

Journal of the Senate

TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 2024

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Devotional Exercises

A moment of silence was observed in lieu of devotions.

Pledge of Allegiance

The President then led the members of the Senate in the pledge of allegiance.

Message from the House No. 54

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 House has concurred in the adoption of a proposed amendment to the Vermont Constitution entitled:

Prop 3. Declaration of Rights; right to collectively bargain.

Bills Referred to Committee on Finance

House bills of the following titles, appearing on the Calendar for notice, and affecting the revenue of the state, under the rule were severally referred to the Committee on Finance:

H. 867. An act relating to miscellaneous amendments to the laws governing alcoholic beverages and the Board of Liquor and Lottery.

H. 870. An act relating to professions and occupations regulated by the Office of Professional Regulation.

Bills Referred to Committee on Appropriations

House 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:

H. 657. An act relating to the modernization of Vermont's communications taxes and fees.

H. 687. An act relating to community resilience and biodiversity protection through land use.

H. 871. An act relating to the development of an updated State aid to school construction program.

Joint Senate Resolution Adopted on the Part of the Senate

J.R.S. 55.

Joint Senate resolution of the following title was offered, read and adopted on the part of the Senate, and is as follows:

By Senator Baruth,

J.R.S. 55. Joint resolution relating to weekend adjournment on May 3, 2024.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That when the two Houses adjourn on Friday, May 3, 2024, it be to meet again no later than Tuesday, May 7, 2024.

Bill Referred

House bill of the following title was read the first time:

H. 881. An act relating to approval of an amendment to the charter of the City of Burlington.

And pursuant to Temporary Rule 44A was referred to the Committee on Rules.

Confirmation Refused

Confirmation of the following Gubernatorial appointment was refused by the Senate, upon a full report given by the Committee to which it was referred:

The nomination of

ZOIE SAUNDERS

of Shrewsbury, as Secretary of the Agency of Education, for a term from and including April 15, 2024, to February 28, 2025, and until her successor is appointed and has qualified.

Was rejected by the Senate on a roll call, Yeas 9, Nays 19.

Senator Hashim having demanded the yeas and nays, they were taken and are as follows:

Roll Call

Those Senators who voted in the affirmative were: Brock, Campion, Collamore, Ingalls, Norris, Sears, Starr, Weeks, Williams.

Those Senators who voted in the negative were: Baruth, Bray, Chittenden, Clarkson, Cummings, Gulick, Hardy, Harrison, Hashim, Kitchel, Lyons, MacDonald, McCormack, Perchlik, Ram Hinsdale, Vyhovsky, Watson, White, Wrenner.

The Senator absent and not voting was: Westman.

Message from the House No. 55

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 House has considered Senate proposal of amendment to House bill entitled:

H. 868. An act relating to the fiscal year 2025 Transportation Program and miscellaneous changes to laws related to transportation.

And has refused to concur therein and asks for a Committee of Conference upon the disagreeing votes of the two Houses;

The Speaker appointed as members of such Committee on the part of the House:

Rep. Coffey of Guilford
Rep. Shaw of Pittsford
Rep. Corcoran of Bennington.

Adjournment

On motion of Senator Baruth, the Senate adjourned until one o'clock in the afternoon on Wednesday, May 1, 2024.