

Senate Calendar

TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 2011

SENATE CONVENES AT: 9:30 A.M.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page No.

ACTION CALENDAR

UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2011

Committee Bill for Second Reading

S. 52 Public employees from abuse at work..... 370

Second Reading

Favorable

S. 53 The number of prekindergarten children included within a school district's average daily membership..... 370

UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 2011

Favorable with Recommendation of Amendment

S. 15 Insurance coverage for midwifery services and home births..... 370

Joint Resolution for Action

J.R.H. 14 Joint resolution urging Congress and the United States Departments of Labor and of Homeland Security to authorize H-2A visas for 12-month agricultural workers..... 372

CONSIDERATION POSTPONED TO MARCH 31, 2011

Second Reading

S. 34 The collection and disposal of mercury-containing lamps..... 373

NEW BUSINESS

Third Reading

S. 36 The surplus lines insurance multi-state compliance compact 373

S. 77 Water testing of private wells..... 373

S. 101 Child support enforcement 373

Second Reading

Favorable with Proposal of Amendment

H. 46 An act relating to youth athletes with concussions participating in athletic activities373

Joint Resolutions For Action

J.R.H. 15 Joint resolution urging the Federal Communications Commission to protect the financial viability of telephone service in rural communities374

NOTICE CALENDAR

Second Reading

Favorable

H. 85 An act relating to recognition of the Nulhegan Band of the Coosuk Abenaki Nation as a Native American Indian tribe.....374

H. 86 An act relating to recognition of the Elnu Abenaki tribe as a Native American Indian tribe374

Favorable with Proposal of Amendment

H. 236 An act relating to limitation of prosecutions for sexual abuse of a vulnerable adult374

ORDERED TO LIE

S. 38 The Uniform Collateral Consequences of Conviction Act375

ORDERS OF THE DAY

ACTION CALENDAR

UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2011

Committee Bill for Second Reading

S. 52.

An act to protect employees from abuse at work.

PENDING QUESTION: Shall the bill be amended as recommended by the Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs? (For text of Report of Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs, see Senate Journal for March 23, page 267)

Second Reading

Favorable

S. 53.

An act relating to the number of prekindergarten children included within a school district's average daily membership.

Reported favorably by Senator Baruth for the Committee on Education.

(Committee vote: 4-0-1)

Reported favorably by Senator Fox for the Committee on Finance.

(Committee vote: 6-1-0)

Reported favorably by Senator Kitchel for the Committee on Appropriations.

(Committee vote: 6-1-0)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 2011

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.

(Committee vote: 5-0-0)

Reported favorably with recommendation of amendment by Senator Fox for the Committee on Finance.

The Committee recommends that the bill be amended as recommended by the Committee on Health and Welfare, with the following amendment thereto:

In Sec. 1. 8 VSA §4099d by adding a subsection (c) to read as follows:

(c) As used in this section, "health insurance plan" means any health insurance policy or health benefit plan offered by a health insurer, as defined in 18 V.S.A. § 9402, as well as Medicaid, the Vermont health access plan, and any other public health care assistance program offered or administered by the state or by any subdivision or instrumentality of the state. The term shall not include policies or plans providing coverage for specific disease or other limited benefit coverage.

(Committee vote: 6-1-0)

Reported favorably by Senator Miller for the Committee on Appropriations.

(Committee vote: 6-0-1)

Joint Resolution for Action

J.R.H. 14.

Joint resolution urging Congress and the United States Departments of Labor and of Homeland Security to authorize H-2A visas for 12-month agricultural workers.

(For text of resolution, see Senate Journal of March 24, 2011, page 283.)

CONSIDERATION POSTPONED TO MARCH 31, 2011

Second Reading

S. 34.

An act relating to the collection and disposal of mercury-containing lamps.

PENDING QUESTION: Shall the bill be amended as recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy?. (For text of Report of Natural Resources and Energy, see Senate Journal for March 23, 2011, page 273)

NEW BUSINESS

Third Reading

S. 36.

An act relating to the surplus lines insurance multi-state compliance compact.

S. 77.

An act relating to water testing of private wells.

S. 101.

An act relating to child support enforcement.

Second Reading

Favorable with Proposal of Amendment

H. 46.

An act relating to youth athletes with concussions participating in athletic activities.

Reported favorably with recommendation of proposal of amendment by Senator Kittell for the Committee on Education.

The Committee recommends that the Senate propose to the House to amend the bill as follows:

First: In Sec. 2, 16 V.S.A. § 1431, subsection (a), subdivision (4)(D), at the end, by striking out the word “or” and in subdivision (4)(E), before the period, by inserting the following ; or

(F) a chiropractor licensed pursuant to chapter 10 of Title 26

Second: In Sec. 2, 16 V.S.A. § 1431, subsection (b), by striking out the words “and the Vermont School Boards Association” and also in subsection (b), by striking out the words “those associations” and inserting in lieu thereof the words that association

(Committee vote: 5-0-0)

(For House amendments, see House Journal for February 9, 2011, page 207.)

Joint Resolution For Action

J.R.H. 15.

Joint resolution urging the Federal Communications Commission to protect the financial viability of telephone service in rural communities.

(For text of resolution, see Senate Journal of March 25, 2011, page 289)

NOTICE CALENDAR

Second Reading

Favorable

H. 85.

An act relating to recognition of the Nulhegan Band of the Coosuk Abenaki Nation as a Native American Indian tribe.

Reported favorably by Senator Illuzzi for the Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

(Committee vote: 5-0-0)

H. 86.

An act relating to recognition of the Elnu Abenaki tribe as a Native American Indian tribe.

Reported favorably by Senator Illuzzi for the Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

(Committee vote: 5-0-0)

Favorable with Proposal of Amendment

H. 236.

An act relating to limitation of prosecutions for sexual abuse of a vulnerable adult.

Reported favorably with recommendation of proposal of amendment by Senator Snelling for the Committee on Judiciary.

The Committee recommends that the Senate propose to the House that after passage, the title of the bill be amended to read: "An act relating to extending the limitation of prosecutions for sexual abuse of a vulnerable adult"

(Committee vote: 5-0-0)

(No House amendments)

ORDERED TO LIE

S. 38.

An act relating to the Uniform Collateral Consequences of Conviction Act.

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)

Susan Besio of Jericho – Commissioner of the Department of Vermont Health Access – By Sen. Miller for the Committee on Health and Welfare. (2/18/11)

Susan Besio of Jericho – Commissioner of the Department of Vermont Health Access – By Sen. Miller for the Committee on Health and Welfare. (2/18/11)

Harry Chen of Mendon – Commissioner of the Department of Health – By Sen. Mullin for the Committee on Health and Welfare. (2/18/11)

Andrew Pallito of Jericho – Commissioner of the Department of Corrections – By Sen. Hartwell for the Committee on Institutions. (2/18/11)

Keith Flynn of Derby Line – Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety – By Sen. Flory for the Committee on Transportation. (2/22/11)

Elizabeth Strano of Bennington – Member of the State Board of Education – By Sen. Baruth for the Committee on Education. (2/24/11)

Amy W. Grillo of Dummerston – Member of the Community High School of Vermont Board – By Sen. Baruth for the Committee on Education. (2/24/11)

Deb Markowitz of Montpelier – Secretary of the Agency of Natural Resources – By Sen. Lyons for the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy. (3/17/11)

David Mears of Montpelier – Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation – By Sen. Brock for the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy. (3/23/11)

Michael Snyder of Stowe – Commissioner of the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation – By Sen. MacDonald for the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy. (3/23/11)

Annie Noonan of Montpelier – Commissioner of the Department of Labor – By Sen. Doyle for the Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs. (3/28/11)

Patrick Berry of Middlebury – Commissioner of the Department of Fish and Wildlife – By Sen. McCormack for the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy. (3/28/11)

Kathryn T. Boardman of Shelburne of Shelburne – Director of the Vermont Municipal Bond Bank – By Sen. Ashe for the Committee on Finance. (3/29/11)

David R. Coates of Colchester – Director of the Vermont Municipal Bond Bank – By Sen. Fox for the Committee on Finance. (3/29/11)

Thomas Pelletier of Montpelier – Member of the Vermont Housing Finance Agency – By Sen. Cummings for the Committee on Finance. (3/29/11)

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Wednesday, March 30, 2011 – Room 11 – 6:00-8:00 P.M. – Re: Energy Planning – Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy.

Thursday, March 31, 2011 – WELL OF THE HOUSE – 6:00-8:00 P.M. – Re: H. 202 – Health reform bill– consumer community – Senate Committee on Health and Welfare.

Thursday, April 7, 2011 – Room 11 – 6:00-8:00 P.M. – Re: H. 202 – Health reform bill, provider community – Senate Committee on Health and Welfare.