

Journal of the House

Wednesday, February 8, 2017

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

Devotional Exercises

Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. John Lucy, Waterbury Center Community Church, Waterbury, VT.

House Bills Introduced

House bills of the following titles were severally introduced, read the first time and referred to committee or placed on the Calendar as follows:

H. 211

By Reps. Deen of Westminster, McCullough of Williston, Ode of Burlington and Sullivan of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the water resources and water supplies of the State;

To the committee on Natural Resources, Fish & Wildlife.

H. 212

By Reps. Jickling of Brookfield, Hooper of Brookfield, Parent of St. Albans Town and Sibilias of Dover,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to increasing the penalties for killing a law enforcement dog;

To the committee on Agriculture & Forestry.

H. 213

By Reps. Grad of Moretown, Haas of Rochester and Viens of Newport City,
House bill, entitled

An act relating to establishing statewide access to drug and DUI treatment courts;

To the committee on Judiciary.

H. 214

By Reps. Till of Jericho, Dunn of Essex, Joseph of North Hero,

McCullough of Williston, Mrowicki of Putney, Stevens of Waterbury and Sullivan of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the imposition of an excise tax on sugar-sweetened beverages;

To the committee on Ways and Means.

H. 215

By Reps. Morrissey of Bennington, Corcoran of Bennington, Fields of Bennington, Morris of Bennington, Keefe of Manchester, Miller of Shaftsbury and Sibilias of Dover,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the creation of a tax increment financing district in Bennington;

To the committee on Ways and Means.

Joint Resolution Adopted in Concurrence

J.R.S. 13

By Senator White,

J.R.S. 13. Joint resolution providing for a Joint Assembly for the election of a Sergeant at Arms, an Adjutant and Inspector General, and three Trustees of the University of Vermont and State Agricultural College.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the two Houses meet in Joint Assembly on Thursday, February 16, 2017, at ten o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon to elect a Sergeant at Arms, an Adjutant and Inspector General, and three trustees of the University of Vermont and State Agricultural College. In case election of all such officers shall not be made on that day, the two Houses shall meet in Joint Assembly at ten o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon, on each succeeding day, Saturdays and Sundays excepted, and proceed in such election, until all such officers are elected.

Was taken up read and adopted in concurrence.

Joint Resolution Adopted in Concurrence

J.R.S. 14

By Senator White,

J.R.S. 14. Joint resolution establishing a procedure for the conduct of the

election of UVM trustees by plurality vote by the General Assembly in 2017.

Whereas, in 1997 the election of three trustees of the University of Vermont and State Agricultural College was decided by plurality vote, which required one ballot only, and

Whereas, in 1999 the election of three trustees of the University of Vermont and State Agricultural College was decided by majority vote, which required a total of eight ballots, and

Whereas, in 2001 and subsequent bienniums the elections of three trustees of the University of Vermont and State Agricultural College were decided by plurality vote, each of which required one ballot only, and

Whereas, if an election for multiple vacancies is to be decided by a plurality vote, then a great savings of time can be effectuated, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That, notwithstanding the current provisions of Joint Rule 10, and for this election only, the election of three trustees of the University of Vermont and State Agricultural College at a Joint Assembly to be held on February 16, 2017, shall be governed by the following procedure:

(1) All candidates for the office of Trustee shall be voted upon and decided on the same ballot; members may vote for any number of candidates up to and including the maximum number of vacancies to be filled, which in this case shall be three.

(2) The three candidates receiving the most votes shall be declared elected to fill the three vacancies.

(3) In the event that the first balloting for the Trustee vacancies results in a tie vote for one or more of the three vacant positions, then voting shall continue on successive ballots until the vacancies have been filled, again by election declared of those candidates receiving the most votes.

Was taken up read and adopted in concurrence.

Joint Resolution Adopted in Concurrence

J.R.S. 15

By Senator Ashe,

J.R.S. 15. Joint resolution relating to weekend adjournment.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That when the two Houses adjourn on Friday, February 10, 2017, it be to meet again no later than Tuesday, February 14, 2017.

Was taken up read and adopted in concurrence.

**Committee Relieved of Consideration
and Bill Committed to Other Committee**

H. 197

Rep. Botzow of Pownal moved that the committee on Commerce and Economic Development be relieved of House bill, entitled

An act relating to mental health parity for workers' compensation

And that the bill be committed to the committee on Health Care, which was agreed to.

Third Reading; Bill Passed

H. 14

House bill, entitled

An act relating to automated external defibrillators

Was taken up, read the third time and passed.

Adjournment

At one o'clock and twenty-four minutes in the afternoon, on motion of **Rep. Savage of Swanton**, the House adjourned until tomorrow at one o'clock in the afternoon.