

Burlington, VT -- Rep. Peter Welch has been appointed to the Canada-United States Inter-Parliamentary Group, a body of House and Senate members charged with promoting stronger ties between Canadian and American political leaders on common issues of concern.

The delegates seek to identify shared values and find possible solutions to matters of concern to both countries.

"I am pleased to be able to represent both Vermont and the United States by serving on this group. I will advocate for improving the exchange of ideas between Canadian and American leaders to help achieve the common objectives we share, from improving trade to combating global warming," said Welch.

Welch cited the particularly important relationship Vermont has with Quebec, which accounts for 80% of Vermont's exports and over \$800 million.

The Group's aim is to find points of convergence in respective national policies, initiate dialogue on points of divergence, encourage exchanges of information, and promote better understanding between Canadian and American parliamentarians on shared issues of concern.

Canada-United States Inter-Parliamentary Group was first established in 1959.

The appointment was made by the Speaker of the House. Welch will serve a one-year term.