

State of Vermont Senate Chamber



Montpelier, Vermont

Senate Resolution Special Session

By the Committee on Rules,

S.R. 4. Senate resolution reaffirming support for the Joint Fiscal Office and the nonpartisan nature of its work.

Whereas, the Joint Fiscal Office has provided trusted, nonpartisan analysis of fiscal issues to all members of the General Assembly for decades, and

Whereas, the Joint Fiscal Office conducts its analysis on the same independent and neutral basis for the newest member of the minority party as it would for the most senior member of the majority party, and

Whereas, the integrity with which the Joint Fiscal Office performs its duties allows the General Assembly to work with fiscal estimates and analysis free from any partisan bias, and

Whereas, in recent weeks the nonpartisan nature of the Joint Fiscal Office has been called into question by an individual in the Executive Branch, and

Whereas, Vermont's political culture has until now resisted attempts to undermine public confidence in nonpartisan staff in the manner seen in Washington, D.C., *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate:

That the Vermont Senate affirms its continued support for the Joint Fiscal Office in the face of attempts to malign its integrity and reaffirms that the Joint Fiscal Office's work is free from political interference or partisan bias, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Stephen Klein, Chief Fiscal Officer of the Joint Fiscal Office, and to Governor Philip B. Scott.