

Journal of the House

Tuesday, January 7, 2014

At ten o'clock in the forenoon the Speaker called the House to order.

Devotional Exercises

Devotional exercises were conducted by Maple Street School Singers from Manchester, VT.

Pledge of Allegiance

Page Lauren Polk of Hinesburg, led the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moment of Silence for Rep. Lawrence E. Townsend

The Speaker asked for a moment of silence in the passing of Rep. Lawrence E. Townsend of Randolph.

Communication From Rep. Margaret Chency

“September 18, 2013

Speaker Shap Smith
Vermont House of Representatives
State House
115 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05633

Dear Shap,

I have accepted the Governor's appointment to serve as a member of the Public Service Board, which will require me to relinquish a job I love — representing the people of Norwich, Sharon, Strafford, and Thetford in the Vermont House. Please consider this letter as an official resignation of my seat in the Legislature.

I have treasured my seven years of service, not only for the privilege to represent my constituents, but also for the lifelong bonds I have forged here with my colleagues. I'm proud of the progress we made during my tenure on clean energy and environmental protection, but also humble to have been able to help pass important laws such as marriage equality.

Thank you for your leadership and your friendship. I'm grateful to have been part of such a venerable institution, whose primary goal is to serve and protect Vermont and its citizens

Most sincerely,
Margaret Cheney”

Communication from the Governor

“September 20, 2013

The Honorable Shapleigh Smith, Jr.
Speaker of the House
115 State Street, Drawer 33
Montpelier, VT 05602

Dear Speaker Smith,

I have the honor to inform you that I have appointed Kathleen Hoyt, 246 Pattrell Road, Norwich, VT 05055, to serve in the General Assembly representing House District Windsor-Orange 2, formerly held by Representative Margaret Cheney.

Sincerely,

Peter Shumlin
Governor

New Member Seated

Rep. Hoyt of Norwich, the newly appointed member, having taken and subscribed the oath administered by the Clerk, as required by the Constitution and laws of the State, was conducted to her seat by the Doorkeeper.

Communication from the Governor

“November 7, 2013

The Honorable Shapleigh Smith, Jr.
Speaker of the House
115 State Street, Drawer 33
Montpelier, VT 05602

Dear Speaker Smith,

I have the honor to inform you that I have appointed Marjorie Ryerson of 36 Randolph Ave., Randolph, VT 05060, to serve in the General Assembly representing House District Windsor-Addison 1, formerly held by Representative Lawrence Townsend.

Sincerely,

Peter Shumlin
Governor

New Member Seated

Rep. Marjorie Ryerson of Randolph, the newly appointed member, having taken and subscribed the oath administered by the Clerk, as required by the Constitution and laws of the State, was conducted to her seat by the Doorkeeper.

Oath Administered to Second Assistant Clerk

The oath was administered to Melissa Kucserik of Waterbury, the Second Assistant Clerk, who thereupon entered upon the discharge of her duties.

Rules Suspended; House Bills Introduced

Pending first reading of the bills, on motion of **Rep. Savage of Swanton**, the rules were suspended and the bills were read the first time by number and referred or placed on the Calendar as follows:

H. 545

By Rep. Townsend of South Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to increasing the monetary limitation in Small Claims Court;

To the committee on Judiciary.

H. 546

By Rep. Turner of Milton,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the purchase of health insurance outside the Exchange;

To the committee on Health Care.

H. 547

By Reps. Consejo of Sheldon, Beyor of Highgate, Christie of Hartford, Cole of Burlington, Devereux of Mount Holly, Krowinski of Burlington, Martin of Wolcott, McCarthy of St. Albans City, Mook of Bennington, Savage of Swanton and Sweaney of Windsor,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to creating two new criminal offenses, bullying and aggravated bullying;

To the committee on Judiciary.

H. 548

By Rep. Marcotte of Coventry,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the regulation of alcohol-infused food products;

To the committee on General, Housing and Military Affairs.

H. 549

By Rep. Poirier of Barre City,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to increasing Exchange cost-sharing subsidies;

To the committee on Health Care.

H. 550

By Rep. Poirier of Barre City,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the Office of the Health Care Advocate;

To the committee on Health Care.

H. 551

By Rep. Townsend of South Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the collection of child support;

To the committee on Judiciary.

H. 552

By Reps. Poirier of Barre City, Cross of Winooski, Davis of Washington,
Krowinski of Burlington, Moran of Wardsboro and Pearson of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to raising the Vermont minimum wage;

To the committee on General, Housing and Military Affairs.

H. 553

By Rep. Wizowaty of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to bail conditions;

To the committee on Judiciary.

H. 554

By Rep. Wizowaty of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to sentencing alternatives;

To the committee on Judiciary.

H. 555

By Rep. Van Wyck of Ferrisburgh,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the commitment of a criminal defendant who is incompetent to stand trial because of a traumatic brain injury;

To the committee on Judiciary.

H. 556

By Rep. Townsend of South Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to ending the requirement that a retired teacher who returns to work and earns more than 60 percent of a teacher's average salary must pay back all pension payments received during the fiscal year;

To the committee on Education.

H. 557

By Rep. Klein of East Montpelier,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to greenhouse gas emission limits;

To the committee on Natural Resources and Energy.

H. 558

By Rep. Frank of Underhill,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the regulation of signage under municipal land use bylaws;

To the committee on Government Operations.

H. 559

By Rep. Frank of Underhill,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to membership on the Building Bright Futures Council;

To the committee on Government Operations.

Joint Resolution Adopted in Concurrence**J.R.S. 33**

By Senator Campbell,

J.R.S. 33. Joint resolution to provide for a Joint Assembly to receive the State-of-the-State message from the Governor.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the two Houses meet in Joint Assembly on Wednesday, January 8, 2014, at two o'clock in the afternoon to receive the State-of-the-State message from the Governor.

Was taken up read and adopted in concurrence.

Committee Appointments

The Speaker appointed the following named members to committees:

Rep. Lewis of Berlin to Government Operations, Rep. Mitchell of Fairfax to Education, Rep. Ryerson of Randolph to Natural Resources and Energy, Rep. Hoyt of Norwich to Health Care and Rep. Juskiewicz of Cambridge ranking member of Education.

Message from the Senate No. 1

A message was received from the Senate by Mr. Marshall, its Assistant Secretary, as follows:

Mr. Speaker:

I am directed to inform the House that:

The Senate has on its part adopted joint resolutions of the following titles:

J.R.S. 33. Joint resolution to provide for a Joint Assembly to receive the State-of-the-State message from the Governor.

J.R.S. 34. Joint resolution to provide for a Joint Assembly to hear the budget message of the Governor.

J.R.S. 35. Joint resolution relating to Town Meeting adjournment.

J.R.S. 36. Joint resolution relating to weekend adjournment.

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

Message from the Senate No. 2

A message was received from the Senate by Mr. Marshall, its Assistant Secretary, as follows:

Mr. Speaker:

I am directed to inform the House that:

The President announced a change by the Committee on Committees in the members on the part of the Senate of the Committee of Conference upon the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on Senate bill of the following title:

S. 41. An act relating to water and sewer service.

Senator Pollina
Senator French
Senator Benning

Adjournment

At ten o'clock and forty minutes in the forenoon, on motion of **Rep. Turner of Milton**, the House adjourned until tomorrow at twelve o'clock noon.