

Journal of the House

Tuesday, March 27, 2018

At ten o'clock in the forenoon the Speaker called the House to order.

Devotional Exercises

Devotional exercises were conducted by Rep. Curt Taylor of Colchester, VT.

Pledge of Allegiance

Page Liza Morse of Danville led the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Senate Bill Referred

S. 53

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to recommendations for achieving universal coverage for primary care in Vermont

Was read and referred to the committee on Rules.

Senate Bill Referred

S. 85

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to simplifying government for small businesses

Was read and referred to the committee on Commerce and Economic Development.

Senate Bill Referred

S. 253

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to Vermont's adoption of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact

Was read and referred to the committee on Health Care.

Senate Bill Referred

S. 260

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to funding the cleanup of State waters

Was read and referred to the committee on Natural Resources; Fish; and Wildlife.

Senate Bill Referred

S. 262

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to miscellaneous changes to the Medicaid program and the Department of Vermont Health Access

Was read and referred to the committee on Health Care.

Senate Bill Referred

S. 276

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to rural economic development

Was read and referred to the committee on Commerce and Economic Development.

Senate Bill Referred

S. 281

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to the mitigation of systemic racism

Was read and referred to the committee on Government Operations.

**Favorable Report; Second Reading;
Third Reading Ordered**

J.R.S. 48

Rep. Macaig of Williston, for the committee on Corrections and Institutions, to which had been referred Joint Resolution, entitled

Joint resolution authorizing the Commissioner of Forests, Parks and Recreation to amend the Department's lease with the Stowe Mountain Resort and to amend a conservation easement in the Town of Plymouth

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.

**Favorable Report; Second Reading;
Third Reading Ordered**

S. 128

Rep. Gardner of Richmond, for the committee on Government Operations, to which had been referred Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to executive sessions under the Open Meeting Law

Reported in favor of its passage in concurrence

The bill, having appeared on the Calendar one day for notice, was taken up, read the second time, and third reading ordered.

**Committee Bill; Second Reading;
Bill Amended; Third Reading Ordered**

H. 923

Rep. Emmons of Springfield spoke for the committee on Corrections and Institutions.

House bill entitled

An act relating to capital construction and State bonding budget adjustment

Rep. Lanpher of Vergennes, for the committee on Appropriations recommended that the bill ought to pass.

Having appeared on the Calendar one day for notice, was taken up, read the second time.

Pending the question, Shall the bill be read a third time? **Rep. Emmons of Springfield** moved to amend the bill as follows:

First: In Sec. 1, in subdivision (c)(2), by striking out “\$6,919,354.00” and inserting in lieu thereof “\$6,917,054.00”, and by striking out all after subsection (g) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Appropriation – FY 2018	\$27,857,525.00
Appropriation – FY 2019	\$27,853,933.00 <u>\$29,565,644.00</u>
Total Appropriation – Section 2	\$55,711,458.00 <u>\$57,423,189.00</u>

Second: In Sec. 12, in subdivision (a)(28), by striking out “\$12,946.82” and inserting in lieu thereof “\$10,646.82”, and by striking out all after subdivision (e)(3) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Total Reallocations and Transfers – Section 18

~~\$14,822,286.78~~ \$15,967,218.87

Third: In Sec. 2, in subdivision (b)(4), by striking out “psychiatric residential treatment facility.”

Fourth: In Sec. 7, by striking out subdivision (f)(4) and its undesignated paragraph, and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

(4) ~~Clean Water Act, implementation projects:~~ \$11,112,944.00

The Commissioner of Environmental Conservation may use up to \$1,600,000.00 of the amounts appropriated in subdivision (2) of this subsection to support capital-eligible clean water projects for Lake Carmi; provided, however, that the Commissioner shall provide prior notification of any project and its cost to the Chairs of the House Committees on Corrections and Institutions and on Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife and of the Senate Committees on Institutions and on Natural Resources and Energy.

Fifth: In Sec. 14, after subsection (d), by adding a subsection (e) to read as follows:

(e) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services is authorized to sell the Rutland Multi-Modal Transit Center (parking garage) located at 102 West Street in Rutland pursuant to the requirements of 29 V.S.A. § 166. The proceeds from the sale shall be appropriated to future capital construction projects and expended within two years after the date of sale.

Sixth: By adding a new section, after Sec. 15, to be Sec. 15a, to read as follows:

Sec. 15a. 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 20(b) is amended as follows:

~~(b) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services is authorized to sell the Rutland Multi-Modal Transit Center (parking garage) located at 102 West Street in Rutland pursuant to the requirements of 29 V.S.A. § 166. The proceeds from the sale shall be appropriated to future capital construction projects. [Repealed.]~~

Seventh: By adding a new section, after Sec. 15, to be Sec. 15b, to read as follows:

Sec. 15b. 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 29 is amended to read:

Sec. 29. 2013 Acts and Resolves No. 1, Sec. 100(c), as amended by 2014 Acts and Resolves No. 179, Sec. E.113.1 and 2015 Acts and Resolves No. 58, Sec. E.113.1, is further amended to read:

(c) Sec. 97 (general obligation debt financing) shall take effect on ~~July 1, 2018~~ July 1, 2019.

Which was agreed to.

Pending the question, Shall the bill be read a third time? **Rep. Brennan of Colchester** moved to amend the bill as follows:

In Sec. 7, amending 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 11, in subsection (f), by adding a subdivision (5) to read as follows:

(5) For the amount appropriated in subdivision (2)(B) of this subsection, on or before January 15, 2019, the Commissioner of Environmental Conservation shall report back to the House Committees on Corrections and Institutions and on Transportation and of the Senate Committees on Institutions and on Transportation with a description and cost of each project that received funding.

Which was agreed to.

Pending the question, Shall the bill be read a third time? **Rep. McFaun of Barre Town** moved to amend the bill as follows:

By inserting a new section to be Sec. 17a to read as follows:

Sec. 17a. SCHOOL SAFETY ADVISORY GROUP; REPORT

(a) Creation. There is created the School Safety Advisory Group to develop statewide guidelines and best practices concerning school safety and the prevention of school shootings.

(b) Membership. The Advisory Group shall be composed of the following six members:

(1) the Secretary of Administration or designee;

(2) the Secretary of Education or designee;

(3) the Commissioner of Public Safety or designee;

(4) the Executive Director of the Vermont School Boards Association or designee;

(5) the President of the Vermont National Education Association or designee; and

(6) a representative of the Vermont Principals' Association.

(c) Powers and duties. The Advisory Group shall study the following issues and develop specific guidelines and best practices for Vermont schools concerning them:

(1) improving security in and around school buildings and property;

(2) ensuring staff and students know what they should do in the event of a school shooting or other incident;

(3) training for staff and students, including the type and frequency of the training;

(4) sharing information with parents and community if an event occurs; and

(5) gathering information on security measures implemented in schools from corresponding State education and public safety departments in states where schools shootings have occurred.

(d) Assistance. The Advisory Group shall have the administrative, technical, and legal assistance of the Agency of Education and the Department of Public Safety.

(e) Report. On or before July 1, 2018, the Advisory Group shall submit a written report to the General Assembly with its findings, including specific guidelines and best practices, and any recommendations for legislative action necessary to ensure that all schools in Vermont begin implementing those guidelines and best practices and have a plan for compliance before the beginning of the next school year.

(f) Meetings.

(1) The Secretary of Education shall call the first meeting of the Advisory Group.

(2) The Commissioner of Public Safety or designee shall be the Chair.

(3) A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum.

(4) The Advisory Group shall cease to exist on July 1, 2019.

(g) Compensation and reimbursement. Members of the Advisory Group who are not employees of the State of Vermont and who are not otherwise compensated or reimbursed for their attendance shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 1010 for meetings. These payments shall be made from monies appropriated to the General Assembly.

Pending the question, Shall the bill be amended as offered by Rep. McFaun of Barre Town? **Rep. Juskiewicz of Cambridge** demanded the Yeas and Nays, which demand was sustained by the Constitutional number. The Clerk proceeded to call the roll and the question, Shall the bill be amended as offered by Rep. McFaun of Barre Town? was decided in the affirmative. Yeas, 138. Nays, 1.

Those who voted in the affirmative are:

Bancroft of Westford
Bartholomew of Hartland

Grad of Moretown
Graham of Williamstown

Ode of Burlington
O'Sullivan of Burlington

Baser of Bristol	Haas of Rochester	Pajala of Londonderry
Batchelor of Derby	Harrison of Chittenden	Parent of St. Albans Town
Beck of St. Johnsbury	Head of South Burlington	Partridge of Windham
Belaski of Windsor	Hebert of Vernon	Pearce of Richford
Beyor of Highgate	Helm of Fair Haven	Potter of Clarendon
Bissonnette of Winooski	Higley of Lowell	Pugh of South Burlington
Bock of Chester	Hill of Wolcott	Quimby of Concord
Botzow of Pownal	Hooper of Montpelier	Rachelson of Burlington *
Brennan of Colchester	Hooper of Randolph	Read of Fayston
Briglin of Thetford	Houghton of Essex	Rosenquist of Georgia
Browning of Arlington	Howard of Rutland City	Savage of Swanton
Brumsted of Shelburne	Jessup of Middlesex	Scheu of Middlebury
Burditt of West Rutland	Jickling of Randolph	Scheuermann of Stowe
Burke of Brattleboro	Joseph of North Hero	Sharpe of Bristol
Canfield of Fair Haven	Juskiewicz of Cambridge	Shaw of Pittsford
Carr of Brandon	Keefe of Manchester	Sheldon of Middlebury
Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs	Keenan of St. Albans City	Sibilia of Dover
Christie of Hartford	Kimbell of Woodstock	Smith of Derby
Cina of Burlington	Kitzmiller of Montpelier	Smith of New Haven
Colburn of Burlington	Krowinski of Burlington	Squirrell of Underhill
Conlon of Cornwall	LaClair of Barre Town	Stevens of Waterbury
Conquest of Newbury	Lalonde of South Burlington	Strong of Albany
Copeland-Hanzas of Bradford	Lanpher of Vergennes	Stuart of Brattleboro
Cupoli of Rutland City	Lawrence of Lyndon	Sullivan of Burlington
Dakin of Colchester	Lewis of Berlin	Taylor of Colchester
Deen of Westminster	Lippert of Hinesburg	Terenzini of Rutland Town
Devereux of Mount Holly	Long of Newfane	Till of Jericho
Dickinson of St. Albans Town	Lucke of Hartford	Toleno of Brattleboro
Donahue of Northfield	Macaig of Williston	Toll of Danville
Donovan of Burlington	Marcotte of Coventry	Townsend of South Burlington
Dunn of Essex	Martel of Waterford	Troiano of Stannard
Emmons of Springfield	Masland of Thetford	Turner of Milton
Fagan of Rutland City	Mattos of Milton	Van Wyck of Ferrisburgh
Feltus of Lyndon	McCormack of Burlington	Viens of Newport City
Fields of Bennington	McCoy of Poultney	Walz of Barre City
Forguites of Springfield	McCullough of Williston	Webb of Shelburne
Frenier of Chelsea	McFaun of Barre Town	Weed of Enosburgh
Gage of Rutland City	Miller of Shaftsbury	Willhoit of St. Johnsbury
Gamache of Swanton	Morris of Bennington	Wood of Waterbury
Gannon of Wilmington	Morrissey of Bennington	Wright of Burlington
Gardner of Richmond	Mrowicki of Putney	Yacovone of Morristown
Giambatista of Essex	Murphy of Fairfax	Yantachka of Charlotte
Gonzalez of Winooski	Myers of Essex	Young of Glover
	Nolan of Morristown	
	Norris of Shoreham	
	Noyes of Wolcott	

Those who voted in the negative are:

Trieber of Rockingham

Those members absent with leave of the House and not voting are:

Ainsworth of Royalton	Condon of Colchester	Poirier of Barre City
Ancel of Calais	Connor of Fairfield	Sullivan of Dorset
Buckholz of Hartford	Corcoran of Bennington	
Christensen of Weathersfield	Lefebvre of Newark	

Rep. Rachelson of Burlington explained her vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

I ultimately voted yes but want to be clear that I have confidence in the Vermont School Safety Center, a collaborative partnership between the Vermont Department of Public Safety and the Agency of Education. My hope is that this advisory group helps to reinforce this important work of school planning and emergency responding. Also I want to be on the record that research shows our children will be safer in schools if we take a multi-pronged approach that must include sensible gun violence legislation like background checks, limiting access to guns by minors, etc.”

Thereupon, third reading was ordered.

Recess

At eleven o'clock and fifty-four minutes in the forenoon, the Speaker declared a recess until the fall of the gavel.

At two o'clock and twenty-four minutes in the afternoon, the Speaker called the House to order.

House Proposal Amended; Read Third Time; Bill Passed in Concurrence with Proposal of Amendment

S. 55

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the disposition of unlawful and abandoned firearms

Was taken up and pending third reading of the bill, **Rep. Donahue of Northfield** moved to amend the House proposal of amendment as follows:

First: In Sec. 6, 13 V.S.A. § 4019, in subdivision (b)(1)(B), by striking out “and determines that the proposed transferee is not prohibited by State or federal law from purchasing or possessing a firearm”

Second: In Sec. 8, 13 V.S.A. § 4021, in subsection (c), by striking out subsection (c) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

(c)(1) The prohibition on possession of large capacity ammunition feeding devices established by subsection (a) of this section shall not apply to a large

capacity ammunition feeding device lawfully possessed on or before the effective date of this act.

(2) The prohibition on possession, transfer, sale, and purchase of large capacity ammunition feeding devices established by subsection (a) of this section shall not apply to a large capacity ammunition feeding device lawfully possessed by a licensed dealer as defined in subdivision 4019(a)(4) of this title prior to the effective date of this act and transferred by the dealer on or before October 1, 2018.

Which was agreed to.

Pending third reading of the bill, **Rep. Lalonde of South Burlington** moved to amend the House proposal of amendment as follows:

In Sec. 7, 13 V.S.A. § 4020, in the section heading, by striking out the word “MINORS” and inserting in lieu thereof “PERSONS UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE” and in subsection (c), by adding a subdivision (3) to read as follows:

(3) “Commissioner” means the Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife.

Which was agreed to.

Pending third reading of the bill, **Rep. Hebert of Vernon** moved to amend the House proposal of amendment as follows:

In Sec. 8, 13 V.S.A. § 4021, by striking out subsection (a) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (a) to read as follows:

(a) A person shall not manufacture, possess, transfer, offer for sale, purchase, receive, or import into this State a large capacity ammunition feeding device. As used in this subsection, “import” shall not include the transportation back into this State of a large capacity ammunition feeding device by the same person who transported the device out of State if the person possessed the device on or before the effective date of this act.

Which was agreed to.

Pending third reading of the bill, **Rep. Lalonde of South Burlington** moved to amend the House proposal of amendment as follows:

First: In Sec. 8, 13 V.S.A. § 4021, by striking out subsection (d) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

(d)(1) This section shall not apply to any large capacity ammunition feeding device:

(A) manufactured for, transferred to, or possessed by the United States or a department or agency of the United States, or by any state or by a department, agency, or political subdivision of a state;

(B) transferred to or possessed by a federal law enforcement officer or a law enforcement officer certified as a law enforcement officer by the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council pursuant to 20 V.S.A. § 2358, for legitimate law enforcement purposes, whether the officer is on or off duty;

(C) transferred to a licensee under Title I of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 for purposes of establishing and maintaining an on-site physical protection system and security organization required by federal law, or possessed by an employee or contractor of such a licensee on-site for these purposes, or off-site for purposes of licensee-authorized training or transportation of nuclear materials;

(D) possessed by an individual who is retired from service with a law enforcement agency after having been transferred to the individual by the agency upon his or her retirement, provided that the individual is not otherwise prohibited from receiving ammunition; or

(E) manufactured, transferred, or possessed by a licensed manufacturer or licensed importer for the purposes of testing or experimentation authorized by the U.S. Attorney General;

(2) This section shall not apply to a licensed dealer as defined in subdivision 4019(a)(4) of this title for the sole purpose of transferring or selling a large capacity ammunition feeding device to a person to whom this section does not apply under subdivision (1) of this subsection (d).

Which was agreed to.

Pending third reading of the bill, **Rep. Dickinson of St. Albans Town** moved to amend the House proposal of amendment as follows:

In Sec. 8, 13 V.S.A. § 4021, in subsection (d)(1), by striking subdivision (E) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subdivision (E) to read as follows:

(E) manufactured, imported, transferred, or possessed by a manufacturer or importer licensed under 18 U.S.C. chapter 44:

(i) for the purposes of testing or experimentation authorized by the U.S. Attorney General, or for product development;

(ii) for repair and return to the person from whom it was received; or

(iii) for transfer in foreign or domestic commerce for delivery and possession outside the State of Vermont.

Pending the question, Shall the House proposal of amendment be amended as offered by Rep. Dickinson of St. Albans Town? **Rep. Burditt of West Rutland** demanded the Yeas and Nays, which demand was sustained by the

Constitutional number. The Clerk proceeded to call the roll and the question, Shall the House proposal of amendment be amended as offered by Rep. Dickinson of St. Albans Town was decided in the affirmative. Yeas, 123. Nays, 21.

Those who voted in the affirmative are:

Bancroft of Westford	Gannon of Wilmington	Ode of Burlington
Bartholomew of Hartland	Gardner of Richmond	O'Sullivan of Burlington
Baser of Bristol	Giambatista of Essex	Pajala of Londonderry
Batchelor of Derby	Grad of Moretown	Parent of St. Albans Town
Beck of St. Johnsbury	Graham of Williamstown	Partridge of Windham
Belaski of Windsor	Haas of Rochester	Pearce of Richford
Bissonnette of Winooski	Harrison of Chittenden	Potter of Clarendon
Bock of Chester	Hebert of Vernon	Quimby of Concord
Botzow of Pownal	Helm of Fair Haven	Read of Fayston
Briglin of Thetford	Higley of Lowell	Rosenquist of Georgia
Browning of Arlington	Hill of Wolcott	Savage of Swanton
Brumsted of Shelburne	Hooper of Randolph	Scheuermann of Stowe
Buckholz of Hartford	Jessup of Middlesex	Sharpe of Bristol
Burditt of West Rutland	Jickling of Randolph	Shaw of Pittsford
Burke of Brattleboro	Joseph of North Hero	Sibilia of Dover
Canfield of Fair Haven	Juskiewicz of Cambridge	Smith of Derby
Carr of Brandon	Keefe of Manchester	Smith of New Haven
Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs	Keenan of St. Albans City	Squirrell of Underhill
Christensen of Weathersfield	Kimbell of Woodstock	Strong of Albany
Christie of Hartford	Krowinski of Burlington	Sullivan of Dorset
Cina of Burlington	LaClair of Barre Town	Taylor of Colchester
Conlon of Cornwall	Lalonde of South Burlington	Terenzini of Rutland Town
Connor of Fairfield	Lanpher of Vergennes	Till of Jericho
Conquest of Newbury	Lawrence of Lyndon	Toleno of Brattleboro
Copeland-Hanzas of Bradford	Lewis of Berlin	Toll of Danville
Corcoran of Bennington	Lippert of Hinesburg	Townsend of South Burlington
Cupoli of Rutland City	Long of Newfane	Trieber of Rockingham
Dakin of Colchester	Macaig of Williston	Troiano of Stannard
Devereux of Mount Holly	Marcotte of Coventry	Turner of Milton
Dickinson of St. Albans Town	Martel of Waterford	Van Wyck of Ferrisburgh
Donahue of Northfield	Masland of Thetford	Viens of Newport City
Dunn of Essex	Mattos of Milton	Walz of Barre City
Emmons of Springfield	McCoy of Poultney	Webb of Shelburne
Fagan of Rutland City	McCullough of Williston	Weed of Enosburgh
Feltus of Lyndon	McFaun of Barre Town	Willhoit of St. Johnsbury
Fields of Bennington	Miller of Shaftsbury	Wood of Waterbury
Forguites of Springfield	Morris of Bennington	Wright of Burlington
Frenier of Chelsea	Morrissey of Bennington	Yacovone of Morristown
Gage of Rutland City	Murphy of Fairfax	Yantachka of Charlotte
Gamache of Swanton	Myers of Essex	Young of Glover
	Nolan of Morristown	
	Norris of Shoreham	
	Noyes of Wolcott	

Those who voted in the negative are:

Ancel of Calais	Hooper of Montpelier	Pugh of South Burlington
Brennan of Colchester	Houghton of Essex	Rachelson of Burlington
Colburn of Burlington	Howard of Rutland City	Scheu of Middlebury
Deen of Westminster	Kitzmiller of Montpelier	Sheldon of Middlebury
Donovan of Burlington	Lucke of Hartford	Stevens of Waterbury
Gonzalez of Winooski	McCormack of Burlington	Stuart of Brattleboro
Head of South Burlington	Mrowicki of Putney	Sullivan of Burlington

Those members absent with leave of the House and not voting are:

Ainsworth of Royalton	Condon of Colchester	Poirier of Barre City
Beyor of Highgate	Lefebvre of Newark	

Pending third reading of the bill, **Rep. Brennan of Colchester** moved to amend the House proposal of amendment as follows:

First: In Sec. 8, 13 V.S.A. § 4021, in subdivision (d)(4), after “ammunition;” by striking out “or”

Second: In Sec. 8, 13 V.S.A. § 4021, in subdivision (d)(5), by striking out the period and inserting in lieu thereof the following: “; or”

Third: In Sec. 8, 13 V.S.A. § 4021, in subsection (d), by adding a subdivision (6) to read as follows:

(6) manufactured, possessed, transferred, offered for sale, purchased, received, or imported into this State in compliance with federal law.

Which was disagreed to.

Pending third reading of the bill, **Rep. Lalonde of South Burlington** moved to amend the House proposal of amendment as follows:

In Sec. 8, 13 V.S.A. § 4021, by striking out subsection (e) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

(e)(1) As used in this section, “large capacity ammunition feeding device” means a magazine, belt, drum, feed strip, or similar device that has a capacity of, or that can be readily restored or converted to accept:

(A) more than 10 rounds of ammunition for a long gun; or

(B) more than 15 rounds of ammunition for a hand gun.

(2) The term “large capacity ammunition feeding device” shall not include:

(A) an attached tubular device designed to accept, and capable of

operating only with, .22 caliber rimfire ammunition; or

(B) a large capacity ammunition feeding device that is manufactured or sold solely for use by a lever action or bolt action long gun or by an antique firearm as defined in subdivisions 4017(d)(2)(A) and (B) of this title.

Which was agreed to.

Pending third reading of the bill, **Rep. Morris of Bennington** moved to amend the House proposal of amendment as follows:

First: In Sec. 8, 13 V.S.A. § 4021(e)(2)(A), after “ammunition;” by striking out “or”

Second: In Sec. 8, 13 V.S.A. § 4021(e)(2)(B), by striking out the period and inserting in lieu thereof the following: “; or”

Third: In Sec. 8, 13 V.S.A. § 4021(e)(2), by adding a subdivision (C) to read as follows:

(C) a large capacity ammunition feeding device that is manufactured or sold solely for use with a firearm that is determined to be a curio or relic by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. As used in this subdivision, “curio or relic” means a firearm that is of special interest to collectors by reason of some quality other than its association with firearms intended for sporting use or as offensive or defensive weapons.

Which was agreed to.

Pending third reading of the bill, **Rep. Kimbell of Woodstock** moved to amend the House proposal of amendment as follows:

In Sec. 9, 13 V.S.A. § 4023, by adding a subsection (c) to read as follows:

(c) The Department of Public Safety shall develop, promote, and execute a collection process that permits persons to voluntarily and anonymously relinquish bump-fire stocks prior to the effective date of this section.

Which was agreed to.

Pending third reading of the bill, **Rep. Wright of Burlington** moved to amend the House proposal of amendment as follows:

Sec. 10. REPORT; BACKGROUND CHECKS ON PRIVATE FIREARM

SALES

On or before December 15, 2018, the Department of Public Safety, the Executive Director of the Department of Sheriffs and State’s Attorneys, and the Vermont Association of Chiefs of Police shall report to the House and Senate Committees on Judiciary regarding establishing an alternative to

13 V.S.A. § 4019 for conducting background checks on private firearms sales. The option shall permit a purchaser to obtain a background check from a law enforcement agency rather than a federally licensed firearms dealer when purchasing the firearm from a private person instead of the dealer. The report shall analyze the cost and efficiency of obtaining the background check from the law enforcement agency rather than the dealer, and shall include a recommendation as to whether such an option should be created by the General Assembly.

and by renumbering the existing Sec. 10 to be Sec. 11.

Which was agreed to.

Pending third reading of the bill, **Rep. Brennan of Colchester** moved to amend the House proposal of amendment as follows:

Sec. 10. 13 V.S.A. § 4010 is amended to read:

§ 4010. GUN SUPPRESSORS

(a) As used in this section:

(1) “Gun suppressor” means any device for silencing, muffling, or diminishing the report of a portable firearm, including any combination of parts, designed or redesigned, and intended for use in assembling or fabricating a gun suppressor, and any part intended only for use in such assembly or fabrication.

(2) “Sport shooting range” shall have the same meaning as used in 10 V.S.A. § 5227(a).

(b) A person shall not manufacture, make, or import a gun suppressor, except for:

(1) a licensed manufacturer, as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 921, who is registered as a manufacturer pursuant to 26 U.S.C. § 5802;

(2) a licensed importer, as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 921, who is registered as an importer pursuant to 26 U.S.C. § 5802; or

(3) a person who makes a gun suppressor in compliance with the requirements of 26 U.S.C. § 5822.

(c) A person shall not use a gun suppressor in the State, except for use by:

(1) a Level III certified law enforcement officer or Department of Fish and Wildlife employee in connection with his or her duties and responsibilities and in accordance with the policies and procedures of that officer’s or employee’s agency or department;

(2) the Vermont National Guard in connection with its duties and

responsibilities;

(3) a licensed manufacturer or a licensed importer, as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 921, who is also registered as a manufacturer or an importer pursuant to 26 U.S.C. § 5802, who in the ordinary course of his or her business as a manufacturer or as an importer tests the operation of the gun suppressor; or

(4) a person lawfully using a sport shooting range; or

(5) a person taking game as authorized under 10 V.S.A. § 4701.

(d)(1) A person who violates subsection (b) of this section shall be fined not less than \$500.00 for each offense.

(2) A person who violates subsection (c) of this section shall be fined \$50.00 for each offense.

Sec. 11. 10 V.S.A. § 4701 is amended to read:

§ 4701. USE OF GUN, BOW AND ARROW, AND CROSSBOW; LEGAL DAY; DOGS; GUN SUPPRESSORS

(a) Unless otherwise provided by statute, a person shall not take game except with:

(1) a gun fired at arm's length;

(2) a bow and arrow; or

(3) a crossbow as authorized under section 4711 of this title or as authorized by the rules of the Board.

(b) A person shall not take game between one-half hour after sunset and one-half hour before sunrise unless otherwise provided by statute or by the rules of the Board.

(c) A person may take game and fur-bearing animals during the open season therefor, with the aid of a dog, unless otherwise prohibited by statute or by the rules of the Board.

(d) A person taking game with a gun may possess, carry, or use a gun suppressor in the act of taking game.

Sec. 12. 10 V.S.A. § 4704 is amended to read

§ 4704. USE OF MACHINE GUNS; OR AUTOLOADING RIFLES; ~~AND~~ GUN SUPPRESSORS

(a) A person engaged in hunting for wild animals shall not use, carry, or have in his or her possession:

- (1) a machine gun of any kind or description; or
- (2) an autoloading rifle with a magazine capacity of over six cartridges, except a .22 caliber rifle using rim fire cartridges; or
- (3) ~~a gun suppressor.~~

(b) ~~As used in this section, "gun suppressor" means any device for silencing, muffling, or diminishing the report of a portable firearm, including any combination of parts, designed or redesigned, and intended for use in assembling or fabricating a gun suppressor, and any part intended only for use in such assembly or fabrication. [Repealed.]~~

Sec. 13. 10 V.S.A. § 4001 is amended to read:

§ 4001. DEFINITIONS

Words and phrases used in this part, unless otherwise provided, shall be construed to mean as follows:

* * *

(9) Game: game birds or game quadrupeds, or both.

(10) Game birds: quail, partridge, woodcock, pheasant, plover of any kind, Wilson snipe, other shore birds, rail, coot, gallinule, wild ducks, wild geese, and wild turkey.

* * *

(15) Wild animals or wildlife: all animals, including birds, fish, amphibians, and reptiles, other than domestic animals.

* * *

(23) Take and taking: pursuing, shooting, hunting, killing, capturing, trapping, snaring, and netting fish, birds, and quadrupeds and all lesser acts, such as disturbing, harrying or worrying, or wounding or placing, setting, drawing, or using any net or other device commonly used to take fish or wild animals, whether they result in the taking or not; and shall include every attempt to take and every act of assistance to every other person in taking or attempting to take fish or wild animals, provided that when taking is allowed by law, reference is had to taking by lawful means and in lawful manner.

* * *

(40) Gun suppressor: any device for silencing, muffling, or diminishing the report of a portable firearm, including any combination of parts, designed or redesigned, and intended for use in assembling or fabricating a gun suppressor, and any part intended only for use in such assembly or fabrication.

and by renumbering the existing Sec. 10 to be Sec. 14

Thereupon, **Rep. Bartholomew of Hartland** raised a Point of Order in that amendment is not germane, which the Speaker ruled well taken, as the amendment was relating to public health and not firearm safety.

Pending third reading of the bill, **Rep. Lalonde of South Burlington** moved to amend the House proposal of amendment as follows:

In Sec. 8, 13 V.S.A. § 4021 in subsection (a), by striking out “receive,” and inserting in lieu thereof “or receive”

Which was agreed to.

Pending third reading of the bill, **Rep. Poirier of Barre City** moved to amend the House proposal of amendment as follows:

By adding a new Sec. 10 to read as follows:

Sec. 10. LARGE CAPACITY FEEDING DEVICE OR BUMP-FIRE STOCK;
PURCHASE BY STATE OF VERMONT

Any large capacity ammunition feeding device or bump-fire stock in the possession of a person issued a license as a dealer in firearms pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 923(a) after October 1, 2018 shall be purchased by the State of Vermont at its fair market value.

and by renumbering the remaining section (effective date) to be numerically correct.

Pending the question, Shall the House proposal of amendment be amended as offered by Rep. Poirier of Barre City? **Rep. Poirier of Barre City** demanded the Yeas and Nays, which demand was sustained by the Constitutional number.

Pending the call of the roll, **Rep. Poirier of Barre City** moved to substitute an amendment for the amendment offered by the Rep. Poirier of Barre City, as follows:

By adding a new Sec. 10 to read as follows:

Sec. 10. LARGE CAPACITY FEEDING DEVICE OR BUMP-FIRE STOCK;
PURCHASE BY STATE OF VERMONT

Any large capacity ammunition feeding device or bump-fire stock in the possession of a person issued a license as a dealer in firearms pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 923(a) after October 1, 2018 shall be purchased by the State of Vermont at the price the dealer paid for the large capacity ammunition feeding device or bump-fire stock.

and by renumbering the remaining section (effective date) to be numerically correct.

Which was agreed to.

Pending the question, Shall the House proposal of amendment be amended as offered by Rep. Poirier of Barre City as substituted? **Rep. Poirier of Barre City** demanded the Yeas and Nays, which demand was sustained by the Constitutional number. The Clerk proceeded to call the roll and the question, Shall the House proposal of amendment be amended as offered by Rep. Poirier of Barre City as substituted? was decided in the negative. Yeas, 47. Nays, 97.

Those who voted in the affirmative are:

Bancroft of Westford	Graham of Williamstown	Norris of Shoreham
Baser of Bristol	Harrison of Chittenden	Parent of St. Albans Town
Batchelor of Derby	Helm of Fair Haven	Poirier of Barre City
Brennan of Colchester	Higley of Lowell	Quimby of Concord
Browning of Arlington	Joseph of North Hero	Read of Fayston
Burditt of West Rutland	LaClair of Barre Town	Rosenquist of Georgia
Canfield of Fair Haven	Lawrence of Lyndon	Savage of Swanton
Cupoli of Rutland City	Lewis of Berlin	Scheuermann of Stowe
Devereux of Mount Holly	Marcotte of Coventry	Sibilia of Dover
Dickinson of St. Albans Town	Martel of Waterford	Smith of Derby
Donahue of Northfield	Mattos of Milton	Smith of New Haven
Feltus of Lyndon	McCoy of Poultney	Strong of Albany
Frenier of Chelsea	McFaun of Barre Town	Terenzini of Rutland Town
Gage of Rutland City	Morrissey of Bennington	Turner of Milton
Gamache of Swanton	Myers of Essex	Viens of Newport City
	Nolan of Morristown	Wright of Burlington

Those who voted in the negative are:

Ancel of Calais	Gonzalez of Winooski	Pajala of Londonderry
Bartholomew of Hartland	Grad of Moretown	Partridge of Windham
Beck of St. Johnsbury	Haas of Rochester	Pearce of Richford
Belaski of Windsor	Head of South Burlington	Potter of Clarendon
Bissonnette of Winooski	Hebert of Vernon	Pugh of South Burlington
Bock of Chester	Hill of Wolcott	Rachelson of Burlington *
Botzow of Pownal	Hooper of Montpelier	Scheu of Middlebury
Briglin of Thetford	Hooper of Randolph	Sharpe of Bristol
Brumsted of Shelburne	Houghton of Essex	Shaw of Pittsford
Burke of Brattleboro	Howard of Rutland City	Sheldon of Middlebury
Carr of Brandon	Jessup of Middlesex	Squirrell of Underhill
Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs	Jickling of Randolph	Stevens of Waterbury
Christensen of Weathersfield	Juskiewicz of Cambridge	Stuart of Brattleboro
Christie of Hartford	Keefe of Manchester	Sullivan of Dorset
Cina of Burlington	Keenan of St. Albans City	Sullivan of Burlington
Colburn of Burlington	Kimbell of Woodstock	Taylor of Colchester
Conlon of Cornwall	Kitzmiller of Montpelier	Till of Jericho
	Krowinski of Burlington	Toleno of Brattleboro

Connor of Fairfield	Lalonde of South Burlington	Toll of Danville
Conquest of Newbury	Lanpher of Vergennes	Townsend of South
Copeland-Hanzas of Bradford	Lippert of Hinesburg	Burlington
Corcoran of Bennington	Long of Newfane	Trieber of Rockingham
Dakin of Colchester	Lucke of Hartford	Troiano of Stannard
Deen of Westminster	Macaig of Williston	Van Wyck of Ferrisburgh
Donovan of Burlington	Masland of Thetford	Walz of Barre City
Dunn of Essex	McCormack of Burlington	Webb of Shelburne
Emmons of Springfield	McCullough of Williston	Weed of Enosburgh
Fagan of Rutland City	Miller of Shaftsbury	Willhoit of St. Johnsbury
Fields of Bennington	Morris of Bennington	Wood of Waterbury
Forguites of Springfield	Mrowicki of Putney	Yacovone of Morristown
Gannon of Wilmington	Murphy of Fairfax	Yantachka of Charlotte
Gardner of Richmond	Noyes of Wolcott	Young of Glover
Giambatista of Essex	Ode of Burlington	
	O'Sullivan of Burlington	

Those members absent with leave of the House and not voting are:

Ainsworth of Royalton	Buckholz of Hartford	Lefebvre of Newark
Beyor of Highgate	Condon of Colchester	

Rep. Rachelson of Burlington explained her vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

I voted no. I would support this body looking into a real buy back program, that could benefit individuals as well as businesses. But, we'd need to do our homework and due diligence in funding it responsibly and not just put it on a charge card.”

Pending third reading of the bill, **Rep. Donahue of Northfield** moved to amend the House proposal of amendment as follows:

In Sec. 8, 13 V.S.A. § 4021, in subsection (d), subdivision (4), by striking out “or”; in subdivision (5), after the words “Attorney General” by striking out the period and inserting in lieu thereof “; or” and by inserting a subdivision (6) to read as follows:

(6) transported by an individual into or within this State for the exclusive purpose of use in a shooting competition or firearms training event sponsored by the Vermont Federation of Sportsmen’s Clubs or another organization that sponsors recognized shooting competitions or firearms training events if the device is lawfully possessed under subsection (c) of this section or the laws of another State.

Thereupon, **Rep. Donahue of Northfield** asked and was granted leave to withdraw the amendment.

Pending third reading of the bill, **Rep. Donahue of Northfield** moved to

amend the House proposal of amendment as follows:

First: In Sec. 8, 13 V.S.A. § 4021(d)(1) , in subdivision (D), by striking out “or”; and at the end of subdivision (E), by striking the period and inserting “; or” and by inserting a subdivision (F) to read as follows:

(F) transported by a resident of another state into this State for the exclusive purpose of use in an established shooting competition if the device is lawfully possessed under the laws of another state.

Second: By inserting a new section 9 to read:

Sec. 9. REPEAL

13 V.S.A. § 4021(d)(1)(F) shall be repealed on July 1, 2019.

Third: In Sec. 12 (effective dates), by striking subsection (a) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

(a) This section and Secs.1–9 and Sec. 11 shall take effect on passage.

Which was agreed to. Thereupon the bill was read a third time.

Pending the question, Shall the bill pass in concurrence with proposal of amendment? **Rep. Turner of Milton** demanded the Yeas and Nays, which demand was sustained by the Constitutional number. The Clerk proceeded to call the roll and the question, Shall the bill pass in concurrence with proposal of amendment? was decided in the affirmative. Yeas, 89. Nays, 54.

Those who voted in the affirmative are:

Ancel of Calais	Giambatista of Essex	Partridge of Windham
Bartholomew of Hartland	Gonzalez of Winooski	Pugh of South Burlington *
Baser of Bristol	Grad of Moretown *	Rachelson of Burlington
Belaski of Windsor	Haas of Rochester	Read of Fayston
Bissonnette of Winooski	Head of South Burlington	Scheu of Middlebury *
Bock of Chester	Hill of Wolcott	Scheuermann of Stowe
Botzow of Pownal	Hooper of Montpelier	Sharpe of Bristol
Briglin of Thetford	Houghton of Essex *	Sheldon of Middlebury
Browning of Arlington	Howard of Rutland City	Sibilia of Dover *
Brumsted of Shelburne	Jessup of Middlesex	Squirrell of Underhill
Burke of Brattleboro	Joseph of North Hero	Stevens of Waterbury
Carr of Brandon	Keefe of Manchester	Stuart of Brattleboro *
Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs *	Keenan of St. Albans City	Sullivan of Dorset
Christensen of Weathersfield	Kimbell of Woodstock	Sullivan of Burlington
Christie of Hartford	Kitzmiller of Montpelier	Taylor of Colchester
Cina of Burlington	Krowinski of Burlington	Till of Jericho *
Colburn of Burlington	Lalonde of South Burlington	Toleno of Brattleboro
Conlon of Cornwall	Lanpher of Vergennes	Toll of Danville
Connor of Fairfield	Lippert of Hinesburg	Townsend of South Burlington
Dakin of Colchester	Long of Newfane	Trieber of Rockingham
	Lucke of Hartford *	

Deen of Westminster	Macaig of Williston	Troiano of Stannard *
Devereux of Mount Holly	Masland of Thetford	Walz of Barre City
Donovan of Burlington	McCormack of Burlington	Webb of Shelburne
Dunn of Essex	McCullough of Williston	Weed of Enosburgh
Emmons of Springfield	Miller of Shaftsbury *	Wood of Waterbury *
Fagan of Rutland City	Morris of Bennington *	Wright of Burlington
Fields of Bennington	Mrowicki of Putney	Yacovone of Morristown
Forguites of Springfield	Ode of Burlington	Yantachka of Charlotte
Gannon of Wilmington *	O'Sullivan of Burlington	
Gardner of Richmond *	Pajala of Londonderry	

Those who voted in the negative are:

Bancroft of Westford	Helm of Fair Haven	Parent of St. Albans Town
Batchelor of Derby *	Higley of Lowell	Pearce of Richford
Beck of St. Johnsbury	Hooper of Randolph	Poirier of Barre City *
Brennan of Colchester	Jickling of Randolph	Potter of Clarendon
Burditt of West Rutland	Juskiewicz of Cambridge	Quimby of Concord
Canfield of Fair Haven	LaClair of Barre Town	Rosenquist of Georgia
Conquest of Newbury	Lawrence of Lyndon	Savage of Swanton *
Corcoran of Bennington	Lewis of Berlin	Shaw of Pittsford
Cupoli of Rutland City	Marcotte of Coventry	Smith of Derby
Dickinson of St. Albans Town	Martel of Waterford	Smith of New Haven
Donahue of Northfield	Mattos of Milton	Strong of Albany
Feltus of Lyndon	McCoy of Poultney	Terenzini of Rutland Town
Frenier of Chelsea	McFaun of Barre Town	Turner of Milton
Gage of Rutland City	Morrissey of Bennington	Van Wyck of Ferrisburgh
Gamache of Swanton	Murphy of Fairfax	Viens of Newport City
Graham of Williamstown	Myers of Essex	Willhoit of St. Johnsbury
Harrison of Chittenden *	Nolan of Morristown	Young of Glover
Hebert of Vernon	Norris of Shoreham *	
	Noyes of Wolcott	

Those members absent with leave of the House and not voting are:

Ainsworth of Royalton	Condon of Colchester	Lefebvre of Newark
Beyor of Highgate	Copeland-Hanzas of	
Buckholz of Hartford	Bradford	

Rep. Batchelor of Derby explained her vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

I voted no on S. 55. I do not believe that this bill will solve our problems. Safety in our schools is the best solution. We need to make our schools safe not restrict the citizens and infringe on their 2nd amendment rights.”

Rep. Chestnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs explained his vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

Like other members of this body I have listened to hundreds of messages and opinions on all sides of this issue, some of them very extreme. But what I have experienced in this body is the legislative process doing what it should. We have crafted reasonable bills, we have adopted reasonable compromises and we have had reasonable discussions with friends and strangers with differing opinions. Like all compromises, this bill is not perfect, but it works in conjunction with H. 422, S. 221 and with mental health efforts and school security to move us forward.”

Rep. Gannon of Wilmington explained his vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

This bill should have been easy for me to support. My daughter Katherine was at the Boston Marathon bombing. Waiting to find out if she was okay was frightening. We were lucky. Although she was diagnosed with PTSD, she survived. Now she is a teacher. I can’t imagine what it was like for the parents in Parkland that were not so lucky. However, balanced against our interest to protect our children is the 2nd Amendment right to bear arms. That is why I held a school safety forum with the member from Dover so I could hear my constituent's thoughts. I took their views very seriously. But there are limits on our rights in order to protect innocent people. We all believe in the 1st Amendment guarantee of free speech, but you can’t yell “fire” in a crowded theater. And we can reduce gun violence consistent with the 2nd Amendment. This is what S. 55 does and that is why I voted for it. This bill will not stop every act of gun violence and it might not have stopped the last gun massacre, but if it stops one act of mass violence, it was a step worth taking.”

Rep. Gardner of Richmond explained her vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

I voted yes. It is time for us to stand and be brave. It is shameful that it has taken our children to lead us here. But, finally, today we have passed legislation that will help keep them safe.”

Rep. Grad of Moretown explained her vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

As a mother and advocate for legislation that prevents domestic violence, suicide and school shootings, I vote yes for S. 55. S. 55 addresses school and community safety by ensuring guns remain in the hands of those who should have them. In S. 55 we are decreasing the opportunities to obtain firearms for those who intend to harm themselves or others. S. 55 is a vital component of sensible gun safety laws such as extreme risk protection of Vermonters while balancing our public safety with Vermont’s hunting traditions.”

Rep. Harrison of Chittenden explained his vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

At each of the town meetings I attended earlier this month, I told members of our district that I would support measures that I believed would make a difference but would not favor those proposals that I felt were either offered for political purposes or would not work. I appreciated the work of the House Judiciary committee as they tried to find the right balance. I supported a few provisions of S. 55, and opposed others. In the end, S. 55 did not find the right balance for me and I voted no.”

Rep. Houghton of Essex explained her vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

I know that this legislation alone will not keep Vermont safe, but it is a step toward that goal. This legislation may make purchasing a firearm a bit harder for some but it won't prevent a law abiding citizen from purchasing or owning a firearm. This legislation may give school children a few precious seconds to live. This legislation may prevent a troubled youth from making a life altering decision. This legislation may allow our youth to focus on learning and not jump at every sound they hear. I vote yes for them. I vote yes for life.”

Rep. Lucke of Hartford explained her vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

I voted yes. I know young people at Fair Haven H.S and had a poignant conversation with their mother; last week I waited anxiously to hear if my friends children at Great Mills H.S. were alive; I am inspired by students from Hartford H.S. who used their voices and took leadership to walk out, come here to testify and to protest in Montpelier and in our nation's capital. Over the past 227 years we have had the right as peaceful citizens of this country and state to keep and bear arms. These rights continue with this legislations in a way that supports Vermonters hunting and sporting community. This is democracy at its finest, finding the balance between passionate, competing priorities and perspectives of our citizens old and young. Some will say we didn't go far enough.”

Rep. Miller of Shaftsbury explained her vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

The Pope encouraged youth around the world to “shout out” against violence. My voice and vote today is a “shout out” for our youth in Vermont who asked us to help.”

Rep. Morris of Bennington explained her vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

This bill represents a thoughtful, deliberate consideration of needed legislation in line with national trends and changing sensibilities. We are being proactive by collaboratively working towards solutions to one of the most pressing and personal issues of our time. I am proud of the work today and the small measures we developed to move us from an either or dance to one that supports innovation and is Vermont specific. I believe in Vermont and the strength, ingenuity and problem-solving abilities of Vermonters who care deeply to come to the table and move us forward. I remain committed to addressing the social determinants of negative health outcomes. Gun violence, violence in our communities, including our schools are but symptoms of a torrent of ever-growing challenges that are hurting our nation. This bill is but one part of a multi-faceted long-range approach.”

Rep. Norris of Shoreham explained his vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

I voted no on S. 55. I heard from many of my constituents, mostly from the FHUHS district, that this bill would do nothing to make our schools safer.

I believe we pushed this bill through to make it look like we were doing something but in reality it will prevent nothing. We need to look further into why these young adults feel so angry with their fellow students and work to make schools safer, this bill doesn’t address that.”

Rep. Poirier of Barre City explained his vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

I voted no for all the many law abiding gun owners who live in Barre City that may become criminals for possession of a legal firearm.”

Rep. Pugh of South Burlington explained her vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

I vote yes for the one life it saves, for the one injury it prevents. I vote yes for the steps this legislation takes in building a stronger and safer Vermont for all of us who love this, our home, Vermont.”

Rep. Savage of Swanton explained his vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

With the passage of this bill, 227 years of Vermont tradition has gone down the drain.

We have gone from one of the most lenient gun states to one of restriction almost literally overnight.

We are on the path to having to change our state motto of 'Freedom and Unity' as we are losing the means to ensure our freedom.”

Rep. Scheu of Middlebury explained her vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

I support this common sense gun violence prevention legislation because I believe we should all have the freedom to be safe in our homes, our schools, our neighborhoods, and at work, without the constant threat of gun violence hanging over our heads. These laws will help save lives.”

Rep. Sibilia of Dover explained her vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

I voted yes. And I thank all of the members and staff who worked so hard to make necessary changes over the weekend.

No guns are being made illegal by this bill, all high capacity magazines that Vermonters currently own they can keep, Vermonters of all ages will continue to be able to possess and use their firearms.”

Rep. Stuart of Brattleboro explained her vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

As a matter of public health, gun suicides are a huge problem in the United States. Suicide is the most common cause of death for Americans between 15 - 34, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention(CDC). Vermont’s suicide increased by nearly 60% between 1999-2010, according to the CDC.

Madam Speaker, Those who oppose sensible guns laws are on the wrong side of history. Young people are pleading with us to stem the senseless loss of lives. I’m proud to have voted for S.55, and I did so in honor of my daughter’s friend who took her own life with a gun.”

Rep. Till of Jericho explained his vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

I vote yes on S. 55. We have a public health problem in Vermont.

We have 11.1 deaths per 100,000 residents, only 15th best in the country.

We have only the 6th lowest murder rate in the country.

We have the 8th worst state rate for domestic violence deaths.

We have a suicide rate consistently higher than national rates.

S. 55 expands background checks to private gun sales including on line sales in Vermont. Background checks have prevented over 3000 sales by licensed firearm dealers to individuals who are forbidden from owning firearms including almost 1000 felons, 650 individuals with active restraining orders or history of domestic violence and 350 users of illegal drugs.

We know that individuals who attempt to buy guns on line are 6 times more likely to fail background checks. Extending background checks will absolutely make Vermont safer.

We also raise the age to purchase long guns to 21. That matters because the data says 3/4 shooters in K-12 schools are under 21. I am proud to support S. 55. We need to keep guns out of the hands of people who shouldn't have them."

Rep. Troiano of Stannard explained his vote as follows:

"Madam Speaker:

I voted yes. Thousands of our students have come to us and asked us to do this. It is time for compromise. There is no reason for these tragedies and there is no one solution. Just one section of this bill, age 21 could have kept the young man from Fair Haven purchasing the firearm on that day. All sections have passed constitutional muster. We do not know if this will work but if it saves one life it will all be worth it."

Rep. Wood of Waterbury explained her vote as follows:

"Madam Speaker:

I voted in favor of this legislation because it has the potential to save lives – do any of us know that for certain – the answer is no. We have no guarantee in life but Madam Speaker, working within all constitutional boundaries, I take the responsibility very seriously to do what I can to enable Vermonters to live peacefully, to address the demands for common sense gun safety laws and to enable our children to grow up and pursue their own liberty and happiness."

Message from the Senate No. 41

A message was received from the Senate by Mr. Marshall, its Assistant Secretary, as follows:

Madam Speaker:

I am directed to inform the House that:

The Senate has on its part adopted joint resolution of the following title:

J.R.S. 53. Joint resolution relating to weekend adjournment.

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

Adjournment

At eight o'clock and twenty minutes in the evening, on motion of **Rep. Turner of Milton**, the House adjourned until tomorrow at one o'clock in the afternoon.