

Journal of the Senate

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2013

In the absence of the President (who was Acting Governor in the absence of the Governor) the Senate was called to order by the President *pro tempore*.

Devotional Exercises

Devotional exercises were conducted by the Reverend Paul Chandler of East Hardwick.

Message from the House No. 13

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 considered joint resolution originating in the Senate of the following title:

J.R.S. 13. Joint resolution relating to weekend adjournment.

And has adopted the same in concurrence.

Bills Introduced

Senate bills of the following titles were severally introduced, read the first time and referred:

S. 84.

By Senators Mullin, Baruth, Collins, Doyle, Lyons, McCormack and Zuckerman,

An act relating to providing access to publicly funded prekindergarten education.

To the Committee on Education.

S. 85.

By Senators Ashe, Ayer, Baruth, Bray, Campbell, Fox, Galbraith, Hartwell, Kitchel, Lyons, McCormack, Mullin, Pollina, Rodgers, Sears, White and Zuckerman,

An act relating to workers' compensation for firefighters and rescue or ambulance workers.

To the Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

S. 86.

By Senator White,

An act relating to miscellaneous changes to election laws.

To the Committee on Government Operations.

S. 87.

By Senators Sears, Mullin, Ashe and Baruth,

An act relating to prohibiting a merchant from imposing a surcharge for payment with a credit card.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Concurrent Resolution Adopted

Senate concurrent resolution of the following title was offered, read and adopted in concurrence:

By All Members of the Senate,

By All Members of the House,

S.C.R. 13. Senate concurrent resolution in memory of former Representative and Senator Edgar May of Springfield.

Whereas, Edgar May was a proud immigrant to the United States who epitomized his mother's thought that "anything is possible in America," and

Whereas, he and his sister, the future Vermont Governor Madeleine May Kunin, arrived with their mother in New York in June 1940 on the S.S. Manhattan as refugees fleeing the Nazi threat to European Jewry, and

Whereas, Edgar May graduated from the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University and was a U.S. military veteran, and

Whereas, his first full-time position as a journalist was at the *Bellows Falls Times*, and his career path led to the *Buffalo Evening News*, for which he wrote a 14-part series entitled "Our Costly Dilemma" that exposed problems with the New York welfare system and that earned him a Pulitzer Prize, and the articles were subsequently compiled into a book, and

Whereas, this book attracted the attention of Sargent Shriver, who appointed Edgar May to senior positions in the federal War on Poverty, and

Whereas, in 1974, Edgar May successfully stood for election to the Vermont House of Representatives from his hometown of Springfield, and his

eight-year tenure included three terms as chair of the House Health and Welfare Committee, with his prior work serving as a valuable resource, and

Whereas, in 1982, Edgar May sought a seat in the Vermont Senate, and beginning in 1985 served as the Senate Appropriations Committee Chair, earning bipartisan respect, and

Whereas, after leaving Vermont elected politics, Edgar May served as chief operating officer of Special Olympics in Washington, D.C., and

Whereas, on returning to Springfield, he spearheaded the effort to construct a new health and recreation center in a former Jones & Lamson machine tool building, and upon completion, this new facility, which is available to individuals of all income levels, was named in his honor, and

Whereas, Edgar May died at the age of 83, leaving as survivors his sister and many nieces and nephews, and his many friends and admirers in Springfield and elsewhere will retain fond memories of this extraordinary man, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly expresses its sincere condolences to the family of former Representative and Senator Edgar May of Springfield, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to former Governor Madeleine May Kunin and to the Edgar May Health and Recreation Center in Springfield.

Senate Resolution Adopted

S.R. 6.

Senate resolution entitled:

Senate resolution relating to amending the permanent rules of the Senate

Having been placed on the Calendar for action, was taken up and adopted.

Bills Passed

Senate bills of the following titles were severally read the third time and passed:

S. 1. An act relating to consideration of financial cost of criminal sentencing options.

S. 3. An act relating to allowing participation in out-of-state contests requiring a fee to enter.

Adjournment

On motion of Senator Mazza, the Senate adjourned until nine o'clock in the morning.