

# Journal of the Senate of the STATE OF VERMONT ADJOURNED SESSION, 2016

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TUESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2016

Pursuant to the provisions of the 2015 final adjournment joint resolution of the two Houses (J.R.S. 29), the Senate convened at the State House at Montpelier, on Tuesday, the fifth day of January, two thousand sixteen.

At ten o'clock in the forenoon, Eastern Standard Time, the Senate was called to order by the President, Lieutenant Governor Philip B. Scott.

## **Devotional Exercises**

Devotional exercises were conducted by the Reverend Paul Habersang of Montpelier.

## **Pledge of Allegiance**

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

## **Joint Senate Resolutions Adopted on the Part of the Senate**

Joint Senate resolutions of the following titles were severally offered, read and adopted on the part of the Senate, and are as follows:

By Senator Campbell,

**J.R.S. 30.** Joint resolution to provide for a Joint Assembly to receive the State-of-the-State message from the Governor.

### ***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That the two Houses meet in Joint Assembly on Thursday, January 7, 2016, at two o'clock in the afternoon to receive the State-of-the-State message from the Governor.

By Senator Campbell,

**J.R.S. 31.** Joint resolution to provide for a Joint Assembly to hear the budget message of the Governor.

### ***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That the two Houses meet in Joint Assembly on Thursday, January 21, 2016, at two o'clock in the afternoon to receive the budget message of the Governor.

By Senator Campbell,

**J.R.S. 32.** Joint resolution relating to Town Meeting adjournment.

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That when the two Houses adjourn on Friday, February 26, 2016, or Saturday, February 27, 2016, it be to meet again no later than Tuesday, March 8, 2016.

By Senators Baruth and Benning,

**J.R.S. 33.** Joint resolution relating to weekend adjournment.

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That when the two Houses adjourn on Friday, January 8, 2016, it be to meet again no later than Tuesday, January 12, 2016.

### **Senate Resolution Placed on Calendar**

#### **S.R. 8.**

Senate resolution of the following title was offered, read the first time and is as follows:

By the Committee on Rules,

**S.R. 8.** Senate resolution relating to the suspension of Senator Norman H. McAllister.

***Resolved by the Senate:***

That the Senate hereby suspends Senator Norman H. McAllister from exercising any of the powers of his office as a Member of the Senate until all criminal proceedings currently pending against him have been dismissed.

Thereupon, in the discretion of the President, under Rule 51, the resolution was placed on the Calendar for action tomorrow.

### **Message from the Governor Appointments Referred**

A message was received from the Governor, by Susan Allen, Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs, submitting the following appointments, which were referred to committees as indicated:

Skinner, Mary of Middlesex - Member of the Vermont Natural Gas and Oil Resources Board, - from May 15, 2015, to February 28, 2018.

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To the Committee on Natural Resources & Energy.

Ellis, Dawn of Burlington - Member of the Human Rights Commission, - from May 15, 2015, to February 29, 2020.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

Elovirta, Cheryl of Winooski - Member of the Children and Family Council for Prevention Programs, - from May 28, 2015, to February 29, 2016.

To the Committee on Health & Welfare.

Bishop, Robert of St. Johnsbury - Member of the State Infrastructure Bank Board, - from June 9, 2015, to February 28, 2020.

To the Committee on Finance.

Baker, Jessie of Montpelier - Member of the State Infrastructure Bank Board, - from June 9, 2015, to February 28, 2017.

To the Committee on Finance.

Bruce, Lawrence of St. Albans - Member of the Transportation Board, - from June 9, 2015, to February 28, 2018.

To the Committee on Transportation.

LaBarge, John of South Hero - Member of the Travel Information Council, - from June 9, 2015, to February 28, 2017.

To the Committee on Transportation.

Reed, Frank of Barre - Commissioner of the Mental Health, Department of, - from June 12, 2015, to February 28, 2017.

To the Committee on Health & Welfare.

Williams, Robert of Poultney - Member of the Electricians' Licensing Board, - from July 1, 2015, to June 30, 2018.

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

Watkins, Timothy of Colchester - Member of the Electricians' Licensing Board, - from July 1, 2015, to June 30, 2018.

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

Chen, Rainbow of Winooski - Member of the State Board of Education, - from July 1, 2015, to June 30, 2017.

To the Committee on Education.

MacDonald, Gregory of East Montpelier - Member of the Vermont Tobacco Evaluation and Review Board, - from July 1, 2015, to June 30, 2018.

To the Committee on Health & Welfare.

Lauzon, Thomas of Barre - Member of the Liquor Control Board, - from July 21, 2015, to January 31, 2020.

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

Davenport, Amy of Montpelier - Member of the Children and Family Council for Prevention Programs, - from July 21, 2015, to February 28, 2018.

To the Committee on Health & Welfare.

Rambur, Betty of South Burlington - Member of the Green Mountain Care Board, - from July 21, 2015, to September 30, 2021.

To the Committee on Health & Welfare.

Bourdon, Kevin of Waltham - Member of the Electricians' Licensing Board, - from August 25, 2015, to June 30, 2018.

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

McKenzie, Mary Alice of Burlington - Member of the State Police Advisory Commission, - from August 25, 2015, to June 30, 2016.

To the Committee on Government Operations.

Sessions, Hannah of Salisbury - Member of the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board, - from August 25, 2015, to January 31, 2016.

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

Kassim, Isra of Winooski - Member of the Children and Family Council for Prevention Programs, - from October 30, 2015, to February 28, 2017.

To the Committee on Health & Welfare.

Veal, Christopher of Burlington - Member of the Children and Family Council for Prevention Programs, - from October 30, 2015, to February 28, 2017.

To the Committee on Health & Welfare.

Herrington, Heather of Burlington - Member of the Health, State Board of, - from October 30, 2015, to February 28, 2021.

To the Committee on Health & Welfare.

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Shand, Ernest of Windsor - Member of the Health, State Board of, - from October 30, 2015, to February 28, 2021.

To the Committee on Health & Welfare.

Billings, Jireh of Bridgewater - Member of the Capitol Complex Commission, - from October 30, 2015, to February 28, 2018.

To the Committee on Institutions.

Karnedy, Gary of South Burlington - Member of the State Labor Relations Board, - from October 30, 2015, to June 30, 2021.

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

Thompson, Rebecca of Richmond - Member of the Vermont Tobacco Evaluation and Review Board, - from October 30, 2015, to September 30, 2018.

To the Committee on Health & Welfare.

Valente, John of Rutland - Judge of the Superior Judge, - from September 4, 2015, to March 31, 2020.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

Schoonover, Kirstin of Huntington - Judge of the Superior Judge, - from September 10, 2015, to March 31, 2017.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

Valentine, Brian of Huntington - Magistrate, - from September 10, 2015, to March 31, 2021.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

Thomas, Carlson of Hinesburg - Judge of the Superior Judge, - from September 18, 2015, to March 31, 2017.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

### **Bills Placed on Calendar**

Pursuant to Temporary Rule 44A the following bills having been voted out of committee but having failed to meet cross-over were referred to the Committee on Rules and are now hereby placed on the Calendar for notice the next legislative day:

**S. 94.** An act relating to appointing municipal clerks and treasurers,

**S. 114.** An act relating to the Open Meeting Law.

**S. 124.** An act relating to expanding the scope of practice of Level II certified law enforcement officers.

#### **Bills Referred**

Pursuant to Temporary Rule 44A the following bills having failed to meet cross-over and being referred to the Committee on Rules are hereby referred to their respective committees of jurisdiction:

**H. 8.** An act relating to the oversight of the transfer of military equipment to law enforcement agencies,

To the Committee on Government Operations.

**H. 84.** An act relating to internet dating services.

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

**H. 187.** An act relating to absence from work for health care and safety.

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

**H. 280.** An act relating to amending the State Board of Education rules on school lighting requirements.

To the Committee on Education.

**H. 355.** An act relating to licensing and regulating foresters.

To the Committee on Government Operations.

**H. 363.** An act relating to the Petroleum Cleanup Fund.

To the Committee on Natural Resources & Energy.

**H. 367.** An act relating to miscellaneous revisions to the municipal plan adoption, amendment, and update process.

To the Committee on Natural Resources & Energy.

**H. 434.** An act relating to law enforcement and fire service training safety.

To the Committee on Government Operations.

#### **Bills Introduced**

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

#### **S. 153.**

By Senator White,

An act relating to jurors' fees.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

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**S. 154.**

By Senators Sears, Campbell, Ayer, Flory and Pollina,

An act relating to enhanced penalties for assaulting an employee of the Family Services Division of the Department for Children and Families and to criminal threatening.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

**S. 155.**

By Senators Ashe, Benning and Sears,

An act relating to privacy protection.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

**S. 156.**

By Senator Ashe,

An act relating to requiring an evaluation of the effectiveness of Vermont's tax expenditures.

To the Committee on Finance.

**S. 157.**

By Senator Benning,

An act relating to breast density notification and education.

To the Committee on Health & Welfare.

**S. 158.**

By Senator Cummings,

An act relating to amendments to Act 46 and transferring the property and debt of merged districts.

To the Committee on Education.

**S. 159.**

By Senator Champion,

An act relating to establishing a regenerative agriculture certification program.

To the Committee on Agriculture.

**S. 160.**

By Senator Rodgers,

An act relating to operation of all-terrain vehicles along State highways.

To the Committee on Transportation.

**S. 161.**

By Senators Flory and Benning,

An act relating to an exemption from the motorcycle helmet law for parade participants.

To the Committee on Transportation.

**S. 162.**

By Senator Campion,

An act relating to creating a system for public-private partnerships.

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

**S. 163.**

By Senator Benning,

An act relating to the sale of malt beverages in growlers.

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

**S. 164.**

By Senator Benning,

An act relating to sales of malt beverages by manufacturers.

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

**S. 165.**

By Senators Balint, Bray and Campion,

An act relating to fair employment practices.

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

**S. 166.**

By Senator Sirotkin,

An act relating to cross-promoting development incentives and state policy goals.

To the Committee on Government Operations.



**S. 167.**

By Senator Pollina,

An act relating to the role of social service providers in accountable care organizations.

To the Committee on Health & Welfare.

**S. 168.**

By Senator Rodgers,

An act relating to incentives for lower education spending.

To the Committee on Finance.

**S. 169.**

By Senators Sirotkin and Zuckerman,

An act relating to the Rozo McLaughlin Farm-to-School Program.

To the Committee on Agriculture.

**S. 170.**

By Senator Pollina,

An act relating to the Open Meeting Law.

To the Committee on Government Operations.

**S. 171.**

By Senator Sears,

An act relating to eligibility for pretrial risk assessment and needs screening.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

**S. 172.**

By Senator Lyons,

An act relating to the use of colored lights on fire department and emergency service vehicles.

To the Committee on Transportation.

**S. 173.**

By Senator Kitchel,

An act relating to volunteer and municipal immunity.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

**S. 174.**

By Senators Sears, Ashe and Benning,

An act relating to a model State policy for use of body cameras by law enforcement officers.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

**S. 175.**

By Senator Pollina,

An act relating to creating an education property tax that is adjusted by income for all taxpayers.

To the Committee on Finance.

**S. 176.**

By Senators Pollina and Sirotkin,

An act relating to an income tax credit for home modifications required by a disability or physical hardship.

To the Committee on Finance.

**S. 177.**

By Senator Pollina,

An act relating to the funding of the Higher Education Endowment Trust Fund.

To the Committee on Education.

**S. 178.**

By Senator Pollina,

An act relating to proportional appropriations from the Higher Education Endowment Trust Fund.

To the Committee on Education.

**S. 179.**

By Senator Pollina,

An act relating to the use of Vermont Student Assistance Corporation grants and scholarships.

To the Committee on Education.

**S. 180.**

By Senator Pollina,

An act relating to increasing General Fund appropriations to the Vermont State Colleges.

To the Committee on Education.

**S. 181.**

By Senator Pollina,

An act relating to the State's financial support of the Vermont State Colleges.

To the Committee on Education.

**S. 182.**

By Senator Sears,

An act relating to the disclosure of a grand jury decision involving actions committed by a law enforcement officer.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

**S. 183.**

By Senators Kitchel, Flory and Sears,

An act relating to permanency for children in the child welfare system.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

**S. 184.**

By Senator Pollina,

An act relating to establishing a State Ethics Commission.

To the Committee on Government Operations.

**S. 185.**

By Senator Flory,

An act relating to termination of parental rights.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

**S. 186.**

By Senator Mullin,

An act relating to health insurance coverage for the early refill of prescription eye drops.

To the Committee on Finance.

**S. 187.**

By Senators Flory and Ayer,

An act relating to suspending public officials with pay by legislative bodies.

To the Committee on Government Operations.

**S. 188.**

By Senator Mullin,

An act relating to the licensure of speech-language pathologists and audiologists.

To the Committee on Education.

**S. 189.**

By Senators Flory and Balint,

An act relating to foster parents' rights and protections.

To the Committee on Health & Welfare.

**S. 190.**

By Senator Lyons,

An act relating to maintaining prescription drugs outside the original prescription container.

To the Committee on Health & Welfare.

**S. 191.**

By Senator Kitchel,

An act relating to siting of wind generation facilities.

To the Committee on Finance.

**S. 192.**

By Senator Pollina,

An act relating to Medicaid rates for home- and community-based service providers.

To the Committee on Health & Welfare.

**S. 193.**

By Senator Flory,

An act relating to decedents' estates.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

**S. 194.**

By Senators Campion and Sears,

An act relating to student expulsion and suspension as a last resort.

To the Committee on Education.

**S. 195.**

By Senator Ayer,

An act relating to a study on whether to require large buildings to install solar generation.

To the Committee on Natural Resources & Energy.

**S. 196.**

By Senator Lyons,

An act relating to the Agency of Human Services' contracts with providers.

To the Committee on Health & Welfare.

**S. 197.**

By Senator Lyons,

An act relating to radon testing in schools.

To the Committee on Education.

**S. 198.**

By Senators Snelling, Collamore, Pollina and White,

An act relating to the Government Accountability Committee and the annual report on the State's population-level outcomes.

To the Committee on Government Operations.

**S. 199.**

By Senators Sears and Benning,

An act relating to the invalidity of residential rental agreements that prohibit the tenant from possessing firearms on the premises.

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

**S. 200.**

By Senators Pollina and Zuckerman,

An act relating to the use of neonicotinoid pesticides.

To the Committee on Agriculture.

**S. 201.**

By Senator Nitka,

An act relating to limitations on prescriptions for opioids.

To the Committee on Health & Welfare.

**S. 202.**

By Senator Sirotkin,

An act relating to the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets establishing a universal meals pilot project under the Farm-to-School Program.

To the Committee on Agriculture.

**S. 203.**

By Senators Sears and Collamore,

An act relating to sport shooting ranges and Act 250.

To the Committee on Natural Resources & Energy.

**S. 204.**

By Senators Benning, Collamore, Flory, Rodgers and Starr,

An act relating to siting renewable electric generation.

To the Committee on Finance.

**S. 205.**

By Senators Rodgers and Starr,

An act relating to renewable energy development and protecting agricultural and forest soils.

To the Committee on Finance.

**S. 206.**

By Senator Balint,

An act relating to probation, parole, and furlough conditions.

To the Committee on Institutions.

**S. 207.**

By Senator Balint,

An act relating to compassionate release and parole eligibility.

To the Committee on Institutions.

**S. 208.**

By Senator Nitka,

An act relating to gradually increasing the mandatory age of school attendance.

To the Committee on Education.

**S. 209.**

By Senator Sirotkin,

An act relating to the Attorney General and ratepayer advocacy.

To the Committee on Finance.

**S. 210.**

By Senators Rodgers and Starr,

An act relating to banning industrial wind.

To the Committee on Natural Resources & Energy.

**S. 211.**

By Senator Sirotkin,

An act relating to the Vermont Commission on Employee Misclassification.

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

**S. 212.**

By Senators Sears, Ashe, Flory, Lyons and Snelling,

An act relating to court-approved absences from home detention and home confinement furlough.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

**S. 213.**

By Senator Cummings,

An act relating to parental leave insurance benefits.

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

**S. 214.**

By Senator Ashe,

An act relating to transfer of Exchange plan administration to health insurance carriers.

To the Committee on Finance.

**S. 215.**

By Senator Mullin,

An act relating to the regulation of vision insurance plans.

To the Committee on Finance.

**S. 216.**

By Senator Mullin,

An act relating to prescription drug formularies.

To the Committee on Finance.

**S. 217.**

By Senator White,

An act relating to the State's organization of professional regulation.

To the Committee on Government Operations.



**S. 218.**

By Senator Campbell,

An act relating to automobile minimum liability coverage.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

**S. 219.**

By Senator Nitka,

An act relating to the deferral of property taxes for taxpayers 65 years of age or older.

To the Committee on Finance.

**S. 220.**

By Senator Baruth,

An act relating to the public financing of campaigns.

To the Committee on Government Operations.

**S. 221.**

By Senator White,

An act relating to law enforcement officers.

To the Committee on Government Operations.

**S. 222.**

By Senator Lyons,

An act relating to creating a wood energy forester position.

To the Committee on Natural Resources & Energy.

**S. 223.**

By Senator Mullin,

An act relating to regulating fantasy sports contests.

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

**S. 224.**

By Senator Rodgers,

An act relating to warranty obligations of equipment dealers and suppliers.

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

**S. 225.**

By Senators Mazza and Westman,

An act relating to miscellaneous changes to laws related to motor vehicles.

To the Committee on Transportation.

**S. 226.**

By Senator Nitka,

An act relating to energy facility siting.

To the Committee on Finance.

**S. 227.**

By Senator Sears,

An act relating to the evidentiary rules governing proceedings concerning a child or person with a psychiatric, intellectual, or developmental disability who is a victim of an offense involving bodily injury or serious bodily injury.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

**S. 228.**

By Senator Lyons,

An act relating to creating an exemption from the statewide education property tax for nonprofit Level III residential homes.

To the Committee on Finance.

**S. 229.**

By Senator Lyons,

An act relating to conservation at interstate interchanges and protecting settlement patterns.

To the Committee on Natural Resources & Energy.

**S. 230.**

By Senators Bray, Benning, MacDonald and Nitka,

An act relating to improving the siting of energy projects.

To the Committee on Finance.

**S. 231.**

By Senator Lyons,

An act relating to immunity from liability for agritourism activities.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

**S. 232.**

By Senator Westman,

An act relating to municipally owned hydroelectric plants.

To the Committee on Natural Resources & Energy.

**S. 233.**

By Senator Zuckerman,

An act relating to amending Act 46.

To the Committee on Education.

**S. 234.**

By Senator White,

An act relating to a candidate's constitutional qualifications for office.

To the Committee on Government Operations.

**S. 235.**

By Senator Degree,

An act relating to the prescription, maintenance, and use of epinephrine auto-injectors.

To the Committee on Health & Welfare.

**S. 236.**

By Senator Zuckerman,

An act relating to ensuring that roofs of new construction are solar-ready.

To the Committee on Natural Resources & Energy.

**S. 237.**

By Senators Bray and Snelling,

An act relating to miscellaneous timber harvesting, forestry, and State lands issues.

To the Committee on Natural Resources & Energy.

**S. 238.**

By Senators Ashe, Ayer, Lyons, MacDonald, Mullin, Sirotkin and Westman,

An act relating to intermunicipal insurance agreements for health care.

To the Committee on Finance.

**S. 239.**

By Senator Doyle,

An act relating to public events and tent safety.

To the Committee on Government Operations.

**S. 240.**

By Senator Doyle,

An act relating to protecting the credit of a minor child.

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

**S. 241.**

By Senators White and Benning,

An act relating to personal possession and cultivation of cannabis and the regulation of commercial cannabis establishments.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

**S. 242.**

By Senator White,

An act relating to the service of civil process by a constable.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

**S. 243.**

By Senators Sirotkin and Ashe,

An act relating to combating opioid abuse in Vermont.

To the Committee on Health & Welfare.

**S. 244.**

By Senators Ashe and Sirotkin,

An act relating to determining hospital costs.

To the Committee on Health & Welfare.

**S. 245.**

By Senators Ashe and Sirotkin,

An act relating to disclosure of health care provider affiliations.

To the Committee on Health & Welfare.

**S. 246.**

By Senator Champion,

An act relating to hunting licenses for minors.

To the Committee on Natural Resources & Energy.

**S. 247.**

By Senators Bray, Balint, Ayer, Cummings, Lyons, Mullin, Pollina, Sirotkin, Snelling, White and Zuckerman,

An act relating to equal pay.

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

**S. 248.**

By Senator Sears,

An act relating to truancy and school discipline and student offense reporting requirements.

To the Committee on Education.

**S. 249.**

By Senators Westman, Collamore and Flory,

An act relating to the authority of a unified union school district meeting certain conditions to operate a school and pay tuition.

To the Committee on Education.

**S. 250.**

By Senator Mullin,

An act relating to farm distilleries and Vermont barrel aged maple spirits.

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

**S. 251.**

By Senators Baruth and Degree,

An act relating to the Commissioner of Liquor Control and the Liquor Control Board.

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

**S. 252.**

By Senator Mullin,

An act relating to the sale of lottery products.

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

**S. 253.**

By Senator Mullin,

An act relating to the manufacture of fortified wines.

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

**S. 254.**

By Senators Sirotkin and Cummings,

An act relating to paid family leave.

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

**S. 255.**

By Senators Ayer and Lyons,

An act relating to regulation of hospitals, health insurers, and managed care organizations.

To the Committee on Health & Welfare.

**S. 256.**

By Senators Lyons, Ayer, Starr and Westman,

An act relating to extending the moratorium on home health agency certificates of need.

To the Committee on Health & Welfare.

**S. 257.**

By Senator Nitka,

An act relating to residential rental agreements.

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

**S. 258.**

By Senator McCormack,

An act relating to access to treatment for patients with a terminal illness.

To the Committee on Health & Welfare.

**S. 259.**

By Senator McCormack,

An act relating to smoke-free rental housing.

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

**Proposed Amendment to the Constitution Introduced**

The Proposed Amendment to the Constitution of the State of Vermont designated as Proposal 6 was introduced, read the first time and referred:

By Senator Snelling,

**PROPOSAL 6****Sec. 1. PURPOSE**

This proposal would amend the Constitution of the State of Vermont to provide the Governor with a four-year term of office. It would also amend a provision of the Constitution to clarify that certain constitutional officers that already have a four-year term of office are elected every four years.

Sec. 2. Section 43 of Chapter II of the Vermont Constitution is amended to read:

**§ 43. [~~BIENNIAL~~ ELECTIONS]**

The Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, Treasurer, Secretary of State, Auditor of Accounts, Senators, Town Representatives, Assistant Judges of the County Court, Sheriffs, High Bailiffs, State's Attorneys, and Judges of Probate and Justices of the Peace, shall be elected biennially every four years on the first Tuesday next after the first Monday of November, beginning in A.D. 1914 2020. The Lieutenant-Governor, Treasurer, Secretary of State, Auditor of Accounts, Senators, Representatives, High Bailiffs, and Justices of the Peace shall be elected biennially on the first Tuesday next after the first Monday of November, beginning in A.D. 2020.

Sec. 3. 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 of the votes, to be Governor for the ~~two~~ four years ensuing. The Lieutenant-Governor and the Treasurer shall be chosen in the manner above directed for the two years ensuing.

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.

Sec. 4. Section 48 of Chapter II of the Vermont Constitution is amended to read:

§ 48. [ELECTION OF SECRETARY OF STATE AND AUDITOR OF ACCOUNTS]

The Secretary of State and the Auditor of Accounts shall be elected by the voters of the State upon the same ticket with the ~~Governor~~, Lieutenant-Governor and Treasurer; and the Legislature shall carry this provision into effect by appropriate legislation.

Sec. 5. Section 49 of Chapter II of the Vermont Constitution is amended to read:

§ 49. [TERM OF GOVERNOR, LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR, AND TREASURER]

The term of office of the Governor shall be four years, and the terms of office of the Lieutenant-Governor and Treasurer ~~of the State, respectively,~~



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shall be two years. The terms of these officers shall commence when they shall be chosen and qualified, and shall continue for the duration of their term of two years, or until their successors shall be chosen and qualified, or to the adjournment of the session of the Legislature at which, by the Constitution and laws, their successors are required to be chosen, and not after such adjournment.

Sec. 6. EFFECTIVE DATE

The amendments set forth in this proposal 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 one o'clock in the afternoon on Wednesday, January 6, 2016.