

# Journal of the House

---

**Tuesday, April 15, 2014**

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

## **Devotional Exercises**

Devotional exercises were conducted by Tim Berry of Concord, VT.

## **Pledge of Allegiance**

**Page Silas Worthington of Brighton** led the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **Bills Referred to Committee on Ways and Means**

House bills of the following titles, appearing on the Calendar, affecting the revenue of the state, under the rule, were referred to the Committee on Ways and Means:

### **S. 252**

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to financing for Green Mountain Care

### **S. 247**

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to the regulation of medical marijuana dispensaries

## **Bill Referred to Committee on Appropriations**

### **H. 883**

House bill, entitled

An act relating to expanded prekindergarten–grade 12 school districts

Appearing on the Calendar, carrying an appropriation, under rule 35a, was referred to the committee on Appropriations.

## **Joint Resolution Placed on Calendar**

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

Joint resolution authorizing Green Mountain Boys State educational program to use the State House

Offered by: Representatives Marcotte of Coventry, Koch of Barre Town, and Lawrence of Lyndon

Whereas, the American Legion in Vermont sponsors the Green Mountain Boys State program, which provides an opportunity for boys in high school to study the workings of State government in Montpelier, and

Whereas, as part of their visit to the State's capital city, the boys conduct a mock legislative session in the State House, and

Whereas, this is an invaluable educational experience that provides firsthand knowledge about the legislative process, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the Sergeant at Arms shall make available the chambers and committee rooms of the State House for the Green Mountain Boys State program on Thursday, June 19, 2014 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and be it further

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

Which was read and, in the Speaker's discretion, placed on the Calendar for action on the next legislative day under Rule 52.

**Joint Resolution Referred to Committee**

**J.R.H. 21**

Joint resolution urging Congress to enact the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2013

Offered by: Representatives Strong of Albany, Batchelor of Derby, Branagan of Georgia, Devereux of Mount Holly, Donaghy of Poultney, Fagan of Rutland City, Gage of Rutland City, Head of South Burlington, Helm of Fair Haven, Lawrence of Lyndon, Lewis of Berlin, Moran of Wardsboro, Morrissey of Bennington, Myers of Essex, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Russell of Rutland City, Savage of Swanton, Stevens of Waterbury, Van Wyck of Ferrisburgh, and Weed of Enosburgh

Whereas, during the Vietnam War, the U.S. military sprayed millions of gallons of Agent Orange and other herbicides over combat areas to reduce the forest and crop covers that shielded enemy forces, and

Whereas, these herbicides contained dioxin, now identified as carcinogenic, linked to disabling illnesses affecting thousands of veterans, and

Whereas, Congress enacted the Agent Orange Act of 1991 to address the plight of Vietnam veterans exposed to these herbicides, and this act has provided the legal authority for federal compensation based on a presumption that herbicide exposure caused these veterans' illnesses, and

Whereas, in 2002, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs directed that Agent Orange Act compensation be limited to Vietnam Veterans who can document on-the-ground military service or having been stationed on a ship operating on the country's inland waterways, and

Whereas, these service criteria exclude U.S. Navy personnel who only served on the ocean waters (blue water) off the Vietnamese coast, except if they are diagnosed with non-Hodgkin lymphoma, and

Whereas, an Australian study found the possible presence of dioxin in the distilled water of Royal Australian Naval vessels that served in coastal Vietnamese waters, and the Australian Navy Vietnam Veterans are covered under a government policy similar to the Agent Orange Act of 1991, and

Whereas, U.S. Representative Chris Gibson of New York introduced the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2013 with over 180 cosponsors, including U.S. Representative Peter Welch, and with the support of many veterans service organizations, and

Whereas, it was incorporated into H.R. 2189, a broader veterans disability claims bill that passed the U.S. House of Representatives on October 29, 2013, and is now pending in the U.S. Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs, and

Whereas, Congress should reaffirm its commitment to the well-being of all our nation's veterans, especially those exposed to carcinogenic herbicides during the Vietnam War, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly urges Congress to enact the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2013, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Association, the Department of Vermont Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Vermont Office of Veterans Affairs, and the Vermont Congressional Delegation.

Which was read and, in the Speaker's discretion, treated as a bill and referred to the committee on General, Housing and Military Affairs.

**Senate Proposal of Amendment Concurred in  
With a Further Amendment Thereto**

**H. 631**

The Senate proposed to the House to amend House bill, entitled

An act relating to lottery commissions

By striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. LOTTERY COMMISSION BONUS

(a) Under the State Lottery Commission Lottery Rules and Regulations, the Lottery Commission shall pay a one percent bonus payment to licensed lottery agents who sell any draw game ticket that wins at least \$10,000.00. The one percent bonus payment shall not exceed \$30,000.00, and payment shall be made to lottery agents once the draw game results become official, regardless of whether the ticket is claimed or unclaimed.

(b) On or before July 1, 2015, the Executive Director of the Lottery Commission shall amend the State Lottery Commission Lottery Rules and Regulations to be consistent with the requirements of subsection (a) of this section.

Sec. 2. REPEAL

Sec. 1(a) of this act shall be repealed 45 days after such time as the Lottery Commission has issued a rule updating the State Lottery Commission Lottery Rules and Regulations.

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.

Pending the question, Shall the House concur in the Senate proposal of amendment? **Rep. Van Wyck of Ferrisburgh** moved that the House concur in the Senate proposal of amendment with further amendment thereto, as follows:

By striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 31 V.S.A. § 658 is amended to read:

§ 658. STATE LOTTERY FUND

\* \* \*

(b) Expenditures for administrative and overhead expenses of the operation of the lottery, except agent and bank commissions, shall be paid from lottery

receipts from an appropriation authorized for that purpose. Agent commissions shall be set by the ~~lottery commission~~ Lottery Commission and may not exceed 6.25 percent of gross receipts and bank commissions may not exceed 1 percent of gross receipts. Once the draw game results become official, the payment of any commission on any draw game ticket that wins at least \$10,000.00 shall be made through the normal course of processing payments to lottery agents, regardless of whether the winning ticket is claimed.

\* \* \*

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.

Which was agreed to.

**Third Reading; Bill Passed in Concurrence**

**S. 100**

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to forest integrity

Was taken up, read the third time and passed in concurrence.

**Adjournment**

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