

House Calendar

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2009

35th DAY OF BIENNIAL SESSION

House Convenes at 10:00 A. M.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page No.

ACTION CALENDAR

Committee Bill for Second Reading

- H. 166** Relating to the Vermont Student Assistance Program 63
Rep. James Condon of Colchester for Ways and Means

For Action Under Rule 52

- J.R.H. 7** Designating October 17 as Vermont Pumpkin Carving Day 63

NOTICE CALENDAR

Favorable with Amendment

- H. 24** Insurance Coverage for Colorectal Cancer Screening 63
Rep. Till of Jericho for Health Care
- H. 58** Relating to Goat's Milk Production 65
Rep. McAllister of Highgate for Agriculture

CONSENT CALENDAR

(See Addendum to House and Senate Calendar)

- H.C.R. 36** Honoring Maurice Stephens Winn 66
- H.C.R. 37** In Memory of Fletcher Brush of Salisbury..... 66
- H.C.R. 38** Congratulating Hartford HS Championship Football Team..... 66
- H.C.R. 39** Congratulating Eliza Masure of Bellows Falls..... 66
- H.C.R. 40** Congratulating Peace and Justice Center 30th Anniversary..... 66
- H.C.R. 41** Honoring Heroism of Robert Meehan of Middlesex..... 66
- H.C.R. 42** Alpine Skiing in Vermont and Woodstock Winter Fest..... 67
- H.C.R. 43** Congratulating Outright Vermont on 20th Anniversary..... 67

ORDERS OF THE DAY

ACTION CALENDAR

Committee Bill for Second Reading

H. 166

An act relating to the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation.

(Rep. Condon of Colchester will speak for the Committee on Ways and Means.)

For Action Under Rule 52

J. R. H. 7

Joint resolution designating October 17, 2009 as Vermont Pumpkin Carving Day.

(For text see House Journal February 6, 2009)

NOTICE CALENDAR

Favorable with Amendment

H. 24

An act relating to insurance coverage for colorectal cancer screening.

Rep. Till of Jericho, for the Committee on **Health Care**, recommends the bill be amended by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. FINDINGS

(a) Colorectal cancer is the third most common cancer affecting Vermonters. Approximately 130 Vermonters die each year from colorectal cancer and around 330 new cases are diagnosed in Vermont each year. All Americans have a five percent risk of developing colorectal cancer during their lifetime.

(b) Ninety percent of colorectal cancers are diagnosed in patients over the age of 50.

(c) If caught early, patients suffering from colorectal cancer have a 70 to 90 percent survival rate.

(d) Colorectal cancer screening prevents and diagnoses colorectal cancer.

(e) Raising the numbers of colorectal cancer screenings in Vermont is likely to produce minor increases in health care costs in early years, but is

expected to save money over time as the need for expensive cancer treatments is reduced.

8 V.S.A. § 4100g is added to read:

§ 4100g. COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING; COVERAGE REQUIRED

(a) For purposes of this section:

(1) “Colonoscopy” means a procedure that enables a physician to examine visually the inside of a patient’s entire colon and includes the removal of polyps, biopsy, or both.

(2) “Insurer” means insurance companies that provide health insurance as defined in subdivision 3301(a)(2) of this title, nonprofit hospital and medical services corporations, and health maintenance organizations. The term does not apply to coverage for specified disease or other limited benefit coverage.

(b) Insurers shall provide coverage for colorectal cancer screening, including:

(1) Providing an insured 50 years of age or older with the option of:

(A) Annual fecal occult blood testing plus one flexible sigmoidoscopy every five years; or

(B) One colonoscopy every 10 years.

(2) For an insured who is at high risk for colorectal cancer, colorectal cancer screening examinations and laboratory tests as recommended by the treating physician.

(c) For the purposes of subdivision (b)(2) of this section, an individual is at high risk for colorectal cancer if the individual has:

(1) A family medical history of colorectal cancer or a genetic syndrome predisposing the individual to colorectal cancer;

(2) A prior occurrence of colorectal cancer or precursor polyps;

(3) A prior occurrence of a chronic digestive disease condition such as inflammatory bowel disease, Crohn’s disease, or ulcerative colitis; or

(4) Other predisposing factors as determined by the individual’s treating physician.

(d) Benefits provided shall cover the colorectal cancer screening subject to a co-payment no greater than the co-payment applicable to care or services provided by a primary care physician under the insured’s policy, provided that

no co-payment shall exceed \$25.00 for services performed under contract with the insurer. Colorectal cancer screening services performed under contract with the insurer also shall not be subject to deductible or coinsurance requirements.

Sec. 3. 18 V.S.A. § 9410(i) is amended to read:

(i)(1) On or before January 15, 2008 and every three years thereafter, the commissioner shall submit a recommendation to the general assembly for conducting a survey of the health insurance status of Vermont residents.

(2) No later than November 15, 2009, the commissioner shall make available on the department's website the prices charged by each Vermont hospital for the 10 most commonly performed preventive services in this state.

Sec. 4. PREVENTIVE SERVICES COST REVIEW

The department of banking, insurance, securities, and health care administration shall analyze the costs of the 10 preventive services most commonly performed in Vermont hospitals and recommend approaches for aligning the prices charged for such services with their actual costs. No later than November 15, 2009, the department shall report its findings and recommendations to the house committee on health care, the senate committee on health and welfare, and the commission on health care reform.

Sec. 5. 8 V.S.A. chapter 107, subchapter 10 is amended to read:

Subchapter 10. Prostate and Colorectal Cancer Screening; Coverage Required

Sec. 6. APPLICABILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATE

(a) Section 2 of this act shall take effect on October 1, 2009 and shall apply to all health benefit plans on and after October 1, 2009 on such date as a health insurer offers, issues, or renews the health benefit plan, but in no event later than October 1, 2010.

(b) The remaining sections of this act shall take effect upon passage.

(Committee vote: 10-0-1)

H. 58

An act relating to standards for goat's milk production.

Rep. McAllister of Highgate, for the Committee on **Agriculture**, recommends the bill be amended by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 6 V.S.A. § 2728 is added to read:

§ 2728. MANUFACTURING GRADE GOAT MILK

(a) “Manufacturing grade goat milk” is goat milk other than Grade A goat milk produced and distributed according to the Grade A Pasteurized Milk Ordinance.

(b) The maximum somatic cell count for manufacturing grade goat milk shall not exceed 1,500,000 per milliliter.

Sec. 2. SUNSET

6 V.S.A. § 2728 (manufacturing grade goat milk) shall be repealed when the National Conference on Interstate Milk Shipments amends the Grade A Pasteurized Milk Ordinance limit on somatic cell counts for goat milk to be equal to or higher than 1,500,000 per milliliter.

(Committee vote: 11-0-0)

CONSENT CALENDAR

Concurrent Resolutions for Notice Under Joint Rule 16

The following concurrent resolutions have been introduced for approval by the House and Senate and have been printed in the Senate and House Addendum to today’s calendars. These will be adopted automatically unless a member requests floor consideration before the end of the session of the next legislative day. Requests for floor consideration should be communicated to the Clerk of the House or to a member of his staff.

(For text of Resolutions, see Addendum to House and Senate Notice Calendar for Friday, February 6, 2009)

H.C.R. 36

House concurrent resolution honoring Maurice Stephens Winn as Vermont’s oldest working land surveyor

H.C.R. 37

House concurrent resolution in memory of Fletcher Brush of Salisbury

H.C.R. 38

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Hartford High School Hurricanes 2008 Division I championship football team

H.C.R. 39

House concurrent resolution congratulating Eliza Masure of Bellows Falls for organizing a Walk for Warmth Sunday

H.C.R. 40

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Peace & Justice Center in Burlington on its 30th anniversary

H.C.R. 41

House concurrent resolution honoring the heroism of Robert Meehan of Middlesex

H.C.R. 42

House concurrent resolution celebrating the diamond anniversary of alpine skiing in Vermont and the 2009 Woodstock Winter Fest

H.C.R. 43

House concurrent resolution congratulates Outright Vermont on its 20th anniversary

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Tuesday, February 10, 2009 – House Chamber – 4:00 P.M. – Deployment of National Guard – House Committee on General, Housing and Military Affairs

Tuesday, February 24, 2009 – Room 11 – 9:00 A.M. – 12 Noon – House Committee on Appropriations – FY 2010 State Budget

Wednesday, February 25, 2009 - Room 11 – 2:30 P.M. – 4:30 P.M. – House Committee on Appropriations – FY 2010 State Budget

JOINT ASSEMBLY

Thursday, February 19, 2009 – 10:30 A.M. – House Chamber –Election of a Sergeant at Arms, of an Adjutant and Inspector General, and of three (3) trustees for the University of Vermont, and Vermont and State Agricultural College.

Candidates for the positions of Sergeant at Arms and of Adjutant and Inspector General, and legislative candidates for UVM trustees must notify the Secretary of State **in writing** of their candidacies not later than Thursday, February 12, 2009, by 5:00 P.M., pursuant to the provisions of 2 V.S.A. §12(b). Otherwise their names will not appear on the ballots for these positions.

The following rules shall apply to the conduct of these elections:

First: All nominations for these offices will be presented in alphabetical order prior to voting.

Second: There will be only one nominating speech of not more than three (3) minutes and not more than two seconding speeches of not more than one (1) minute each for each nominee.

NOTICE

Training Schedule re: Sexual Harassment

Wednesday, February 11 – 3:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.
Meeting rooms to be announced.

