

Journal of the House

Thursday, January 11, 2024

At three o'clock in the afternoon, the Speaker called the House to order.

Devotional Exercises

Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. Elissa Johnk, First Congregational Church of Burlington.

Message from the Senate No. 5

A message was received from the Senate by Ms. Gradel, its Assistant Secretary, as follows:

Madam Speaker:

I am directed to inform the House that:

The Senate has considered joint resolutions originating in the House of the following titles:

J.R.H. 7. Joint resolution authorizing limited remote joint committee voting through the remainder of calendar year 2024.

J.R.H. 8. Joint resolution providing for an election to fill a vacancy in the Office of Sergeant at Arms.

And has adopted the same in concurrence.

Rules Suspended, House Bills Introduced

Pending first reading of the House bills, on motion of **Rep. McCoy of Poultney**, the rules were suspended and the bills were read the first time by number and referred to committee as follows:

H. 734

By Rep. Carroll of Bennington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to establishing a residency requirement for the General Assistance Emergency Housing Program and the emergency housing transition benefit

To the Committee on Human Services.

H. 735

By Rep. Carroll of Bennington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to exemptions for food manufacturing establishments

To the Committee on Human Services.

H. 736

By Reps. Stone of Burlington, Arsenault of Williston, Burrows of West Windsor, and Graning of Jericho,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to requiring approved independent schools to confirm compliance with the Vermont Public Accommodations Act

To the Committee on Education.

H. 737

By Reps. Stone of Burlington, Arsenault of Williston, Burrows of West Windsor, and Graning of Jericho,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the appointment of State Board of Education members

To the Committee on Education.

H. 738

By Reps. Canfield of Fair Haven, Branagan of Georgia, Clifford of Rutland City, Morgan of Milton, Sammis of Castleton, Taylor of Milton, and Williams of Granby,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the rights of school district and supervisory union employees to testify before a school board or supervisory union board

To the Committee on Education.

H. 739

By Reps. Hango of Berkshire, Birong of Vergennes, Sibia of Dover, Austin of Colchester, Stone of Burlington, Bartley of Fairfax, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Boyden of Cambridge, Branagan of Georgia, Brennan of Colchester, Brumsted of Shelburne, Carpenter of Hyde Park, Clifford of

Rutland City, Demar of Enosburgh, Dolan of Essex Junction, Dolan of Waitsfield, Goslant of Northfield, Graham of Williamstown, Gregoire of Fairfield, Higley of Lowell, Houghton of Essex Junction, Labor of Morgan, LaBounty of Lyndon, Lipsky of Stowe, Maguire of Rutland City, McFaun of Barre Town, Morgan of Milton, Morris of Springfield, Morrissey of Bennington, Ode of Burlington, Oliver of Sheldon, Parsons of Newbury, Peterson of Clarendon, Rachelson of Burlington, Smith of Derby, Taylor of Milton, Toof of St. Albans Town, Walker of Swanton, and Williams of Granby,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to raising awareness of military-related postsecondary opportunities

To the Committee on Education.

H. 740

By Reps. McCann of Montpelier, Chase of Chester, Cole of Hartford, Dolan of Essex Junction, Headrick of Burlington, Hyman of South Burlington, Masland of Thetford, McGill of Bridport, Mrowicki of Putney, Mulvaney-Stanak of Burlington, Priestley of Bradford, and Stone of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to inclusive curricular standards for the sciences, arts, and humanities

To the Committee on Education.

H. 741

By Reps. McCann of Montpelier, Anthony of Barre City, Arsenault of Williston, Austin of Colchester, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Bos-Lun of Westminster, Brady of Williston, Branagan of Georgia, Brown of Richmond, Brownell of Pownal, Burke of Brattleboro, Buss of Woodstock, Chase of Chester, Cina of Burlington, Conlon of Cornwall, Dolan of Essex Junction, Emmons of Springfield, Farlice-Rubio of Barnet, Galfetti of Barre Town, Hango of Berkshire, Headrick of Burlington, Hooper of Randolph, Hyman of South Burlington, Jerome of Brandon, Krasnow of South Burlington, Labor of Morgan, LaBounty of Lyndon, McGill of Bridport, Minier of South Burlington, Morrissey of Bennington, Mrowicki of Putney, Ode of Burlington, Page of Newport City, Patt of Worcester, Priestley of Bradford, Rice of Dorset, Stone of Burlington, Taylor of Milton, Templeman of Brownington, Waters Evans of Charlotte, Whitman of Bennington, and Williams of Barre City,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to health insurance coverage for colorectal cancer screening

To the Committee on Health Care.

H. 742

By Rep. McCann of Montpelier,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to health insurance reimbursement rate parity

To the Committee on Health Care.

H. 743

By Reps. Brennan of Colchester, Branagan of Georgia, Canfield of Fair Haven, Clifford of Rutland City, Demar of Enosburgh, Graham of Williamstown, Hango of Berkshire, Labor of Morgan, Morgan of Milton, Oliver of Sheldon, Page of Newport City, Parsons of Newbury, Shaw of Pittsford, Smith of Derby, Taylor of Milton, Walker of Swanton, and Williams of Granby,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to an exemption to the firearms transfer waiting period for persons who already own firearms

To the Committee on Judiciary.

H. 744

By Reps. Rachelson of Burlington, Chapin of East Montpelier, and Headrick of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to disclosure of sexually explicit images without consent

To the Committee on Judiciary.

H. 745

By Rep. LaLonde of South Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the Vermont Parentage Act

To the Committee on Judiciary.

H. 746

By Rep. LaBounty of Lyndon,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to unemployment insurance eligibility and benefits

To the Committee on Commerce and Economic Development.

H. 747

By Reps. Branagan of Georgia, Andrews of Westford, Anthony of Barre City, Austin of Colchester, Birong of Vergennes, Black of Essex, Brumsted of Shelburne, Burke of Brattleboro, Burrows of West Windsor, Buss of Woodstock, Campbell of St. Johnsbury, Casey of Montpelier, Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Christie of Hartford, Cina of Burlington, Cole of Hartford, Dodge of Essex, Elder of Starksboro, Farlice-Rubio of Barnet, Garofano of Essex, Goldman of Rockingham, Headrick of Burlington, Hooper of Burlington, Hyman of South Burlington, Krasnow of South Burlington, Lalley of Shelburne, Logan of Burlington, Masland of Thetford, McGill of Bridport, Minier of South Burlington, Mulvaney-Stanak of Burlington, Noyes of Wolcott, Nugent of South Burlington, O'Brien of Tunbridge, Ode of Burlington, Patt of Worcester, Rachelson of Burlington, Roberts of Halifax, Satcowitz of Randolph, Small of Winooski, Stebbins of Burlington, Stone of Burlington, Surprenant of Barnard, Templeman of Brownington, Torre of Moretown, and Waters Evans of Charlotte,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to appropriating funds to reimburse the Burlington Fire Department for assisting individuals experiencing a drug overdose

To the Committee on Human Services.

H. 748

By Rep. Taylor of Milton,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to updating terminology and fees related to the Department of Public Safety's response to alarms

To the Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs.

H. 749

By Reps. Toof of St. Albans Town, Hango of Berkshire, Bartley of Fairfax, Branagan of Georgia, Canfield of Fair Haven, Clifford of Rutland City, Demar of Enosburgh, Goslant of Northfield, Graham of Williamstown, Gregoire of Fairfield, Harrison of Chittenden, Higley of Lowell, LaBounty of Lyndon, Maguire of Rutland City, McFaun of Barre Town, Morgan of Milton, Morrissey of Bennington, Oliver of Sheldon, Page of Newport City, Peterson of Clarendon, Shaw of Pittsford, Smith of Derby, and Taylor of Milton,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to waived registration fees for volunteer firefighter motor vehicles

To the Committee on Transportation.

H. 750

By Rep. LaBounty of Lyndon,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to unemployment insurance eligibility for members of the General Assembly

To the Committee on Commerce and Economic Development.

H. 751

By Reps. Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Burrows of West Windsor, Elder of Starksboro, Headrick of Burlington, Howard of Rutland City, LaBounty of Lyndon, LaMont of Morristown, Mulvaney-Stanak of Burlington, Roberts of Halifax, Small of Winooski, and White of Bethel,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to expanding equal pay protections

To the Committee on General and Housing.

H. 752

By Reps. Morgan of Milton, Hango of Berkshire, and Sammis of Castleton,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to pedestrians, pedestrian safety, and motor vehicle safety

To the Committee on Transportation.

H. 753

By Reps. Toof of St. Albans Town, Taylor of Milton, Bartley of Fairfax, Clifford of Rutland City, Hango of Berkshire, Labor of Morgan, Maguire of Rutland City, McFaun of Barre Town, Morgan of Milton, Morrissey of Bennington, Oliver of Sheldon, Page of Newport City, Parsons of Newbury, Peterson of Clarendon, and Williams of Granby,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to driver education for students participating in the home study program

To the Committee on Transportation.

H. 754

By Reps. Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Burditt of West Rutland, Campbell of St. Johnsbury, Canfield of Fair Haven, Clifford of Rutland City, Goldman of Rockingham, Howard of Rutland City, McGill of Bridport, Mulvaney-Stanak of Burlington, Sammis of Castleton, and Satcowitz of Randolph,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the governance and transformation of the Vermont State Colleges Corporation

To the Committee on Education.

H. 755

By Reps. Masland of Thetford, Sibilia of Dover, and Sims of Craftsbury,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to mergers and governance of communications union districts

To the Committee on Environment and Energy.

H. 756

By Reps. Logan of Burlington, Anthony of Barre City, Campbell of St. Johnsbury, Carpenter of Hyde Park, Christie of Hartford, Cina of Burlington, Cole of Hartford, Cordes of Lincoln, Garofano of Essex, Headrick of Burlington, Masland of Thetford, McGill of Bridport, Mulvaney-Stanak of Burlington, Small of Winooski, Troiano of Stannard, and Williams of Barre City,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to short-term rental occupancy requirements

To the Committee on General and Housing.

H. 757

By Rep. Buss of Woodstock,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to a property transfer tax surcharge to fund housing

To the Committee on Ways and Means.

H. 758

By Rep. Buss of Woodstock,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the local property tax exemption for homes and dwellings

To the Committee on Ways and Means.

H. 759

By Reps. Nugent of South Burlington, Arsenault of Williston, Austin of Colchester, Brady of Williston, Chase of Chester, and Hyman of South Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to changes to the Downtown Transportation and Related Capital Improvement Fund

To the Committee on Environment and Energy.

H. 760

By Reps. Buss of Woodstock, Bartley of Fairfax, Boyden of Cambridge, Burrows of West Windsor, Campbell of St. Johnsbury, Christie of Hartford, Elder of Starksboro, Harrison of Chittenden, Lalley of Shelburne, Priestley of Bradford, Roberts of Halifax, Sibilias of Dover, and Sims of Craftsbury,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to Act 250 transparency

To the Committee on Environment and Energy.

H. 761

By Reps. Smith of Derby, Andrews of Westford, Anthony of Barre City, Arrison of Weathersfield, Bartley of Fairfax, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Berbeco of Winooski, Bongartz of Manchester, Boyden of Cambridge, Branagan of Georgia, Brennan of Colchester, Canfield of Fair Haven, Carroll of Bennington, Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Christie of Hartford, Clifford of Rutland City, Cole of Hartford, Corcoran of Bennington, Cordes of Lincoln, Demar of Enosburgh, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Elder of Starksboro, Farlice-Rubio of Barnet, Galfetti of Barre Town, Goslant of Northfield, Graham of Williamstown, Gregoire of Fairfield, Hango of Berkshire, Harrison of Chittenden, Higley of Lowell, Hooper of Randolph, Hooper of Burlington, Howard of Rutland City, Labor of Morgan, Laroche of Franklin, Lipsky of Stowe, Logan of Burlington, Masland of Thetford, Mattos of Milton, McFaun of Barre Town, McGill of Bridport, Morgan of Milton, Morris of Springfield, Morrissey of Bennington, Oliver of Sheldon, Page of Newport City, Parsons of Newbury, Patt of Worcester, Peterson of Clarendon, Satcowitz of Randolph, Sims of Craftsbury, Small of Winooski, Taylor of Milton, Templeman of Brownington, Toof of St. Albans Town, Torre of Moretown, Troiano of Stannard, Walker of Swanton, Williams of Granby, and Wilson of Lyndon,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to penalties and point assessments for using a portable electronic device while operating a moving motor vehicle and the Distracted Driving Diversion Program

To the Committee on Transportation.

H. 762

By Reps. Goslant of Northfield, Oliver of Sheldon, Bartley of Fairfax, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Branagan of Georgia, Burditt of West Rutland, Clifford of Rutland City, Demar of Enosburgh, Graham of Williamstown, Hango of Berkshire, Harrison of Chittenden, Labor of Morgan, Maguire of Rutland City, McFaun of Barre Town, Morgan of Milton, Morrissey of Bennington, Page of Newport City, Peterson of Clarendon, Shaw of Pittsford, Smith of Derby, Walker of Swanton, and Williams of Barre City,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to a single process for sealing criminal history records

To the Committee on Judiciary.

H. 763

By Rep. Austin of Colchester,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the creation of the Youth Participatory Action Research Project

To the Committee on Education.

H. 764

By Rep. Birong of Vergennes,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to a study on employer-provided housing

To the Committee on General and Housing.

H. 765

By Reps. Cordes of Lincoln, Anthony of Barre City, Black of Essex, Bos-Lun of Westminster, Burrows of West Windsor, Cina of Burlington, Elder of Starksboro, Farlice-Rubio of Barnet, Headrick of Burlington, LaBounty of Lyndon, Logan of Burlington, McCann of Montpelier, McGill of Bridport, Priestley of Bradford, and Stebbins of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to health insurance coverage for obesity care

To the Committee on Health Care.

H. 766

By Reps. Black of Essex, Houghton of Essex Junction, Andrews of Westford, Berbeco of Winooski, Bos-Lun of Westminster, Carpenter of Hyde Park, Cina of Burlington, Cordes of Lincoln, Demar of Enosburgh, Dodge of Essex, Dolan of Essex Junction, Farlice-Rubio of Barnet, Garofano of Essex, Goldman of Rockingham, Graning of Jericho, McCarthy of St. Albans City, McFaun of Barre Town, Ode of Burlington, Peterson of Clarendon, Roberts of Halifax, and Waters Evans of Charlotte,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to prior authorization and step therapy requirements, health insurance claims, provider contracts, and collection of cost sharing amounts

To the Committee on Health Care.

H. 767

By Reps. Goslant of Northfield, Oliver of Sheldon, Arrison of Weathersfield, Bartley of Fairfax, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Branagan of Georgia, Brennan of Colchester, Clifford of Rutland City, Demar of Enosburgh, Graham of Williamstown, Gregoire of Fairfield, Hango of Berkshire, Harrison of Chittenden, Maguire of Rutland City, McFaun of Barre Town, Morgan of Milton, Morrissey of Bennington, Parsons of Newbury, Peterson of Clarendon, Shaw of Pittsford, Smith of Derby, Taylor of Milton, Toof of St. Albans Town, and Walker of Swanton,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to increasing penalties for drug-related offenses

To the Committee on Judiciary.

H. 768

By Rep. Stebbins of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to municipal delegation of Act 250 authority

To the Committee on Environment and Energy.

H. 769

By Reps. Noyes of Wolcott, Andrews of Westford, Anthony of Barre City, Arsenault of Williston, Austin of Colchester, Bartley of Fairfax, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Berbeco of Winooski, Birong of Vergennes, Black of Essex, Bluemle of Burlington, Bos-Lun of Westminster, Boyden of Cambridge, Brumsted of Shelburne, Burke of Brattleboro, Buss of Woodstock, Campbell of St. Johnsbury, Carpenter of Hyde Park, Casey of Montpelier, Chase of Chester, Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Christie of Hartford, Cina of Burlington, Coffey of Guilford, Cole of Hartford, Cordes of Lincoln, Demrow of Corinth, Dodge of Essex, Dolan of Essex Junction, Dolan of Waitsfield, Elder of Starksboro, Farlice-Rubio of Barnet, Garofano of Essex, Goldman of Rockingham, Graning of Jericho, Headrick of Burlington, Holcombe of Norwich, Hooper of Randolph, Houghton of Essex Junction, Howard of Rutland City, Hyman of South Burlington, Krasnow of South Burlington, LaBounty of Lyndon, Lalley of Shelburne, Leavitt of Grand Isle, Logan of Burlington, Masland of Thetford, McCann of Montpelier, McGill of Bridport, Minier of South Burlington, Mrowicki of Putney, Mulvaney-Stanak of Burlington, Nicoll of Ludlow, Ode of Burlington, Pajala of Londonderry, Patt of Worcester, Priestley of Bradford, Rachelson of Burlington, Rice of

Dorset, Roberts of Halifax, Sibilia of Dover, Sims of Craftsbury, Stebbins of Burlington, Stevens of Waterbury, Stone of Burlington, Taylor of Colchester, Torre of Moretown, Troiano of Stannard, Waters Evans of Charlotte, White of Bethel, Whitman of Bennington, and Williams of Barre City,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to establishing a baby bond trust program

To the Committee on Commerce and Economic Development.

Bills Referred to Committee on Ways and Means

House bills of the following titles, appearing on the Notice Calendar, affecting the revenue of the State or materially affecting the revenue of one or more municipalities, pursuant to House Rule 35(a), were referred to the Committee on Ways and Means:

H. 247

House bill, entitled

An act relating to Vermont's adoption of the Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact

H. 518

House bill, entitled

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

H. 543

House bill, entitled

An act relating to Vermont's adoption of the Social Work Licensure Compact

Committee Relieved of Consideration and Bill Committed to Other Committee

H. 690

Rep. LaLonde of South Burlington moved that the Committee on Judiciary be relieved of House bill, entitled

An act relating to establishing community restitution as a sentencing alternative

And that the bill be committed to the Committee on Corrections and Institutions, which was agreed to.

Third Reading; Bill Passed**H. 27**

House bill, entitled

An act relating to coercive controlling behavior and abuse prevention orders

Was taken up and read the third time.

Pending the question, Shall the bill pass?, **Rep. Long of Newfane** demanded the Yeas and Nays, which demand was sustained by the Constitutional number. The Clerk proceeded to call the roll and the question, Shall the bill pass?, was decided in the affirmative. Yeas, 106. Nays, 31.

Those who voted in the affirmative are:

Andrews of Westford	Donahue of Northfield	Mulvaney-Stanak of Burlington
Anthony of Barre City	Durfee of Shaftsbury	Nicoll of Ludlow
Arrison of Weathersfield	Emmons of Springfield	Notte of Rutland City *
Arsenault of Williston *	Garofano of Essex	Noyes of Wolcott
Austin of Colchester	Goldman of Rockingham	Nugent of South Burlington
Bartholomew of Hartland	Graning of Jericho	O'Brien of Tunbridge
Berbeco of Winooski	Harrison of Chittenden	Ode of Burlington
Birong of Vergennes	Headrick of Burlington	Pajala of Londonderry
Black of Essex	Holcombe of Norwich	Patt of Worcester
Bluemle of Burlington	Hooper of Burlington	Pearl of Danville
Bongartz of Manchester	Houghton of Essex Junction	Pouech of Hinesburg
Bos-Lun of Westminster	Howard of Rutland City	Rachelson of Burlington
Boyden of Cambridge	Hyman of South Burlington	Rice of Dorset
Brady of Williston	James of Manchester	Roberts of Halifax
Brown of Richmond	Jerome of Brandon	Sammis of Castleton
Brownell of Pownal	Kornheiser of Brattleboro	Satcowitz of Randolph
Brumsted of Shelburne	Krasnow of South Burlington	Scheu of Middlebury
Burke of Brattleboro	LaBounty of Lyndon	Sheldon of Middlebury
Burrows of West Windsor	LaLonde of South Burlington	Sibilia of Dover
Buss of Woodstock	LaMont of Morristown	Sims of Craftsbury
Carpenter of Hyde Park	Lanpher of Vergennes	Small of Winooski
Carroll of Bennington	Leavitt of Grand Isle	Squirrell of Underhill
Casey of Montpelier	Lipsky of Stowe	Stebbins of Burlington
Chapin of East Montpelier	Logan of Burlington	Stevens of Waterbury
Chase of Chester	Long of Newfane	Stone of Burlington
Chase of Colchester	Marcotte of Coventry	Surprenant of Barnard
Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs	Masland of Thetford	Taylor of Colchester
Christie of Hartford	McCann of Montpelier	Templeman of Brownington
Coffey of Guilford	McCarthy of St. Albans City	Toleno of Brattleboro
Cole of Hartford	McGill of Bridport	Torre of Moretown
Conlon of Cornwall	Mihaly of Calais	Troiano of Stannard
Corcoran of Bennington	Minier of South Burlington	Waters Evans of Charlotte
Demrow of Corinth		White of Bethel
Dodge of Essex		Whitman of Bennington

Dolan of Essex Junction *	Morris of Springfield	Williams of Barre City
Dolan of Waitsfield	Mrowicki of Putney	Wood of Waterbury

Those who voted in the negative are:

Bartley of Fairfax	Goslant of Northfield	Page of Newport City
Beck of St. Johnsbury	Graham of Williamstown	Parsons of Newbury
Branagan of Georgia	Gregoire of Fairfield	Peterson of Clarendon
Brennan of Colchester	Hango of Berkshire	Shaw of Pittsford
Burditt of West Rutland	Labor of Morgan	Smith of Derby
Canfield of Fair Haven	Laroche of Franklin	Taylor of Milton
Clifford of Rutland City	Maguire of Rutland City	Toof of St. Albans Town
Demar of Enosburgh	Mattos of Milton	Walker of Swanton
Dickinson of St. Albans Town	McCoy of Poultney	Williams of Granby
Galfetti of Barre Town	Morgan of Milton	Wilson of Lyndon
	Morrissey of Bennington	

Those members absent with leave of the House and not voting are:

Andriano of Orwell	Elder of Starksboro	Lalley of Shelburne
Campbell of St. Johnsbury	Farlice-Rubio of Barnet	McFaun of Barre Town
Cina of Burlington	Higley of Lowell	Oliver of Sheldon
Cordes of Lincoln	Hooper of Randolph	Priestley of Bradford

Rep. Arsenault of Williston explained her vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

Forty percent of all calls to Vermont law enforcement for violent crimes are cases of domestic violence and 80% of victims are women. Nearly half of all homicides in Vermont are related to domestic violence. We cannot say that we truly care about public safety – or the women of our State – without doing all we can to address domestic violence. H.27 expands the definition of abuse to accurately capture the harm of coercive controlling behavior – both on its own and as a known precursor to physical violence. I vote yes in honor of all victims of domestic violence, especially those who are no longer here to use their own voice.”

Rep. Dolan of Essex Junction explained her vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

I vote yes to protect Vermonters from the harms of coercive controlling behavior and provide our State with an important tool to address domestic violence as early as possible.”

Rep. Notte of Rutland City explained his vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

H.27 adds protections for people attempting to escape abusive relationships. And while we employ gender neutral language when drafting bills, the honest reality here is that we are trying to assist women facing abuse from men who want to keep them under their thumb. I voted yes on H.27 because it offers needed protections for such women. Such women have died in instances where the first physically violent act of their partner was the one that killed them. Physical violence cannot be the bar, too many lives depend on this.”

Bill Amended; Third Reading; Recess; Bill Passed

H. 72

Pending third reading of the bill, **Rep. Maguire of Rutland City** moved to amend the bill as follows:

First: In Sec. 1, 18 V.S.A. § 4254, in subsection (l), by adding a second sentence to read as follows: “The operating guidelines shall include the level of staff qualifications required for medical safety and treatment and referral support.”

Second: In Sec. 1, 18 V.S.A. § 4254, by inserting a new subsection (n) to read as follows:

(n) An overdose prevention center shall be permitted to operate within a municipality only upon the affirmative vote of the legislative body of the municipality.

And by relettering the remaining subsection to be alphabetically correct.

Which was agreed to.

Pending third reading of the bill, **Rep. Small of Winooski** moved to amend the bill as follows:

In Sec. 1, 18 V.S.A. § 4254, in subdivision (j)(1), after “subsection (m) of this section”, by inserting “and that is acting in the good faith provision of overdose prevention services in accordance with the guidelines established pursuant to subsection (l) of this section”

Which was agreed to. Thereafter, the bill was read the third time.

At four o'clock and ten minutes in the afternoon, the Speaker declared a recess until the fall of the gavel.

At four o'clock and twenty-one minutes in the afternoon, the Speaker called the House to order.

Thereupon, the bill passed.

Vermont Economic Progress Council Appointment

Pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 3325, the Speaker appointed the following member to the Vermont Economic Progress Council:

Rep. Jerome of Brandon

Adjournment

At four o'clock and twenty-four minutes in the afternoon, on motion of **Rep. McCoy of Poultney**, the House adjourned until tomorrow at nine o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon.