

Journal of the House

Thursday, January 28, 2016

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

Devotional Exercises

Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. Kirk Thompson of Grace United Methodist Church in St. Johnsbury, Vt.

Rules Suspended; House Bills Introduced

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

H. 701

By Rep. Conquest of Newbury,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to environmental permits;

To the committee on Natural Resources and Energy.

H. 702

By Reps. Baser of Bristol, Botzow of Pownal, Briglin of Thetford, Carr of Brandon, Dakin of Colchester, Eastman of Orwell, Kitzmiller of Montpelier, Lefebvre of Newark, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Parent of St. Albans Town, Scheuermann of Stowe, Sharpe of Bristol, Sheldon of Middlebury, Sibia of Dover, Smith of New Haven, Stuart of Brattleboro and Willhoit of St. Johnsbury,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to a workforce housing demonstration project;

To the committee on General, Housing & Military Affairs.

H. 703

By Reps. Briglin of Thetford and Masland of Thetford,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to municipal solar net metering facilities;

To the committee on Natural Resources & Energy.

H. 704

By Reps. Botzow of Pownal, Carr of Brandon and Marcotte of Coventry,
House bill, entitled

An act relating to the clerk of the Public Service Board and energy-siting recommendations;

To the committee on Commerce & Economic Development.

H. 705

By Reps. Krowinski of Burlington, Buxton of Tunbridge, Dakin of Chester, McCormack of Burlington, Mrowicki of Putney and Young of Glover,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to unused drug disposal at pharmacies;

To the committee on Human Services.

H. 706

By Reps. Krowinski of Burlington, McCormack of Burlington and Mrowicki of Putney,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to disclosure of cosmetic ingredients;

To the committee on Human Services.

H. 707

By Reps. Scheuermann of Stowe, Baser of Bristol, Cupoli of Rutland City, Eastman of Orwell, Gamache of Swanton, Komline of Dorset, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Olsen of Londonderry and Parent of St. Albans Town,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to excluding reinvested capital gains from Vermont's income tax;

To the committee on Ways & Means.

H. 708

By Reps. Gonzalez of Winooski, Burke of Brattleboro, Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Clarkson of Woodstock, Lanpher of Vergennes, Morris of Bennington and Stuart of Brattleboro,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to requiring gender equality on State boards, commissions, and similar entities;

To the committee on Government Operations.

H. 709

By Reps. Stevens of Waterbury and Till of Jericho,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to homeowner's insurance and gun possession;

To the committee on Commerce & Economic Development.

H. 710

By Rep. Browning of Arlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the Connectivity Initiative and broadband access at public schools;

To the committee on Commerce & Economic Development.

H. 711

By Reps. Clarkson of Woodstock, Toll of Danville and Masland of Thetford,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to flying an unmanned aircraft for hobby or recreational purposes at an altitude of less than 100 feet above privately owned real property;

To the committee on Judiciary.

H. 712

By Rep. Clarkson of Woodstock,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to insanity as a defense in criminal cases;

To the committee on Judiciary.

H. 713

By Rep. Lalonde of South Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to calculating time periods in court proceedings;
To the committee on Judiciary.

H. 714

By Rep. Buxton of Tunbridge,
House bill, entitled
An act relating to electronic health records system contracts;
To the committee on Health Care.

H. 715

By Reps. Woodward of Johnson and Martin of Wolcott,
House bill, entitled
An act relating to the occasional use of food service establishments;
To the committee on General, Housing & Military Affairs.

H. 716

By Reps. Buxton of Tunbridge, Krowinski of Burlington and Zagar of
Barnard,
House bill, entitled
An act relating to health insurance coverage and surrogate decision-making
for substance abuse treatment services;
To the committee on Health Care.

H. 717

By Rep. Browning of Arlington,
House bill, entitled
An act relating to amendments to Act 46;
To the committee on Education.

H. 718

By Reps. Olsen of Londonderry, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Buxton of
Tunbridge, Eastman of Orwell, Komline of Dorset, Sibia of Dover and
Young of Glover,
House bill, entitled
An act relating to an aggregate common level of appraisal;

To the committee on Ways & Means.

H. 719

By Reps. Sweaney of Windsor and Bartholomew of Hartland,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to a land transfer at the Southeast State Correctional Facility;

To the committee on Corrections & Institutions.

H. 720

By Reps. Pearson of Burlington and Zagar of Barnard,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the public financing of campaigns;

To the committee on Government Operations.

H. 721

By Reps. Scheuermann of Stowe, Keenan of St. Albans City, Baser of Bristol, Botzow of Pownal, Carr of Brandon, Dakin of Colchester, Eastman of Orwell, Komline of Dorset, Lucke of Hartford, Morris of Bennington, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Olsen of Londonderry, Parent of St. Albans Town, Sibilina of Dover, Stuart of Brattleboro, Young of Glover and Zagar of Barnard,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to extending the first time homebuyer's Down Payment Assistance Program;

To the committee on General, Housing & Military Affairs.

H. 722

By Reps. Botzow of Pownal and Marcotte of Coventry,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to enhancing protections for victims of a security breach;

To the committee on Commerce & Economic Development.

H. 723

By Reps. Botzow of Pownal and Marcotte of Coventry,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to corporate conversions, mergers, share exchanges, and

domestications;

To the committee on Commerce & Economic Development.

H. 724

By Reps. Botzow of Pownal, Marcotte of Coventry and Carr of Brandon,
House bill, entitled

An act relating to committees and programs involving the Vermont State
Treasurer;

To the committee on Government Operations.

H. 725

By Reps. Rachelson of Burlington, Connor of Fairfield, Evans of Essex,
Fagan of Rutland City and Lalonde of South Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to retaining the property tax exemption for college
fraternities and societies;

To the committee on Ways & Means.

H. 726

By Reps. Botzow of Pownal, Marcotte of Coventry, Carr of Brandon and
Young of Glover,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the Vermont Universal Service Charge and the
Connectivity Initiative;

To the committee on Commerce & Economic Development.

H. 727

By Reps. Botzow of Pownal, Carr of Brandon, Lanpher of Vergennes,
Marcotte of Coventry and O'Sullivan of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to a study of credit-based insurance scores and insurance
rates;

To the committee on Commerce & Economic Development.

H. 728

By Rep. Rachelson of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to a report on criminal record checks in professional regulation;

To the committee on Government Operations.

H. 729

By Reps. Scheuermann of Stowe, Parent of St. Albans Town, Baser of Bristol, Eastman of Orwell, Gamache of Swanton, Komline of Dorset, Lucke of Hartford, Morris of Bennington, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Olsen of Londonderry, Sibia of Dover, Stuart of Brattleboro and Zagar of Barnard,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to a tax deduction for education loan payments;

To the committee on Ways & Means.

H. 730

By Reps. Krowinski of Burlington, Berry of Manchester, Buxton of Tunbridge, French of Randolph, Haas of Rochester, McCormack of Burlington, Mrowicki of Putney, Pugh of South Burlington, Stevens of Waterbury, Yantachka of Charlotte and Zagar of Barnard,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to Medicaid rates for home- and community-based services and home-delivered meals as a reimbursable covered service;

To the committee on Human Services.

H. 731

By Reps. Briglin of Thetford and Masland of Thetford,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to expanding the ability of a unified union district to operate and pay tuition;

To the committee on Education.

H. 732

By Reps. Sibia of Dover, Eastman of Orwell and Hebert of Vernon,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to withdrawal from a union school district;

To the committee on Education.

H. 733

By Reps. Sibia of Dover, Eastman of Orwell, Olsen of Londonderry, Scheuermann of Stowe and Zagar of Barnard,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the ability of a school district to pay tuition to other schools;

To the committee on Education.

H. 734

By Reps. Clarkson of Woodstock and Till of Jericho,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to nutrition procurement standards for State government;

To the committee on Human Services.

H. 735

By Reps. Bissonnette of Winooski, Gonzalez of Winooski and Russell of Rutland City,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to creating an exemption from the statewide education property tax for certain municipally owned parking areas;

To the committee on Ways & Means.

H. 736

By Reps. O'Sullivan of Burlington, Botzow of Pownal, Carr of Brandon, Dakin of Colchester, Scheuermann of Stowe, Sibia of Dover and Stuart of Brattleboro,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to creating a One-Stop Business Portal;

To the committee on Commerce & Economic Development.

H. 737

By Reps. Clarkson of Woodstock, Dakin of Colchester, Baser of Bristol, Botzow of Pownal, Carr of Brandon, Christie of Hartford, Eastman of Orwell, Kitzmiller of Montpelier, Marcotte of Coventry, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Parent of St. Albans Town, Scheuermann of Stowe, Sibia of Dover and Stuart of Brattleboro,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to recognizing blockchain technology;

To the committee on Judiciary.

H. 738

By Reps. Connor of Fairfield and Toleno of Brattleboro,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to regulating ambient scenting;

To the committee on Human Services.

H. 739

By Reps. Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Conquest of Newbury and Lewis of Berlin,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to historic preservation and energy efficiency;

To the committee on Natural Resources & Energy.

H. 740

By Rep. Emmons of Springfield,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to technical revisions to probation;

To the committee on Corrections & Institutions.

H. 741

By Reps. Dame of Essex, Berry of Manchester, Fiske of Enosburgh, McFaun of Barre Town and Troiano of Stannard,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to funding ibogaine clinical trials;

To the committee on Human Services.

H. 742

By Rep. Olsen of Londonderry,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to allowing a town to regulate solar and wind generation if the town contributes to a fund to support renewable energy;

To the committee on Natural Resources & Energy.

H. 743

By Reps. Lippert of Hinesburg, Morris of Bennington, Burke of Brattleboro, Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Gonzalez of Winooski, Grad of Moretown, Pearson of Burlington, Sibia of Dover, Stevens of Waterbury, Toleno of Brattleboro and Zagar of Barnard,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to fair and impartial policing;

To the committee on Government Operations.

H. 744

By Rep. Rachelson of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to process for responding to alleged furlough violations;

To the committee on Corrections & Institutions.

H. 745

By Reps. Stuart of Brattleboro, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Baser of Bristol, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Botzow of Pownal, Buxton of Tunbridge, Carr of Brandon, Christie of Hartford, Cupoli of Rutland City, Dakin of Colchester, Jerman of Essex, Juskiewicz of Cambridge, Kitzmiller of Montpelier, Marcotte of Coventry, Parent of St. Albans Town, Scheuermann of Stowe, Sibia of Dover and Wright of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to a study of career technical education;

To the committee on Education.

H. 746

By Rep. Russell of Rutland City,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to exposure as animal cruelty;

To the committee on Agriculture & Forest Products.

H. 747

By Reps. Emmons of Springfield and Myers of Essex,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the State Treasurer's authority to intercept State funding to a municipality or school district in default from a Municipal Bond Bank borrowing;

To the committee on Corrections & Institutions.

H. 748

By Reps. Keenan of St. Albans City and Gamache of Swanton,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to funding participation by municipalities and adjoining landowners in the energy facility siting process;

To the committee on Commerce & Economic Development.

H. 749

By Rep. Rachelson of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to allowing a friend to file a request for relief from abuse order;

To the committee on Judiciary.

H. 750

By Rep. Rachelson of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to defining an ounce of marijuana for the purpose of therapeutic use;

To the committee on Human Services.

H. 751

By Reps. O'Sullivan of Burlington, Buxton of Tunbridge, Christie of Hartford, Gonzalez of Winooski, Pearson of Burlington, Poirier of Barre City, Stuart of Brattleboro and Till of Jericho,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to residential rental agreements for substance abuse recovery homes;

To the committee on Human Services.

H. 752

By Reps. O'Sullivan of Burlington, Buxton of Tunbridge, Christie of Hartford, Gonzalez of Winooski, Pearson of Burlington, Poirier of Barre City, Stuart of Brattleboro and Till of Jericho,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to regulation of substance abuse recovery homes under local land use bylaws;

To the committee on Human Services.

H. 753

By Rep. Condon of Colchester,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to increasing use tax compliance;

To the committee on Ways & Means.

H. 754

By Reps. O'Sullivan of Burlington, Baser of Bristol, Botzow of Pownal, Carr of Brandon, Dakin of Colchester, Kitzmiller of Montpelier, Marcotte of Coventry, Parent of St. Albans Town, Scheuermann of Stowe, Sibilialia of Dover and Stuart of Brattleboro,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the Vermont Economic Progress Council and the Vermont Employment Growth Incentive Program;

To the committee on Commerce & Economic Development.

H. 755

By Reps. Sibilialia of Dover, Baser of Bristol, Burke of Brattleboro, Carr of Brandon, Parent of St. Albans Town and Stuart of Brattleboro,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to adopting modern performance standards for high efficiency energy products;

To the committee on Commerce & Economic Development.

H. 756

By Rep. Conquest of Newbury,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to reducing filing frequency for small businesses filing taxes on malt and vinous beverages, taxes on spirits and fortified wines, and meals and rooms taxes;

To the committee on Ways & Means.

H. 757

By Rep. Tate of Mendon,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to a prohibition on the use of State funding for political contributions;

To the committee on Government Operations.

H. 758

By Reps. Burditt of West Rutland, Branagan of Georgia, Canfield of Fair Haven, Carr of Brandon, Cupoli of Rutland City, Dame of Essex, Eastman of Orwell, Fagan of Rutland City, Gage of Rutland City, Gamache of Swanton, Hubert of Milton, Krebs of South Hero, McFaun of Barre Town, Russell of Rutland City, Savage of Swanton, Shaw of Pittsford, Shaw of Derby, Tate of Mendon, Terenzini of Rutland Town and Townsend of South Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to market competitors who seek party status under Act 250;

To the committee on Natural Resources & Energy.

H. 759

By Reps. Till of Jericho, Clarkson of Woodstock, Dakin of Chester, Donovan of Burlington, Lenos of Shelburne, Macaig of Williston, Masland of Thetford, McCullough of Williston, Miller of Shaftsbury, Stevens of Waterbury, Townsend of South Burlington, Yantachka of Charlotte and Zagar of Barnard,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the nutritional requirements for children's meals;

To the committee on Human Services.

H. 760

By Reps. Till of Jericho, Berry of Manchester, Buxton of Tunbridge, Carr of Brandon, Christie of Hartford, Clarkson of Woodstock, Cole of Burlington, Dakin of Chester, Donovan of Burlington, Evans of Essex, Lenos of Shelburne,

Long of Newfane, Macaig of Williston, Masland of Thetford, McCormack of Burlington, McCullough of Williston, Miller of Shaftsbury, Morris of Bennington, Mrowicki of Putney, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Patt of Worcester, Pearson of Burlington, Poirier of Barre City, Ryerson of Randolph, Sharpe of Bristol, Stevens of Waterbury, Strong of Albany, Stuart of Brattleboro, Sullivan of Burlington, Townsend of South Burlington, Woodward of Johnson, Yantachka of Charlotte and Zagar of Barnard,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to parent-child center parenting class pilot programs;

To the committee on Human Services.

H. 761

By Rep. Conquest of Newbury,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to cataloguing and aligning health care performance measures;

To the committee on Health Care.

H. 762

By Reps. Gamache of Swanton, Batchelor of Derby, Beyor of Highgate, Branagan of Georgia, Brennan of Colchester, Browning of Arlington, Burditt of West Rutland, Christie of Hartford, Cupoli of Rutland City, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Forguites of Springfield, Hebert of Vernon, Higley of Lowell, Hubert of Milton, Lawrence of Lyndon, Lucke of Hartford, Martel of Waterford, Myers of Essex, Pearce of Richford, Purvis of Colchester, Quimby of Concord, Savage of Swanton, Scheuermann of Stowe, Tate of Mendon, Terenzini of Rutland Town, Van Wyck of Ferrisburgh and Willhoit of St. Johnsbury,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to allocating siting approval of electric generation between the District Commissions and the Public Service Board;

To the committee on Natural Resources & Energy.

H. 763

By Rep. Tate of Mendon,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to physician-patient relationships and Vermont residency for

patient choice at end of life;

To the committee on Human Services.

H. 764

By Reps. Tate of Mendon and Hebert of Vernon,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to cigar bars;

To the committee on General, Housing & Military Affairs.

H. 765

By Rep. Sweaney of Windsor,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to technical corrections;

To the committee on Government Operations.

H. 766

By Rep. Morris of Bennington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to a study of expanding Dr. Dynasaur;

To the committee on Health Care.

H. 767

By Rep. Conquest of Newbury,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to workers' compensation premiums;

To the committee on Commerce & Economic Development.

H. 768

By Rep. Rachelson of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to prohibiting contracts with for-profit correctional facilities;

To the committee on Corrections & Institutions.

H. 769

By Reps. Emmons of Springfield, Grad of Moretown and Ram of

Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to strategies to reduce the incarcerated population;

To the committee on Corrections & Institutions.

H. 770

By Rep. Wright of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to municipal funding for education expenses;

To the committee on Education.

H. 771

By Reps. Gamache of Swanton, Savage of Swanton, Batchelor of Derby, Berry of Manchester, Brennan of Colchester, Browning of Arlington, Burditt of West Rutland, Canfield of Fair Haven, Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Christie of Hartford, Cupoli of Rutland City, Dame of Essex, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Fagan of Rutland City, Forguites of Springfield, Gage of Rutland City, Hebert of Vernon, Helm of Fair Haven, Higley of Lowell, Hubert of Milton, Keenan of St. Albans City, LaClair of Barre Town, Lawrence of Lyndon, Martel of Waterford, Myers of Essex, Parent of St. Albans Town, Pearce of Richford, Purvis of Colchester, Russell of Rutland City, Shaw of Pittsford, Shaw of Derby, Tate of Mendon, Van Wyck of Ferrisburgh, Viens of Newport City and Willhoit of St. Johnsbury,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to residential rental agreements;

To the committee on General, Housing & Military Affairs.

H. 772

By Reps. Devereux of Mount Holly, Browning of Arlington, Condon of Colchester, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Evans of Essex, Fagan of Rutland City, Myers of Essex and Shaw of Pittsford,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the Vermont Employees' Retirement System, the State Teachers' Retirement System of Vermont, and the Municipal Employees' Retirement System of Vermont;

To the committee on Government Operations.

H. 773

By Reps. Botzow of Pownal and Marcotte of Coventry,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to classification of employees and independent contractors;

To the committee on Commerce & Economic Development.

H. 774

By Reps. Davis of Washington, McCormack of Burlington and Pearson of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the creation of the Reintegration Services Study Committee;

To the committee on Corrections & Institutions.

H. 775

By Reps. Till of Jericho, Ancel of Calais, Bissonnette of Winooski, Clarkson of Woodstock, Cole of Burlington, Dakin of Chester, Donovan of Burlington, Greshin of Warren, Lenex of Shelburne, Masland of Thetford, McCormack of Burlington, McCullough of Williston, Morris of Bennington, Mrowicki of Putney, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Patt of Worcester, Rachelson of Burlington, Ryerson of Randolph, Stevens of Waterbury, Stuart of Brattleboro, Sullivan of Burlington, Townsend of South Burlington and Yantachka of Charlotte,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to possession and transfer of firearms;

To the committee on Judiciary.

H. 776

By Rep. Buxton of Tunbridge,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to service of process;

To the committee on Judiciary.

H. 777

By Reps. Long of Newfane and Mrowicki of Putney,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to creating a Mental Health Assistance Fund for surviving family members after suicide;

To the committee on Human Services.

H. 778

By Reps. Partridge of Windham, Eastman of Orwell, Graham of Williamstown and Lawrence of Lyndon,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to State enforcement of the federal Food Safety and Modernization Act;

To the committee on Agriculture & Forest Products.

H. 779

By Reps. Partridge of Windham, Eastman of Orwell, Graham of Williamstown, Smith of New Haven and Zagar of Barnard,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the regulation of raw agricultural commodities, value-added agricultural products, and agricultural accessory uses on a farm;

To the committee on Agriculture & Forest Products.

H. 780

By Rep. Bartholomew of Hartland,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the Vermont spaying and neutering program;

To the committee on Agriculture & Forest Products.

H. 781

By Reps. Brennan of Colchester and Till of Jericho,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the use of gun suppressors for hunting;

To the committee on Fish, Wildlife & Water Resources.

H. 782

By Rep. Burke of Brattleboro,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to permanency hearings;

To the committee on Human Services.

H. 783

By Reps. Fiske of Enosburgh, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Cupoli of Rutland City, Dakin of Chester, Dame of Essex, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Evans of Essex, Hebert of Vernon, LaClair of Barre Town, Pearce of Richford, Savage of Swanton, Shaw of Pittsford, Van Wyck of Ferrisburgh and Walz of Barre City,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the unconsented use of a minor's name by an adult to create an Internet website account;

To the committee on Judiciary.

H. 784

By Rep. Pearson of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to model State consumer and employee justice enforcement;

To the committee on Judiciary.

H. 785

By Rep. Wright of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to selling and trafficking regulated drugs;

To the committee on Judiciary.

H. 786

By Reps. Canfield of Fair Haven, Berry of Manchester, Burditt of West Rutland, Christie of Hartford, Eastman of Orwell, Emmons of Springfield, Gage of Rutland City, Hebert of Vernon, Lewis of Berlin, McFaun of Barre Town, Miller of Shaftsbury, Morris of Bennington, Morrissey of Bennington, Ram of Burlington, Shaw of Pittsford, Sibilia of Dover, Strong of Albany, Tate of Mendon, Till of Jericho and Walz of Barre City,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the Vermont Universal Service Fund and a telecommunications news service for individuals who are blind or visually impaired;

To the committee on Commerce & Economic Development.

H. 787

By Rep. Masland of Thetford,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the budget process of a communications union district;

To the committee on Commerce & Economic Development.

H. 788

By Rep. Keenan of St. Albans City,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to transportation network companies;

To the committee on Transportation.

H. 789

By Reps. Sheldon of Middlebury, Berry of Manchester, Botzow of Pownal, Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Clarkson of Woodstock, Cole of Burlington, Dakin of Chester, French of Randolph, Krebs of South Hero, Lalonde of South Burlington, Lefebvre of Newark, Lucke of Hartford, Masland of Thetford, McCullough of Williston, Nuovo of Middlebury, Partridge of Windham, Russell of Rutland City, Ryerson of Randolph, Sullivan of Burlington, Troiano of Stannard, Yantachka of Charlotte and Zagar of Barnard,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to forest integrity and municipal and regional planning;

To the committee on Fish, Wildlife & Water Resources.

H. 790

By Reps. Dame of Essex, Bancroft of Westford, Burditt of West Rutland, Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Christie of Hartford, Eastman of Orwell, Hubert of Milton, Lucke of Hartford, Morris of Bennington, Parent of St. Albans Town, Purvis of Colchester, Sibia of Dover, Smith of New Haven, Tate of Mendon, Viens of Newport City, Willhoit of St. Johnsbury and Zagar of Barnard,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to signing primary petitions and statements of nomination;

To the committee on Government Operations.

H. 791

By Reps. Grad of Moretown, Partridge of Windham, Ram of Burlington and Strong of Albany,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to establishing the Board of Naturopathic Physicians;

To the committee on Government Operations.

H. 792

By Reps. Sabilia of Dover and Eastman of Orwell,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to Department of Public Safety payments for certain intermunicipal police services agreements;

To the committee on Government Operations.

H. 793

By Reps. Sharpe of Bristol, Christie of Hartford, Manwaring of Wilmington and Till of Jericho,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to matching State grants under the public campaign finance option;

To the committee on Government Operations.

H. 794

By Reps. Lewis of Berlin, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Cupoli of Rutland City, Donahue of Northfield, Graham of Williamstown, Huntley of Cavendish, Juskiewicz of Cambridge, Lawrence of Lyndon, Martin of Wolcott, McFaun of Barre Town and Shaw of Pittsford,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to requiring voter approval of supervisory union budgets;

To the committee on Education.

H. 795

By Reps. Lewis of Berlin, Branagan of Georgia, Brennan of Colchester, Burditt of West Rutland, Canfield of Fair Haven, Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Christie of Hartford, Clarkson of Woodstock, Cupoli of Rutland City, Dame of Essex, Devereux of Mount Holly, Dickinson of St.

Albans Town, Donahue of Northfield, Evans of Essex, Fagan of Rutland City, Fiske of Enosburgh, French of Randolph, Gage of Rutland City, Graham of Williamstown, Hebert of Vernon, Higley of Lowell, Hubert of Milton, Juskiewicz of Cambridge, LaClair of Barre Town, Lawrence of Lyndon, Masland of Thetford, McFaun of Barre Town, Miller of Shaftsbury, Poirier of Barre City, Quimby of Concord, Savage of Swanton, Shaw of Derby, Strong of Albany, Townsend of South Burlington, Van Wyck of Ferrisburgh, Walz of Barre City and Willhoit of St. Johnsbury,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to participation in public school activities by students enrolled in independent schools;

To the committee on Education.

H. 796

By Reps. Ram of Burlington and Rachelson of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to school safety and use of disciplinary action;

To the committee on Education.

H. 797

By Reps. Walz of Barre City, Berry of Manchester, Cupoli of Rutland City, Fiske of Enosburgh, Forguites of Springfield, LaClair of Barre Town, Lucke of Hartford, McFaun of Barre Town, Savage of Swanton and Troiano of Stannard,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to residential rental agreements;

To the committee on General, Housing & Military Affairs.

H. 798

By Reps. Botzow of Pownal and Marcotte of Coventry,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to eligibility for unemployment compensation;

To the committee on Commerce & Economic Development.

H. 799

By Reps. Botzow of Pownal and Marcotte of Coventry,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to workers' compensation;

To the committee on Commerce & Economic Development.

H. 800

By Reps. Botzow of Pownal and Marcotte of Coventry,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to investigations of complaints of unpaid wages;

To the committee on Commerce & Economic Development.

Joint Resolution Referred to Committee

J.R.H. 20

Joint resolution requesting the Governor to advocate for a regional carbon tax and to convene the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative states to discuss the development and implementation of this tax

Offered by: Representatives Masland of Thetford, Briglin of Thetford, Burke of Brattleboro, Carr of Brandon, Christie of Hartford, Clarkson of Woodstock, Deen of Westminster, Emmons of Springfield, Evans of Essex, Forguites of Springfield, French of Randolph, Gonzalez of Winooski, Head of South Burlington, Hooper of Montpelier, Huntley of Cavendish, LaLonde of South Burlington, Macaig of Williston, Manwaring of Wilmington, Martel of Waterford, McCullough of Williston, Mrowicki of Putney, Patt of Worcester, Ram of Burlington, Russell of Rutland City, Sheldon of Middlebury, Sullivan of Burlington, Sweaney of Windsor, Townsend of South Burlington, Troiano of Stannard, Yantachka of Charlotte, and Zagar of Barnard

Whereas, greenhouse gases are “any of the atmospheric gases that contribute to the greenhouse effect by absorbing infrared radiation produced by solar warming of the Earth’s surface,” such as carbon dioxide, and

Whereas, the General Assembly, in 2013 Acts and Resolves No. 89, Sec. 1(8), stated “Vermont must act to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions and consumption of fossil fuels,” and

Whereas, emitting greenhouse gases contributes to global warming that in turn leads to, among other problems, dangerously rising sea levels, and an increase in extreme weather events and heavy precipitation that causes risk to public safety and the environment, and

Whereas, fossil fuels are a prime source of greenhouse gases, and users of fossil fuels do not necessarily compensate for the environmental damage these fuels cause, and

Whereas, most economists agree that a tax on fossil fuel energy sources, also termed a carbon tax, would reduce these harmful emissions significantly, and

Whereas, the Canadian province of British Columbia introduced a revenue-neutral carbon tax that started at \$10.00 per ton of carbon dioxide in 2008 and by 2012 rose to \$30.00 per ton, and

Whereas, from 2008 to 2012, British Columbia experienced a 17.4 percent reduction in fossil fuel consumption, and the per capita emissions from sources subject to the tax dropped 10 percent, and

Whereas, since institution of the carbon tax, British Columbia's economy has kept pace or slightly outperformed the rest of Canada's economy, and

Whereas, Vermont is part of a nine-state Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) that places a cap on carbon emissions from utilities, and allows the utilities to trade carbon credits within the cap, and

Whereas, RGGI provides an example of interstate cooperation that addresses climate change, and

Whereas, a regional carbon tax would result in a greater reduction in greenhouse gas emissions than a Vermont-only carbon tax and would address cross-border issues that might otherwise arise, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly requests the Governor to advocate for a regional carbon tax and convene a meeting of officials from RGGI states to discuss the development and implementation of this tax, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Governor, the Commissioner of Public Service, and the Commissioner of Taxes.

Which was read and, in the Speaker's discretion, treated as a bill and referred to the committee on Natural Resources & Energy.

House Resolution Referred to Committee

H.R. 11

House resolution, entitled

House resolution relating to amending House Rules to allow municipal charter bills to be read three times without referral to committee

Offered by: Representative Jerman of Essex

Whereas, the General Assembly normally adopts municipal charter legislation as proposed by the voters of the municipality, and

Whereas, the Committee on Government Operations, which has primary jurisdiction over municipal charters, also has multiple other areas under its broad jurisdiction that are extremely important to the State, and

Whereas, providing for a more streamlined review process for the House to consider passage of municipal charter bills would provide the Committee on Government Operations with more time to consider the other areas under its jurisdiction and would help acknowledge the deference the General Assembly normally provides to municipalities regarding issues of local control, now therefore be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives:

That this legislative body amends the Rules and Orders of the House of Representatives to add Rule 45a to read:

45a. (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 44(a), and except as provided in subsection (b) of this rule, a bill that adopts, amends, or repeals a municipal charter shall not be referred to committee and shall be placed on the Calendar for Notice for two legislative days before being placed in the Orders of the Day, after which it shall proceed in regular course as other bills but without the need for a committee report. However, such a bill may be committed to a committee at the discretion of the Speaker or upon the motion of a member.

(b) Prior to second reading, the Speaker shall refer a municipal charter bill subject to Rule 35(a) to the Committee on Appropriations or the Committee on Ways and Means, as the case may be, which shall consider the bill and make such report as it considers advisable, at which time the bill shall proceed in the regular course as other bills.

Which was read and referred to the committee on Rules.

Favorable Report; Third Reading Ordered**H. 565**

Rep. Tate of Mendon, for the committee on General, Housing & Military Affairs, to which had been referred House bill, entitled

An act relating to United Methodist Church property

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 minutes in the afternoon, on motion of **Rep. Turner of Milton**, the House adjourned until tomorrow at nine o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon.