

Journal of the Senate

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9, 2018

The Senate was called to order by the President *pro tempore*.

Devotional Exercises

A moment of silence was observed in lieu of devotions.

Message from the House No. 66

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 considered Senate proposals of amendment to House proposal of amendment to Senate bill entitled:

S. 281. An act relating to the mitigation of systemic racism.

And has refused to concur therein and asks for a Committee of Conference upon the disagreeing votes of the two Houses.

The Speaker appointed as members of such Committee on the part of the House:

Rep. Gannon of Wilmington
Rep. Harrison of Chittenden
Rep. Weed of Enosburgh

The House has considered Senate proposals of amendment to House bill of the following title:

H. 764. An act relating to data brokers and consumer protection.

And has refused to concur therein and asks for a Committee of Conference upon the disagreeing votes of the two Houses;

And the Speaker appointed as members of such Committee on the part of the House:

Rep. Botzow of Pownal
Rep. Marcotte of Coventry
Rep. O'Sullivan of Burlington

Consideration Resumed; Third Reading Ordered
H. 636.

Consideration was resumed on House bill entitled:

An act relating to miscellaneous fish and wildlife subjects.

Thereupon, pending the question, Shall the Senate proposal of amendment be amended as moved by Senator Rodgers?, Senator Rodgers requested and was granted leave to withdraw his proposal of amendment.

Thereupon, pending the question, Shall the bill be read third time?, Senator Rodgers moved to amend the Senate proposal of amendment by adding a new section to be numbered Sec. 16a with a reader assistance heading to read as follows:

*** Large Capacity Ammunition Feeding Devices ***

Sec. 16a. 13 V.S.A. § 4021 is amended to read:

§ 4021. LARGE CAPACITY AMMUNITION FEEDING DEVICES

* * *

(c)(1)(A) 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 section, or to the transfer from one immediate family member to another immediate family member by a lawfully executed will of a large capacity ammunition feeding device lawfully possessed on or before the effective date of this section.

(B) As used in this subdivision, “immediate family member” shall have the same meaning as in subsection 4019(a) of this title.

* * *

Thereupon, pending the question, Shall the Senate propose to the House to amend the bill as moved by Senator Rodgers? Senator Pearson raised a *point of order* under Sec. 402 of Mason’s Manual of Legislative Procedure on the grounds that the proposal of amendment offered by Senator Rodgers was *not germane* to the bill and therefore could not be considered by the Senate.

Thereupon, the President *sustained* the point of order and ruled that the proposal of amendment offered by Senator Rodgers was *not germane* to the bill since it was not relevant, appropriate and in a natural or logical sequence to the subject matter of the original proposal of amendment - but rather unduly expands the subject matter of the bill and deals with the different topic or subject.

The President thereupon declared that the proposal of amendment offered by Senator Rodgers could *not* be considered by the Senate and the proposal of amendment was ordered stricken.

Thereupon, the Senator Rodgers moved that a non-germane amendment be made germane, which was disagreed to on a roll call, Yeas 15, Nays 14. (The necessary 3/4ths majority not having been attained)

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

Roll Call

Those Senators who voted in the affirmative were: Benning, Branagan, Brock, Collamore, Flory, Kitchel, MacDonald, Mazza, Nitka, Rodgers, Sears, Soucy, Starr, Westman, White.

Those Senators who voted in the negative were: Ayer, Balint, Baruth, Bray, Brooks, Campion, Clarkson, Cummings, Ingram, Lyons, McCormack, Pearson, Pollina, Sirotkin.

The Senator absent or not voting was: Ashe (presiding).

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

House Proposal of Amendment Concurred In with Amendment

H. 908.

House proposal of amendment to Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to the Administrative Procedure Act.

Was taken up.

The House concurs in the Senate proposal of amendment with further amendment thereto as follows:

In Sec. 2, 3 V.S.A. chapter 25, in § 838 (filing of proposed rules), in subsection (b) (economic impact analysis; rules affecting small businesses and school districts), in subdivision (2) (small businesses), in the first sentence, by striking out the following: ,when appropriate,

Thereupon, pending the question, Shall the Senate concur in the House proposal of amendment?, Senators White, Ayer, Clarkson, Collamore and Pearson moved that the Senate concur in the House proposal of amendment with an amendment as follows:

In Sec. 2, 3 V.S.A. chapter 25, in § 838 (filing of proposed rules), in subsection (b) (economic impact analysis; rules affecting small businesses and

school districts), in subdivision (2) (small businesses):

in the first sentence, after “the agency shall include” by inserting , when appropriate,

and, after the first sentence, by inserting a new sentence before subdivision (A) to read: When an agency determines that such an evaluation is not appropriate, the economic impact statement shall briefly explain the reasons for this determination.

Which was agreed to.

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

H. 907.

House bill entitled:

An act relating to improving rental housing safety.

Was taken up.

Thereupon, pending third reading of the bill, Senator Sirotkin moved to amend the Senate proposal of amendment by in Sec. 5, in 18 V.S.A. § 603(a) by striking out subdivision (2) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subdivision (2) to read:

(2) A written inspection report shall:

(i) contain findings of fact that serve as the basis of one or more violations;

(ii) specify the requirements and timelines necessary to correct a violation;

(iii) provide notice that the landlord is prohibited from renting the affected unit to a new tenant until the violation is corrected; and

(iv) provide notice in plain language that the landlord and agents of the landlord must have access to the rental unit to make repairs as ordered by the health officer consistent with the access provisions in 9 V.S.A. § 4460.

Which was agreed to.

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

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

H. 410.

House bill entitled:

An act relating to adding products to Vermont's energy efficiency standards for appliances and equipment.

Was taken up.

Thereupon, pending third reading of the bill, Senators Bray, Campion, MacDonald and Pearson moved to amend the Senate proposal of amendment in Sec. 13 (reports; electric generation constraints), by striking out subsection (a) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (a) to read:

(a) As used in this section, "SHEI" means the Sheffield-Highgate Export Interface.

Which was agreed to.

Thereupon, pending third reading of the bill, Senator Bray moved to amend the Senate proposal of amendment in Sec. 15, 23 V.S.A. § 1104, by striking out subdivision (a)(3)(C) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

(C) at any place where official signs restrict parking and the vehicle violates the restrictions.

Thereupon, pending the question, Shall the bill be amended as proposed by Senator Bray?, Senators Sears and Ashe moved to substitute the proposal of amendment as follows:

In Sec. 15, 23 V.S.A. § 1104, by striking out subdivision (a)(3)(C) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

(C) at any place where official signs restrict parking at an electric vehicle charging station and the vehicle violates the restrictions.

Which was agreed to.

Thereupon, the question, Shall the bill be amended as recommended by Senator Bray, as substituted, was agreed to.

Thereupon, the bill was read the third time and passed in concurrence with proposal of amendment on a roll call, Yeas 25, Nays 4.

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

Roll Call

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

Those Senators who voted in the negative were: Brock, Collamore, Flory, Soucy.

The Senator absent or not voting was: Ashe (presiding).

Bills Passed in Concurrence with Proposals of Amendment

House bills of the following titles were severally read the third time and passed in concurrence with proposals of amendment:

H. 554. An act relating to the regulation of dams.

H. 639. An act relating to banning cost-sharing for all breast imaging services.

H. 675. An act relating to conditions of release prior to trial.

H. 684. An act relating to professions and occupations regulated by the Office of Professional Regulation.

H. 727. An act relating to the admissibility of a child's hearsay statements in a proceeding before the Human Services Board.

H. 919. An act relating to workforce development.

Proposal of Amendment; Bill Passed in Concurrence with Proposal of Amendment**H. 901.**

House bill entitled:

An act relating to health information technology and health information exchange.

Was taken up.

Thereupon, pending third reading of the bill, Senator White moved to amend the Senate proposal of amendment by adding a new section to be numbered Sec. 8a to read as follows:

Sec. 8a. 2 V.S.A. chapter 18 is added to read:

CHAPTER 18. JOINT INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

* * *

§ 614. JOINT INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OVERSIGHT
COMMITTEE

(a) Creation. There is created the Joint Information Technology Oversight Committee to oversee investments in and use of information technology in Vermont.

(b) Membership. The Committee shall be composed of six members as follows:

(1) three members of the House of Representatives, not all of whom shall be from the same political party, who shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House; and

(2) three members of the Senate, not all of whom shall be from the same political party, who shall be appointed by the Committee on Committees.

(c) Powers and duties. The Committee shall oversee, evaluate, and make recommendations on the following:

(1) the State's current deployment, management, and oversight of information technology in the furtherance of State governmental activities, including data processing systems, telecommunications networks, and related technologies, particularly with regard to issues of compatibility among existing and proposed technologies;

(2) issues related to the storage of, maintenance of, access to, privacy of, and restrictions on use of computerized records;

(3) issues of public policy related to the development and promotion of the private, commercial, and nonprofit information infrastructure in the State, its relationship to the State government information infrastructure, and its integration with national and international information networks; and

(4) cybersecurity.

(d) Assistance. The Committee shall have the administrative, technical, and legal assistance of the Office of Legislative Council and the Joint Fiscal Office.

(e) Meetings.

(1) The Speaker of the House and the Committee on Committees shall appoint one member from the House and one member of the Senate as co-chairs of the Committee.

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

(3) The Committee may meet when the General Assembly is in session or at the call of the Co-Chairs.

(f) Reimbursement. For attendance at meetings during adjournment of the General Assembly, members of the Committee shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to 2 V.S.A. § 406.

Which was agreed to.

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

Proposal of Amendment; Third Reading Ordered

H. 739.

Senator Lyons, for the Committee on Finance, to which was referred House bill entitled:

An act relating to energy productivity investments under the self-managed energy efficiency program.

Reported recommending that the Senate propose to the House to amend the bill by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 30 V.S.A. § 209 is amended to read:

§ 209. JURISDICTION; GENERAL SCOPE

* * *

(j) Self-managed energy efficiency programs.

(1) There shall be a class of self-managed energy efficiency programs for transmission and industrial electric ratepayers only.

(2) The Commission, by order, shall enact this class of programs.

(3) Entities approved to participate in the self-managed energy efficiency program class shall be exempt from all statewide charges under subdivision (d)(3) of this section that support energy efficiency programs performed by or on behalf of Vermont electric utilities. If an electric ratepayer approved to participate in this program class also is a customer of a natural gas utility, the ratepayer shall be exempt from all charges under subdivision (d)(3) of this section or contained within the rates charged by the natural gas utility to the ratepayer that support energy efficiency programs performed by or on behalf of that utility, provided that the ratepayer complies with this subsection.

(4) All of the following shall apply to a class of programs under this subsection:

(A) A member of the transmission or industrial electric rate classes shall be eligible to apply to participate in the self-managed energy efficiency program class if the charges to the applicant, or to its predecessor in interest at the served property, under subdivision (d)(3) of this section were a minimum of:

(i) \$1.5 million during calendar year 2008; or

(ii) \$1.5 million during calendar year 2017.

(B) A cost-based fee to be determined by the Commission shall be charged to the applicant to cover the administrative costs, including savings verification, incurred by the Commission and Department. The Commission shall determine procedures for savings verification. Such procedures shall be consistent with savings verification procedures established for entities appointed under subdivision (d)(2) of this section and, when determined to be cost-effective under subdivision (L) of this subdivision (4), with the requirements of ISO-New England for the forward capacity market (FCM) program.

(C) An applicant shall demonstrate to the Commission that it has a comprehensive energy management program with annual objectives. Achievement of certification of ISO standard 14001 shall be eligible to satisfy the requirements of having a comprehensive program.

(D) An applicant eligible pursuant to subdivision (A)(i) of this subdivision (j)(4) shall commit to an annual average energy efficiency investment in energy efficiency and energy productivity programs and measures during each three-year period that the applicant participates in the program of not less than \$1 million. An applicant eligible pursuant to subdivision (A)(ii) of this subdivision (j)(4) shall commit to an annual average investment in energy efficiency and energy productivity programs and measures during each three-year period that the applicant participates in the program of not less than \$500,000.00. To achieve the exemption from energy efficiency charges related to natural gas under subdivision (3) of this subsection (j), the an applicant shall make an additional annual energy efficiency investment in an amount not less than \$55,000.00. As used in this subsection (j), “energy productivity programs and measures” means investments that reduce the amount of energy required to produce a unit of product below baseline energy use. Baseline energy use shall be calculated as the average amount of energy required to make one unit of the same product in the two years preceding implementation of the program or measure.

(E) Participation in the self-managed program includes efficiency and productivity programs and measures applicable to electric and other forms

of energy. A participant may balance efficiency investments in such programs and measures across all types of energy or fuels without limitations.

(F) A participant shall provide to the Commission and Department annually an accounting of energy investments in energy efficiency and energy productivity programs and measures and the resultant energy savings in the form prescribed by the Commission, which may conduct reasonable audits to ensure the accuracy of the data provided.

(G) The Commission shall report to the General Assembly annually by on or before April 30 concerning the prior calendar year's class of self-managed energy efficiency programs. The report shall include identification of participants, their annual investments, and resulting savings, and any actions taken to exclude entities from the program.

(H) Upon approval of an application by the Commission, the applicant shall be able to participate in the class of self-managed energy efficiency programs.

(I) On a determination that, for a given three-year period, a participant in the self-managed efficiency program class did not meet or has not met the commitment required by subdivision ~~(4)(D)~~ of this subsection subdivision (j)(4), the Commission shall terminate the participant's eligibility for the self-managed program class.

(i) On such termination, the former participant will be subject fully to the then existing charges applicable to its rate class without exemption under subdivision (3) of this subsection (j), and within 90 days ~~of~~ after such termination shall pay:

(I) the difference between the investment it made pursuant to the self-managed energy efficiency program during the three-year period of noncompliance and the full amount of the charges and rates related to energy efficiency it would have incurred during that period absent exemption under subdivision (3) of this subsection (j); and

(II) the difference between the investment it made pursuant to the program within the current three-year period, if different from the period of noncompliance, and the full amount of the charges and rates related to energy efficiency it would have incurred during the current period absent exemption under subdivision (3) of this subsection (j).

(ii) Payments under subdivision ~~(4)(I)(i)~~ of this subsection subdivision (4)(I) shall be made to the entities to which the full amount of charges and rates would have been paid absent exemption under subdivision (3) of this subsection (j).

(iii) A former participant may not reapply for membership in the self-managed program after termination under this subdivision (4)(I).

(J) A participant in the self-managed program class may request confidentiality of data it reports to the Commission if the data would qualify for exemption from disclosure under 1 V.S.A. § 317. If such confidentiality is requested, the Commission shall disclose the data only in accordance with a protective agreement approved by the Commission and signed by the recipient of the data, unless a court orders otherwise.

(K) Any data not subject to a confidentiality request under subdivision (4)(J) of this subsection ~~subdivision (4)~~ will be a public record.

(L) A participant in the self-managed program class ~~may~~ shall work with the Department of Public Service to determine whether it is cost-effective to submit projects to the independent system operator of ISO-New England, including through recognized independent aggregators, for payments under that operator's forward capacity market the FCM program, and shall invest such payments in electric or fuel efficiency.

(i) As used in this subdivision (L), "cost-effective" requires that the estimated payments from the FCM program exceed the incremental cost of savings verification necessary for submission to that program.

(ii) If the Department determines the submission to be cost-effective, then an entity appointed to deliver electric energy efficiency services under subdivision (d)(2) of this section shall submit the project to the FCM program for payment and any resulting payments shall be remitted to the Electric Efficiency Fund for use in accordance with subdivision (e)(1)(A) of this section.

(M) A participant in the self-managed program class may receive funding from an energy program administered by a government or other entity ~~which~~ that is not the participant ~~but~~ and may ~~not~~ count such funds received as part of the annual commitment to its self-managed energy efficiency program.

* * *

Sec. 2. ENERGY SAVINGS ACCOUNT PARTNERSHIP PILOT

(a) Definitions. As used in this section:

(1) "ACCD" means the Agency of Commerce and Community Development under 3 V.S.A. chapter 47.

(2) "Commission" means the Public Utility Commission under 30 V.S.A. § 3.

(3) “Customer” means a commercial or industrial electric customer that is located in a service territory in which Efficiency Vermont delivers energy efficiency programs and measures and that does not qualify for SMEEP.

(4) “Customer EEC Funds” means a customer’s EEC payments during the period of the ESA partnership project.

(5) “Department” means the Department of Public Service under 3 V.S.A. § 212 and 30 V.S.A. § 1.

(6) “EEC” means an energy efficiency charge on a customer’s retail electric bill under 30 V.S.A. § 209(d).

(7) “Efficiency Vermont” or “EVT” means the EEU whose appointment under 30 V.S.A. § 209(d)(2) includes the delivery of programs and measures to customers of multiple electric distribution utilities.

(8) “Energy efficiency utility” or “EEU” means an entity appointed to deliver energy efficiency and conservation programs and measures under 30 V.S.A. § 209(d)(2).

(9) “Energy productivity measures” means investments that reduce the amount of energy required to produce a unit of product below baseline energy use. Baseline energy use shall be calculated as the average amount of energy required to make one unit of the same product in the two years preceding implementation of the program or measure.

(10) “ESA” means an energy savings account under 30 V.S.A. § 209(d)(3)(B).

(11) “ESA Partnership Pilot” means the three-year pilot program established by this section.

(12) “Regulated fuel” shall have the same meaning as in 30 V.S.A. § 209(e).

(13) “SMEEP” means the self-managed energy efficiency program established under 30 V.S.A. § 209(j).

(14) “Standing committees of jurisdiction” means the House Committee on Energy and Technology and the Senate Committees on Finance and on Natural Resources and Energy.

(15) “Unregulated fuel” shall have the same meaning as in 30 V.S.A. § 209(e).

(b) ESA Partnership Pilot; establishment. On or before July 1, 2019, the Commission by rule or order shall establish a three-year pilot program for customers to self-direct the use of their Customer EEC Funds, working with

EVT. The total amount of Customer EEC Funds available in the pilot program each year shall not exceed \$2 million. The pilot program established under this section shall be an expansion of the ESA option under which:

(1) Notwithstanding any contrary provision of 30 V.S.A. § 209(d)(3)(B), the customer shall continue to pay its EEC and be able to receive an amount equal to 100 percent of its ESA account balance to pay for the full cost of projects that are eligible under subdivision (3) of this subsection; for technical assistance and other services from Efficiency Vermont; and for evaluation, measurement, and verification activity conducted by the Department or EVT.

(2) The customer may receive payments in advance of project completion from EVT based on the energy management plan submitted under subsection (d) of this section, estimated project costs, and projected energy savings. However, a customer shall not receive advance payments from EVT that exceed the amount of Customer EEC Funds the customer has already paid.

(3) Notwithstanding any contrary provision of 30 V.S.A. § 209, the Customer EEC Funds may be used for one or more of the following: electric energy efficiency, thermal energy and process-fuel efficiency for unregulated fuels, energy productivity measures, demand management, and energy storage that provides benefits to the customer and its interconnecting utility. In addition, for a customer who is a manufacturer and whose purchases of regulated fuel exceeded 600,000 thousand cubic feet (MCF) in 2017, the Funds may be used for thermal energy and process-fuel efficiency for regulated fuels, and any regulated fuel savings attributable to investment of Customer EEC Funds through the pilot program shall be counted towards EVT's performance indicators. EVT may allocate the cost of the pilot across regulated and unregulated fuel funding sources in a manner that avoids or reduces the need to adjust savings goals approved by the Commission.

(c) Methodology for evaluation, measurement, and verification. In its rule or order under subsection (b) of this section, the Commission shall establish a methodology for evaluation, measurement, and verification of projects implemented under the pilot that is consistent with the requirements of 30 V.S.A. § 218c and that includes cost-effectiveness screening that values energy savings across the customer's energy portfolio and non-energy benefits such as economic development. As used in this subsection, "economic development" includes job creation, job retention, and capital investment.

(1) This methodology may be considered for future establishment of EEU performance criteria under 30 V.S.A. § 209(d).

(2) EVT and the Department shall evaluate and verify the electricity savings of each project funded under the ESA Partnership Pilot with no less rigor than is required by ISO-New England for its Forward Capacity Market (FCM) program.

(d) Competitive solicitation. A customer shall apply to participate in the ESA Partnership Pilot through a competitive solicitation process conducted jointly by EVT, the Department, and ACCD.

(1) Promptly after the Commission's rule or order under subsection (b) of this section becomes effective, EVT, the Department, and ACCD shall establish criteria for customer selection that are consistent with that rule or order and that take into account energy efficiency and economic development.

(2) On establishment of the selection criteria, EVT, the Department, and ACCD jointly shall issue a request for proposals (RFP) from customers seeking to participate in the ESA Partnership Pilot.

(3) EVT, the Department, and ACCD jointly shall select customers to participate in the ESA Partnership Pilot from among the customers that timely submit proposals in response to the RFP and shall notify the Commission of the selected customers.

(4) If EVT, the Department, and ACCD are unable to resolve an issue arising under this subsection, they shall bring the issue to the Commission for resolution.

(5) Customer selection under this subsection shall be completed before July 1, 2019.

(e) Energy management plans. Working with EVT, each customer selected for the ESA Partnership Pilot shall develop an energy management plan for the three-year period of the pilot with projects to be implemented, energy savings targets, and a timeline for projects and investments. A copy of each plan shall be submitted to the Commission, the Department, and ACCD.

(f) Other EEU services. A customer that participates in the ESA Partnership Pilot shall not be eligible for other EEU services, except for an EEU appointed to deliver natural gas efficiency programs and measures.

(g) Other funding. A customer that participates in the ESA Partnership Pilot may receive funding from an energy program administered by a government or other person that is not the participant, including an EEU appointed to deliver natural gas efficiency services, but shall not count such funds as part of the investment commitment of the ESA Partnership Pilot.

(h) Unused funds. At the end of the ESA Partnership Pilot, any Customer EEC Funds that have not been expended or committed under the pilot shall revert to use for systemwide energy efficiency programs and measures.

(i) Annual reports. On or before each November 1 from 2020 through 2022, the EVT and the selected customers jointly shall submit written progress reports to the Commission, the Department, and the standing committees of jurisdiction that include projects under the ESA Partnership Pilot and their associated energy and cost savings. A customer's projects under the pilot and the associated data and results shall be made public through this report. However, a customer may request that the Commission order customer-specific data to be used in preparing a report under this subsection be kept confidential if the data would qualify for exemption from disclosure under 1 V.S.A. § 317. If the Commission issues such an order, the data subject to the order shall be disclosed only in accordance with a protective agreement approved by the Commission and signed by the recipient of the data, unless a court directs otherwise.

(j) Evaluation; recommendation. On completion of the ESA Partnership Pilot, the Commission shall conduct or shall have a third party conduct an independent evaluation of the ESA Partnership Pilot.

(1) The evaluation shall analyze and compare, among pilot participants and companies of similar size outside the pilot: job creation and retention, energy savings, total energy cost reductions, energy productivity measures, amount of capital applied and leveraged, greenhouse gas reductions, and other criteria as defined by the Commission. The evaluation shall also study the effects of the pilot on other ratepayers.

(2) The evaluation shall provide electric system results for the ESA Pilot Program and compare them to the electric system results that would have been obtained had the Customer EEC Funds been expended pursuant to the electric energy efficiency programs otherwise authorized under 30 V.S.A. § 209(d). In this subdivision (2), "electric system results" means: total electric energy savings, total avoided cost of purchasing power, total avoided costs of transmission and distribution improvements, and resulting FCM program revenues.

(3) After considering the results of that evaluation, the Commission shall submit a written recommendation to the standing committees of jurisdiction on whether to continue the program conducted under this section and, if so, under what recommended conditions and revisions, if any. The Commission shall submit this recommendation to the General Assembly on or before January 15, 2023.

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2018.

And that the bill ought to pass in concurrence with such proposal of amendment.

Senator Kitchel, for the Committee on Appropriations, to which the bill was referred, reported recommending that the bill ought to pass in concurrence with proposal of amendment as recommended by the Committee on Finance.

Thereupon, the bill was read the second time by title only pursuant to Rule 43, the proposal of amendment was agreed to, and third reading of the bill was ordered on a roll call Yeas 28, Nays 0.

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

Roll Call

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

Those Senators who voted in the negative were: None.

Those Senators absent or not voting were: Ashe (presiding), Starr.

House Proposal of Amendment Concurred In**S. 197.**

House proposal of amendment to Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to liability for toxic substance exposures or releases.

Was taken up.

The House proposes to the Senate to amend the bill by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 12 V.S.A. chapter 219 is added to read:

CHAPTER 219. MEDICAL MONITORING DAMAGES**§ 7201. DEFINITIONS**

As used in this chapter:

(1) “Disease” means any disease, ailment, or adverse physiological or chemical change linked with exposure to a toxic substance.

(2) “Exposure” means ingestion, inhalation, contact with the skin or eyes, or any other physical contact.

(3) “Facility” means all contiguous land, structures, other appurtenances, and improvements on the land where toxic substances are manufactured, processed, used, or stored. A facility may consist of several treatment, storage, or disposal operational units. A facility shall not include land, structures, other appurtenances, and improvements on the land owned by a municipality.

(4) “Farming” shall have the same meaning as in 10 V.S.A. § 6001.

(5) “Large user of toxic substances” means, at the time of the release, the owner or operator of a facility that employs 10 or more employees, has a Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Code, and manufactures, processes, or otherwise uses, exclusive of sales or distribution, more than 1,000 pounds of one or more, or a combination of, toxic substances per year.

(6) “Medical monitoring damages” means the cost of medical tests or procedures and related expenses incurred for the purpose of detecting latent disease resulting from exposure.

(7) “Pesticide” shall have the same meaning as in 6 V.S.A. § 1101.

(8) “Release” means any intentional or unintentional, permitted or unpermitted, act or omission that allows a toxic substance to enter the air, land, surface water, or groundwater.

(9) “Sport shooting range” shall have the same meaning as in section 5227 of this title.

(10)(A) “Toxic substance” means any substance, mixture, or compound that has the capacity to produce personal injury or illness to humans through ingestion, inhalation, or absorption through any body surface and that satisfies one or more of the following:

(i) the substance, mixture, or compound is listed on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Consolidated List of Chemicals Subject to the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act, Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, and Section 112(r) of the Clean Air Act;

(ii) the substance, mixture, or compound is defined as a “hazardous material” under 10 V.S.A. § 6602 or under rules adopted under 10 V.S.A. chapter 159;

(iii) testing has produced evidence, recognized by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health or the U.S. Environmental

Protection Agency, that the substance, mixture, or compound poses acute or chronic health hazards;

(iv) the Department of Health has issued a public health advisory for the substance, mixture, or compound; or

(v) the Secretary of Natural Resources has designated the substance, mixture, or compound as a hazardous waste under 10 V.S.A. chapter 159; or

(vi) the substance, when released, can be shown by expert testimony to pose a potential threat to human health or the environment.

(B) "Toxic substance" shall not mean:

(i) a pesticide when applied consistent with good practice conducted in conformity with federal, State, and local laws, rules, and regulations and according to manufacturer's instructions;

(ii) manure or nutrients applied to land by a person engaged in farming according to the requirements of 6 V.S.A. chapter 215; or

(iii) lead ammunition or components thereof discharged, used, or stored at a sport shooting range implementing a lead management plan approved by the Agency of Natural Resources.

§ 7202. MEDICAL MONITORING DAMAGES FOR EXPOSURE TO TOXIC SUBSTANCES

(a) A person with or without a present injury or disease shall have a cause of action for medical monitoring damages against a large user of toxic substances who released a substance, mixture, or compound that meets the definition of toxic substance under section 7201 of this title and all of the following are demonstrated by a preponderance of the evidence:

(1) The person was exposed to the toxic substance at greater than normal background concentration levels;

(2) The exposure was the result of tortious conduct by the large user of toxic substances who released the toxic substance, including conduct that constitutes negligence, battery, strict liability, trespass, or nuisance;

(3) As a proximate result of the exposure, the person has a greater risk than the general public of contracting a latent disease. A person does not need to prove that the latent disease is certain or likely to develop as a result of the exposure.

(4) Diagnostic testing is reasonably necessary. Testing is reasonably necessary if a physician would prescribe testing for the purpose of detecting or monitoring the latent disease.

(5) Medical tests or procedures exist to detect the latent disease.

(b) A court shall place the award of medical monitoring damages into a court-supervised program administered by a medical professional.

(c) If a court places an award of medical monitoring damages into a court-supervised program pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, the court shall also award to the plaintiff reasonable attorney's fees and other litigation costs reasonably incurred.

(d) Nothing in this chapter shall be deemed to preclude the pursuit of any other civil or injunctive remedy available under statute or common law, including the right of any person to recover for damages related to the manifestation of a latent disease. The remedies in this chapter are in addition to those provided by existing statutory or common law.

(e) This section does not preclude a court from certifying a class action for medical monitoring damages.

Sec. 2. WEBSITE; LINKS TO LIST OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES

The Commissioner of Health shall maintain on the Department of Health website a link to each of the lists of substances, mixtures, or compounds referenced in the definition of "toxic substance" under 12 V.S.A. § 7201.

* * * Effective Date * * *

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2018.

Thereupon, the question, Shall the Senate concur in the House proposal of amendment?, was decided in the affirmative.

Senator Campion moved that Senator Sears remarks be journalized.

****During debate of the measure, Senator Sears addressed the Chair in proposing his report for the House proposal of amendment, and on motion of Senator Campion, his remarks were ordered enter in the Journal, and are as follows:

"Mr. President:"

"To say that a Vermonter impacted by toxic contamination should have to pay these costs, instead of the business responsible for the contamination, simply means that a Vermont citizen will need to bear those costs instead - which could lead to the person draining their own personal bank account, or could

mean them not getting the medical care they need if they can't afford it. If a Vermonter has been harmed by exposure to a toxic chemical in their body, to the extent that they can prove significant harm, those costs are being paid by someone. And either we believe a Vermonter who simply was unfortunate enough to live near a facility that used a toxic substance should bear those costs, or else we believe the entity that chose to use hazardous chemicals and profitted off the use of those chemicals should bear those costs. These lawsuits are still challenging to win, but S. 197 gives Vermonters a better chance of recovering those costs from the person responsible for causing the harm.”

Appointment to Committee of Conference

S. 192.

The President announced the appointment of

Senator Ayer

as a replacement for

Senator White

as a member of the committee of Conference on the part of the Senate to consider the disagreeing votes of the two Houses upon House bill entitled:

An act relating to transferring the professional regulation of law enforcement officers from the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council to the Office of Professional Regulation.

Rules Suspended; Bills Messaged

On motion of Senator Balint, the rules were suspended, and the following bills were severally ordered messaged to the House forthwith:

S. 192, S. 197, H. 410, H. 554, H. 636, H. 639, H. 675, H. 684, H. 727, H. 901, H. 907, H. 908, H. 919.

Adjournment

On motion of Senator Mazza, the Senate adjourned until one o'clock and twenty minutes in the afternoon.

Called to Order

The Senate was called to order by the President.

House Proposal of Amendment Concurred In with Amendment

S. 180.

House proposal of amendment to Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to the Vermont Fair Repair Act.

Was taken up.

The House proposes to the Senate to amend the bill by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. FINDINGS

The General Assembly finds:

(1) The repair of modern electronic products, even for such minor repairs as replacing a battery or screen, often becomes difficult or impossible due to manufacturers' limitation of access to information or parts to effect those repairs.

(2) Manufacturers may limit access to only those customers who are under warranty; may refuse access for owners of older models; and may refuse to stock or sell parts at fair and reasonable prices. Consequently, consumers are often left with few options other than to buy new.

(3) Modern repairs involve electronics. Repairing those electronics requires information, parts, firmware access, and tooling specifications from the product designers.

(4) The knowledge and tools to repair and refurbish consumer electronic products should be distributed as widely and freely as the products themselves. In contrast to centralized manufacturing, reuse must be broadly distributed to achieve economies of scale.

(5) Many manufacturers have made commitments to sustainability, repair, and reuse, and the innovation economy of Vermont and the United States has had many positive economic and environmental impacts. Legislation that further promotes extending the lifespan of consumer electronic products can create jobs and benefit the environment.

(6) As demonstrated by Massachusetts's experience with a right to repair initiative concerning automobiles in 2014, which resulted in a compromise between manufacturers and independent repair providers to adopt a voluntary nationwide approach for providing diagnostic codes and repair data available in a common format by the 2018 model year, legislative action to secure a right to repair can achieve positive benefits for manufacturers, independent businesses, and consumers.

Sec. 2. RIGHT TO REPAIR TASK FORCE; REPORT

(a) Creation. There is created the Right to Repair Task Force.

(b) Membership. The Task Force shall be composed of the following five members:

(1) one current member of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

(2) one current member of the Senate, appointed by the Committee on Committees;

(3) the Attorney General or designee;

(4) the Secretary of Commerce and Community Development or designee; and

(5) the Secretary of Digital Services or designee.

(c) Stakeholder engagement. The Task Force shall solicit testimony and participation in its work from representatives of relevant stakeholders, including authorized and independent repair providers, and business and consumer groups with an interest in consumer electronic products.

(d) Powers and duties. The Task Force shall review and consider the following issues relating to potential legislation designed to secure the right to repair consumer electronic products, including personal electronic devices such as cell phones, tablets, and computers:

(1) the scope of products to include;

(2) economic costs and benefits, including economic development and workforce opportunities;

(3) effects on the cost and availability to consumers of new and used consumer electronic products in the marketplace, including diminished availability of refurbished products for secondary users;

(4) environmental and economic costs of electronic waste;

(5) legal issues, including intellectual property and trade secrets, potential for alignment or conflict with federal law, and litigation risks;

(6) privacy and security features in electronic products; and

(7) any other issues the Task Force considers relevant and necessary to accomplish its work.

(e) Assistance. The Task Force shall have the administrative, legal, and fiscal assistance of the Office of Legislative Council and the Joint Fiscal Office. Relevant agencies and departments within State government shall provide their technical and other expertise upon request of the Task Force.

(f) Report. On or before January 15, 2019, the Task Force shall submit a written report to the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs and the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development with its findings and any recommendations for legislative action, including specific findings and recommendations concerning personal electronic devices such as cell phones, tablets, and computers.

(g) Meetings.

(1) The Office of Legislative Council shall call the first meeting of the Task Force to occur on or before August 15, 2018.

(2) The legislative members of the Task Force shall serve as co-chairs.

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

(4) The Task Force shall cease to exist on January 15, 2019.

(h) Compensation and reimbursement. For attendance at meetings during adjournment of the General Assembly, a legislative member of the Task Force serving in his or her capacity as a legislator shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to 2 V.S.A. § 406 for not more than five meetings. These payments shall be made from monies appropriated to the General Assembly.

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2018.

Thereupon, pending the question, Shall the Senate concur in the House proposal of amendment?, Senators Sirotkin, Balint, Baruth, Clarkson and Soucy moved that the Senate concur in the House proposal of amendment with further proposal of amendment in Sec. 2, by inserting a new subsection (e) to read:

(e) Scope. The Task Force may consider issues concerning the right to repair products beyond consumer electronic products if in the scope of its work it determines such consideration to be necessary and appropriate.

And by redesignating current subsections (e) through (h) to be alphabetically correct.

Which was agreed to.

House Proposal of Amendment Not Concurred In; Committee of Conference Requested

H. 206.

House proposal of amendment to Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to adding post-traumatic stress disorder to the list of qualified medical conditions for therapeutic use of cannabis and waiving the three-month professional–patient relationship requirement for veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder.

Was taken up.

The House proposes to the Senate to amend the bill by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 9 V.S.A. chapter 63, subchapter 9 is added to read:

Subchapter 9. Credit Card Terminal Finance Leases

§ 2482h. SOLICITATION; MATERIAL MISREPRESENTATION

(a) As used in this subchapter, “credit card terminal” means physical equipment used at the point of sale to accept payment by a payment card, including a credit card, debit card, EBT card, prepaid card, or gift card.

(b) A person who solicits a finance lease for the use of a credit card terminal shall accurately disclose:

(1) the nature and scope of his or her relationship to the person or persons who own, lease, service, and finance the credit card terminal and, if known, provide related services, including whether he or she is an employee, independent contractor, or agent of one or more of those persons;

(2) the terms of a finance lease and whether oral statements or commitments he or she makes to the prospective lessee while soliciting a finance lease are included in the terms of the finance lease and enforceable against a party to a finance lease; and

(3) whether the consumer has an option to purchase the credit card terminal that is the subject of the finance lease.

§ 2482i. CREDIT CARD TERMINAL; FINANCE LEASE PROVISIONS

The following provisions apply to a finance lease for the use of a credit card terminal:

(1) Plain language. The party primarily responsible for drafting the finance lease shall use plain language designed to be understood by ordinary consumers, presented in a reasonable format, typeface, and font.

(2) Finance lease; costs; disclosure. The finance lease shall specify:

(A) the terms of the finance lease;

(B) the total price of the finance lease;

(C) the total monthly payment due, including any recurring monthly fees or charges; and

(D) any other penalties, charges, or fees and the conditions under which they may be incurred.

(3) Relationship to processing services and fees. If a lessee who enters into a finance lease for a credit card terminal also agrees to receive bundled services for the terminal, such as credit card processing services, from the lessor or a business affiliated with the lessor, either the finance lease or a separate agreement for the bundled services shall include an itemized statement of the terms, costs, fees, and potential penalties for each service, as specified in subdivision (2) of this section.

(4) Contact information. The finance lease shall clearly and conspicuously identify the lessor of the credit card terminal and the name, mailing address, telephone number, email address or website, and relationship to the lessor of:

(A) the person to whom the lessee is required to make payments for the credit card terminal;

(B) the person whom the lessee should contact with questions or problems concerning the credit card terminal;

(C) the person to whom the lessee should deliver the credit card terminal for return or repair; and

(D) the sales representative or other person acting with actual or apparent authority on behalf of the lessor to solicit the finance lease.

(5) Prohibited provisions.

(A) A provision of a finance lease that permits or requires a dispute to be resolved in a judicial forum that would not otherwise have jurisdiction over the lessee is against public policy and unenforceable.

(B) A lessor shall not collect any charge or fee for business personal property tax on the credit card terminal unless the tax is actually imposed.

(6) Duty to retain and provide finance lease; right to cancel.

(A) A lessor shall provide a copy of the executed finance lease to the lessee and shall retain a written or electronic copy of the finance lease for not less than four years after the lease terminates.

(B) A lessee shall have the right to cancel a finance lease not later than 45 days after the lessor provides a copy of the executed finance lease to the lessee.

(C) If the lessee exercises his or her right to cancel:

(i) the lessor may retain any payments made by the lessee after the lessor delivered a copy of the executed finance lease;

(ii) the lessor may impose a reasonable cancellation fee, not to exceed the total monthly payment amount specified in subdivision (2)(C) of this section.

§ 2482j. VIOLATIONS

A person who violates this subchapter commits an unfair and deceptive act in trade and commerce in violation of section 2453 of this title.

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2018.

Thereupon, pending the question, Shall the Senate concur in the House proposal of amendment?, on motion of Senator Sirotkin, the Senate refused to concur in the House proposal of amendment and requested a Committee of Conference.

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

H. 196.

House bill entitled:

An act relating to paid family leave.

Was taken up.

Thereupon, pending third reading of the bill, Senator Sirotkin moved to amend the Senate proposal of amendment in Sec. 3, 21 V.S.A. chapter 5, subchapter 13, in § 572(c)(1)(C), by striking out the following: “Annually on January 1” and inserting in lieu thereof the following: Beginning on January 1, 2020, and on each subsequent January 1

Which was agreed to.

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

House Proposal of Amendment Concurred In with Amendment

S. 222.

House proposal of amendment to Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to miscellaneous judiciary procedures.

Was taken up.

The House proposes to the Senate to amend the bill by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 8007(c) is amended to read:

(c) An assurance of discontinuance shall be in writing and signed by the respondent and shall specify the statute or regulation alleged to have been violated. The assurance of discontinuance shall be simultaneously filed with the Attorney General and the Environmental Division. The Secretary or the Natural Resources Board shall post a final draft assurance of discontinuance to its website and shall provide a final draft assurance of discontinuance to a person upon request. When signed by the Environmental Division, the assurance shall become a judicial order. Upon motion by the Attorney General made within ~~10~~ 14 days ~~of~~ after the date the assurance is signed by the Division and upon a finding that the order is insufficient to carry out the purposes of this chapter, the Division shall vacate the order.

Sec. 2. 12 V.S.A. § 1 is amended to read:

§ 1. RULES OF PLEADING, PRACTICE, AND PROCEDURE; FORMS

The Supreme Court is empowered to prescribe and amend from time to time general rules with respect to pleadings, practice, evidence, procedure, and forms for all actions and proceedings in all courts of this State. The rules thus prescribed or amended shall not abridge, enlarge, or modify any substantive rights of any person provided by law. The rules when initially prescribed or any amendments thereto, including any repeal, modification, or addition, shall take effect on the date provided by the Supreme Court in its order of promulgation, unless objected to by the ~~Joint~~ Legislative Committee on Judicial Rules as provided by this chapter. If objection is made by the ~~Joint~~ Legislative Committee on Judicial Rules, the initially prescribed rules in question shall not take effect until they have been reported to the General Assembly by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court at any regular, adjourned, or special session thereof, and until after the expiration of 45 legislative days of that session, including the date of the filing of the report. The General Assembly may repeal, revise, or modify any rule or amendment thereto, and its action shall not be abridged, enlarged, or modified by subsequent rule.

Sec. 3. 12 V.S.A. § 2 is amended to read:

§ 2. DEFINITIONS

As used in sections 3 and 4 of this chapter:

(1) “Adopting authority” means the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court or the ~~administrative judge~~ Chief Superior Judge, where appropriate;.

(2) “Court” means the Supreme Court, except in those instances where the statutes permit rules to be adopted by the ~~administrative judge~~ Chief Superior Judge, in which case, the word “court” means the ~~administrative judge;~~ Chief Superior Judge.

* * *

Sec. 4. 12 V.S.A. § 701 is amended to read:

§ 701. SUMMONS

(a) Any law enforcement officer authorized to serve criminal process or a State’s Attorney may summon a person who commits an offense to appear before Superior Court by a summons in such form as prescribed by the Court Administrator, stating the time when, and the place where, the person shall appear, signed by the enforcement officer or State’s Attorney and delivered to the person.

* * *

~~(d) A person who does not so appear in response to a summons for a traffic offense as defined in 23 V.S.A. § 2201 shall be fined not more than \$100.00. [Repealed.]~~

Sec. 5. 12 V.S.A. § 3125 is amended to read:

§ 3125. PAYMENT OF TRUSTEE’S CLAIM BY CREDITOR

When it appears that personal property in the hands of a person summoned as a trustee is mortgaged, pledged, or liable for the payment of a debt due to him or her, the court may allow the attaching creditor to pay or tender the amount due to the trustee, and he or she shall thereupon deliver such property, as ~~hereinbefore~~ provided in this subchapter, to the officer holding the execution.

Sec. 6. 12 V.S.A. § 3351 is amended to read:

§ 3351. ATTACHMENT, TAKING IN EXECUTION, AND SALE

Personal property not exempt from attachment, subject to a mortgage, pledge, or lien, may be attached, taken in execution, and sold as the property of the mortgagor, pledgor, or general owner, in the same manner as other personal property, except as ~~hereinafter~~ otherwise provided in this subchapter.

Sec. 7. 18 V.S.A. § 4245 is amended to read:

§ 4245. REMISSION OR MITIGATION OF FORFEITURE

(a) On petition filed within 90 days of after completion of a forfeiture proceeding, ~~the claims commission established in 32 V.S.A. § 931~~ a court that issued a forfeiture order pursuant to section 4244 of this title may order that

the forfeiture be remitted or mitigated. The petition shall be sworn, and shall include all information necessary for its resolution or shall describe where such information can be obtained. Upon receiving a petition, the ~~claims commission court~~ shall investigate and may conduct a hearing if in its judgment it would be helpful to resolution of the petition. The ~~claims commission court~~ shall either grant or deny the petition within 90 days.

(b) The ~~claims commission court~~ may remit or mitigate a forfeiture upon finding that relief should be granted to avoid extreme hardship or upon finding that the petitioner has a valid, good faith interest in the property which is not held through a straw purchase, trust, or otherwise for the benefit of another and that the petitioner did not at any time have knowledge or reason to believe that the property was being or would be used in violation of the law.

Sec. 8. 18 V.S.A. § 4474g(b) is amended to read:

(b) Prior to acting on an application for a Registry identification card, the Department shall obtain with respect to the applicant a Vermont criminal history record, an out-of-state criminal history record, and a criminal history record from the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Each applicant shall consent to the release of criminal history records to the Department on forms developed by the Vermont Crime Information Center. A fingerprint-supported, out-of-state criminal history record and a criminal history record from the Federal Bureau of Investigation shall be required only every three years for renewal of a card for a dispensary owner, principal, and financier.

Sec. 9. REPEAL

2017 Acts and Resolves No. 11, Sec. 60 (amending 32 V.S.A. § 5412) is repealed.

Sec. 10. 3 V.S.A. § 163 is amended to read:

§ 163. JUVENILE COURT DIVERSION PROJECT

(a) The Attorney General shall develop and administer a juvenile court diversion project for the purpose of assisting juveniles charged with delinquent acts. ~~Rules which were adopted by the Vermont Commission on the Administration of Justice to implement the juvenile court diversion project shall be adapted by the Attorney General to the programs and projects established under this section.~~ In consultation with the diversion programs, the Attorney General shall adopt a policies and procedures manual in compliance with this section.

(b) The diversion ~~project program~~ administered by the Attorney General shall ~~encourage the development support the operation of diversion projects programs~~ in local communities through grants of financial assistance to, or by

contracting for services with, municipalities, private groups, or other local organizations. The Attorney General may require local financial contributions as a condition of receipt of project grants funding.

* * *

(i) Notwithstanding subdivision (c)(1) of this section, the diversion program may accept cases from the Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program pursuant to 7 V.S.A. § 656 or 18 V.S.A. § 4230b. The confidentiality provisions of this section shall become effective when a notice of violation is issued under 7 V.S.A. § 656(b) or 18 V.S.A. § 4230b(b), and shall remain in effect unless the person fails to register with or complete the Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program.

Sec. 11. 3 V.S.A. § 164 is amended to read:

§ 164. ADULT COURT DIVERSION PROGRAM

(a) The Attorney General shall develop and administer an adult court diversion program in all counties. ~~The program shall be operated through the juvenile diversion project. The~~ In consultation with diversion programs, the Attorney General shall adopt ~~only such rules as are necessary to establish an adult court diversion program for adults~~ a policies and procedures manual, in compliance with this section.

* * *

(c) The program shall ~~encourage the development~~ support the operation of diversion programs in local communities through grants of financial assistance to, ~~or contracts for services with,~~ municipalities, private groups, or other local organizations. The Attorney General may require local financial contributions as a condition of receipt of program ~~grants~~ funding.

* * *

(e) All adult court diversion programs receiving financial assistance from the Attorney General shall adhere to the following provisions:

(1) The diversion program shall accept only persons against whom charges have been filed and the court has found probable cause, but are not yet adjudicated. The prosecuting attorney may refer a person to diversion either before or after arraignment and shall notify in writing the diversion program and the court of his or her intention to refer the person to diversion. The matter shall become confidential when notice is provided to the court. If a person is charged with a qualifying crime as defined in 13 V.S.A. § 7601(4)(A) and the crime is a misdemeanor, the prosecutor shall provide the person with the opportunity to participate in the court diversion program unless the prosecutor states on the record at arraignment or a subsequent hearing why a

referral to the program would not serve the ends of justice. If the prosecuting attorney refers a case to diversion, the prosecuting attorney may release information to the victim upon a showing of legitimate need and subject to an appropriate protective agreement defining the purpose for which the information is being released and in all other respects maintaining the confidentiality of the information; otherwise files held by the court, the prosecuting attorney, and the law enforcement agency related to the charges shall be confidential and shall remain confidential unless:

- (A) the ~~Board~~ diversion program declines to accept the case;
- (B) the person declines to participate in diversion;
- (C) the ~~Board~~ diversion program accepts the case, but the person does not successfully complete diversion; or
- (D) the prosecuting attorney recalls the referral to diversion.

* * *

(5) All information gathered in the course of the adult diversion process shall be held strictly confidential and shall not be released without the participant's prior consent (except that research and reports that do not require or establish the identity of individual participants are allowed).

* * *

(7)(A) ~~The~~ Irrespective of whether a record was expunged, the adult court diversion program shall maintain sufficient records so that the reasons for success or failure of the program in particular cases and overall can be investigated by program staff. These records shall include a centralized statewide filing system that will include the following information about individuals who have successfully completed an adult court diversion program:

- (i) name and date of birth;
- (ii) offense charged and date of offense;
- (iii) place of residence;
- (iv) county where diversion process took place; and
- (v) date of completion of diversion process.

(B) These records shall not be available to anyone other than the participant and his or her attorney, State's Attorneys, the Attorney General, and directors of adult court diversion programs.

(C) Notwithstanding subdivision (B) of this subdivision (e)(7), the Attorney General shall, upon request, provide to a participant or his or her attorney sufficient documentation to show that the participant successfully completed diversion.

* * *

(g)(1) Within 30 days of after the two-year anniversary of a successful completion of adult diversion, the court shall provide notice to all parties of record of the court's intention to order the sealing expungement of all court files and records, law enforcement records other than entries in the adult court diversion program's centralized filing system, fingerprints, and photographs applicable to the proceeding. The court shall give the State's Attorney an opportunity for a hearing to contest the sealing expungement of the records. The court shall seal expunge the records if it finds:

~~(1)(A)~~ two years have elapsed since the successful completion of the adult diversion program by the participant and the dismissal of the case by the State's Attorney;

~~(2)(B)~~ the participant has not been convicted of a subsequent felony or misdemeanor during the two-year period, and no proceedings are pending seeking such conviction; and

~~(3)(C)~~ rehabilitation of the participant has been attained to the satisfaction of the court; and

(D) the participant does not owe restitution related to the case under a contract executed with the Restitution Unit.

(2) The court may expunge any records that were sealed pursuant to this subsection prior to July 1, 2018 unless the State's Attorney's office that prosecuted the case objects. Thirty days prior to expunging a record pursuant to this subdivision, the court shall provide written notice of its intent to expunge the record to the State's Attorney's office that prosecuted the case.

(3)(A) The court shall keep a special index of cases that have been expunged pursuant to this section together with the expungement order. The index shall list only the name of the person convicted of the offense, his or her date of birth, the docket number, and the criminal offense that was the subject of the expungement.

(B) The special index and related documents specified in subdivision (A) of this subdivision (3) shall be confidential and shall be physically and electronically segregated in a manner that ensures confidentiality and that limits access to authorized persons.

(C) Inspection of the expungement order and the certificate may be permitted only upon petition by the person who is the subject of the case. The Chief Superior Judge may permit special access to the index and the documents for research purposes pursuant to the rules for public access to court records.

(D) The Court Administrator shall establish policies for implementing this subsection (g).

~~(h) Upon~~ Except as otherwise provided in this section, upon the entry of an order ~~sealing such expunging~~ files and records under this section, the proceedings in the matter ~~under this section~~ shall be considered never to have occurred, all index references thereto shall be deleted, and the participant, the court, and law enforcement officers and departments shall reply to any request for information that no record exists with respect to such participant inquiry in any matter. Copies of the order shall be sent to each agency or official named therein.

~~(i) Inspection of the files and records included in the order may thereafter be permitted by the court only upon petition by the participant who is the subject of such records, and only to those persons named therein. [Repealed.]~~

(j) The process of automatically ~~sealing~~ expunging records as provided in this section shall only apply to those persons who completed diversion on or after July 1, 2002. Any person who completed diversion prior to July 1, 2002 must apply to the court to have his or her records ~~sealed~~ expunged. Sealing Expungement shall occur if the requirements of subsection (g) of this section are met.

* * *

~~(k) Subject to the approval of the~~ The Attorney General, in consultation with the Vermont Association of Court Diversion Programs, may develop and administer programs to assist persons under this section charged with delinquent, criminal, and civil offenses.

(l) Notwithstanding subdivision (e)(1) of this section, the diversion program may accept cases from the Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program pursuant to 7 V.S.A. § 656 or 18 V.S.A. § 4230b. The confidentiality provisions of this section shall become effective when a notice of violation is issued under 7 V.S.A. § 656(b) or 18 V.S.A. § 4230b(b), and shall remain in effect unless the person fails to register with or complete the Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program.

Sec. 12. 13 V.S.A. § 15 is added to read:

§ 15. USE OF VIDEO

(a) Except as provided by subsection (b) of this section, proceedings governed by Rules 5 and 10 of the Vermont Rules of Criminal Procedure and chapter 229 of this title shall be in person and on the record, and shall not be performed by video conferencing or other electronic means until the Defender General and the Executive Director of the Department of Sheriffs and State's

Attorneys execute a joint certification that the video conferencing program in use by the court at the site where the proceeding occurs adequately ensures attorney-client confidentiality and the client's meaningful participation in the proceeding.

(b) A proceeding at which subsection (a) of this section applies may be performed by video conferencing if counsel for the defendant or a defendant not represented by counsel consents.

Sec. 13. 13 V.S.A. § 2301 is amended to read:

§ 2301. MURDER-DEGREES DEFINED

Murder committed by means of poison, or by lying in wait, or by ~~wilful~~ willful, deliberate, and premeditated killing, or committed in perpetrating or attempting to perpetrate arson, sexual assault, aggravated sexual assault, kidnapping, robbery, or burglary, shall be murder in the first degree. All other kinds of murder shall be murder in the second degree.

Sec. 14. 15 V.S.A. § 554 is amended to read:

§ 554. DECREES NISI

(a) A decree of divorce from the bonds of matrimony in the first instance, shall be a decree nisi and shall become absolute at the expiration of ~~three months~~ 90 days from the entry thereof but, in its discretion, the court ~~which~~ that grants the divorce may fix an earlier date upon which the decree shall become absolute. If one of the parties dies prior to the expiration of the nisi period, the decree shall be deemed absolute immediately prior to death.

(b) Either party may file any post-trial motions under the Vermont Rules of Civil Procedure. The time within which any such motion shall be filed shall run from the date of entry of the decree of divorce and not from the date the nisi period expires. The court shall retain jurisdiction to hear and decide the motion after expiration of the nisi period. A decree of divorce shall constitute a civil judgment under the Vermont Rules of Civil Procedure.

(c) If the stated term at which the decree nisi was entered has adjourned when a motion is filed, the presiding judge of the stated term shall have power to hear and determine the matter and make new decree therein as fully as the court might have done in term time; but, in the judge's discretion, the judge may strike off the decree and continue the cause to the next stated term.

Sec. 15. 18 V.S.A. § 4230f(f) is amended to read:

(f) This section shall not apply to a dispensary that lawfully provides marijuana to a registered patient or caregiver or to a registered caregiver who provides marijuana to a registered patient pursuant to chapter 86 of this title.

Sec. 16. 20 V.S.A. § 3903 is amended to read:

§ 3903. ANIMAL SHELTERS AND RESCUE ORGANIZATIONS

(a) [Repealed.]

(b) Animal intake. An animal shelter or rescue organization ~~under this chapter shall not accept an animal unless the person transferring the animal to the shelter provides as defined by section 3901 of this title shall make every effort to collect~~ the following information about an animal it accepts: the name and address of the person transferring the animal and, if known, the name of the animal, its vaccination history, and other information concerning the background, temperament, and health of the animal.

(c) Nonprofit status. A rescue organization under this chapter shall be recognized and approved as a nonprofit organization under 26 U.S.C. § 501(c)(3).

(d) Immunity from liability. Notwithstanding section 3901a of this title, any animal shelter or rescue organization assisting law enforcement in an animal cruelty investigation or seizure that, in good faith, provides care and treatment to an animal involved in the investigation or seizure shall not be held liable for civil damages by the owner of the animal unless the actions of the shelter or organization constitute gross negligence.

Sec. 17. EARNED GOOD TIME; REPORT

On or before November 15, 2018, the Commissioner of Corrections, in consultation with the Chief Superior Judge, the Attorney General, the Executive Director of the Department of Sheriffs and State's Attorneys, and the Defender General, shall report to the Senate and House Committees on Judiciary, the Senate Committee on Institutions, and the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions on the advisability and feasibility of reinstating a system of earned good time for persons under the supervision of the Department of Corrections.

Sec. 18. EFFECTIVE DATES

This act shall take effect on passage, except that Sec. 15 shall take effect on July 2, 2018.

Thereupon, pending the question, Shall the Senate concur in the House proposal of amendment?, Senator Sears moved that the Senate concur in the House proposal of amendment with an amendment as follows:

By adding Secs. 17a through 17e to read as follows:

Sec. 17a. 18 V.S.A. § 4474c is amended to read:

§ 4474c. PROHIBITIONS, RESTRICTIONS, AND LIMITATIONS
REGARDING THE USE OF MARIJUANA FOR SYMPTOM
RELIEF

* * *

~~(c) A registered patient or registered caregiver who elects to grow marijuana to be used for symptom relief by the patient may do so only if the marijuana is cultivated in a single, secure indoor facility. Personal cultivation of marijuana by a patient or caregiver on behalf of a patient only shall occur:~~

(1) on property lawfully in possession of the cultivator or with the written consent of the person in lawful possession of the property; and

(2) in an enclosure that is screened from public view and is secure so that access is limited to the cultivator and persons 21 years of age or older who have permission from the cultivator.

~~(d) A registered patient or registered caregiver may not transport marijuana in public unless it is secured in a locked container. [Repealed.]~~

* * *

(g) The use of marijuana by a registered patient shall not be the sole factor disqualifying the patient from any needed medical procedure or treatment, including organ and tissue transplants.

Sec. 17b. 18 V.S.A. § 4474e is amended to read:

§ 4474e. DISPENSARIES; CONDITIONS OF OPERATION

(a) A dispensary registered under this section may:

(1) Acquire, possess, cultivate, manufacture, test, transfer, transport, supply, sell, and dispense marijuana, marijuana-infused products, and marijuana-related supplies and educational materials for or to a registered patient who has designated it as his or her dispensary and to his or her registered caregiver for the registered patient's use for symptom relief.

* * *

(3)(A) Cultivate and possess at any one time up to 28 mature marijuana plants, 98 immature marijuana plants, and 28 ounces of usable marijuana. However, if a dispensary is designated by more than 14 registered patients, the dispensary may cultivate and possess at any one time ~~two~~ three mature marijuana plants, seven immature plants, and four ounces of usable marijuana for every registered patient for which the dispensary serves as the designated dispensary.

* * *

(d)(1) A dispensary shall implement appropriate security measures to deter and prevent the unauthorized entrance into areas containing marijuana and the theft of marijuana and shall ensure that each location has an operational security alarm system. All cultivation of marijuana shall take place in a secure, locked facility which is either indoors or outdoors, but not visible to the public and that can only be accessed by the owners, principals, financiers, and employees of the dispensary who have valid Registry identification cards. An outdoor facility is not required to have a roof, provided all other requirements are met. The Department shall perform an annual on-site assessment of each dispensary and may perform on-site assessments of a dispensary without limitation for the purpose of determining compliance with this subchapter and any rules adopted pursuant to this subchapter and may enter a dispensary at any time for such purpose. During an inspection, the Department may review the dispensary's confidential records, including its dispensing records, which shall track transactions according to registered patients' Registry identification numbers to protect their confidentiality.

(2)(A) A registered patient or registered caregiver may obtain marijuana from the dispensary by appointment only.

(B) A dispensary may deliver marijuana to a registered patient or registered caregiver. The marijuana shall be transported in a locked container.

(3) The operating documents of a dispensary shall include procedures for the oversight of the dispensary and procedures to ensure accurate record-keeping.

(4) A dispensary shall submit the results of a financial audit to the Department of Public Safety ~~no~~ not later than ~~60~~ 90 days after the end of the dispensary's first fiscal year, and every other year thereafter. The audit shall be conducted by an independent certified public accountant, and the costs of any such audit shall be borne by the dispensary. The Department may also periodically require, within its discretion, the audit of a dispensary's financial records by the Department.

* * *

(n) Nothing in this subchapter shall prevent a dispensary from acquiring, possessing, cultivating, manufacturing, testing, transferring, transporting, supplying, selling, and dispensing hemp and hemp-infused products ~~for symptom relief~~. "Hemp" shall have the same meaning as provided in 6 V.S.A. § 562. A dispensary shall not be required to comply with the provisions of 6 V.S.A. chapter 34.

Sec. 17c. 18 V.S.A. § 4474g is amended to read:

§ 4474g. DISPENSARY REGISTRY IDENTIFICATION CARD;
CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK

(a) ~~Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, the~~ The Department shall issue each owner, principal, financier, and employee of a dispensary a Registry identification card or renewal card within 30 days ~~of~~ after receipt of the person's name, address, and date of birth and a fee of \$50.00. The fee shall be paid by the dispensary and the cost shall not be passed on to an owner, principal, financier, or employee. ~~A~~ Except as provided in subdivision (b)(2) of this section, a person shall not serve as an owner, principal, financier, or employee of a dispensary until that person has received a Registry identification card issued under this section. Each card shall specify whether the cardholder is an owner, principal, financier, or employee of a dispensary and shall contain the following:

- (1) the name, address, and date of birth of the person;
- (2) the legal name of the dispensary with which the person is affiliated;
- (3) a random identification number that is unique to the person;
- (4) the date of issuance and the expiration date of the Registry identification card; and
- (5) a photograph of the person.

(b)(1) Prior to acting on an application for a Registry identification card, the Department shall obtain with respect to the applicant a Vermont criminal history record, an out-of-state criminal history record, and a criminal history record from the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Each applicant shall consent to the release of criminal history records to the Department on forms developed by the Vermont Crime Information Center.

(2) Once a Registry card application has been submitted, a person may serve as an owner, principal, financier, or employee of a dispensary pending the background check, provided the person is supervised in his or her duties by someone who is a cardholder. The Department shall issue a temporary permit to the person for this purpose, which shall expire upon the issuance of the Registry card or disqualification of the person in accordance with this section.

* * *

Sec. 17d. 18 V.S.A. § 4474m is amended to read:

§ 4474m. ~~DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY;~~ PROVISION OF
EDUCATIONAL AND SAFETY INFORMATION

The Department of Public Safety shall provide educational and safety information developed by the Vermont Department of Health, in consultation with dispensaries, to each registered patient upon registration pursuant to section 4473 of this title, and to each registered caregiver upon registration pursuant to section 4474 of this title.

Sec. 17e. AUTOMOBILE FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY; STUDY

The Commissioner of Financial Regulation shall review the minimum automobile insurance requirements in each of the states located in the northeastern region of the United States and shall report his or her findings and recommendations with respect to Vermont's minimum automobile insurance requirements to the General Assembly on or before November 1, 2018.

Which was agreed to.

Rules Suspended; House Proposal of Amendment Concurred In

H. 912.

Appearing on the Calendar for notice, on motion of Senator Ashe, the rules were suspended and House proposal of amendment to House bill entitled:

An act relating to the health care regulatory duties of the Green Mountain Care Board.

Was taken up for immediate consideration.

The House concurs in the Senate proposal of amendment with further amendment thereto as follows:

First: By striking out Sec. 18, 18 V.S.A. § 9374, and its reader assistance heading in their entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 18. [Deleted.]

Second: In Sec. 20, effective dates, by striking out subsection (b) in its entirety and redesignating subsection (c) to be subsection (b)

Thereupon, the question, Shall the Senate concur in the House proposal of amendment?, was decided in the affirmative.

**Rules Suspended; House Proposal of Amendment Not Concurred In;
Committee of Conference Requested**

H. 917.

Appearing on the Calendar for notice, on motion of Senator Ashe, the rules were suspended and House proposal of amendment to Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to the Transportation Program and miscellaneous changes to transportation-related law.

Was taken up for immediate consideration.

The House concurs in the Senate proposal of amendment with further amendment thereto as follows:

First: In Sec. 1, by striking out subdivision (b)(3) in its entirety and renumbering the remaining subdivision to be numerically correct

Second: By striking out Secs. 5 and 6 and the reader assistance headings thereto in their entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 5. [Deleted.]

* * * Program Development—Roadway Program * * *

Sec. 6. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT—ROADWAY PROGRAM

(a) The following project is added to the development and evaluation (D&E) list of the fiscal year 2019 Program Development—Roadway Program: construction of a roundabout at the intersection of VT 67A, Matteson Road, Silk Road, and College Drive in the town of Bennington.

(b) The Agency shall expend up to \$50,000.00 of federal funds on development and evaluation of the project added under subsection (a) of this section, to the extent such funds become available as a result of the unanticipated delay of projects approved in the fiscal year 2019 Program Development Program or cost savings on such projects, or both.

Third: In Sec. 19, 19 V.S.A. § 306, by striking out subdivision (a)(1) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

(1) An annual appropriation to class 1, 2, and 3 town highways shall be made. This appropriation shall increase or decrease over the previous fiscal year's appropriation by the same percentage as any increase or decrease in the following, whichever is less:

(A) the ~~Transportation~~ year-over-year increase in the Agency's total appropriations in the previous fiscal year funded by Transportation Fund revenues, excluding the ~~town highway appropriations~~ appropriation for town highways under this subsection (a) for that year; or

(B) the percentage increase in the Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) during the previous State fiscal year.

Fourth: By striking out Sec. 32 and the reader assistance heading thereto in their entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

* * * Seatbelt Law for Adults; Primary Enforcement * * *

Sec. 32. 23 V.S.A. § 1259 is amended to read:

§ 1259. SAFETY BELTS; PERSONS AGE 18 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER

* * *

~~(e) This section may be enforced only if a law enforcement officer has detained the operator of a motor vehicle for another suspected traffic violation. An operator shall not be subject to the penalty established in this section unless the operator is required to pay a penalty for the primary violation. [Repealed.]~~

* * *

Sec. 32a. PRIMARY ENFORCEMENT OF SEATBELT LAW; PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN

(a) To inform highway users of the requirements of Sec. 32 of this act (primary enforcement of the seatbelt law for adults) and the October 1, 2018 effective date of Sec. 32, the Secretary of Transportation shall conduct a public education campaign to commence on or before July 1, 2018.

(b) At a minimum, the Secretary shall:

(1) notify media outlets throughout the State of the change in the law to primary enforcement of the adult seatbelt law and the October 1, 2018 effective date of the change in the law;

(2) update the website of the Agency of Transportation and the website of the Department of Motor Vehicles to provide notice of the change in the law and its effective date; and

(3) consistent with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and any other applicable federal law, post messages on changeable message signs of the Agency that inform highway users of the change in the law and its effective date.

Fifth: By striking out Sec. 43 (effective dates) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 43. EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) This section and Secs. 2 (federal infrastructure funding), 16 (penalties for furnishing alcoholic beverages to minors), 20 (transportation public-private partnerships), 23–24 (Green Mountain Transit Authority name update), 25 (PUC report; electric vehicle charging), and 32a (education campaign; primary enforcement) shall take effect on passage.

(b) Secs. 41–42 (motor vehicle inspections) shall take effect on passage, except that notwithstanding 1 V.S.A. § 214, in Sec. 42, subsection (d) shall take effect retroactively on January 1, 2017.

(c) Sec. 32 (primary enforcement of adult seatbelt law) shall take effect on October 1, 2018.

(d) Secs. 30–31 (town highway weight limits) and 33–37 (aircraft fuel taxes) shall take effect on January 1, 2019.

(e) Sec. 29, 23 V.S.A. § 3513(a) (sunset of change to ATV fee and penalty allocation) shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

(f) All other sections shall take effect on July 1, 2018.

Thereupon, pending the question, Shall the Senate concur in the House proposal of amendment?, on motion of Senator Mazza, the Senate refused to concur in the House proposal of amendment and requested a Committee of Conference.

Rules Suspended; House Proposals of Amendment Concurred In

H. 923.

Appearing on the Calendar for notice, on motion of Senator Ashe, the rules were suspended and House proposal of amendment to House bill entitled:

An act relating to capital construction and State bonding budget adjustment.

Was taken up for immediate consideration.

The House concurs in the Senate proposal of amendment with further amendment thereto as follows:

First: In Sec. 1, amending 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 2, in subdivision (b)(13), by striking out “\$2,281,094.00” and inserting in lieu thereof “\$2,181,094.00”, in (e)(2), in the first sentence, by striking out “may” and inserting in lieu thereof “shall” and by striking out all after subsection (g) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Appropriation – FY 2018	\$27,857,525.00	<u>\$25,038,619.00</u>
Appropriation – FY 2019	\$27,853,933.00	<u>\$28,131,610.00</u>
Total Appropriation – Section 2	\$55,711,458.00	<u>\$53,170,229.00</u>

Second: In Sec. 2, amending 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 3, by striking out all after the ellipses and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

(b) The sum of \$300,000.00 is appropriated in FY 2019 to the Department of Buildings and General Services for the Agency of Human Services for the projects described in subsection (a) of this section. The following sums are

appropriated in FY 2019 to the Department of Buildings and General Services for the Agency of Human Services:

(1) Statewide correctional facilities, cameras, locks, perimeter intrusion at correctional facilities: \$300,000.00

(2) Chittenden County Regional Correctional Facility and Northwest State Correctional Facility, renovations, beds for therapeutic placement: \$600,000.00

(3) Essex, Woodside Juvenile Rehabilitation Center, design and construction documents: \$500,000.00

(4) Brattleboro, Brattleboro Retreat, renovation and fit-up: \$4,500,000.00

(5) Serenity House, residential treatment center, addition and renovations: \$300,000.00

(c) For the amount appropriated in subdivision (b)(2) of this section:

(1) it is the intent of the General Assembly that the funds be used to construct a therapeutic environment in the Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility and in the Northwest State Correctional Facility for persons in the custody of the Department of Corrections who do not meet the clinical criteria for inpatient hospitalization but would benefit from a more therapeutic placement. The therapeutic environment shall include three beds in the Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility and ten or more beds in the Alpha Unit at the Northwest State Correctional Facility.

(2) the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services may use up to \$100,000.00 of the funds appropriated in subdivision (b)(1) of this section to support this project.

(d) For the amount appropriated in subdivision (b)(3) of this section, the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services shall consult with the Secretary of Human Services on the design and construction documents.

(e) For the amount appropriated in subdivision (b)(4) of this section:

(1) The use of funds shall be restricted to capital renovations and fit-up costs and shall not be used for any periodic lease payments, usage fees, or other operating expenses.

(2)(A) The State of Vermont shall execute an agreement with the Brattleboro Retreat for the renovation and fit-up project at the Brattleboro Retreat. The agreement shall include the following provisions:

(i) the Brattleboro Retreat shall provide access to a minimum of an additional 12 level-1 beds to the State for a period determined by the Secretary to be in the best interests of the State;

(ii) the Brattleboro Retreat shall target a completion date for the renovation and fit-up project of December 2019; and

(iii) terms and conditions that ensure the protection of State investment of capital appropriations, including:

(I) an initial strategic plan for long-term reuse of renovated facilities;

(II) authority for the Agency of Human Services to access Brattleboro Retreat's financials to ensure the success of the strategic plan described in subdivision (I) of this subdivision (2)(A)(iii); and

(III) a process for sharing information necessary to the Department of Mental Health for its statutory oversight responsibilities.

(B) Prior to execution, the State Treasurer shall approve the agreement described in subdivision (A) of this subdivision (2) to ensure that it is in compliance with applicable tax-exempt bond requirements.

(3) The Department of Buildings and General Services shall not expend funds until the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services and the Secretary of Human Services have notified the Commissioner of Finance and Management and the Chairs of the House Committees on Corrections and Institutions and on Health Care, and of the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Institutions that the agreement described in subdivision (2)(A) of this subsection (e) has been executed.

(4) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services and the Secretary of Human Services may also propose draft legislation to the House Committees on Corrections and Institutions and on Health Care, and the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Institutions that may be necessary to fulfill the agreement.

(5)(A) On or before October 15, 2018, the Secretary of Human Services shall notify the Chairs of the House Committees on Corrections and Institutions and on Health Care, and of the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Institutions if an agreement between the Brattleboro Retreat and the State of Vermont cannot be reached and shall submit to them an alternative proposal for the 12 beds. With approval of the Speaker of the House and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, as appropriate, the House Committees on Corrections and Institutions and on Health Care and the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Institutions may meet up to two

times when the General Assembly is not in session to evaluate, approve, or recommend alterations to the proposal. Members of the House Committees on Corrections and Institutions and on Health Care, and the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Institutions shall be entitled to receive a per diem and expenses as provided in 2 V.S.A. § 406.

(B) The Secretary of Human Services shall submit a copy of the alternative proposal described in subdivision (A) of this subdivision (5) to the Joint Fiscal Committee.

Appropriation – FY 2018	\$300,000.00
Appropriation – FY 2019	\$300,000.00 \$6,200,000.00
Total Appropriation – Section 3	\$600,000.00 <u>\$6,500,000.00</u>

Third: In Sec. 4, amending 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 5, by striking out all after subsection (c) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

(d) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2019 to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development for the following projects described in this subsection:

(1) Lake Champlain Maritime Museum:

- (A) Underwater preserves: \$30,000.00
- (B) Schooner Lois McClure project, repairs and upgrades:
\$25,000.00

(2) Placement and replacement of roadside historic markers:
\$15,000.00 \$29,000.00

(3) VT Center for Geographic Information, digital orthophotographic quadrangle mapping: \$125,000.00

(4) Civil War Heritage Trail, signs: \$30,000.00

(e) The amounts appropriated in subdivisions (a)(2) ~~and~~, (a)(3), (d)(1)(B), and (d)(4) of this section shall be used as a one-to-one matching grant. The funds shall become available after the Agency notifies the Department that the funds have been matched.

(f) It is the intent of the General Assembly that any requests for capital funds be submitted to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development for inclusion in the Governor’s annual consolidated capital budget request, pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 309.

Appropriation – FY 2018	\$450,000.00
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Appropriation – FY 2019	\$370,000.00	<u>\$539,000.00</u>
Total Appropriation – Section 5	\$820,000.00	<u>\$989,000.00</u>

Fourth: In Sec. 8, amending 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 11, in subdivision (e)(1)(B), by striking out “\$1,500,000.00” and inserting in lieu thereof “\$1,400,000.00”, in subdivision (f)(4), by striking out “subdivision (2)” and inserting in lieu thereof “subdivision (2)(A)”, in subdivision (g)(1)(B), by striking out “\$1,000,000.00” and inserting in lieu thereof “\$1,100,000.00”, and in subsection (m), by striking out “\$200,000.00” and inserting in lieu thereof “\$100,000.00”

Fifth: In Sec. 10, amending 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 13, by striking out all after subsection (c) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

(c)(1) The sum of \$4,000,000.00 is appropriated in FY 2019 to the Department of Public Safety for the School Safety and Security Grant Program.

(2) It is the intent of the General Assembly that the amount appropriated in subdivision (1) of this subsection (c) shall be supported by an additional \$1,000,000.00 in federal funds.

Appropriation – FY 2018		\$1,927,000.00
Appropriation – FY 2019	\$5,573,000.00	<u>\$11,458,000.00</u>
Total Appropriation – Section 13	\$7,500,000.00	<u>\$13,385,000.00</u>

Sixth: In Sec. 12, adding 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 16a, by striking out “\$500,000.00” and inserting in lieu thereof “\$400,000.00”

Seventh: By striking out Sec. 26 (amending 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, by adding Secs. 36a and 37a) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 26 to read:

Sec. 26. 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Secs. 36a-36c are added to read:

Sec. 36a. SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY CAPITAL GRANT PROGRAM

(a) Creation. There is created the School Safety and Security Capital Grant Program to be administered by the Department of Public Safety to enhance safety and security in Vermont schools, as defined in 16 V.S.A. § 3447. The amount appropriated in Sec. 10 of this act, adding 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 13(c)(1), shall be used to fund this Program.

(b) Use of funds. Capital grants authorized in subsection (a) of this section shall be used for the planning, delivery, and installation of equipment for upgrades to existing school security equipment and for new school security

equipment identified through threat assessment planning and surveys designed to enhance building security.

(c) Guidelines. The following guidelines shall apply to capital grants for school safety measures:

(1) Grants shall be awarded competitively to schools for capital-eligible expenses to implement safety and security measures identified in a security assessment. Capital-eligible expenses may include video monitoring and surveillance equipment, intercom systems, window coverings, exterior and interior doors, locks, and perimeter security measures.

(2) Grants shall only be awarded after a security assessment has been completed by the Agency of Education and Department of Public Safety.

(3) The Program is authorized to award capital grants of up to \$25,000.00 per school. Each school shall be required to provide a 25 percent match to the grant amount. The required match shall be met through dollars raised and not in-kind services.

(d) Administration. The Department of Public Safety, in coordination with the Agency of Education, shall administer and coordinate capital grants made pursuant to this section. Grant funds shall not be used to administer the Program.

(e) Reporting. The Department of Public Safety shall provide notice of any capital grants awarded under this section to the Chairs of the Senate Committee on Institutions and the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions.

* * * Sunset of School Security Grant Program * * *

Sec. 36b. REPEAL OF SCHOOL SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM

The School Safety and Security Grant Program established in Sec. 17 of this act shall be repealed on July 1, 2019.

* * * School Safety Advisory Group * * *

Sec. 36c. 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 school 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.

Eighth: In Sec. 27, by striking out all after subdivision (d)(1) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

(2) On or before October 15, 2018, the Secretary shall present a prioritized list of eligible projects, if any, to the Secretary of Administration for inclusion in the Governor's annual consolidated capital budget request, pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 309.

(e) Notwithstanding the grant program authorized in this section, State aid for school construction remains suspended pursuant to the terms of 2008 Acts and Resolves No. 200, Sec. 45 as amended by 2009 Acts and Resolves No. 54, Sec. 22, as further amended by 2013 Acts and Resolves No. 51, Sec. 45.

Ninth: By striking out all after Sec. 27, and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

* * * Corrections * * *

Sec. 28. 28 V.S.A. § 1354 is amended to read:

§ 1354. ARTICLE IV; THE STATE COUNCIL

(a) A ~~The Vermont state council for interstate adult offender supervision~~ State Council for Interstate Adult Offender Supervision is created. The ~~state council~~ State Council shall consist of ~~five~~ six members:

(1) ~~one representative of the legislative branch appointed by the general assembly pursuant to a process determined by the joint rules committee~~ one member of the House of Representatives, who shall be appointed by the Speaker, and one member of the Senate, who shall be appointed by the Committee on Committees;

(2) one representative of the ~~judicial branch~~ Judicial Branch appointed by the ~~chief justice~~ Chief Justice of the ~~supreme court~~ Supreme Court;

(3) one representative of the ~~executive branch~~ Executive Branch appointed by the ~~governor~~ Governor;

(4) one representative of a victims group appointed by the ~~governor~~ Governor; and

(5) one individual who in addition to serving as a member of the ~~council~~ Council shall serve as the compact administrator for this ~~state~~ State, appointed by the ~~governor~~ Governor after consultation with the ~~general assembly~~ General Assembly and the ~~supreme court~~ Supreme Court.

* * *

* * * Effective Date * * *

Sec. 29. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.

Thereupon, the question, Shall the Senate concur in the House proposal of amendment?, was decided in the affirmative.

Rules Suspended; Report of Committee of Conference Accepted and Adopted on the Part of the Senate

S. 29.

Appearing the Calendar for notice, on motion of Senator Ashe, the rules were suspended and the report of the Committee of Conference on Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to decedents' estates.

Was taken up for immediate consideration.

Senator Flory, for the Committee of Conference, submitted the following report:

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

The Committee of Conference to which were referred the disagreeing votes of the two Houses upon Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to decedents' estates.

Respectfully reports that it has met and considered the same and recommends that the Senate recede from its proposal of amendment and concur with the House proposal of amendment with further amendment as follows:

In Sec. 9, 14 V.S.A. chapter 75, in § 1651, by striking out subdivision (12) in its entirety.

MARGARET K FLORY

ALICE W. NITKA

JOSEPH C. BENNING

Committee on the part of the Senate

*EILEEN LYNN'G. DICKINSON
MAXINE JO GRAD
JANSSEN D. WILLHOIT*

Committee on the part of the House

Thereupon, the question, Shall the Senate accept and adopt the report of the Committee of Conference?, was decided in the affirmative.

Committees of Conference Appointed

S. 206.

An act relating to business consumer protection for point-of-sale equipment leases.

Was taken up. Pursuant to the request of the Senate, the President announced the appointment of

Senator Soucy
Senator Pearson
Senator Baruth

as members of the Committee of Conference on the part of the Senate to consider the disagreeing votes of the two Houses.

S. 281.

An act relating to the mitigation of systemic racism.

Was taken up. Pursuant to the request of the House, the President announced the appointment of

Senator Pearson
Senator Collamore
Senator White

as members of the Committee of Conference on the part of the Senate to consider the disagreeing votes of the two Houses.

Recess

On motion of Senator Ashe the Senate recessed until 4:15 P.M.

H. 917.

An act relating to the Transportation Program and miscellaneous changes to transportation-related law.

Was taken up. Pursuant to the request of the Senate, the President announced the appointment of

Senator Mazza
Senator Westman
Senator Flory

as members of the Committee of Conference on the part of the Senate to consider the disagreeing votes of the two Houses.

Rules Suspended; Bills Messaged

On motion of Senator Ashe, the rules were suspended, and the following bills were severally ordered messaged to the House forthwith:

S. 29, S. 180, S. 206, S. 222, S. 281, H. 196, H. 912, H. 917, H. 923.

Called to Order

The Senate was called to order by the President.

**Rules Suspended; House Proposals of Amendment to Senate Proposal of
Amendment Concurred In**

H. 526.

Appearing on the Calendar for notice, on motion of Senator Ashe, the rules were suspended and House proposals of amendment to Senate proposal of amendment to House bill entitled:

An act relating to regulating notaries public.

Were taken up for immediate consideration.

The House concurs in the Senate proposal of amendment with the following amendments thereto:

First: In Sec. 1, 26 V.S.A. chapter 103 (notaries public), by striking out § 5323 (rules) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new § 5323 to read as follows:

§ 5323. RULES

(a) The Office, with the advice of the advisor appointees, may adopt rules to implement this chapter. The rules may:

(1) prescribe the manner of performing notarial acts regarding tangible and electronic records;

(2) include provisions to ensure that any change to or tampering with a record bearing a certificate of a notarial act is self-evident;

(3) include provisions to ensure integrity in the creation, transmittal, storage, or authentication of electronic records or signatures;

(4) prescribe the process of granting, renewing, conditioning, denying, suspending, or revoking the commission of or otherwise disciplining a notary public and assuring the trustworthiness of an individual holding a commission as notary public;

(5) include provisions to prevent fraud or mistake in the performance of notarial acts; and

(6) prescribe standards for remote online notarization, including standards for credential analysis, the process through which a third person affirms the identity of an individual, the methods for communicating through a secure communication link, the means by which the remote notarization is certified, and the form of notice to be appended disclosing the fact that the notarization was completed remotely on any document acknowledged through remote online notarization.

(b) Rules adopted regarding the performance of notarial acts with respect to electronic records and remote online notarization may not require, or accord greater legal status or effect to, the implementation or application of a specific technology or technical specification. In adopting, amending, or repealing rules regarding notarial acts with respect to electronic records and remote online notarization, the Office shall consider, as far as is consistent with this chapter:

(1) the most recent standards regarding electronic records and remote online notarization promulgated by national bodies, such as the National Association of Secretaries of State;

(2) standards, practices, and customs of other jurisdictions that substantially enact this chapter; and

(3) the views of governmental officials and entities and other interested persons.

(c) Neither electronic notarization nor remote online notarization shall be allowed until the Secretary of State has adopted rules and prescribed standards in these areas.

Second: In Sec. 1, 26 V.S.A. chapter 103, by striking out § 5364 (personal appearance required) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new § 5364 to read as follows:

§ 5364. PERSONAL APPEARANCE REQUIRED

(a) If a notarial act relates to a statement made in or a signature executed on a record, the individual making the statement or executing the signature shall appear personally before the notary public.

(b) The requirement for a personal appearance is satisfied if:

(1) the notary public and the person executing the signature are in the same physical place; or

(2) the notary public and the person are communicating through a secure communication link using protocols and standards prescribed in rules adopted by the Secretary of State pursuant to the rulemaking authority set forth in this chapter.

Thereupon, the question, Shall the Senate concur in the House proposals of amendment to the Senate proposal of amendment?, were severally decided in the affirmative.

**Rules Suspended; House Proposal of Amendment Not Concurred In;
Committee of Conference Requested**

S. 224.

Appearing on the Calendar for notice, on motion of Senator Ashe, the rules were suspended and House proposal of amendment to Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to co-payment limits for visits to chiropractors.

Was taken up for immediate consideration.

The House proposes to the Senate to amend the bill by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 8 V.S.A. § 4088a is amended to read:

§ 4088a. CHIROPRACTIC SERVICES

(a)(1) A health insurance plan shall provide coverage for clinically necessary health care services provided by a chiropractic physician licensed in this State for treatment within the scope of practice described in 26 V.S.A. chapter 10, but limiting adjunctive therapies to physiotherapy modalities and rehabilitative exercises. A health insurance plan does not have to provide coverage for the treatment of any visceral condition arising from problems or dysfunctions of the abdominal or thoracic organs.

(2) A health insurer may require that the chiropractic services be provided by a licensed chiropractic physician under contract with the insurer or upon referral from a health care provider under contract with the insurer.

(3) Health care services provided by chiropractic physicians may be subject to reasonable deductibles, co-payment and co-insurance amounts, fee or benefit limits, practice parameters, and utilization review consistent with any applicable regulations published by the Department of Financial Regulation; provided that any such amounts, limits, and review shall not

function to direct treatment in a manner unfairly discriminative against chiropractic care, and collectively shall be no more restrictive than those applicable under the same policy to care or services provided by other health care providers but allowing for the management of the benefit consistent with variations in practice patterns and treatment modalities among different types of health care providers.

(4) For silver- and bronze-level qualified health benefit plans and reflective silver plans offered pursuant to 33 V.S.A. chapter 18, subchapter 1, health care services provided by a chiropractic physician may be subject to a co-payment requirement, provided that any required co-payment amount shall be between 140 and 160 percent of the amount of the co-payment applicable to care and services provided by a primary care provider under the plan.

(5) Nothing herein contained in this section shall be construed as impeding or preventing either the provision or coverage of health care services by licensed chiropractic physicians, within the lawful scope of chiropractic practice, in hospital facilities on a staff or employee basis.

* * *

Sec. 2. 8 V.S.A. § 4088k is added to read:

§ 4088k. PHYSICAL THERAPY CO-PAYMENTS FOR CERTAIN PLANS

For silver- and bronze-level qualified health benefit plans and reflective silver plans offered pursuant to 33 V.S.A. chapter 18, subchapter 1, health care services provided by a licensed physical therapist may be subject to a co-payment requirement, provided that any required co-payment amount shall be between 140 and 160 percent of the amount of the co-payment applicable to care and services provided by a primary care provider under the plan.

Sec. 3. CHIROPRACTIC AND PHYSICAL THERAPY CO-PAYMENT LIMITS; IMPACT REPORTS

(a) On or before January 1, 2019, the Department of Vermont Health Access and the health insurance carriers offering qualified health benefit plans on the Vermont Health Benefit Exchange shall submit a report to the House Committee on Health Care, the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Finance, and the Green Mountain Care Board regarding the projected impact of the chiropractic and physical therapy co-payment limits for qualified health benefit plans and reflective silver plans required by Secs. 1 and 2 of this act on the plans' premium rates, on the plans' actuarial values, and on plan designs, including any impacts on the cost-sharing levels and amounts for other health care services. The information shall be reported separately for each provider type.

(b) On or before November 15, 2021, the Department of Vermont Health Access and the health insurance carriers offering qualified health benefit plans on the Vermont Health Benefit Exchange shall submit a report to the House Committee on Health Care, the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Finance, and the Green Mountain Care Board regarding the impact of the chiropractic and physical therapy co-payment limits for qualified health benefit plans and reflective silver plans on utilization of chiropractic and physical therapy services. The information shall be reported separately for each provider type.

Sec. 4. HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR NON-OPIOID
APPROACHES TO TREATING AND MANAGING PAIN; REPORT

(a) The Department of Vermont Health Access shall convene a working group to develop recommendations related to insurance coverage for non-opioid approaches, including nonpharmacological approaches, to treating and managing pain. The working group shall be composed of the following members:

- (1) the Commissioner of Financial Regulation or designee;
- (2) one representative of each health insurance carrier offering qualified health benefit plans on the Vermont Health Benefit Exchange;
- (3) the Chief Health Care Advocate or designee; and
- (4) a pain management clinician selected by the Vermont Medical Society.

(b) The Department of Vermont Health Access shall provide the working group with the clinical approaches to non-opioid treatments for pain that the Department is developing with stakeholders. Using the model being developed by the Department, the working group shall consider issues related to health insurance coverage for non-opioid approaches, including nonpharmacological approaches, to treating and managing pain, including whether health insurance plans should cover certain non-opioid approaches, including nonpharmacological approaches, to treating and managing pain and an appropriate level of cost-sharing that should apply to chiropractic care, physical therapy, and any other non-opioid or nonpharmacological modalities for treating and managing pain that the working group recommends for insurance coverage.

(c) On or before January 15, 2019, the working group shall provide its recommendations to the House Committees on Health Care and on Human Services and the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Finance.

Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) Secs. 1 (8 V.S.A. § 4088a) and 2 (8 V.S.A. § 4088k) shall take effect on January 1, 2020 and shall apply to all health insurance plans issued on and after January 1, 2020 on such date as a health insurer offers, issues, or renews the health insurance plan, but in no event later than January 1, 2021.

(b) The remaining sections shall take effect on passage.

And that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read:

An act relating to co-payment limits for chiropractic care and physical therapy.

Thereupon, pending the question, Shall the Senate concur in the House proposal of amendment?, on motion of Senator Cummings, the Senate refused to concur in the House proposal of amendment and requested a Committee of Conference.

Rules Suspended; Bill Passed in Concurrence with Proposal of Amendment

H. 739.

Pending entry on the Calendar for action tomorrow, on motion of Senator Ashe, the rules were suspended and House bill entitled:

An act relating to energy productivity investments under the self-managed energy efficiency program.

Was placed on all remaining stages of its passage in concurrence with proposal of amendment forthwith.

Thereupon, the bill was read the third time and passed in concurrence with proposals of amendment, on a roll call, Yeas 25, Nays 2.

Senator Starr 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, Lyons, Mazza, Nitka, Pearson, Rodgers, Sears, Sirotkin, Soucy, Starr, Westman, White.

Those Senators who voted in the negative were: MacDonald, McCormack.

Those Senators absent and not voting were: Baruth, Kitchel, Pollina.

Appointments Confirmed

The following Gubernatorial appointments were confirmed separately by the Senate, upon full reports given by the Committees to which they were referred:

The nomination of

Humbert, Alicia Sacerio of Northfield - Magistrate, Family Court - March 14, 2018 to March 31, 2019.

Was confirmed by the Senate on a roll call, Yeas 26, 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, Lyons, MacDonald, Mazza, McCormack, Nitka, Pearson, Sears, Sirotkin, Soucy, Starr, Westman, White.

Those Senators who voted in the negative were: None.

Those Senators absent and not voting were: Baruth, Kitchel, Pollina, Rodgers.

Shaftiz, Megan J. of South Burlington - Superior Judge - March 21, 2018 to March 31, 2019.

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, Nitka, Pearson, Rodgers, Sears, Sirotkin, Soucy, Starr, Westman, White.

Those Senators who voted in the negative were: None.

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

Appointment Confirmed

Under suspension of the rules (and particularly, Senate Rule 93), as moved by Senator White, the following Gubernatorial appointment was confirmed by the Senate, without report given by the Committee to which it was referred and without debate:

The nomination of

Hathaway, Andrew of Waterbury - Member, Children and Family Council for Prevention Programs - March 1, 2018 to February 28, 2021.

Was confirmed by the Senate.

Committees of Conference Appointed**S. 224.**

An act relating to co-payment limits for visits to chiropractors.

Was taken up. Pursuant to the request of the Senate, the President announced the appointment of

Senator Sirotkin
Senator Ayer
Senator Campion

as members of the Committee of Conference on the part of the Senate to consider the disagreeing votes of the two Houses.

H. 143.

An act relating to automobile insurance requirements and transportation network companies.

Was taken up. Pursuant to the request of the House, the President announced the appointment of

Senator Sears
Senator Benning
Senator Ingram

as members of the Committee of Conference on the part of the Senate to consider the disagreeing votes of the two Houses.

H. 593.

An act relating to miscellaneous consumer protection provisions.

Was taken up. Pursuant to the request of the Senate, the President announced the appointment of

Senator Ashe
Senator Sirotkin
Senator Balint

as members of the Committee of Conference on the part of the Senate to consider the disagreeing votes of the two Houses.

H. 764.

An act relating to data brokers and consumer protection.

Was taken up. Pursuant to the request of the House, the President announced the appointment of

Senator Baruth
Senator Balint
Senator Soucy

as members of the Committee of Conference on the part of the Senate to consider the disagreeing votes of the two Houses.

Rules Suspended; Bills Messaged

On motion of Senator Ashe, the rules were suspended, and the following bills were severally ordered messaged to the House forthwith:

S. 224, H. 143, H. 526, H. 593, H. 739, H. 764.

Adjournment

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