

Journal of the Senate

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2023

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Devotional Exercises

Devotional exercises were conducted by the Reverend Kevin Holland Sparrow of Montpelier.

Message from the Governor Appointments Referred

A message was received from the Governor, by Brittney L. Wilson, Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs, submitting the following appointments, which were referred to committees as indicated:

The nomination of

Bogosian, Maureen of Perkinsville - Member of the Board of Medical Practice - from March 28, 2022 to February 28, 2026.

To the Committee on Health and Welfare.

The nomination of

Nailor, Shawn of Worcester - Secretary and CIO of the Agency of Digital Services - from January 1, 2023 to February 28, 2023.

To the Committee on Government Operations.

The nomination of

Phelps, Michelle of Georgia - Member of the State Labor Relations Board - from January 12, 2023 to June 30, 2025.

To the Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

Joint Resolution Placed on Calendar

J.R.S. 10.

Joint Senate resolution of the following title was offered, read the first time and is as follows:

By Senator Baruth,

J.R.S. 10. Joint resolution providing for the election of a Sergeant at Arms, and three Trustees of the University of Vermont and State Agricultural College.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the two Houses meet in Joint Assembly on Thursday, February 16, 2023, at ten o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon to elect a Sergeant at Arms, and three trustees of the University of Vermont and State Agricultural College. In case election of all such officers shall not be made on that day, the two Houses shall meet in Joint Assembly at ten o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon, on each succeeding day, Saturdays and Sundays excepted, and proceed in such election, until all such officers are elected.

Thereupon, in the discretion of the President, under Rule 51, the joint resolution was placed on the Calendar for action the next legislative day.

Joint Resolution Placed on Calendar

J.R.S. 11.

Joint Senate resolution of the following title was offered, read the first time and is as follows:

By Senator Baruth,

J.R.S. 11. Joint resolution establishing a procedure for the conduct of the election of the University of Vermont and State Agricultural College trustees by plurality vote by the General Assembly in 2023.

Whereas, in 1997 the election of three trustees of the University of Vermont and State Agricultural College was decided by plurality vote, which required one ballot only, and

Whereas, in 1999 the election of three trustees of the University of Vermont and State Agricultural College was decided by majority vote, which required a total of eight ballots, and

Whereas, in 2001 and subsequent bienniums the elections of three trustees of the University of Vermont and State Agricultural College were decided by plurality vote, each of which required one ballot only, and

Whereas, if an election for multiple vacancies is to be decided by a plurality vote, then a great savings of time can be effectuated, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That, notwithstanding the current provisions of Joint Rule 10, and for this election only, the election of three trustees of the University of Vermont and

State Agricultural College at a Joint Assembly to be held on February 16, 2023, shall be governed by the following procedure:

(1) All candidates for the office of Trustee shall be voted upon and decided on the same ballot; members may vote for any number of candidates up to and including the maximum number of vacancies to be filled, which in this case shall be three.

(2) The three candidates receiving the most votes shall be declared elected to fill the three vacancies.

(3) In the event that the first balloting for the Trustee vacancies results in a tie vote for one or more of the three vacant positions, then voting shall continue on successive ballots until the vacancies have been filled, again by election declared of those candidates receiving the most votes.

Thereupon, in the discretion of the President, under Rule 51, the joint resolution was placed on the Calendar for action the next legislative day.

Bills Introduced

Senate bills of the following titles were severally introduced, read the first time and referred:

S. 32.

By Senators Ram Hinsdale, Hardy, Perchlik, Vyhovsky, Watson and White,
An act relating to ranked-choice voting for presidential primary elections.
To the Committee on Government Operations.

S. 33.

By Senator Sears,
An act relating to miscellaneous judiciary procedures.
To the Committee on Judiciary.

S. 34.

By Senator Chittenden,
An act relating to kindergarten enrollment age.
To the Committee on Education.

S. 35.

By Senators White, Clarkson and McCormack,
An act relating to the Town of Hartford's tax increment financing district.
To the Committee on Finance.

S. 36.

By Senators Sears, Lyons, Campion, Chittenden, Collamore, Gulick and Ingalls,

An act relating to permitting an arrest without a warrant for assaults and threats against health care workers and disorderly conduct at health care facilities.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

S. 37.

By Senators Lyons, Hardy, Clarkson, Ram Hinsdale, Baruth, Bray, Campion, Chittenden, Cummings, Gulick, Harrison, Hashim, Kitchel, McCormack, Perchlik, Sears, Vyhovsky, Watson, White and Wrenner,

An act relating to access to legally protected health care activity and regulation of health care providers.

To the Committee on Health and Welfare.

Bill Referred

House bill of the following title was read the first time and referred:

H. 28.

An act relating to diversion and expungement.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

Adjournment

On motion of Senator Baruth, the Senate adjourned until one o'clock in the afternoon on Thursday, January 26, 2023.