will be mailed out to all registered voters and are available at your Town/City Clerk's office no later than **October 1, 2022**.
- You may vote early, in person, at your Town/City Clerk's office before the General Election day (November 8, 2022).
- If voting by mail, complete your absentee ballot and mail it back to your Town/City Clerk's office in time for it to be **received no later than the day before the Election (by November 7, 2022)**. Or you can drop it off at your polling place on Election Day.
- You may vote on Election Day (**November 8, 2022**) at the polling place, either from your car or inside the polling place. To vote from your car, someone will need to go into the polling place and tell the polling official that you want to vote from your car.
- On Election Day, the polls may open between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m.- each town/city makes its own decision. **All polls close at the same time - 7pm.**

Where Do I Vote?

To find out where your Town's/City's polling place is you can:

- Call your Town/City Clerk (see Pages 34 + 35)
- Visit the Secretary of State's website **sos.vermont.gov**
- Log into My Voter Page at **mvp.vermont.gov**
- Call **1-800-439-VOTE (8683)**.
- Check online at **<https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/polling-places/>**

What if I Can't Access My Polling Place?

Polling sites must be accessible the day of the election. It must have accessible parking, curbside voting, and accessible voting equipment. If you have difficulties accessing your polling place, contact the SOS Elections Division at **1-800-439-8683** or Disability Rights Vermont at **1-800-834-7890**.

How Do I Vote?

Voting in Person at the Polls (Voting Area) Using a Standard Ballot

- Go into the polling place and at the check-in table give your name, and if asked, give your residence.
You will be given a ballot that you will take to a voting booth.
- Mark your ballot according to the instructions. For most ballots you will need to completely fill in the oval of your choice. If you have questions, a poll worker can explain more. **If you make a mistake, ask for another ballot** (limit of three).
- After you have finished marking your ballot, you will leave the voting booth with your ballot and proceed to the place you “cast” (put) it. Look for signs or ask a worker if it is not obvious where to go.
- At the place you cast it, place the ballot as instructed by the worker. You may be told to put it in a ballot box or in an optical scanner / tabulator machine.
- Go to the check-out table if your voting place has one and give your name. You are finished voting and can now leave the voting area.

Voting in Person at the Polls (Voting Area) Using the Accessible Voting System

The “OmniBallot Tablet” **accessible voting system** is a tablet-based ballot marking device for use by voters at their polling place and is available at all Vermont polling places for Federal Elections, like the General Election on November 8, 2022. It is a voting machine that provides assistive technology such as headphones and a screen reader, an 8 key navigation pad, toggle switches, and a touch screen for you to choose from for accessibility.

- Go into the polling place.
- At the check-in table, give your name, and if asked, your residence.
- Ask to use the accessible voting system and the polling place official will guide you through the process.

The accessible voting system gives Vermonters with disabilities the ability to mark and print their ballots independently and privately. Once you are done marking your ballot using the system, it will print your voted ballot for you to place where all other ballots go to be counted. If you have questions, ask an Elections Official.

Accessible Voting at Home

For the 2022 General Election, using the “Omniballot Online” system, you can receive your ballot electronically if you are overseas, in the military, ill, injured or have a disability.

- Sign onto My Voter Page at: <https://mvp.vermont.gov> and choose “**Click here for online absentee ballot request**” and follow the instructions.
- Use the on-screen ballot marking program to make your selections using your keyboard, mouse, or other assistive technology and then review your selections on the review screen.
- Print your completed **ballot** and **certificate**. Insert the ballot in a standard size mailing **envelope** and seal it. Print, sign and attach the certificate to the outside of that envelope using tape or glue.
- Next, place that envelope in a **new envelope** and address it to your Town/City Clerk. You can mail the envelope or drop it off at your Clerk’s office before Election Day or hand-deliver to your polling place on Election Day.

The Omniballot Online system is compatible with MacOS and Windows screen readers.

Absentee Voting / Vote by Mail

Absentee Voting happens when you vote without being at your polling place on Election Day.

This is also called **Vote by Mail**.

This year the Vermont Secretary of State’s Office will **automatically mail ballots to registered voters** at their registered address for the November 8th, 2022 General Election. If you need to have your ballot sent to a different **mailing address** than the one you are registered at, contact your Town/City Clerk or use the on-line **My Voter Page** to request that an absentee ballot be sent to the address you choose.

People who want to vote by absentee ballot complete their ballot **before Election Day** and then send it back in the **mail by October 31, 2022**, a week before the election, to be counted.

Absentee ballots can also be hand-delivered or dropped off to your Town/City Clerk’s office up to the day before the Election or at your polling place on Election Day.

Early Voting

You can also “**vote early**” **in person** at your Town/City Clerk’s office up to 45 days before a Primary or General Election or up to 20 days before a local town/city election.

If you have COVID or health concerns and don’t want to go to in to the polls on Election Day, remember that there are many different and accessible ways you can vote in Vermont!

Voting From a Facility

In Vermont you can remain registered in the last town you lived in before entering a facility or you can register to vote at the address of the facility you are, in if you are in a nursing home, in a veterans home, attending school, in a retirement community, in a health care facility, in the military, or living overseas.

Voting While Incarcerated

Vermont and Maine are the only two states (along with District of Columbia) that allow currently incarcerated people with felonies to vote.

To vote while in prison (incarcerated), you need to request that an absentee ballot be sent to you at the mailing address of the prison you are in. Make sure you request your absentee ballot and send your completed ballot back to your Town/City Clerk's two weeks before the November 8th Election Day. If you need help finding out whether you are a registered voter, to become a registered voter while you are in prison, or to get an absentee ballot, you can put in a request to the Volunteer Coordinator at your facility, or if you have a disability you can contact Disability Rights Vermont.

Voting for the Deaf, DeafBlind, or Hard of Hearing

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires governments and businesses to provide effective communication for Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard-of-Hearing people. That simply means information must be provided in a manner that is easily understood. Accommodations can range from American Sign Language (ASL) interpreting services to captioning services to auxiliary aids.

For more information contact: Laura Siegel, Director of Deaf, Hard-of-Hearing, and DeafBlind Services. Serving D/deaf, Hard of Hearing, DeafBlind/deafblind, DeafPlus, DeafDisabled, late-deafened. (V/VP): 802-560-5170 (Text ONLY): 802-904-3241 (Fax): 802-241-0386. Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging & Independent Living

Voting While Experiencing Homelessness

In Vermont you are not required to give a street address to register to vote. Vermont allows you to register in the town in which you are dwelling in. If you are living in a homeless shelter you can use the shelter's address as your place of residence. A Social Security number or photo ID is required to register in Vermont.

Your Vote Has Power! Every Vote Matters!

Your vote is your voice as an American citizen. It's your opportunity to be heard, to hold elected officials accountable for their decisions and to have a say in important issues that affect your community. On Election Day, every vote matters!

Every vote counts. The following is a list of close election races in Vermont in recent history:

- In 1981, Bernie Sanders won Mayor of Burlington by 10 votes.
- In 2010, Sara Buxton won by 1 vote against David Ainsworth for a Windsor-Orange district House of Representatives seat.
- In 2016, the exact opposite happened! David Ainsworth won by 1 vote against Sarah Buxton for the same House of Representatives seat.

Elected Offices & The Candidates

U.S Senate

Every state has two U.S. Senators. Both Senators represent citizens in their entire state. **Each one serves for six years**, and they are elected in different years so there is only one Senator up for election at a time. One third of all U.S. Senators will be elected this year, one third in two years, and one third in four years. This means that some years a particular state will not have any Senators to elect.

Senators serve on committees that discuss problems in smaller groups than the whole Senate. Many of the committees look at topics similar to those covered by the departments in the President's cabinet. The committee members gather information about a problem by studying it and asking people to testify (give information and answer questions) before their committees. Solutions from the committee then may be considered by the full Senate. Because there are many opinions about how to solve problems, one of the main jobs of Senators is to figure out how to work with many people with different opinions to come up with a solution upon which a majority can agree. Another job of Senators is to help the people in their state when they ask for assistance with or information about the government. This work is called constituent services.

You can find more information about the U.S. Senate on the web at <http://www.senate.gov>.

Vermont has one open Senate seat in 2022, Patrick Leahy is not seeking re-election.

All U.S. Senate Candidates from the state of Vermont were invited to submit a candidate statement and picture for this publication. Those without statements associated with their candidacy did not respond. DRVT is not responsible for the content or accuracy of the Candidate's Statements.

This listing of the 2022 candidates for U.S. Senate from the state of Vermont was provided by the Vermont Secretary of State's Office and was current at the time of this publication.

2022 Candidates for U.S Senate

Natasha Diamondstone-Kohout for U.S Senate

Green Mountain Party

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(802) 689-0149

No Statement Provided

Elected Offices & The Candidates

2022 Candidates for U.S Senate

Peter Welch for U.S Senate

Democratic Party

PO Box 909, Richmond, VT 05477

hello@welchforvermont.com

welchforvermont.com

(802) 881-0336

I have represented Vermont in the U.S. House of Representatives since 2007 and I am widely recognized as a legislator who chooses governing over gridlock. I currently serve as a chief deputy whip for the House Democratic Caucus and am a senior member of the Energy and Commerce Committee and Oversight and Reform Committee. I am also on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. As a progressive leader, I have been on the frontlines of the fight to lower the cost of prescription drugs, protect our planet while creating good, union jobs, expand broadband in rural America, and to expand and protect voting rights.

What are three contributions you will make to improve the lives of people with disabilities if elected?

One of my top priorities in Congress has been to provide comprehensive, affordable healthcare to all Americans. A key part of this is through lowering the cost of prescription drugs. I have been the leading champion in the House on passing legislation that would allow Medicare to negotiate drug prices. The recently passed Inflation Reduction Act included critical prescription drug provisions that will help lower drug costs for millions of Americans. This is just the first step, though. I am committed to continuing this fight and ensuring that Big Pharma can no longer take advantage of American families. We also must ensure we fully fund a care economy so people with disabilities, family members and caregivers can all thrive.

Another priority for me is addressing rising costs hurting all Americans – those with disabilities are especially hard hit. In addition to healthcare and prescription drugs, I know the cost of food, housing, and health care impacted the quality of life for folks with disabilities even before we saw prices rise. We must provide short term relief while we work towards a more affordable future. It starts with addressing the Big Oil rip off. They are price-gouging during a time of instability around the world and we need to hold them accountable for profiteering. The cost of gas is hurting Vermont families, while the oil companies are raking in record profits. This is outrageous and unacceptable. Congress must pass a windfall profits tax to stop this and bring down the cost of gas. I also supported the Consumer Fuel Price Gouging Prevention Act, which passed the House and would help combat price gouging by the oil industry by giving federal regulators more authority to go after profiteering during this crisis. The CHIPS Act, which passed the House with my strong support and was recently signed into law, will help address supply chain issues and make sure we're making the products we need in this country. In the long term, we need to invest in people not corporate profits and ensure the wealthiest and largest companies pay their fair share in taxes.

The other priority of mine that is essential to doing anything else is preserving our democracy and expanding and protecting the right to vote. We have seen too many states rolling back voting and election protections in an attempt to undermine the next election and disenfranchise millions of voters. And we know voting restrictions have a disproportionate impact on people with disabilities. Congress needs to act now to prevent these attacks on the right to vote all across the country. I support and have helped pass in the House the Freedom to Vote Act, the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, and the For the People Act. We should be expanding access to the ballot and making it easier for all American to vote, not harder.

Elected Offices & The Candidates

2022 Candidates for U.S Senate

Ms. Cris Ericson for U.S Senate

Independent Party

879 Church St, Chester, VT 05143

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crisericson.com

(802) 875-4038

B.A. Degree, University of Massachusetts, and Paralegal Diploma from PCDI.edu. I studied the ADA and workers' rights & industrial relations at UCLA adult education extension program. I have researched the 1980 Bayh-Dole Act which many people want to be repealed because it forces us to pay Billions of dollars to the N.I.H. and Pentagon for research for new products like vaccines, prescription drugs and medical devices, and weapons systems, which are turned over to the pharmaceutical and defense corporations to sell worldwide for trillions of dollars in profits, and we get nothing in return for our taxpayer investment. If you vote for me I will demand our fair share of profits which will pay for programs we need. It is not fair for taxpayers to have to pay billions of our tax dollars taken right out of our paychecks then sent to the I.R.S. and then the U.S. Congress votes to give our tax dollars to benefit corporations who use our tax dollars to make trillions of dollars without taxpayers getting a return on investment. This is modern day slavery to take our tax dollars and turn them over for the wealthy corporations to get even richer, while giving us no share of their profits. We need our share of the profits for all kinds of programs for persons living with disabilities.

What are three contributions you will make to improve the lives of people with disabilities if elected?

Demand the repeal of the Bayh-Dole Act of 1980. The incumbent members of U.S. Congress and the U.S. Senators are given "kick-backs" to keep this scheme going because the corporations give some of the profits they make using our tax dollars to their political action committees which deposit the money into the campaign accounts of the members of U.S. Congress, House & Senate who keep voting to give your tax dollars away as subsidies for big corporations to profit without giving us anything in return.

Demand more federally subsidized housing to make certain no person living with a disability is homeless or sleeping on someone's couch, and we need more home health care, and veterinarian-medicare for pets of people living with disabilities, and we need more transportation services in rural areas including buses with bathrooms.

We need more highway rest areas because it is too hard for some people with disabilities to drive more than 30 miles without a rest area. Most people simply can not understand this, but they don't have bladder issues and leg cramp issues, etc. No one wants to wear adult diapers and get rashes if they don't have to. Some people can't urinate sitting down while driving and adult diapers won't do them any good at all, the pain from not urinating will just increase and raise their blood pressure.

Mark Coester for U.S Senate

Independent Party

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No Statement Provided

Elected Offices & The Candidates

2022 Candidates for U.S Senate

Gerrald Malloy for U.S Senate

Republican Party

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I am a West Point graduate and Army Veteran with 31 years of US military and government service and 11 years of business experience supporting US government and military organizations primarily in the Washington, DC area. I have an MBA from Temple University and a Graduate Certificate under a Military Intelligence program from Georgetown University. I am a Perkinsville Vermont resident, my wife Stacey and I have 4 children, with 3 in Vermont schools.

My campaign centered around three points: 1) Seek Economic Prosperity, 2) Abide by the Constitution, and 3) Maintain a Strong Defense. I am 100% Pro 2A. I am ProLife and I will vote against Prop 5/Article 22 with my vote as a Vermonter.

I have served the United States for 22 years on active duty, stationed in Germany, Korea, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Kuwait, Jordan, and Canada. No other candidate has the relative leadership, experience, that I do, like combat operations, nuclear surety experience, and Europe/NATO/Allies/Korea DMZ experience. Following my military career, I worked in Emergency Management, which included over 20 Presidential Disaster Declarations, with US Government organizations including the Departments of Defense, Homeland Security, and Health and Human Services, including many State, Local, and Law Enforcement organizations.

What are three contributions you will make to improve the lives of people with disabilities if elected?

Improving/increasing better Healthcare across all health providers. Improvements to Social Security; increase limits and system improvements. Funding for Programs Supporting People with Disabilities.

Stephen Duke for U.S Senate

Independent Party

64 Batten Rd, Calais, VT 05648

(802) 456-8853

No Statement Provided

Dawn Marie Ellis for U.S Senate

Independent Party

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No Statement Provided

Elected Offices & The Candidates

2022 Candidates for U.S Senate

Kerry Patrick Raheb for U.S Senate

Independent Party

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kerryraheb.com

I believe in our Republic our Sovereignty and our Constitution. I am campaigning for U.S. Senate to give the seat back to Vermonters. I am not a politician; I've been an investment banker for over 25 years. We need to end the career politician by instituting term limits. I will support and fight for voter ID and getting back to "Election Day". We should promote not restrict U.S. Independence across all forms of energy. We need to enforce our immigration laws and secure our borders. I fully support and will defend the 2nd Amendment. I believe in law and order, such as the funding, not defunding, of police. Our current government is spending recklessly. We need to spend within our budget and stop the overspending. There is no "government money" there is only taxpayer money. Our country needs to get back on track for all current and future generations. I want to show that this is not a country for the super elite or a one-party government. The United States will always be a nation of the people, by the people and for the people.

What are three contributions you will make to improve the lives of people with disabilities if elected?

Whether a disabled Veteran, someone with an addiction to drugs and/or alcohol, a person with a physical, or mental disability we must continue the fight for a more inclusive and accessible society for all. First and foremost, facilities are needed. The Federal Government can and should cooperate with the states to achieve this goal. The Americans with Disabilities Act (1990) achieved great strides, but we need to do more.

Secondly, accessibility and mobility are particularly important issues that I hear often from Vermonters. All buildings should be handicap accessible and have more than one accessible exit. I will also support all legislation that will help our senior citizens. No American should have to make a choice between the necessities of food, medication, or heat.

In addition, I will be pledging 90% of my Senate salary to Vermonters, of which 45% will go to the above causes. These issues reach me not just as a candidate but on a personal level. When elected we will work together to improve the quality of life for Americans. May God Bless Vermont and May God Bless the United States of America.

Elected Offices & The Candidates

U.S Representatives

Each state is given a certain number of U.S. Representatives, based on the number of people living in the state. On average, for every 700,000 people, there is a specific congressional district created and the people within that district elect their own representative. In states with more than one district, a U.S. Representative represents only his or her district, not the entire state. States that do not have that many people get fewer Representatives in Congress. Some states with very few people get only one U.S. Representative. Vermont is such a small state that we have only one U.S. Representative. Representatives serve on committees and provide constituent services, just as senators do. There is an election for U.S. Representative every two years.

You can find more information about the U.S. House of Representatives on the web at <http://www.house.gov>

All U.S. Representative Candidates were invited to submit a candidate statement and picture for this publication. Those without statements associated with their candidacy did not respond. DRVT is not responsible for the content or accuracy of the Candidate's Statements.

This listing of the 2022 candidates for U.S. Representative from the state of Vermont was provided by the Vermont Secretary of State's Office and was current at the time of this publication.

2022 Candidates for U.S Representative

Ericka Redic for U.S Representative

Libertarian Party

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Redicforcongress.com

(802) 448-0408

Being born and raised in VT I was taught values like hard work, perseverance, and acceptance. With a Bachelor's in Accounting from Champlain I have spent much of the last twenty years helping individuals and businesses achieve their goals and dreams. I've always had a heart for the underdog and public service. In elementary school interviewed the President of Rowley Fuels after an oil spill in my hometown of Milton. In a Representative Republic it is our duty to be honest and take care of the vulnerable. Through work with organizations like the Women's Rape Crisis Center I've helped influence policy changes at the local and state level. I call myself a Conservative because I believe in the liberal values established by the Constitution. I trust Americans to make the best decisions for themselves and their families. In order to maintain a civil and just society, we all must demonstrate a real tolerance of others and their viewpoints. We do this by conserving Constitutional Rights and Values.

What are three contributions you will make to improve the lives of people with disabilities if elected?

1. Reduce the red tape and bureaucracy that prevents services being provided in a timely and efficient manner.
2. Reduce fraud and waste so there are more funds to care for those in need.
3. Push for School Choice Vouchers so parents have real options for educating their children, rather than being stuck in a system that is not designed to help them.

Elected Offices & The Candidates

2022 Candidates for U.S Representative

Becca Balint for U.S Representative

Democratic Party

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beccabalint.com

(347) 461-4982

Becca Balint is a mom, teacher, and progressive leader who has had to fight her whole life as an outsider. The daughter of a working-class mom and an immigrant dad, Becca spent her childhood in upstate New York and first came to Vermont in 1994. Growing up gay, and the granddaughter of a man killed in the Holocaust, Becca developed early on a deep sense of empathy for people on the margins. That innate sense of justice has driven Becca her entire life – first as a middle school teacher for 14 years in Windham County, then as an activist, State Senator, and the first woman and openly gay person to serve as President Pro Tempore in the Vermont State Senate. She is a fierce advocate for justice and equity, and her leadership has delivered historic wins that helped make Vermont what it is today. Now, Becca’s running for U.S. Congress because she knows she has the experience, the record, the courage, and the ability to bring people together needed to take on the immense challenges we face as a state and as a nation.

What are three contributions you will make to improve the lives of people with disabilities if elected?

This year marks the 32nd anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and although we have made significant progress, people with disabilities are still fighting for equal opportunity and inclusion. As Vermont’s congresswoman, I will work alongside them to ensure every Vermonter with disabilities can live with dignity, opportunity, and security.

In Congress, I will be a champion for a just economy that works for everyone. Today, people with disabilities do not have the legal protection against pay discrimination that they deserve. I will fight for a living wage of at least \$15 per hour for all workers, including those with disabilities. But that is not enough. We must also end the SSDI return to work benefit cliff. People with disabilities should be able to rejoin the workforce without penalty.

Healthcare impacts us all. In Congress, I will work to make healthcare cheaper, more streamlined, and more holistic. We must cap and control prescription drug prices and shift our medical system away from the current fee-for-service model and toward one that incentivizes human health over the profits of multinational healthcare companies. Most importantly, we must guarantee dental, vision, and hearing services so Vermonters receive the care they deserve, regardless of income, employment status, or ability.

Finally, there is a nationwide housing shortage. And unfortunately, people with disabilities experience disproportionately high rates of homelessness. In the most recent legislative session, I was proud to support the passage of a bill allotting half a million dollars to pilot planning grants for housing and residential services for those with developmental disabilities. But we must go further. That’s why I supported landmark investments in housing here in Vermont and why I will be a champion for affordable and equitable housing for all as Vermont’s congresswoman.

If elected, I will continue to fight with courage and kindness every day to improve the lives of all Vermonters, particularly those too often left on the margins. I hope I have earned your vote.

Elected Offices & The Candidates

2022 Candidates for U.S Representative

Adam Ortiz for U.S Representative

Independent Party

46 Nichols St, Rutland City, VT 05701

hayemailme@gmail.com

(415) 572-5239

Workaholic. If elected I will become the job.

What are three contributions you will make to improve the lives of people with disabilities if elected?

The 3 things I will do to improve the quality of life for not just disabled Vermonter's but for all of us are:

1- Keep what works and get rid of what doesn't.

2- Work with staffing companies and social workers to find paying jobs and volunteering opportunities

3- Work with community organizations to work with each other on different types of projects, such as events and how to navigate based on the individual's needs.

I'm smart enough to know I don't know everything, and it might be best to put someone of that trade as team leader. I will travel to as many local townhall meetings as my schedule allows.

Liam Madden for U.S Representative

Republican Party

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liam@rebirthdemocracy.com

rebirthdemocracy.com

(802) 376-4809

No Statement Provided

Matt Druzba for U.S Representative

Independant Party

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No Statement Provided

Luke Talbot for U.S Representative

Independent Party

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(802) 723-6484

No Statement Provided

Elected Offices & The Candidates

Vermont Governor

The Governor serves as the head of the state government, provides overall direction for the state government and is responsible for the administration of all the state agencies. The Governor appoints the heads of the agencies, who serve in the Governor's cabinet. The Governor sets a general tone about what is important in the government and proposes major legislation, including the overall budget. Legislation (bills) which passes both the Vermont House of Representatives and the Senate must be signed by the Governor to take effect, unless the Governor vetoes, or says "no" to the proposed law and the House and Senate override the veto. In some cases if the Governor takes no action a bill can become law also. Elections for Governor are held every two years.

You can find more information about **Vermont State Government** on the web at <http://www.vermont.gov>

All Vermont Governor Candidates were invited to submit a candidate statement and picture for this publication. Those without statements associated with their candidacy did not respond. DRVT is not responsible for the content or accuracy of the Candidate's Statements.

This listing of the 2022 candidates for Vermont Governor was provided by the Vermont Secretary of State's Office and was current at the time of this publication.

2022 Candidates for Vermont Governor

Phil Scott for Vermont Governor

Republican Party

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No Statement Provided

Kevin Hoyt for Vermont Governor

Independent Party

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Kevin Hoyt on Facebook

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No Statement Provided

Bernard Peters for Vermont Governor

Independent Party

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(802) 754-8855

No Statement Provided

Elected Offices & The Candidates

2022 Candidates for Vermont Governor

Brenda Siegel for Vermont Governor

Democratic Party

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(802) 526-6863

Brenda Siegel began political work as an intern for Bernie Sanders in D.C. in 2001. She sits on VT's Public Transit Advisory Commission & DCF's General Assistance Working Group. She is Chair of Newfane Dem Committee & Delegate to Windham County. She is on the national overdose crisis cohort with People's Action, a member of the Legislative Equity Caucus & serves on the board of Community of Vermont Elders & Neighborhood Schoolhouse. She works with states attorneys, legislators & lived experience experts on drug policy, achieving several legislative victories. Brenda's 2018 plan to heal the overdose crisis gained traction across the country & was introduced in VT Legislature in 2022. In the fall of 2021, Brenda successfully pressured the Governor to reinstate the program that shelters houseless Vermonters. In addition she is a small business owner & teaches leadership, civic engagement & social justice courses. Brenda has consistently worked toward a VT for all of us & will continue that work as Governor.

What are three contributions you will make to improve the lives of people with disabilities if elected?

The most important and immediate action that I will take as Governor is to appoint people with lived experience and differently abled to my administration in several leadership roles. We can not have strong change and accessibility without representation. Representation will be a priority for my administration.

Additionally, I will address the ways in which many have been left behind by the current COVID response and ensure that we are taking measures to offer the most inclusive supports so that all people can be in community and participate as much as is wanted by any individual.

Our school system currently does not create true equal access to equal education for all students and my Department of Education would be charged with addressing those systemic barriers as a first priority. I will work with the Legislature and DRVT to reform Act 173 to ensure that all students throughout the state are receiving the education and supports they need to learn and be successful. It is crucial that no matter where a child lives, adequate funding is provided to each district so every child can meet the goals of their education.

I will also update our transportation system with a centered focus and approach to ensure that it is truly accessible and usable. This will include several measures that utilizes micro transit, buses and trains to ensure that people are able to get to different destinations.

I will also make sure that there is a team of advisors to look over current statute and state rules and policies for services so that we can ensure that we update all of our systems to better meet the needs of all Vermonters.

Elected Offices & The Candidates

2022 Candidates for VT Governor

Peter Duval for Vermont Governor

Independent Party

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peter@peterforvermont.earth

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(802) 540-5133

I grew up in Essex. After graduating from Essex High School, I studied Physics at McGill University and then Computer Science at UVM, completing a BS and MS in Computer Science with a focus on complex systems and evolutionary computation. Along the way, I helped Colchester voters reject the Circumferential Highway, and Vermont Electric Co-Op reject the Hydro-Québec Vermont Joint Owners power contract.

As founding president of the Vermont Bicycle and Pedestrian Coalition, I have examined many different forms of the built environment, and advocated for policies that emphasize human-scale design and reducing automobile dependence.

A lot can be learned from traveling and living outside of Vermont. I have traveled to interesting places at interesting times, including Iqaluit in the middle of winter, the Soviet Union around the time of the August Coup, Cuba in the depths of the Special Period, and Bahrain during the Bahraini Uprising. And I lived in Japan for two years, through the 3/11 triple disaster. I will bring these experiences with me as we solve the problems that confront Vermont.

What are three contributions you will make to improve the lives of people with disabilities if elected?

1) Reducing disability. Some disabilities are the result of policy decisions. I would work to reduce disease and injury – on the road, on the job, in school, at home. There are places in the world where lifelong health leads to lower occurrence of disabilities, and Vermont can learn from those places.

2) Design for humans. Vermont's built environment is designed around automobiles, which makes life difficult for humans of all abilities. Immediate steps can be taken to reverse some of the worst effects, for example: reducing traffic while increasing ridesharing in a well-coordinated program; replacing traffic signals with safe, modern roundabouts; creating pedestrian zones in villages and cities. More effort can be put into designing landscapes and buildings that consider all types of disabilities through conferences, codes, policy, procurement, and demonstration projects.

3) Listening and support. Disabilities and the experience of people with disabilities are quite varied. Being aware of each person's unique situation and perspective is important for shaping government response and community services.

Elected Offices & The Candidates

Vermont

Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor remains ready to take over for the Governor if the Governor becomes unable to continue in office (for example, if the governor dies or resigns). The Lieutenant Governor stands in for the Governor at the Governor's request. Just as the Vice President is the President of the U. S. Senate, the **Lieutenant Governor is President of the Vermont Senate**. In Vermont, the Lieutenant Governor is elected independent of the Governor. Elections for Lieutenant Governor are held every two years.

You can find more information about Vermont Lieutenant Governor on the web at <http://www.ltgov.vermont.gov>

All Vermont Lieutenant Governor Candidates were invited to submit a candidate statement and picture for this publication. Those without statements associated with their candidacy did not respond. DRVT is not responsible for the content or accuracy of the Candidate's Statements.

This listing of the 2022 candidates for Vermont Lieutenant Governor was provided by the Vermont Secretary of State's Office and was current at the time of this publication.

2022 Candidates for VT Lieutenant Governor

David Zuckerman for VT Lieutenant Governor

Democratic Party

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zuckermanforvt.com

(802) 448-5715

I am an organic regenerative farmer, a father, a small business owner, the former Lt. Governor and a former legislator living in Hinesburg, Vermont. I graduated from UVM with a degree in environmental studies and became a farmer largely due to learning about the impact that our agricultural system has on our environment. I first ran for the legislature in 1994, inspired by the politics of then US Rep. Bernie Sanders. As a legislator I led and collaborated on policies including marriage equality, cannabis reform, raising wages, renewable energy, and universal healthcare. I have strived to center the needs of the most vulnerable people in our society in my work. As a white, able-bodied man with a privileged background, I have worked to learn many of the inherent advantages I was born with. I have worked hard to use the power of my position to call out inequities and uplift people who are left out of the conversation. I spent much of my time as an elected official listening to people communicate about their struggles so that I could more fully understand their circumstances and figure out how Vermont can better meet their needs. My door, physically and metaphorically, was always open.

Elected Offices & The Candidates

2022 Candidates for VT Lieutenant Governor

David Zuckerman for VT Lieutenant Governor (continued)

What are three contributions you will make to improve the lives of people with disabilities if elected?

The housing crisis in Vermont has been difficult for everyone, but I know that it has been especially difficult for those with intellectual, developmental, and physical disabilities to find accessible, safe, affordable, integrated housing. As we are working to solve the housing crisis we must prioritize creating accessible affordable housing so that people living with disabilities are able to keep a roof over their heads. As Lt. Governor, I will be a strong advocate for creating new affordable housing that meets the needs of all citizens.

I am also keenly aware that we have a workforce crisis in Vermont, including a shortage of nurses and personal care attendants that provide crucial services for people with disabilities. This is not an easy issue to solve, but there are a few changes that we could push for that could help alleviate this problem. We need to incentivize people to start careers in healthcare by offering incentives such as tuition forgiveness for people who commit to staying in Vermont for a number of years after they finish their education and increased wages and benefits for healthcare professionals.

Finally, I have long been an advocate for expanding mental health services. Many folks who are facing mental health crises in Vermont do not have access to the community and peer programs that could help them in their time of need. I would push to expand the community services that we have and create more centers similar to Pathways in Burlington and Another Way in Montpelier so all Vermonters are able to access peer support.

Ian G. Diamondstone for VT Lieutenant Governor

Green Mountain Party

10 Pierce Rd #1, Putney, VT 05346

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(802) 275-6885

No Statement Provided

Elected Offices & The Candidates

2022 Candidates for VT Lieutenant Governor

Joe Benning for VT Lieutenant Governor

Republican Party

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joebenning.com

(802) 274-1346

Trial Lawyer for almost 40 years; State Senator from the Caledonia District for 12 years. Married to wife Deb for 39 years and we have two grown children. Graduated Lyndon State College and Vermont Law School. Past Chair of Vermont's Human Rights Commission. Town Moderator for the Town of Lyndon for 10 years. Member of the Lyndonville Rotary Club since 1988, served one year as President. Past President of the Lyndon State College Foundation. Served two terms on the Lyndon Town School Board. Served on the Lyndon Board of Civil Authority and as Lyndon Town Agent.

Elected to the Vermont State senate in 2010. Currently serving as chair of Senate Institutions, chair of the Senate Ethics Panel and chair of the Capital Complex Security Committee. Previously served as chair of the Joint Committee on Judicial Rules, as chair of the Senate Sexual Harassment Panel and as Vice-Chair of Senate Judiciary. Have served as Senate Minority Leader, the Joint Legislative Management Committee, and on all Senate and Joint Rules committees.

What are three contributions you will make to improve the lives of people with disabilities if elected?

Most people don't realize that the Lt. Governor is unable to draft legislation, unable to advance it through committee, unable to debate it on the floor, and unable to vote on it unless there is a tie. (The Lt. Governor does vote to break the tie.) With that in mind, here are my three thoughts.

1. My door will always be open. Literally. Most visitors to the Statehouse enter through the west side of the building. If coming up the steps, it is the first door on your right as you come into the building. If you enter through the handicapped entrance, it will be one of the first doors you will see as you enter the main hall. If there is a need to meet me personally, I'll be there. If there is a need for a small gathering space, I'll happily provide the room.
2. There are three main jobs of the Lt. Governor. The LG moderates the Senate. The LG helps pick people to chair committees and helps appoint every Senator to the committees they'll be serving on. Finally, should the Governor be unable to continue in that role, the LG rises to take the position. Beyond that I intend to use the position to get out and meet Vermonters and learn of their concerns and needs. That includes people with disabilities. I need to come to you. It is a chance for me to earn your respect. It will also give me a better understanding of the challenges you face.
3. When challenges are recognized, I offer a special advantage. Having served as chair of the Vermont Human Rights Commission and as a Senator for 12 years, I know who the players are that can bring about solutions to those challenges. Getting those faced with challenges together with those who can produce solutions will be a top priority if I am given the privilege of serving as Lt. Governor.

Elected Offices & The Candidates

Vermont State Treasurer

The State Treasurer is responsible for handling the state's money. **The State Treasurer** fulfills this responsibility through five divisions: **financial** operations, **retirement** operations, **investment** services, **audit compliance** and **technology services**. State law says that the Treasurer's office is responsible for four areas: managing the state's checking accounts, investing state money and borrowing money for the state, keeping unclaimed property for return to its rightful owner, and taking care of the retirement money for several groups of government workers.

Elections for State Treasurer are held every two years.

You can find more information about the Treasurer's office on the web at:

<http://www.vermonttreasurer.gov>

All Vermont State Treasurer Candidates were invited to submit a candidate statement and picture for this publication. Those without statements associated with their candidacy did not respond. DRVT is not responsible for the content or accuracy of the Candidate's Statements.

This listing of the 2022 candidates for Vermont State Treasurer was provided by the Vermont Secretary of State's Office and was current at the time of this publication.

2022 Candidates for State Treasurer

Mike Pieciak for State Treasurer

Democratic Party

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(802) 299-6121

Mike Pieciak was most recently the Commissioner of the Department of Financial Regulation, the state's consumer financial watchdog agency. Under Mike's direction, his department recouped millions of dollars for Vermont taxpayers and broke open the Jay Peak fraud. In 2019, Mike directed the department to explicitly prohibit insurers from using age to deny gender-affirming care to Vermont youth. He also instituted a series of initiatives to combat senior financial abuse and established a restitution fund for vulnerable Vermonters targeted by scammers. In March 2020, Gov. Phil Scott tapped Mike to help lead Vermont's Covid-19 response efforts, where he directed the State's pandemic data analysis and modeling and appeared regularly at the Governor's press conferences. Mike has received the endorsement of sitting Treasurer Beth Pearce, the LGBTQ Victory Fund, the Professional Firefighters of Vermont, the Vermont Troopers Association, and numerous legislators.

What are three contributions you will make to improve the lives of people with disabilities if elected?

1. If elected, one of my policy priorities for the Treasurer's Office would be to strengthen Vermont's

Elected Offices & The Candidates

2022 Candidates for State Treasurer

Mike Pieciak for State Treasurer (continued)

participation in the federal Achieving a Better Life Experience Act (ABLE) program. Too often, people with disabilities are forced to choose between financial security and their benefits. Introduced in Vermont in 2017, ABLE accounts allow individuals with disabilities and their families to build tax-free savings for essential life costs without jeopardizing benefits from supplemental security income (SSI), Medicaid, HUD, and other state and federal programs. ABLE empowers individuals to achieve financial independence, meaningful employment, and participate more fully in Vermont's communities. As Treasurer, I would work to promote awareness of this essential program and increase the number of eligible Vermonters enrolled.

2. Vermont's communities are often praised for their buildings' charm and historic character. While these qualities are important, it is also critical that our public spaces are truly accessible to all. Individuals with disabilities deserve infrastructure that allows them to participate in all aspects of Vermont life, just like any other community member. As Treasurer, I would work to assist small businesses with financing the costs to alter or retrofit existing facilities to comply with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. Small businesses, such as a general store, are often the heart of our rural communities. Many of these businesses operate on tight margins and today are just managing to remain open, particularly given the pressures of the COVID-19 pandemic and rising inflation and labor costs. Financial assistance in the form of grants or tailored loan programs could be pivotal for small businesses that want to add ADA infrastructure but lack the upfront capital to make such improvements. Expanding the number of accessible businesses, especially in Vermont's small towns and rural communities, would literally open new doors to people with disabilities and also add new customers and vitality to our businesses.

3. Businesses across Vermont face the same challenge: a business owner wants to expand or add new products and services, but lacks the workforce to do so. At Dan and Whit's general store in Norwich, for example, dozens of community members regularly pitch in part-time to stock shelves, work the cash register, and work to keep the store doors open. The national workforce shortage has hit Vermont particularly hard, and our businesses and communities are unable to reach their full economic potential. At the same time, Vermonters with disabilities are ready and willing to enter the labor pool and pursue their careers. These individuals are an incredible resource, and are well-equipped for the workplace given the ABLE savings accounts I described above.

As Treasurer, I would strengthen HireAbility Vermont, a state program whose mission is to help Vermonters with disabilities prepare for, obtain, and maintain meaningful careers while helping employers recruit, train, retain and promote employees with disabilities. I would also support targeted investments and grant programs for employers who look to hire Vermonters with disabilities, and make sure businesses have the tools they need to fully support these individuals as valued employees.

I commend Treasurer Beth Pearce on her work to expand ABLE and support employment opportunities for Vermonters with disabilities. As Treasurer, I would build on this strong foundation to ensure all Vermonters, regardless of disability, are able to fully access and contribute to our communities and the state's economy.

Elected Offices & The Candidates

Vermont Secretary of State

The Secretary of State is responsible for four main areas:

- **Archives**, or the historical files of the state
- **Corporations**, that is, making sure all the companies doing business in the state are registered so they can be held responsible for what they do here
- **Elections**, or making sure that all the voting in the state is done correctly
- **Professional regulation**, or the licensing/certification/registration and disciplinary action of 40 professions, including psychologists, clinical social workers, nurses and nursing home administrators.

Elections for Vermont Secretary of State are held every two years. You can find more information about the Secretary of State's office on the web at <https://sos.vermont.gov>

All Vermont Secretary of State Candidates were invited to submit a candidate statement and picture for this publication. Those without statements associated with their candidacy did not respond. DRVT is not responsible for the content or accuracy of the Candidate's Statements.

This listing of the 2022 candidates for Vermont Secretary of State was provided by the Vermont Secretary of State's Office and was current at the time of this publication.

2022 Candidates for Vermont Secretary of State

H. Brooke Paige for VT Secretary of State

Republican Party

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Elections in Vermont have been judged to be the most accessible and secure in the country as a result of strict compliance to the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA) and the Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act of 1984 (VAEHA). Additionally, Vermont's Election Laws include special provisions to assist the elderly, handicapped and homebound in voting, especially 17 V.S.A. § 2538 which authorizes a town's Justice of the Peace to hand deliver and return ballots for those unable to deliver their ballots to the clerk's office or the polling place. There is always room for improvement and as Vermont's Secretary of State, I will always be attentive to the needs of all voters, especially those in need of special assistance or accommodation in order to exercise their voting rights.

The Secretary of State's office also is responsible for overseeing the registration and regulation of business and as the Office of Professional Regulation has become computer reliant and "paperless" – compliance has become more challenging for older adults and those who find complying with the regulations electronically. In its haste to embrace complete computerization of the OPR department, I believe that more attention should have been given to those challenged by the changes. If elected, I would create a special ombudsperson to assist those experiencing difficulties complying with the regulations.

Elected Offices & The Candidates

2022 Candidates for Vermont Secretary of State

H. Brooke Paige for VT Secretary of State

In recent years, the Secretary of State's office has drifted away from its informal educational duty to promote instruction on civics and the history of Vermont's government and constitution. In an age where civics and governance are being deemphasized in the schoolrooms and the community, I believe it is essential for the Secretary of State to step-up and provide the resources to ensure that every Vermonter, young and old, is informed of Vermont's rich governmental heritage.

Sarah Copeland Hanzas for VT Secretary of State

Democratic Party

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sarahforvermont.com

(802) 552-8510

Sarah Copeland Hanzas grew up in the Upper Valley, in a politically diverse family that encouraged family discussion. A former middle school teacher, coach, and stay-at-home mom, Sarah first ran for the legislature in 2004. In 2010 she co-founded The Local Buzz Cafe in Bradford, creating a local meeting spot for her town. During 18 years in the House, Sarah has led on climate action, reproductive liberty, sexual assault and harassment, paid sick days and family leave, racial justice and equity, sensible cannabis reform, and protections for Vermont's first responders. Sarah served as House majority leader, Vice Chair of the House Health Care Committee, and Chair of the Government Operations Committee, which oversees election matters. In this role, Sarah prioritized election reforms that put voter accessibility first. She spearheaded initiatives making it easier to register and vote. In 2020, Sarah led efforts to enact universal vote-by-mail for the general election to ensure easy, accessible voting, protecting the health and safety of Vermonters. In 2021, Sarah pushed to make vote-by-mail permanent. Sarah is a thoughtful and dynamic leader who has never shied away from hard work or complex issues. Sarah is ready to continue to serve Vermonters as Secretary of State.

What are three contributions you will make to improve the lives of people with disabilities if elected?

Throughout my 18 years in the Vermont legislature, I have consistently supported reforms to enhance the independence of Vermonters with disabilities. I will continue this as Secretary of State. I want to engage with Vermonters living with disabilities to hear what is working now, and what we can improve on.

I believe we should do more to assess our services by offering more opportunities for feedback. For instance, how is our professional licensure portal working for professionals who have disabilities? We can learn a lot from asking the question. Within our corporations division, is there more our office could be doing to facilitate trademark registration and renewal? How accessible is our website for persons with disabilities?

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, how do Vermonters with disabilities find the voting process in our towns and villages? Is accessibility for in-person voting improving? Does the mailed ballot need any modifications that will help all Vermonters vote? Is there support our municipal clerks need in order to improve accessibility for voters with disabilities?

Elected Offices & The Candidates

VT Auditor of Accounts

The Auditor of Accounts is responsible for **protecting against governmental waste and preventing inappropriate use of the state government's money**. The people who work in the Auditor's office do audits (looking at the record keeping for money matters) and reviews to accomplish their goals. They review the State's financial statements, and check all the federal money that goes through state government. The Auditor of Accounts may also audit or review special areas of concern about how our money is spent. In the past, the Auditor has done special reviews of the Vermont Veteran's Home, the Department of Corrections, and other agencies that receive federal and state funding. The public may suggest areas to investigate and has access to the reports issued by the Auditor. Elections for Vermont Auditor of Accounts are held every two years.

You can find more information about the Auditor of Account's office on the web at:

<http://auditor.vermont.gov>

All Vermont Auditor of Accounts Candidates were invited to submit a candidate statement and picture for this publication. Those without statements associated with their candidacy did not respond. DRVT is not responsible for the content or accuracy of the Candidate's Statements.

This listing of the 2022 candidates for Vermont Auditor of Accounts was provided by the Vermont Secretary of State's Office and was current at the time of this publication.

2022 Candidates for Auditor of Accounts

Doug Hoffer for VT Auditor of Accounts

Democratic Party

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(802) 864-5711

All Vermonters must have the resources necessary to participate in civic life and to live fulfilling lives. As State Auditor, I make every effort to see that state and federal funds are used effectively to help achieve that goal.

The State Auditor is not a policy maker, although he or she can add value to the process. The core function of the office is to follow the money, which is critical to ensuring that waste, fraud, and abuse don't claim funds intended for program beneficiaries. In addition, the Auditor's Office conducts performance audits of state programs, including compliance with state and federal statutes and consideration of legislative intent.

Richard "Rick" Morton for VT Auditor of Accounts

Republican Party

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(802) 257-2780

No Statement Provided

Elected Offices & The Candidates

VT Attorney General

The Attorney General is the **chief law enforcement officer** of the state. The Attorney General represents the state in all civil and criminal cases where the state is involved or has an interest. There are five divisions within the office of the Attorney General:

- Criminal
- Public protection
- Civil law
- Human services
- General counsel
- Administrative laws

The Attorney General's office represents the state's view in many matters of importance to the disability community, including mental health care and the use of involuntary psychiatric treatment in designated hospitals and mental health centers. Elections for the Attorney General are held every two years.

You can find more information about the Attorney General's office on the web at:

<https://ago.vermont.gov>

All Vermont Attorney General Candidates were invited to submit a candidate statement and picture for this publication. Those without statements associated with their candidacy did not respond. DRVT is not responsible for the content or accuracy of the Candidate's Statements.

This listing of the 2022 candidates for Vermont Attorney General was provided by the Vermont Secretary of State's Office and was current at the time of this publication.

2022 Candidates for Vermont Attorney General

Charity R. Clark for VT Attorney General

Democratic Party

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(802) 828-7011

I grew up working in my family's grocery store in Londonderry from the time I was ten. The years I spent stocking shelves, running the cash register, and seeing the challenges of Vermonters has informed my work as a lawyer, and especially over these last eight years working in the Attorney General's Office. As a member of the leadership team of the Office for four years, I helped make decisions on every issue that came through the Office, whether it be environmental, consumer, criminal, or another of the seven divisions.

Elected Offices & The Candidates

2022 Candidates for Vermont Attorney General

Charity R. Clark for VT Attorney General (continued)

As Attorney General, I will fight for small businesses and consumers, protect the environment, and prioritize public safety while advocating for criminal justice reform to align our justice system with Vermont's values. As the first woman elected Vermont Attorney General, I will bring focus to the issues of reproductive liberty and domestic violence.

I am running for Attorney General to protect this state we love and to fight for families, children, working people, and Vermonters. So much of my work for Vermonters is rooted in the strong sense of community that I felt growing up. Vermonters take care of each other, and I will continue this tradition as your Attorney General.

What are three contributions you will make to improve the lives of people with disabilities if elected?

I am running for Attorney General to be the peoples' lawyer - to fight for all Vermonters and the many identities that we hold. No Vermonter should be discriminated against because they have a disability. As Attorney General, I will:

1. Enforce federal and state laws protecting the rights of Vermonters who have experienced additional barriers to employment because of a disability
2. Prioritize protecting Vermonters with disabilities from Medicaid Fraud and any abuse, neglect or financial exploitation of a Medicaid recipient with a disability
3. Work to protect people with disabilities from scams and support them with consumer complaints

Michael Tagliavia for VT Attorney General

Republican Party

PO Box 471 Corinth VT, 05039

mtagforvtag@proton.me

(410) 310-1219

No Statement Provided

Locally Elected Offices

State Senator

State Senators are one of the two parts of the legislative branch of state government. Senators review the needs of our state, have meetings in committees, and propose bills that will respond to the concerns they have reviewed.

Just as the federal government has Senators for each state, the state government has Senators for each county. There is one Senator for approximately every 20,750 citizens. Senators are elected by county, so counties that have more than 20,750 people get more than one Senator. There are 30 Senators in the Vermont Senate. State Senators are elected every two years.

In order to keep the populations of senate districts within the number of people they are supposed to represent, a town from one county may be taken out of one county and included in the district of another county. For example, the Windham County senatorial district does not include Wilmington, which is part of the county, and Wilmington is included in the Bennington County district; and Colchester, which is part of Chittenden County, is in the Grand Isle County senatorial district. Also, a very small county is combined with a larger one to make one district, as is the case in Essex and Orleans counties.

State Representative

State Representatives are one of the two parts of the legislative branch of state government. Representatives act like the federal Representatives in that they review needs of our state, have meetings in committees, and propose bills that will respond to the concerns they have reviewed. State Representatives provide constituent services for state government concerns.

Just as the federal government has Representatives for each national district, the state government has Representatives for each state district. Each state district Representative represents approximately 4,150 citizens. There are 150 Representatives in the Vermont House of Representatives. State Representatives are elected every two years.

Probate Court Judge

Probate Court judges have several areas of responsibility. They handle the probate of wills (proving the will is real), the settlement of estates, adoptions, guardianships, name changes and uniform gifts to minors. There is no requirement that the judges of probate be attorneys. Probate Court judges are elected every four years in non-presidential election years.

Assistant Judge

Assistant judges, often called side judges, administer the county budget. The county budget includes part of the costs of the probate court and the sheriff's department. The assistant judges also serve in the Superior Court. Their job there is to give their opinion on factual matters to the presiding judge on cases. In some counties they may hear certain cases on their own. With additional training, they also may "sit" (preside) in traffic court. Assistant judges are elected every four years in non-presidential election years.

County State's Attorney

The County State's Attorney is the chief law enforcement officer for each county. The State's Attorney office is responsible for prosecuting all criminal, child protection and fish and game charges within their county. The State's Attorney does not have to be an attorney, although they will have to hire attorneys to do the work of the State's Attorney office in the courts. The State's Attorney is elected every four years in non-presidential election years.

County Sheriff

The Sheriff has several law enforcement responsibilities. They are an officer of the courts, delivers writs and summons (official papers telling people certain legal things), keeps order in the court and carries out the court's orders including transporting prisoners to and from court appearances. Vermont County Sheriff departments also perform other duties that they are allowed, but not required, to do. These include contracting with various towns or villages, special events and road construction projects to provide traffic control and policing services. The Sheriff is elected every four years in non-presidential election years.

High Bailiff

The High Bailiff's duty is to arrest the sheriff if it should ever become necessary, and to serve as sheriff while the sheriff is incarcerated. The High Bailiff does not have to be a law enforcement officer to be elected. High Bailiffs are elected every two years.

Locally Elected Offices

Justice of the Peace

Justices of the Peace have some mandatory and some voluntary duties. The Justices must serve on the board of civil authority (BCA) and the town board for abatement of taxes. Members of the BCA serve as election officials, and deliver absentee ballots to voters at election time. BCA members also hear and decide appeals of the decisions of listers. The town board for the abatement of taxes decides whether a taxpayer's tax obligation should be forgiven in certain circumstances. Justices of the Peace may join people in marriage, notarize documents, administer oaths, and, when commissioned by the state Supreme Court, serve as magistrates. Justices of the Peace are elected every two years. Justices of the Peace are also able to hand deliver ballots to people who are ill or have a disability, and cannot vote in person on Election Day. They will bring you a ballot, allow you time to complete it, then deliver it back to your Town/City Clerk to be counted. This service must be requested by contacting your Town/City Clerk's office before Election Day.

Common Election Terms

Here are just a few terms and phrases you may hear or read when deciding who to vote for or where and how to vote.

- **Absentee Ballot:** used to vote early instead of at the polling place on Election Day
- **Amendment:** a change to a law, piece of legislation or an article added to the U.S. constitution
- **Ballot:** a paper, card, or electronic program used to cast your vote
- **Bias:** prejudice in favor or against one thing, person or group
- **Bipartisan:** supported by both political parties
- **Cabinet:** a group of important people in a government, who normally represent the head of government
- **Constituent:** a person represented by an elected official
- **Delegate:** one sent to act as a representative of a group
- **Democracy:** government in which the people decide who is in power
- **Electoral college:** Electors established by the constitution for the sole purpose of electing the president.
- **Lame duck:** an elected official still in office who has not been elected for another term
- **Incumbent:** someone currently in office
- **Independent:** any candidate who claims not to be a part of a specific political party
- **Nonpartisan:** not biased or showing preference to one political party over another
- **Platform:** plans and principals of a political party
- **Poll:** the place where votes are cast or a survey of the public
- **Primary:** an election for choosing who will be on the ballot in the final election
- **Universal vote by mail:** All active registered voters get a ballot mailed to them automatically

How Can I Learn More?

There are many online resources available. The following sources are helpful Vermont and National resources:

- For Statewide election information you can visit the Secretary of State's website at <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/>
- Statewide Newsource *VT Digger* also has a helpful guide this year on their website. You can find VT Digger's Election Guide by visiting <https://vtdigger.org/vtdigger-2022-election-guide>.
- For National election information you can visit <https://www.usa.gov/election>.

Newspapers, TV News and Social Media. Not everything you read or see is true! There are websites that try to help voters decide whether a statement or story is true. Examples of these websites are: factcheck.org; politifact.com; snopes.com

Reach out to organizations in your community and people that you trust. Ask questions about issues that are important to you. Sometimes people will have a different opinion than you do and that is okay. Nobody should tell you how to vote. Your vote is your voice and every vote matters!

Get involved with **community organizations** that serve people with disabilities like The Arc, Green Mountain Self-Advocates, and the Vermont Center for Independent Living. You can ask to volunteer with these organizations and help people vote.

Are you registered to vote? Call and verify with your town/city clerk!

Addison	759-2020	Cavendish	226-7292	Groton	584-3276
Albany	755-6100	Charleston	895-2814	Guildhall	676-3797
Alburgh	796-3468	Charlotte	425-3071	Guilford	254-6857
Andover	875-2765	Chelsea	685-4460	Halifax	368-7390
Arlington	375-2332	Chester	875-2173	Hancock	767-3660
Athens	869-3370	Chittenden	483-6647	Hardwick	472-5971
Bakersfield	827-4495	Clarendon	775-4274	Hartford	295-2785
Baltimore	263-5274	Colchester	264-5520	Hartland	436-2444
Barnard	234-9211	Concord	695-2220	Highgate	868-5002
Barnet	633-2256	Corinth	439-5850	Hinesburg	482-2281
Barre City	476-0242	Cornwall	462-2775	Holland	895-4440
Barre Town	479-9391	Coventry	754-2288	Hubbardton	273-2951
Barton	525-6222	Craftsbury	586-2823	Huntington	434-2032
Belvidere	644-6621	Danby	293-5136	Hyde Park	888-2300
Bennington	442-1043	Danville	684-3352	Ira	235-2745
Benson	537-2611	Derby	766-4906	Irasburg	754-2242
Berkshire	933-2335	Dorset	362-1178	Isle La Motte	928-3434
Berlin	229-9298	Dover	464-5100	Jamaica	874-4681
Bethel	234-9722	Dummerston	257-1496	Jay	988-2996
Bloomfield	962-5191	Duxbury	244-6660	Jericho	899-4936
Bolton	434-5075	East Haven	467-3772	Johnson	635-2611
Bradford	222-4727	E. Montpelier	223-3313	Killington	422-3241
Braintree	728-9787	Eden	635-2528	Kirby	626-9386
Brandon	247-3635	Elmore	888-2637	Landgrove	824-3716
Brattleboro	251-8157	Enosburgh	933-4421	Leicester	247-5961
Bridgewater	672-3334	Essex	879-0413	Lemington	277-4814
Bridport	758-2483	Fair Haven	265-3610	Lincoln	453-2980
Brighton	723-4405	Fairfax	849-6111	Londonderry	824-3356
Bristol	453-2410	Fairfield	827-3261	Lowell	744-6559
Brookfield	276-3352	Fairlee	333-4363	Ludlow	228-3232
Brookline	365-4648	Fayston	496-2454	Lunenburg	892-5959
Brownington	754-8401	Ferrisburgh	877-3429	Lyndon	626-5785
Brunswick	962-5514	Fletcher	849-6616	Maidstone	676-3210
Burke	467-3717	Franklin	285-2101	Manchester	362-1313
Burlington	865-7000	Georgia	524-3524	Marlboro	254-2181
Cabot	563-2279	Glover	525-6227	Marshfield	426-3305
Calais	456-8720	Goshen	247-6455	Mendon	775-1662
Cambridge	644-2251	Grafton	843-2419	Middlebury	388-8100
Canaan	266-3370	Granby	328-3611	Middlesex	223-5915
Castleton	468-5319	Grand Isle	372-8830	Middletown	235-2220
		Granville	767-4403	Milton	893-4111
		Greensboro	533-2911	Monkton	453-3800

Are you registered to vote? Call and verify with your town/city clerk!

Montgomery	326-4719	Rupert	394-7728	Victory	328-2400
Montpelier	223-9500	Rutland City	774-7890	Waitsfield	496-2218
Moretown	882-8218	Rutland Town	773-2528	Walden	563-2220
Morgan	895-2927	Ryegate	584-3880	Wallingford	446-2336
Morristown	888-6370	St. Albans Cty	524-1500	Waltham	877-3641
Mt. Holly	259-2391	St. Albans Tn.	524-2415	Wardsboro	896-6055
Mt. Tabor	293-5282	St. George	482-5272	Warren	496-2709
New Haven	453-3516	St. Johnsbury	748-4331	Washington	883-2218
Newark	467-3336	Salisbury	352-4228	Waterbury	244-8447
Newbury	866-5521	Sandgate	375-9075	Waterford	748-2122
Newfane	365-7772	Searsburg	464-8081	Waterville	644-8865
Newport City	334-2112	Shaftsbury	442-4038	Weathersfield	674-9500
Newport Town	334-6442	Sharon	763-8268	Wells	645-0486
North Hero	372-6926	Sheffield	626-8862	West Fairlee	333-9696
Northfield	485-5421	Shelburne	985-5116	West Haven	265-4880
Norton	822-9935	Sheldon	933-2524	West Rutland	438-2204
Norwich	649-1419	Shoreham	897-5841	West Windsor	484-7212
Orange	479-2673	Shrewsbury	492-3511	Westfield	744-2484
Orwell	948-2032	S. Burlington	846-4105	Westford	878-4587
Panton	475-2333	South Hero	372-5552	Westminster	722-4091
Pawlet	325-3309	Springfield	885-2104	Westmore	525-3007
Peacham	592-3218	Stamford	694-1361	Weston	824-6645
Peru	824-3065	Stannard	533-2577	Weybridge	545-2450
Pittsfield	746-8170	Starksboro	453-2639	Wheelock	626-9094
Pittsford	483-6500	Stockbridge	746-8400	Whiting	623-7813
Plainfield	454-8461	Stowe	253-6133	Whitingham	368-7887
Plymouth	672-3655	Strafford	765-4411	Williamstown	433-5455
Pomfret	457-3861	Stratton	896-6184	Williston	878-5121
Poultney	287-5761	Sudbury	623-7296	Wilmington	464-5836
Pownal	823-7757	Sunderland	375-6106	Windham	874-4211
Proctor	459-3333	Sutton	467-3377	Windsor	674-5610
Putney	387-5862	Swanton	868-4421	Winhall	297-2122
Randolph	728-5433	Thetford	785-2922	Winooski	655-6410
Reading	484-7250	Tinmouth	446-2498	Wolcott	888-2746
Readsboro	423-5405	Topsham	439-5505	Woodbury	456-7051
Richford	848-7751	Townshend	365-7300	Woodford	442-4895
Richmond	434-2221	Troy	988-2663	Woodstock	457-3611
Ripton	388-2266	Tunbridge	889-5521	Worcester	223-6942
Rochester	767-3631	Underhill	899-4434		
Rockingham	463-4336	Vergennes	877-2841		
Roxbury	485-7840	Vernon	257-0292		
Royalton	763-7207	Vershire	685-2227		

Candidates elected into office will make decisions about the programs and services that matter to you, including if they are funded or not!

**Please Vote On Or Before
November 8, 2022 for the General Election**

**Contact your local Town/City Clerk
or Disability Rights Vermont**

- To find out if you are a registered voter
- To become a registered voter
- To obtain an absentee ballot
- To find out where your polling place is
- To obtain accommodations in voting
- To learn more about your voting rights

**YOUR CHOICE
YOUR POWER
VOTE!**

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