

Journal of the House

Friday, February 9, 2024

At nine o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon, the Speaker called the House to order.

Devotional Exercises

A moment of silence was observed in lieu of a devotion.

Pages Honored

In appreciation of their many services to the members of the General Assembly, the Speaker recognized the following named Pages who completed their service today and presented them with commemorative pins:

Ada B. Allen of Craftsbury
Katharine “Kate” Carbee of Middlesex
Brody Dussault of St. Johnsbury
Avery Howe of Williston
Gideon Kass of Montpelier
Stewart Lemnah of Stowe
Margaret Platzer of New Haven

Committee Bill Introduced; Referred to Committee on Appropriations

H. 850

By the Committee on Ways and Means,
House bill, entitled

An act relating to transitioning education financing to the new system for pupil weighting

Was read the first time and, pursuant to House Rule 35(a), carrying an appropriation, was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

Bill Referred to Committee on Appropriations

H. 780

House bill, entitled

An act relating to judicial nominations and appointments

Appearing on the Notice Calendar, and pursuant to House Rule 35(a), carrying an appropriation, was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

Ceremonial Reading**H.C.R. 134**

House concurrent resolution in memory of youth mental health care leader Margaret Atkins Reilly Gannaway

Offered by: Representatives Dolan of Essex Junction and Houghton of Essex Junction

Whereas, children's mental health care in Vermont had no more dedicated and passionate a leader than Maggie Gannaway, whose devotion to her life's calling never abated, notwithstanding a seven-year battle against colon cancer, and

Whereas, originally from Massachusetts, she earned her undergraduate degree and a master's degree in social work at the University of Vermont, and

Whereas, during a stellar 35-year career, Maggie Gannaway served as a case manager and in several directorship roles at the Northeastern Family Institute, the Vermont Department of Mental Health, Casey Family Services, the Howard Center, and Otter Creek Associates, and

Whereas, this inspiring proponent for improved youth mental health care died on August 14, 2023, and her survivors include her parents; siblings; husband, Jim; daughter; stepdaughters; and step-grandchildren, who, along with many admiring friends, remembered her fondly at a memorial service held most fittingly at Camp Ta-Kum-Ta in South Hero, the location of her wedding and a special place where youngsters fighting cancer are afforded the joys of summer recreational opportunities, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its sincere condolences to the family of Margaret Atkins Reilly Gannaway, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the family of Maggie Gannaway.

Having been adopted in concurrence on Friday, January 12, 2024 in accord with Joint Rule 16b, was read.

**Committee Bill; Second Reading; Bill Amended;
Third Reading Ordered**

H. 849

Rep. Morgan of Milton spoke for the Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs.

House bill, entitled

An act relating to technical corrections for the 2024 legislative session

Having appeared on the Notice Calendar, was taken up, and read the second time.

Pending the question, Shall the bill be read a third time?, **Rep. Morgan of Milton**, moved to amend the bill as follows:

First: In Sec. 72, 21 V.S.A. § 227, by striking out subdivision (a)(6)(B) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subdivision (a)(6)(B) to read as follows:

(B) The Review Board may modify its findings as to the facts, or make new findings, by reason of additional evidence so taken and filed, and it. If it does so, the Review Board shall file such the modified or new findings, which findings with respect to questions of fact, if supported by substantial evidence on the record considered as a whole, shall be conclusive, and its recommendations, if any, for the modification or setting aside of its original order. New findings with respect to questions of fact that are filed by the Review Board shall be conclusive, if supported by substantial evidence on the record considered as a whole.

Second: In Sec. 93, 21 V.S.A. § 396, by striking out subsection (b) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (b) to read as follows:

(b) Procedure. The Commissioner shall forward to the court the record of the decision on appeal. The court shall direct the record in the matter appealed from to be laid before it, hear the evidence, and make such order approving in whole or in part or setting aside in whole or in part the decision appealed from consider the record and any evidence presented; may approve or set aside the Commissioner's decision in whole or in part, as justice may require; and may refer any matter or issue arising in the proceedings to the Commissioner for further consideration. However, in In no case shall such an appeal operate as a supersedeas or stay unless the Commissioner or the court to which such the appeal is taken shall so order orders.

Third: By striking out Sec. 159, 21 V.S.A. § 1111, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 159. 21 V.S.A. § 1111(26) is amended to read:

(26) "Pre-apprenticeship program" means a training model or program that prepares individuals for acceptance into an apprenticeship program and that is registered by the Department as provided in section 1123 of this chapter, pre-apprenticeship program, of this title or, as applicable, the federal Office of Apprenticeship.

Fourth: In Sec. 220, 21 V.S.A. § 1384, in newly designated subsection (b), by striking out “proclamation within 10 days of after the effective date of ~~said~~ the extension” and inserting in lieu thereof “proclamation within 10 days of the effective date of ~~said~~ the interpretation or extension”

Fifth: By striking out Sec. 382, 30 V.S.A. § 231a(e), in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 382. [Deleted.]

Sixth: In Sec. 456, 30 V.S.A. § 8008(c), by striking out the words “days of following” in their entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the words “days of”

Which was agreed to.

Pending the question, Shall the bill be read a third time?, **Rep. Donahue of Northfield** moved to amend the bill as follows:

In Sec. 167, 21 V.S.A. § 1203, by striking out subsection (b) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (b) to read as follows:

(b) The Commissioner is authorized and directed to establish ~~such~~ Division offices in ~~such parts of~~ various locations in the State as ~~he or she~~ the Commissioner deems necessary and to ~~prescribe~~ adopt rules and regulations not inconsistent with any of the provisions of this chapter.

Which was agreed to. Thereupon, third reading was ordered.

Message from the Senate No. 18

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 on its part passed Senate bill of the following title:

S. 180. An act relating to the investment of State funds in credit unions.

In the passage of which the concurrence of the House is requested.

The Senate has considered bill originating in the House of the following title:

H. 599. An act relating to retroactively reinstating 10 V.S.A. § 6081(b).

And has passed the same in concurrence.

The Governor has informed the Senate that on the 7th day of February, he approved and signed bill originating in the Senate of the following title:

S. 160. An act relating to State education property taxes and flood-related damage.

The Senate has on its part adopted concurrent resolutions originating in the House of the following titles:

H.C.R. 148. House concurrent resolution recognizing February 14, 2024 as Recovery Day at the State House.

H.C.R. 149. House concurrent resolution designating February 16, 2024 as Outdoor Recreation Day at the State House.

H.C.R. 150. House concurrent resolution honoring Dr. David Winfield Butsch for a half century of meritorious medical, civic, and humanitarian leadership in Central Vermont and internationally.

Adjournment

At nine o'clock and fifty-eight minutes in the forenoon, on motion of **Rep. McCoy of Poultney**, the House adjourned until Tuesday, February 13, 2024, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, pursuant to the provisions of J.R.S. 43.

Concurrent Resolutions Adopted

The following concurrent resolutions, having been placed on the Consent Calendar on the preceding legislative day, and no member having requested floor consideration as provided by Rule 16b of the Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives, are hereby adopted on the part of the House:

H.C.R. 148

House concurrent resolution recognizing February 14, 2024 as Recovery Day at the State House

H.C.R. 149

House concurrent resolution designating February 16, 2024 as Outdoor Recreation Day at the State House

H.C.R. 150

House concurrent resolution honoring Dr. David Winfield Butsch for a half century of meritorious medical, civic, and humanitarian leadership in Central Vermont and internationally

[The full text of the concurrent resolutions appeared in the House Calendar Addendum on the preceding legislative day and will appear in the Public Acts and Resolves of the 2024 Adjourned Session.]