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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**SANDERS TO HOLD TOWN MEETINGS ON CONTRACT WITH AMERICA**

Rep. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., today announced he will be holding two town meetings Saturday, March 4, in Brattleboro and Bennington on the proposed "Contract with America."

Sanders said he is holding the town meetings to inform Vermont residents about the provisions of the so-called "Contract" which he said many people may not be familiar with. Sanders will also discuss the impact the Contract will have on Vermont.

"The more people learn about Speaker Gingrich's Contract with America," Sanders said, "the more we realize it is a fraud. Giving huge tax breaks to millionaires and to multi-national corporations to ship our jobs overseas and dumping more money into weapons systems and other military expenditures while slashing the safety net for the working poor, needy children, senior citizens, veterans and small farmers is grossly unfair."

Sanders said, if enacted, the Contract would cause intense pain and suffering for tens of millions of Americans, primarily the weakest and most vulnerable people in our society. "The effect of the bill," Sanders said, "is Robin Hood in reverse -- taking from the poor to give to the rich."

Sanders said he hopes local residents will turn out to share their questions and concerns with the Contract.

"If people have concerns with this Contract, they need to step forward and make their views known," Sanders said. "If people speak out, they can bring about change. The Republican leadership backed down on its plan to cut back on senior nutrition programs because Americans spoke up and fought back. I urge vermonters to do the same."

**Sanders will hold the town meeting in Brattleboro on Saturday, March 4, at 2:00 p.m. at the Gibson-Aiken Senior Center, 207 Main Street, Brattleboro, VT.**

**Sanders will hold the Bennington town meeting later that same day at 7:00 p.m. at the Mount Anthony Junior High School, 640 Main Street, Bennington, VT.**

For more information on the town meetings, residents can contact Congressman Bernie Sanders' Office at **1-800-339-9834**.

Contact: Tina Wisell (802) 862-0697.