# Journal of the Senate

## **THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2017**

The Senate was called to order by the President.

### **Devotional Exercises**

Devotional exercises were conducted by the Reverend Karen Mendes of Burlington.

## Message from the Governor

A message was received from His Excellency, the Governor, by Ms. Brittney L. Wilson, Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs, as follows:

Mr. President:

I am directed by the Governor to inform the Senate that on the first day of March, 2017 he approved and signed a bill originating in the Senate of the following title:

**S. 1.** An act relating to the determination of average daily membership for the 2016–2017 school year and equalized pupil count for fiscal year 2018.

### **Bills Introduced**

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

### S. 110.

By Senators Bray, Ashe, Ayer, Balint, Baruth, Campion, Clarkson, McCormack, Pearson, Pollina, Rodgers, Sirotkin and White,

An act relating to equal pay.

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

#### S. 111.

By Senators White, Pearson and Pollina,

An act relating to privatization contracts.

To the Committee on Government Operations.

### **Bills Passed**

Senate bills of the following titles were severally read the third time and passed:

- **S. 9.** An act relating to the preparation of poultry products.
- **S. 69.** An act relating to an employer's compliance with an income withholding order from another state.

# Proposal of Amendment; Joint House Resolution Adopted in Concurrence with Proposal of Amendment

### J.R.H. 4.

Joint House resolution entitled:

Joint resolution reaffirming the General Assembly's commitment to equal educational opportunity on the 20th anniversary of the Vermont Supreme Court's decision in Brigham v. State.

Was taken up.

Thereupon, pending third reading of the joint resolution, Senator Benning moved to amend the joint resolution in the *third* Whereas clause, by striking out the word "towns" and inserting in lieu thereof the words school districts

Which was agreed to.

Thereupon, the joint resolution was read the third time and adopted in concurrence with proposal of amendment.

## Bill Amended; Third Reading Ordered

#### S. 31.

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

An act relating to circulating nurses in hospital operating rooms.

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

Sec. 1. 18 V.S.A. chapter 222 is amended to read:

## CHAPTER 222. ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

Subchapter 1. Health Care Workforce

\* \* \*

## § 9492. PERIOPERATIVE NURSES

A registered nurse who is licensed pursuant to 26 V.S.A. chapter 28 and educated and trained in perioperative nursing shall be present and serve as a circulating nurse for the duration of any invasive or surgical procedure that is conducted in a hospital operating room or ambulatory surgical center operating room. As used in this section, "circulating nurse" means a licensed registered nurse who is responsible for coordinating nursing care, responding to the safety needs of a patient in the operating room, and supporting the surgical team as appropriate during a procedure. A circulating nurse may leave the operating room for a short period of time during a procedure to perform an activity related to the procedure or, in accordance with specific hospital or ambulatory surgical center protocols, may be relieved by another circulating nurse.

## Subchapter 2. Walk-In Centers

\* \* \*

Sec. 2. 18 V.S.A. § 9492 is redesignated to read:

§ 9492 § 9495. NON-EMERGENCY WALK-IN CENTERS; NONDISCRIMINATION

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

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 Ashe, the Senate adjourned until eleven o'clock and thirty minutes in the morning.