

Journal of the House

Friday, March 30, 2018

At nine o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon the Speaker called the House to order.

Devotional Exercises

Devotional exercises were conducted by the Speaker.

Pages Honored

In appreciation of their many services to the members of the General Assembly, the Speaker recognized the following named Pages who are completing their service today and presented them with commemorative pins:

Mack Briglin
Brody Brown
Lily Charkey-Buren
Olivia Crawford
Hannah Darby
Seamus Howrigan
Adelle MacDowell
Liza Morse
Otto Nisimlat
Olive Oski
Ethan Sonneborn

Third Reading; Bill Passed in Concurrence With Proposal of Amendment

S. 221

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to establishing extreme risk protection orders

Was taken up, read the third time and passed in concurrence with proposal of amendment.

Remarks Journalized

On motion of **Rep. Masland of Thetford**, the following remarks by the Speaker, **Rep. Johnson of South Hero** were ordered printed in the Journal:

“Madam Speaker:

I have a secret. Sometimes in thinking about my remarks for page graduation,

I have to really search for something that made a page class' 6 week block of time unique. I had no trouble with that for today.

You all started your jobs here on February 13th. Devastating events that week- in our nation and our beloved state, shaped legislative conversations here in ways none of us could have predicted. And you've been here with us throughout that time, watching it unfold, and managing it with us from the inside.

The country's founders struggled mightily with the necessary tension between liberty and justice. Between the individual freedom and liberties they were denied under colonial rule, and the necessary standard of laws that form the foundation of a just and stable society. This tension between individual freedom and common good- of freedom and unity- is the core question of a truly free democracy.

We have not struggled with a question as deeply or with as much public engagement, in at least 9, and maybe 20 years. It is remarkable- and it is the hallmark of true democracy. As pages, you have played a vital role in connecting Vermonters with their government. Each of those many, MANY messages that you delivered are Vermonters reaching out to their elected officials so that their views can be heard. Outside the statehouse, you and your peers have stepped up to not only participate, but to re-shape a public conversation in a way I have never seen before in my lifetime. And I could not be more proud of Vermont's youth.

We hope that in your time with us, you've gained an appreciation for the care and feeding required to make a living democracy successful. Democracy requires a lot of energy and engagement, but it is well worth the nurturing and the investment.

We have lived and worked through a lot together over these six weeks, in this building, which is the heart of Democracy in Vermont. Our shared service and time together makes you a part of this family. Please stay in touch with us- and with each other. Come back soon, to check up on your successors – I'm sure they would appreciate your tips!- to visit with rest of us, maybe to testify, to lend your voice to the issues you care about on the statehouse steps, and hopefully, one day to fill these seats or the corner office. You never know where your journey will lead you, but we hope that in due time it leads you back here.

We thank you for your service and with you as the future of our state, Vermont is in excellent hands.”

Adjournment

At nine o'clock and fifty-nine minutes in the forenoon, on motion of **Rep.**

Turner of Milton, the House adjourned until Tuesday, April 3, 2018, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, pursuant to the provisions of J.R.S. 53.

Concurrent Resolutions Adopted

The following concurrent resolutions, having been placed on the Consent Calendar on the preceding legislative day, and no member having requested floor consideration as provided by Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives, are hereby adopted in concurrence.

H.C.R. 291

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Vermont State Housing Authority on its 50th anniversary;

H.C.R. 292

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2018 Rutland High School Division I championship cheerleading team;

H.C.R. 293

House concurrent resolution congratulating Milton High School senior Nick Johnson on his varsity athletic achievements;

H.C.R. 294

House concurrent resolution congratulating Southwestern Medical Center on its centennial anniversary;

H.C.R. 295

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Vermont teams participating in the 2017–2018 FIRST robotics competitions;

H.C.R. 296

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2017 Northfield High School Marauders Division III championship girls' cross-country team;

H.C.R. 297

House concurrent resolution congratulating William O'Neil on his 2018 induction into the National Federation of State High School Associations' Hall of Fame;

H.C.R. 298

House concurrent resolution honoring the TRIO academic programs in Vermont and designating March 29, 2018 as TRIO Day at the State House;

H.C.R. 299

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Brattleboro Floral Arts and Garden Club on its 50th anniversary;

H.C.R. 300

House concurrent resolution congratulating Melba Masse on her induction into the Vermont Sports Hall of Fame;

H.C.R. 301

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2018 Fair Haven Union High School Slaters Division II championship boys' basketball team;

[The full text of the concurrent resolutions appeared in the House Calendar Addendum on the preceding legislative day and will appear in the Public Acts and Resolves of the 2018, seventy-fourth Biennial session.]