

# Journal of the Senate

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2015

The Senate was called to order by the President.

## Devotional Exercises

A moment of silence was observed in lieu of devotions.

## Bills Introduced

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

### S. 28.

By Senators Pollina and Zuckerman,

An act relating to divesting State retirement funds from the 200 publically traded companies that hold the largest carbon content fossil fuels reserves.

To the Committee on Government Operations.

### S. 29.

By Senator Pollina,

An act relating to election day registration.

To the Committee on Government Operations.

### S. 30.

By Senators Mullin and Ashe,

An act relating to establishing a prospective payment system for home health services.

To the Committee on Health & Welfare.

### S. 31.

By Senators Campbell, Baruth and Ayer,

An act relating to possession and transfer of firearms.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

**S. 32.**

By Senator Pollina,

An act relating to the beverage container redemption system.

To the Committee on Natural Resources & Energy.

**S. 33.**

By Senator Ashe,

An act relating to transferring the administration of the Vermont Enhanced 911 system to the Department of Public Safety.

To the Committee on Finance.

**S. 34.**

By Senators Sirotkin and Baruth,

An act relating to prevailing wages.

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

**S. 35.**

By Senators Flory, Campbell and Mullin,

An act relating to access to Department for Children and Families' records of abuse and neglect.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

**Proposed Amendment to the Constitution Introduced**

The Proposed Amendment to the Constitution of the State of Vermont designated as Proposal 3 was introduced, read the first time and referred:

By Senators Pollina and Mullin,

**PROPOSAL 3****Sec. 1. PURPOSE**

This proposal would amend the Constitution of the State of Vermont to provide for election of the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, and Treasurer by plurality vote, provided the candidate receives at least 45 percent of the votes cast. If no candidate receives at least 45 percent of the votes, then a runoff election between the two candidates receiving the greatest number of votes cast shall be held on the first Tuesday in December to determine the winner.

Sec. 2. Section 47 of Chapter II of the Vermont Constitution is amended to read:

§ 47. [ELECTION OF GOVERNOR, LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR AND TREASURER]

The voters of each town shall, on the day of election for choosing Representatives to attend the General Assembly, bring in their votes for Governor, with the name fairly written, to the Constable, who shall seal them up, and write on them, Votes for Governor, and deliver them to the Representatives chosen to attend the General Assembly; and at the opening of the General Assembly, there shall be a committee appointed out of the Senate and House of Representatives, who, after being duly sworn to the faithful discharge of their trust, shall proceed to receive, sort, and count the votes for Governor, and declare the person who has the ~~major part~~ greatest number of the votes, to be Governor for the two years ensuing, provided the person receives at least 45 percent of votes cast. The Lieutenant-Governor and the Treasurer shall be chosen in the manner above directed.

The votes for Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, and Treasurer, of the State, shall be sorted and counted, and the result declared, by a committee appointed by the Senate and House of Representatives.

If, at any time, there shall be no election, of Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or Treasurer, of the State, ~~the Senate and House of Representatives shall by a joint ballot, elect to fill the office, not filled as aforesaid, one of the three candidates for such office (if there be so many) for whom the greatest number of votes shall have been returned~~ a runoff election shall be held on the first Tuesday of December between the two candidates receiving the greatest number of votes. The runoff election shall be held as prescribed by the General Assembly.

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

The amendments set forth in Sec. 2 shall become a part of the Constitution of the State of Vermont on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November 2018 when ratified and adopted by the people of this State in accordance with the provisions of 17 V.S.A. chapter 32.

To the Committee on Government Operations.

**Adjournment**

On motion of Senator Campbell, the Senate adjourned until eleven o'clock and thirty minutes in the morning.