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Notes from editor (not for publication):



HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

####BEGIN HED####

1 Burke will not seek re-election as state rep.

####END HED####

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2 Nine-term state representative for District 9 focused on
3 transportation issues

####END SUBHED####

4 TEXT BODY:

####BEGIN TEXT####

5 State Rep. Mollie Burke will not seek re-election after 18
6 years of service in the Vermont House of Representatives, calling
7 it “a difficult decision” in her remarks to voters at Annual Town
8 Meeting on April 11.

9 “I’ve loved serving in the House,” said Burke, who
10 represents District 8. “It’s been an extraordinary opportunity to
11 work with dedicated representatives from all over the state on

12 issues that impact the lives of Vermonters, but just as much to
13 work for constituents to access state government assistance [...] in
14 our best moments, the house is a family with family quarrels, of
15 course, but most of all with shared respect and affection.”

16 The nine-term representative, first elected in 2008, called
17 her work in the state capital “a great honor.”

18 “I hope I’ve served you well,” she said. “You’ve all been
19 very kind. I will miss knocking on your doors this fall — that has
20 been a special part of my service. But I look forward to spending
21 more time in town and will hope to see you out and about on the
22 streets and at events in our wonderful community.”

23 She chose to serve on the Transportation Committee due
24 to concern about climate change and desire to cut Vermont’s
25 greenhouse gas emissions. She was also passionate about
26 promoting a diversified transportation system, with expanded
27 public transit and more opportunities for pedestrians, cyclists,
28 and persons with disabilities. She has served on the
29 transportation committee her entire tenure.

30 In a press release, Burke cited accomplishments of which
31 she is especially proud: sponsoring the first safe passing law for
32 bicyclists in 2010; the first Complete Streets law in 2011; a 2013
33 anti-idling bill, and in that year, becoming lead sponsor of a bill
34 to allow undocumented residents to obtain driving privilege
35 cards. Burke’s committee oversaw the multi-year construction of
36 the I-91 bridge over the West River.

37 She was an official stakeholder in conversations with
38 Amtrak over the decision to build a new train station, and she
39 served on the two-state committee designing the new Hinsdale
40 Bridge. She advocated on behalf of Brattleboro for several paving
41 projects and for a reduced speed limit on Route 30.

42 In Montpelier, she worked to set up incentive programs
43 to help low- and moderate-income Vermonters purchase electric
44 vehicles and electric bicycles or more fuel-efficient, gas-powered
45 vehicles.

46 Burke was also one of the original sponsors of the
47 important Working Lands Bill and recently co-sponsored a bill
48 (S.30) that just passed, which establishes a farm-and-forestry
49 special fund to help with recovery from weather-related disasters.

50 She also co-chairs the Climate Solutions Caucus and is
51 the House appointee to the Public Transit Advisory Council. In
52 2025 and 2026, she brought her skills as an art teacher to the
53 State House to direct a community art project for colleagues and
54 staff.

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BIO/COATTAIL:

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LOGLINE (SOCIAL MEDIA):

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