

Journal of the Senate

THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2024

Pursuant to the Senate Rules, in the absence of the President, the Senate was called to order by the President *pro tempore*.

Devotional Exercises

Devotional exercises were conducted by the Reverend Peter Plagge of Waterbury.

Message from the House No. 29

A message was received from the House of Representatives by Ms. Courtney Reckord, its Second Assistant Clerk, as follows:

Mr. President:

I am directed to inform the Senate that:

The Governor has informed the House that on March 4, 2024, he approved and signed a bill originating in the House of the following title:

H. 849. An act relating to technical corrections for the 2024 legislative session.

Bills Referred to Committee on Appropriations

Senate bills of the following titles, appearing on the Calendar for notice, and carrying an appropriation or requiring the expenditure of funds, under the rule were severally referred to the Committee on Appropriations:

S. 159. An act relating to the County Governance Study Committee.

S. 289. An act relating to age-appropriate design code.

Bill Amended; Bill Passed

S. 189.

Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to mental health response service protocols.

Was taken up.

Thereupon, pending third reading of the bill, Senators Lyons, Weeks, Gulick, Hardy and Williams moved to amend the bill by inserting a new Sec. 3 after Sec. 2 to read as follows:

Sec. 3. 33 V.S.A. § 6309 is added to read:

§ 6309. STAFF SAFETY; DISCHARGE FROM SERVICE

If an individual was previously discharged from service by a home health agency to protect the safety of staff in accordance with the rules adopted by the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living pursuant to subsection 6303(a) of this chapter, and the behavior or conditions causing the discharge cannot be mitigated or eliminated, a home health agency may:

(1) deny a subsequent admission; or

(2) decline to send a home health agency employee to make a visit if the home health agency has reason to believe that the individual who exhibited the behavior that resulted in the discharge is present in the home.

and by renumbering the remaining section to be numerically correct.

Which was agreed to.

Thereupon, the bill was read the third time and passed.

Bill Passed in Concurrence with Proposal of Amendment

H. 518.

House bill of the following title was read the third time and passed in concurrence with proposal of amendment:

An act relating to the approval of amendments to the charter of the Town of Essex.

Bill Amended; Third Reading Ordered

S. 197.

Senator Williams, for the Committee on Health and Welfare, to which was referred Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to the procurement and distribution of products containing perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances and monitoring adverse health conditions attributed to perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances.

Reported recommending that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

**Sec. 1. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN; CONSUMER PRODUCTS
CONTAINING PFAS**

(a) The Agency of Natural Resources, in consultation with the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets; the Department of Health; and the Office of the Attorney General shall propose a program requiring the State to identify

and restrict the sale and distribution of consumer products containing perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) that could impact public health and the environment. The proposed program shall:

(1) identify categories of consumer products that could have an impact on public health and environmental contamination;

(2) propose a process by which manufacturers determine whether a consumer product contains PFAS and how that information is communicated to the State;

(3) address how information about the presence or lack of PFAS in a consumer product is conveyed to the public;

(4) describe which agency or department is responsible for administration of the proposed program, including what additional staff, information technology changes, and other resources, if any, are necessary to implement the program;

(5) determine whether and how other states have structured and implemented similar programs and identify the best practices used in these efforts;

(6) propose definitions of “intentionally added,” “consumer product,” and “perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances”; and

(7) propose a related public service announcement program and website content to inform the public and health care providers about the potential public health impacts of exposure to PFAS and actions that can be taken to reduce risk.

(b) The Agency of Natural Resources shall obtain input on its recommendation from interested parties, including those that represent environmental, agricultural, and industry interests.

(c) On or before November 1, 2024, the Agency of Natural Resources shall submit an implementation plan developed pursuant to this section and corresponding draft legislation to the House Committees on Environment and Energy and on Human Services and the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Natural Resources and Energy.

(d) For the purposes of this section, “consumer products” includes restricted and nonrestricted use pesticides.

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

And that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read:

An act relating to restricting perfluoroalkyl and of polyfluoroalkyl substances in consumer products

And that when so amended the bill ought to pass.

Thereupon, the bill was read the second time by title only pursuant to Rule 43, the recommendation of amendment was agreed to, and third reading of the bill was ordered.

Adjournment

On motion of Senator Clarkson, the Senate adjourned until eleven o'clock and thirty minutes in the morning.