

Journal of the House

Wednesday, February 26, 2014

At one o'clock in the afternoon the Speaker called the House to order.

Devotional Exercises

Devotional exercises were conducted by Mark Hudson from the Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vt.

Bill Referred to Committee on Ways and Means

H. 695

House bill, entitled

An act relating to establishing a product stewardship program for primary batteries

Appearing on the Calendar, affecting the revenue of the state, under the rule, was referred to the committee on Ways and Means.

Rules Suspended; Bill Committed to Committee

H. 583

On motion of **Rep. Krowinski of Burlington**, the rules were suspended and House bill, entitled

An act relating to An act relating to the charge of the Vermont Child Poverty Council;

Appearing on the Calendar for notice, was taken up for immediate consideration.

The Senate proposed to the House to amend the bill by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 2007 Acts and Resolves No. 68, Sec. 1 is amended to read:

Sec. 1. VERMONT CHILD POVERTY COUNCIL

* * *

(b)(1) The ~~council~~ Council shall consist of the following members or their designees:

(A) the ~~president pro tempore of the senate~~ President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

~~(B) the speaker of the house of representatives~~ Speaker of the House of Representatives;

~~(C) the chair of the senate committee on health and welfare~~ Chair of the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare;

~~(D) the chair of the house committee on human services~~ Chair of the House Committee on Human Services;

~~(E) the chair of the senate committee on education~~ Chair of the Senate Committee on Education;

~~(F) the chair of the house committee on education~~ Chair of the House Committee on Education;

~~(G) the commissioners of the departments for children and families; of health; of education; and of labor~~ Commissioners for Children and Families; of Health; and of Labor; and the Secretaries of Human Services and of Education; and

~~(H) one representative each from Voices for Vermont's Children, the Vermont low income advocacy council~~ Low Income Advocacy Council, Vermont Legal Aid, and the Vermont superintendents' association Superintendents' Association.

* * *

(3) The ~~council~~ Council shall meet up to six times while the ~~general assembly~~ General Assembly is not in session to perform its functions under this section. ~~In addition, during the 2007 legislative interim, the council shall hold 14 public hearings as required under subsection (d) of this section. The Council may meet an unlimited number of times during the legislative session, but legislative Council members shall not receive compensation and reimbursement for expenses pursuant to subsection (e) of this section for participation in meetings during the legislative session.~~

(e) Funds from private and public sources may be accepted and utilized by the ~~council~~ Council to develop and implement the plan and provisions of this section. ~~Legislative~~ For participation in meetings during the legislative interim, legislative members of the committee Council shall be entitled to compensation and reimbursement for expenses under ~~section 406 of Title 2~~ 2 V.S.A. § 406. ~~All other members not receiving compensation for service on the committee from another source are entitled to compensation under section 1010 of Title 32. Nonlegislative members who are not otherwise compensated and reimbursed for their participation on the Council shall be entitled to receive compensation and reimbursement of expenses under 32 V.S.A. § 1010.~~

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Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.

Pending the question, Shall the House concur in the Senate proposal of amendment? **Rep. Krowinski of Burlington** moved that the bill be committed to the committee on Appropriations, which was agreed to.

Bill Committed**H. 69**

House bill, entitled

An act relating to licensed alcohol and drug abuse counselors as participating providers in Medicaid

Appearing on the Calendar for action, was taken up and pending the reading of the report of the committee on Human Services, on motion of **Rep. Toll of Danville**, the bill was committed to the committee on Appropriations.

Third Reading; Bill Passed**H. 275**

House bill, entitled

An act relating to professional licensing of members of the Armed Forces
Was taken up, read the third time and passed.

Bill Amended, Read Third Time and Passed**H. 589**

House bill, entitled

An act relating to hunting, fishing, and trapping

Was taken up and pending third reading of the bill, **Rep. Johnson of Canaan** moved to amend the bill as follows:

By striking Sec. 12 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 12. 10 V.S.A. § 5408 is amended to read:

§ 5408. LIMITATIONS

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter, after obtaining the advice of the Endangered Species Committee, the Secretary may permit, under such terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe by rule, any act otherwise prohibited by this chapter if done for any of the following purposes:

scientific purposes; to enhance the propagation or survival of a species; economic hardship; zoological exhibition; educational purposes; noncommercial cultural or ceremonial purposes; or special purposes consistent with the purposes of the federal Endangered Species Act.

* * *

(g) A permit issued under this section shall be valid for the period of time specified in the permit, not to exceed five years. A permit issued under this section may be renewed upon application to the Secretary.

Which was agreed to.

Pending third reading of the bill, **Rep. Donahue of Northfield** moved to amend the bill as follows:

In Sec. 5, 10 V.S.A. § 4084, by striking out subdivision (a)(1) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

(1) establish open seasons; however, rules regarding taking of deer adopted under this subdivision shall make provision for a regular rifle hunting season ~~pursuant to section 4741 of this title and~~ of no less than 16 days, for an archery season, and a muzzle loader season unless there is a scientific reason not to do so;

Which was agreed to.

Pending third reading of the bill, **Rep. Deen of Westminster** moved to amend the bill as follows:

In Sec. 9, 23 V.S.A. § 304b, subsection (d), after “deposit fees collected” and before “under subsection (b) and (c)” by inserting “by the Department of Fish and Wildlife”

Which was agreed to.

Pending third reading of the bill, **Rep. Zagar of Barnard** moved to amend the bill as follows:

First: By adding Sec. 3a to read:

Sec. 3a. JOINT FISCAL OFFICE REPORT ON FISCAL IMPACT OF
ISSUING HUNTING LICENSES TO DISABLED VETERANS

On or before January 15, 2015, the Joint Fiscal Office shall submit to the House Committee on Ways and Means, the Senate Committee on Finance, the House Committee on Fish, Wildlife and Water Resources, and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy a report regarding the fiscal impact of lowering the level of service-connected disability a Vermont veteran

must show in order to qualify for a free fishing, hunting, or combination hunting and fishing license. The report shall:

(1) estimate the number of Vermont veterans with a service-connected disability and, if available, a range of the disability levels of disabled Vermont veterans; and

(2) assess the fiscal impact of lowering the service-connected disability level from 60 percent, as set forth under 10 V.S.A. § 4255, to:

(A) a 40 percent disability level; or

(B) to any level of disability.

Second: By amending Sec. 15 by striking subsection (a) and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (a) to read:

(a) This section and Secs. 1–2 (landowner exception; captive hunt; definitions), 3 (license for disabled veteran), 3a (Joint Fiscal Office report on fiscal impact of issuing hunting licenses to disabled veterans), and 8 (shooting from or across highway) shall take effect on passage.

Which was agreed to.

Thereupon, the bill was read the third time and passed.

Bill Read Second Time; Third Reading Ordered

H. 863

Rep. Cole of Burlington spoke for the committee on Government Operations.

House bill entitled

An act relating to a Public Records Act exemption for the identity of whistleblowers

Having appeared on the Calendar one day for notice, was taken up, read the second time and third reading ordered.

Favorable Report; Third Reading Ordered

S. 317

Rep. Grad of Moretown, for the committee on Judiciary, to which had been referred Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to repealing the unconstitutional Vermont statutes related to the performance of abortions

Reported in favor of its passage. The bill, having appeared on the Calendar one day for notice, was taken up, read the second time and third reading ordered.

Adjournment

At one o'clock and thirty-six minutes in the afternoon, on motion of **Rep. Savage of Swanton**, the House adjourned until tomorrow at one o'clock and thirty minutes in the afternoon.