

Journal of the Senate

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2018

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Devotional Exercises

A moment of silence was observed in lieu of devotions.

Message from the House No. 20

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

Mr. President:

I am directed to inform the Senate that:

The House has passed House bills of the following titles:

H. 581. An act relating to Connectivity Initiative grant eligibility.

H. 582. An act relating to increased funding for the Connectivity Initiative.

H. 843. An act relating to technical corrections.

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

Rules Suspended; Bill Committed

Senator Bray moved that the rules be suspended and that Senate bill entitled:

S. 276. An act relating to rural economic development.

be committed to the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy with the report of the Committee on Agriculture *intact*,

Which was agreed to.

Senate Resolution Placed on Calendar

S.R. 12.

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

By Senator Ashe,

S.R. 12. Senate resolution relating to adoption of a temporary Rule 44A.

Resolved by the Senate:

That a temporary rule, to be designated Rule 44A, be adopted by the Senate, to read as follows:

Rule 44A. (a) Any bill failing to make the crossover dates of March 2, 2018 and March 16, 2018 shall be referred to the Committee on Rules. This provision shall not apply to the following measures:

- (1) transportation capital bill;
- (2) capital construction bill;
- (3) general appropriations bill (“The Big Bill”); and
- (4) fee and tax bills.

(b) The Rules Committee may report any bills referred to it for reference to another committee of jurisdiction pursuant to Senate Rule 24.

(c) This Temporary Rule 44A shall expire on the convening of the 2019 biennial session.

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

Bills Referred

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

H. 581.

An act relating to Connectivity Initiative grant eligibility.

To the Committee on Finance.

H. 582.

An act relating to increased funding for the Connectivity Initiative.

To the Committee on Finance.

H. 843.

An act relating to technical corrections.

To the Committee on Government Operations.

Joint Resolution Adopted on the Part of the Senate

J.R.S. 48.

Joint Senate resolution of the following title was read the third time and adopted on the part of the Senate:

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.

Joint Resolution Adopted on the Part of the Senate

J.R.S. 50.

Joint Senate resolution entitled:

Joint resolution providing for a Joint Assembly to vote on the retention of one Superior Judge and one Magistrate.

Having been placed on the Calendar for action, was taken up and adopted on the part of the Senate.

Appointment Confirmed

The following Gubernatorial appointment was confirmed separately by the Senate, upon full report given by the Committee to which it was referred:

The nomination of

Treadwell, John R. of Burlington - Superior Judge - November 17, 2017, to March 31, 2018.

Was confirmed by the Senate on a roll call Yeas 28, Nays 0.

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

Roll Call

Those Senators who voted in the affirmative were: Ashe, Ayer, Balint, Benning, Branagan, Bray, Brock, Brooks, Campion, Clarkson, Collamore, Cummings, Flory, Ingram, Kitchel, Lyons, MacDonald, Mazza, McCormack, Pearson, Pollina, Rodgers, Sears, Sirotkin, Soucy, Starr, Westman, White.

Those Senators who voted in the negative were: None.

Those Senators absent and not voting were: Baruth, Nitka.

****On a point of personal privilege, Senator Nitka addressed the Chair in support of the confirmation of John R. Treadwell, and on motion of Senator McCormack, her remarks were ordered enter in the Journal, and are as follows:

“Mr. President:

“I support the confirmation of John Treadwell as a Superior Court Judge for the State of Vermont. He is well qualified and I have worked with him while serving on Senate Judiciary. We are fortunate to have a person so well qualified to serve the State of Vermont.”

Adjournment

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