

Journal of the Senate

TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2015

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 Stephen Edington of Montpelier.

Pledge of Allegiance

The President then led the members of the Senate in the pledge of allegiance.

Message from the House No. 40

A message was received from the House of Representatives by Ms. Melissa Kucserik, its Second Assistant Clerk, as follows:

Mr. President:

I am directed to inform the Senate that:

The House has passed House bills of the following titles:

H. 108. An act relating to electrical installations.

H. 135. An act relating to authorizing the Vermont Department of Health to charge fees necessary to support Vermont's status as a Nuclear Regulatory Commission Agreement State.

H. 488. An act relating to the State's Transportation Program and miscellaneous changes to laws related to transportation.

In the passage of which the concurrence of the Senate is requested.

The House has considered a bill originating in the Senate of the following title:

S. 2. An act relating to the establishment of a State Latin Motto.

And has passed the same in concurrence.

The House has adopted House concurrent resolutions of the following titles:

H.C.R. 81. House concurrent resolution congratulating Carol Willey on being named the 2015 Vermont Mother of the Year.

H.C.R. 82. House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2015 Vermont Prudential Spirit of Community Award winners.

H.C.R. 83. House concurrent resolution congratulating the Pownal Historical Society on its 20th anniversary.

H.C.R. 84. House concurrent resolution congratulating the record-breaking 2015 Mt. Anthony Union High School Patriots State and New England championship wrestling team.

H.C.R. 85. House concurrent resolution congratulating Caitlin C. Gregg on winning a bronze medal at the FIS (International Ski Federation) Nordic World Ski Championships 2015.

H.C.R. 86. House concurrent resolution commemorating the 100th anniversary of the start of the Armenian Genocide.

H.C.R. 87. House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2015 Williamstown Blue Devils Division III championship boys' basketball team.

H.C.R. 88. House concurrent resolution honoring Sandy Ware of Brattleboro for her creative leadership as a nursing home activities director.

In the adoption of which the concurrence of the Senate is requested.

The House has considered concurrent resolutions originating in the Senate of the following titles:

S.C.R. 13. Senate concurrent resolution congratulating Maple Grove Farms on its centennial anniversary.

S.C.R. 14. Senate concurrent resolution congratulating Matt Lorman on his selection as a 2015 Down Under Sports cross country runner.

And has adopted the same in concurrence.

Joint Senate Resolution Adopted on the Part of the Senate

Joint Senate resolution of the following title was offered, read and adopted on the part of the Senate, and is as follows:

By Senators Baruth and Benning,

J.R.S. 22. Joint resolution relating to weekend adjournment.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That when the two Houses adjourn on Friday, April 3, 2015, it be to meet again no later than Tuesday, April 7, 2015.

Bills Referred

House bills of the following titles were severally read the first time and referred:

H. 108.

An act relating to electrical installations.

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

H. 135.

An act relating to authorizing the Vermont Department of Health to charge fees necessary to support Vermont's status as a Nuclear Regulatory Commission Agreement State.

To the Committee on Finance.

H. 488.

An act relating to the State's Transportation Program and miscellaneous changes to laws related to transportation.

To the Committee on Transportation.

Consideration Postponed

Senate bill entitled:

S. 20.

An act relating to establishing and regulating licensed dental practitioners.

Was taken up.

Thereupon, pending the reading of the report of the Committee on Health & Welfare, Senator White moved that consideration of the bill be postponed until Thursday, April 2, 2015.

Bill Amended; Third Reading Refused**S. 133.**

Senator Baruth, for the Committee on Economic Development, Housing & General Affairs, to which was referred Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to an employee's use of benefits.

Reported recommending that the bill be amended in Sec. 2, 21 V.S.A. § 495j by striking out subsection (a) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (a) to read as follows:

(a) An employer, employment agency, or labor organization shall not discharge or penalize an employee because the employee has used, or

attempted to use, accrued employer-provided sick leave or other employer-provided benefits.

And that when so amended the bill ought to pass.

Thereupon, the bill was read the second time by title only pursuant to Rule 43, the recommendation of amendment was agreed to, on a division of the Senate, Yeas 15, Nays 11.

Thereupon, third reading of the bill was refused on a roll call, Yeas 12, Nays 14.

Senator McAllister having demanded the yeas and nays, they were taken and are as follows:

Roll Call

Those Senators who voted in the affirmative were: Ashe, Balint, Baruth, Cummings, Lyons, MacDonald, McCormack, Mullin, Pollina, Sirotkin, White, Zuckerman.

Those Senators who voted in the negative were: Benning, Bray, Campion, Collamore, Degree, Flory, Kitchel, Mazza, McAllister, Nitka, Rodgers, Snelling, Starr, Westman.

Those Senators absent or not voting were: Ayer, Campbell (presiding), Doyle, Sears.

Proposal of Amendment; Bill Passed in Concurrence with Proposal of Amendment

H. 240.

House bill entitled:

An act relating to miscellaneous technical corrections to laws governing motor vehicles, motorboats, and other vehicles.

Was taken up.

Thereupon, pending third reading of the bill, Senator Westman moved to amend the Senate proposal of amendment by striking out Sec. 21 in its entirety, and by renumbering the remaining sections to be numerically correct.

Which was agreed to.

Thereupon, the bill was read the third time and passed in concurrence with proposal of amendment.

Adjournment

On motion of Senator Baruth, the Senate adjourned until one o'clock in the afternoon on Wednesday, April 1, 2015.