

# Journal of the Senate

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TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2012

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. 9

A message was received from the House of Representatives by Ms. H. Gwynn Zakov, its Second Assistant Clerk, as follows:

Mr. President:

I am directed to inform the Senate that:

The House has passed a House bill of the following title:

**H. 558.** An act relating to fiscal year 2012 budget adjustment.

In the passage of which the concurrence of the Senate is requested.

The House has adopted House concurrent resolutions of the following titles:

**H.C.R. 232.** House concurrent resolution honoring House Calendar Clerk Jean Jasman.

**H.C.R. 233.** House concurrent resolution in memory of former Vermont State Poet Ruth Stone of Goshen.

**H.C.R. 234.** House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2011 Champlain Valley Union High School Redhawks Division I championship girls' soccer team.

**H.C.R. 235.** House concurrent resolution honoring Jan Sotirakis of Pittsford for her extraordinary public service following Tropical Storm Irene.

**H.C.R. 236.** House concurrent resolution thanking Neale Lunderville for his leadership of Vermont's post-Irene recovery effort.

**H.C.R. 237.** House concurrent resolution congratulating Stratton Mountain Ski Resort on its golden anniversary.

**H.C.R. 238.** House concurrent resolution honoring James T. Day for his outstanding four-decade career in public education.

**H.C.R. 239.** House concurrent resolution wishing a very happy and joyous 90th birthday to the member from Burlington, Representative William Aswad.

**H.C.R. 240.** House concurrent resolution congratulating Barbara Brody on winning a national Teacher of the Year Award for Dedication and Excellence as a Driver Educator.

**H.C.R. 241.** House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2011 Harwood Union High School Highlanders boys' and girls' cross-country teams on winning their respective Division II state championships.

**H.C.R. 242.** House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2011 Harwood Union High School Highlanders Division II field hockey team.

In the adoption of which the concurrence of the Senate is requested.

The House has considered concurrent resolutions originating in the Senate of the following titles:

**S.C.R. 25.** Senate concurrent resolution honoring the historic preservation efforts of the Northfield Historical Society Cemetery Project.

**S.C.R. 26.** Senate concurrent resolution recognizing the dedicated public service and career accomplishments of retired Rutland City Police Chief Anthony Bossi.

And has adopted the same in concurrence.

#### **Senate Resolution Adopted**

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

By Senators Fox, Miller, Ashe, Ayer, Baruth, Benning, Galbraith, Giard, Hartwell, Lyons, MacDonald, McCormack, Pollina, Snelling and White,

**S.R. 13.** Senate resolution commemorating the 39th anniversary of Roe v Wade and reaffirming support for its fundamental holding and principles.

*Whereas*, on January 22, 1973, in a landmark decision, the U.S. Supreme Court issued its historic ruling in Roe v Wade, affirming that women, not politicians, should make the most personal decision of when or whether to have children, and

*Whereas*, the constitutional right to abortion as embodied in Roe v Wade recognizes women's right to exercise reproductive choice, saves women's lives, and strengthens families, and

*Whereas*, prior to the Roe v Wade decision, thousands of American women died every year as a result of complications from unsafe and illegal abortions, and an untold number of women suffered grievous injuries, a situation that created a serious public health problem that has virtually been eliminated by providing access to safe and legal abortion, and

*Whereas*, it is a public health goal of the state of Vermont to protect and enhance the health of all Vermonters, including women of all ages, and to strengthen families by encouraging and promoting access to comprehensive family planning services, and

*Whereas*, violence against providers and restrictions against abortion endanger the lives of women and men, and have continued to erode access to abortion, and

*Whereas*, safe, legal, and accessible abortion services are still under attack, especially for women for whom English is a second language or who do not speak English at all, poor women, rural women, and women who are minors, and

*Whereas*, it is critical for the economic health of our country, and the personal health and happiness of American women, that the right of women and their families to make their own personal medical decisions about reproduction and gynecological issues be vigilantly preserved and protected, *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate:***

That the Senate of the State of Vermont reaffirms the right of every Vermont woman to privacy, autonomy, and safety in making personal decisions regarding reproduction and family planning, *and be it further*

***Resolved:*** That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Congressional Delegation.

**Joint Senate Resolution Adopted on the Part of the Senate**

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

By Senators Carris and Mullin,

**J.R.S. 40.** Joint resolution relating to weekend adjournment.

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That when the two Houses adjourn on Thursday, January 26, 2012, or, Friday, January 27, 2012, it be to meet again no later than Tuesday, January 31, 2012.

### **Joint Resolution Placed on Calendar**

#### **J.R.H. 20.**

Joint resolution originating in the House of the following title was read the first time and is as follows:

Joint resolution authorizing 2012 Green Mountain Boys' State to conduct a civic education program at the State House

Whereas, for many years, the Vermont American Legion has sponsored the annual Green Mountain Boys' State (Boys' State) civic education program, and

Whereas, Boys' State enables young men in high school to gain a firsthand experience and understanding of state government's procedures in all three branches of government, and

Whereas, a highlight of Boys' State is the day at the State House, featuring mock legislative committee meetings and chamber debate on proposed bills that focus on leading public policy issues, and students shadow senior officials in the executive and judicial branches, and

Whereas, legislative staff have offered their professional support services, helping the students gain a better appreciation of Vermont's legislative process, and

Whereas, in 2012, Boys' State is scheduled to convene at the State House on June 21, now therefore be it

#### Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly authorizes Green Mountain Boys' State to use the House and Senate chambers and the legislative committee meeting rooms on Thursday, June 21, 2012, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont American Legion.

Thereupon, in the discretion of the President, under Rule 51, the joint resolution was placed on the Calendar for action the next legislative day.

**Bill Referred**

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

**H. 558.** An act relating to fiscal year 2012 budget adjustment.

**Rules Suspended; Third Reading Ordered, Rules Suspended; Bill Passed in Concurrence; Bill Messaged****H. 493.**

Appearing on the Calendar for notice, on motion of Senator White, the rules were suspended and House bill entitled:

An act relating to approval of amendments to the charter of the city of South Burlington.

Was taken up for immediate consideration.

Senator White, for the Committee on Government Operations, to which the bill was referred, reported that the bill ought to pass in concurrence.

Thereupon, the bill was read the second time by title only pursuant to Rule 43, and third reading of the bill was ordered.

Thereupon, on motion of Senator White, the rules were suspended and the bill was placed on all remaining stages of its passage in concurrence forthwith.

Thereupon, the bill was read the third time and passage in concurrence.

Thereupon, on motion of Senator White, the rules were suspended and the bill was ordered messaged to the House forthwith.

**Adjournment**

On motion of Senator Campbell, the Senate adjourned until one o'clock and thirty minutes in the afternoon on Wednesday, January 25, 2012.