

Senate Calendar

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2011

SENATE CONVENES AT: 1:00 P.M.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page No.

ACTION CALENDAR

NEW BUSINESS

Third Reading

- S. 12** Adding a member from the area agencies on aging to the governor's commission on Alzheimer's disease and related disorders 51
- H. 30** An act relating to requiring the board of governors of the unified towns and gores of Essex County to hear tax appeals 51

NOTICE CALENDAR

Second Reading

Favorable

- S. 31** The Agreement Among the States to Elect the President by National Popular Vote 51

Favorable with Recommendation of Amendment

- S. 15** Insurance coverage for midwifery services and home births 51

ORDERS OF THE DAY

ACTION CALENDAR

NEW BUSINESS

Third Reading

S. 12.

An act relating to adding a member from the area agencies on aging to the governor's commission on Alzheimer's disease and related disorders.

H. 30.

An act relating to requiring the board of governors of the unified towns and gores of Essex County to hear tax appeals.

NOTICE CALENDAR

Second Reading

Favorable

S. 31.

An act relating to the Agreement Among the States to Elect the President by National Popular Vote.

Reported favorably by Senator White for the Committee on Government Operations.

(Committee vote: 4-1-0)

Favorable with Recommendation of Amendment

S. 15.

An act relating to insurance coverage for midwifery services and home births.

Reported favorably with recommendation of amendment by Senator Miller for the Committee on Health and Welfare.

The Committee recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 8 V.S.A. § 4099d is added to read:

§ 4099d. MIDWIFERY COVERAGE; HOME BIRTHS

(a) A health insurance plan or health benefit plan providing maternity benefits shall also provide coverage for services rendered by a midwife

licensed pursuant to chapter 85 of Title 26 or an advanced practice registered nurse licensed pursuant to chapter 28 of Title 26 who is certified as a nurse midwife for services within the licensed midwife's or certified nurse midwife's scope of practice and provided in a hospital or other health care facility or at home.

(b) Coverage for services provided by a licensed midwife or certified nurse midwife shall not be subject to any greater co-payment, deductible, or coinsurance than is applicable to any other similar benefits provided by the plan.

Sec. 2. DATA SUBMISSION

Each midwife licensed pursuant to chapter 85 of Title 26 and each advanced practice registered nurse licensed pursuant to chapter 28 of Title 26 who is certified as a nurse midwife shall submit data to the database maintained by the Division of Research of the Midwives Alliance of North America regarding each home birth in Vermont for which he or she is the attending midwife.

Sec. 3. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH; REPORTING REQUIREMENT

(a) The department of health shall access the database maintained by the Division of Research of the Midwives Alliance of North America to obtain information relating to care provided in Vermont by midwives licensed pursuant to chapter 85 of Title 26 and by advanced practice registered nurses licensed pursuant to chapter 28 of Title 26 who are certified as nurse midwives.

(b) No later than March 15 of each year from 2012 through 2016, inclusive, the commissioner of health or designee shall provide testimony to the house committee on health care and the senate committee on health and welfare regarding the activities of licensed midwives and certified nurse midwives performing home births and providing prenatal and postnatal care in a nonmedical environment during the preceding year. The testimony shall include the number of home births in Vermont, the number of hospital transports associated with home births, the treatment of high-risk patients, and other relevant data, as well as the level of compliance of the licensed midwives and certified nurse midwives with the laws and rules governing their scope of practice.

Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) Sec. 1 of this act shall take effect on October 1, 2011, and shall apply to all health insurance plans and health benefit plans on and after October 1, 2011, on such date as a health insurer issues, offers, or renews the plan, but in no event later than October 1, 2012.

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

CONFIRMATIONS

The following appointments will be considered by the Senate, as a group, under suspension of the Rules, as moved by the President *pro tempore*, for confirmation together and without debate, by consent thereby given by the Senate. However, upon request of any senator, any appointment may be singled out and acted upon separately by the Senate, with consideration given to the report of the Committee to which the appointment was referred, and with full debate; and further, all appointments for the positions of Secretaries of Agencies, Commissioners of Departments, Judges, Magistrates, and members of the Public Service Board shall be fully and separately acted upon.

Kate Duffy of Williston – Commissioner of the Department of Human Resources– By Sen. Flory for the Committee on Government Operations. (1/25/11)

Jim Reardon of Essex Junction – Commissioner of the Department of Finance and Management – By Sen. White for the Committee on Government Operations. (1/28/11)

Chuck Ross of Hinesburg – Secretary of the Agency of Agriculture – By Sen. Kittell for the Committee on Agriculture. (1/28/11)

Robert D. Ide of Peacham – Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles – By Sen. Kitchel for the Committee on Transportation. (1/28/11)

Jeb Spaulding of Montpelier – Secretary of the Agency of Administration – By Sen. Pollina for the Committee on Government Operations. (1/28/11)

Mary Peterson of Williston – Commissioner of the Department of Taxes – By Sen. Westman for the Committee on Finance. (1/28/11)

Steve Kimbell of Tunbridge – Commissioner of the Department of Banking, Insurance, Securities and Health Care Administration – By Sen. Cummings for the Committee on Finance. (1/28/11)

Brian Searles of Burlington – Secretary of the Agency of Transportation – By Sen. Mazza for the Committee on Transportation. (2/1/11)

Bruce Post of Essex Junction – Member of the Board of Libraries – By Sen. Baruth for the Committee on Education. (2/4/11)

Jason Gibbs of Duxbury – Member of the Community High School of Vermont Board – By Sen. Doyle for the Committee on Education. (2/15/11)

John Fitzhugh of West Berlin – Member of the Board of Libraries – By Sen. Doyle for the Committee on Education. (2/15/11)

Susan Wehry of Burlington – Commissioner of the Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living – By Sen. Pollina for the Committee on Health and Welfare. (2/15/11)

Dave Yacavone of Morrisville – Commissioner of the Department of Children and Families – By Sen. Fox for the Committee on Health and Welfare. (2/15/11)

Christine Oliver of Montpelier – Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health – By Sen. Mullin for the Committee on Health and Welfare. (2/15/11)

Doug Racine of Richmond – Secretary of the Agency of Human Services – By Sen. Ayer for the Committee on Health and Welfare. (2/15/11)

Michael Obuchowski of Montpelier – Commissioner of the Department of Buildings and General Services – By Sen. Hartwell for the Committee on Institutions. (2/17/11)

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Wednesday, February 16, 2011 – Room 11 – 5:30-7:30 – Re: S. 53 – Pre-K Caps Removal – Senate Committee on Education.

Thursday, February 17, 2011 – Room 11 – 7:00 P.M. – Re: Retention of Judges – Joint Committee on Judicial Retention.

Tuesday, February 22, 2011 – Room 10 – 2:30–4:30 P.M. – Re: Governor’s Proposed FY2012 State Budget – House Committee on Appropriations.

Wednesday, February 23, 2011 – Room 11 – 9:00-11:00 A.M. – Re: Governor’s Proposed FY2012 State Budget – House Committee on Appropriations.

Thursday, February 24, 2011 – Room 11 – 7:00 P.M. – Re: Retention of Judges – Joint Committee on Judicial Retention.

JOINT ASSEMBLY

Thursday, February 17, 2011 – 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 State Agricultural College.

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.

CROSSOVER DEADLINES

The following bill reporting deadlines are established for the 2011 session:

(1) From the standing committee of last reference (excluding the Committees on Appropriations and Finance), all Senate bills must be reported out of committee on or before March 11, 2011.

(2) Senate bills referred pursuant to Senate Rule 31, must be reported out of the Committees on Appropriations and Finance on or before March 18, 2011.

(3) These deadlines may be waived for any bill or committee **only** by consent given by the Committee on Rules.

Exceptions to the foregoing deadlines include the major money bills (Appropriations, Transportation, Capital, and Miscellaneous Taxes).

REPORTS ON FILE

Pursuant to the provisions of 2 V.S.A. §20(c), one (1) hard copy of the following reports is on file in the office of the Secretary of the Senate. Effective January 2010, pursuant to Act No. 192, Adj. Sess. (2008) §5.005(g) some reports will automatically be sent by electronic copy only and can be found on the State of Vermont webpage.

15. Vermont Coalition of Runaway & Homeless Youth Programs Annual Report. (February 2011).

16. Uniform Enforcement Act 2010 Report. (Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Environmental Conservation Compliance & Enforcement Division) (February 2011).

17. Vermont Center for Geographic Information 2010 Annual Report. (February 2011).

18. Management of Stormwater Impaired Waters Annual Report. (Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Environmental Conservation) (February 2011).