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For Immediate Release

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Secretary of State Jim Condos Endorses Chris Winters for Secretary of State

Berlin, VT — July 7, 2022 — Secretary of State Jim Condos, who will not seek re-election in 2022, has endorsed his Deputy Secretary of State, Chris Winters, to become his successor.

“Chris has been my trusted partner in all decisions for the past 7 years. I hired him as my Deputy Secretary because he is dedicated to serving the people of Vermont, not playing politics,” said Condos. “Vermont needs a Secretary of State who understands the mission, knows how the office actually works, and has the skill and practical experience to protect our democracy. Chris Winters is the only candidate with the right background to do the job. I encourage all Vermonters to join me in voting for Chris Winters for Secretary of State.”

This is the first and only endorsement for a Vermont office Condos has made during his time as Secretary of State. At a press conference on July 7, outgoing Secretary Condos explained why he was making an exception: “Although I have refrained from endorsing any state or local candidate during my 12 years as Secretary of State I have decided – after careful thought and consideration – I need to speak up because this election is too important. The challenges we face today are more complicated than ever and there is so much at stake.”

Winters has been the Deputy Secretary for the last seven years and has served the office for more than 25 total, including 12 years under Secretary Deb Markowitz, who also made remarks at the press conference: “Chris is not a typical politician. Our democracy does best when the

people who oversee our elections and open government laws are committed to doing so in a professional and nonpartisan way. Chris has demonstrated his nonpartisanship and commitment to transparency and good government for decades. I trust Chris to hit the ground running to serve as our next Secretary of State.”

Chris Winters had this to say about the endorsements from his last two bosses, “I have learned so much from each of them through the years and plan to incorporate their wisdom into my own vision for running this office. I am forever grateful that they have allowed me to serve Vermont under their leadership and am excited for this next chapter of service.”

Those remarks were followed by several others from various sectors of business and government expressing broad support for Chris Winters’ campaign for Secretary of State.