

STATE OF VERMONT

OFFICE OF THE SENATE PRESIDENT PRO TEM 115 STATE STREET – STATEHOUSE MONTPELIER, VT 05609-1001

June 17, 2019

STATEMENT OF SENATE PRESIDENT TIM ASHE RE: VETO OF S.37

When citizens' health is put at risk by a polluter's actions, there are three options in terms of who should pay the medical monitoring costs - the polluter, the taxpayers, or the victim of the pollution.

In Vermont and across this country it always seems to be the victim or the taxpayer who picks up the tab.

S.37 at its core was about, under certain circumstances, making the polluter pick up the tab.

Vermont is rightly proud to be home to some of the nation's pioneers of corporate social responsibility. We've also made great strides protecting our citizens from environmental hazards.

With Governor Scott's veto of S.37 Vermont has missed a chance to strengthen our state's reputation for corporate responsibility, and to stick up for our people when they're up against powerful forces.