

Journal of the House

Friday, March 29, 2019

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

Devotional Exercises

Devotional exercises were conducted by Youth from Outright VT.

Senate Bill Referred

S. 32

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to the public financing of campaigns

Was read and referred to the committee on Government Operations.

Senate Bill Referred

S. 58

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to the State hemp program

Was read and referred to the committee on Agriculture and Forestry.

Senate Bill Referred

S. 117

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to the therapeutic use of cannabis

Was read and referred to the committee on Human Services.

Senate Bill Referred

S. 146

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to substance misuse prevention

Was read and referred to the committee on Human Services.

Senate Bill Referred**S. 164**

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to miscellaneous changes to education law

Was read and referred to the committee on Education.

Third Reading; Bill Passed**H. 524**

House bill, entitled

An act relating to health insurance and the individual mandate

Was taken up and read the third time.

Pending the question, Shall the bill pass? **Rep. McCoy of Poultney** demanded the Yeas and Nays, which demand was sustained by the Constitutional number. The Clerk proceeded to call the roll and the question, Shall the bill pass? was decided in the affirmative. Yeas, 92. Nays, 44.

Those who voted in the affirmative are:

Ancel of Calais	Elder of Starksboro	O'Sullivan of Burlington
Anthony of Barre City	Emmons of Springfield	Pajala of Londonderry
Austin of Colchester	Fegard of Berkshire	Partridge of Windham
Bartholomew of Hartland	Gannon of Wilmington	Patt of Worcester
Birong of Vergennes	Giambatista of Essex	Potter of Clarendon
Bock of Chester	Haas of Rochester	Pugh of South Burlington
Briglin of Thetford	Hashim of Dummerston	Ralph of Hartland
Brownell of Pownal	Hill of Wolcott	Redmond of Essex
Browning of Arlington	Hooper of Montpelier	Rogers of Waterville
Brumsted of Shelburne	Hooper of Burlington	Scheu of Middlebury
Burke of Brattleboro	Houghton of Essex	Sheldon of Middlebury
Campbell of St. Johnsbury	Jerome of Brandon	Sibilia of Dover
Carroll of Bennington	Jessup of Middlesex	Squirrell of Underhill
Chase of Colchester	Jickling of Randolph	Stevens of Waterbury
Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs *	Killacky of South Burlington	Sullivan of Dorset
Christensen of Weathersfield	Kitzmiller of Montpelier	Sullivan of Burlington
Christie of Hartford	Kornheiser of Brattleboro	Szott of Barnard
Cina of Burlington	Krowinski of Burlington	Taylor of Colchester
Coffey of Guilford	LaLonde of South Burlington	Till of Jericho
Colburn of Burlington	Lanpher of Vergennes	Toleno of Brattleboro
Colston of Winooski	Long of Newfane	Toll of Danville
Conlon of Cornwall	Macaig of Williston	Townsend of South Burlington
Conquest of Newbury	Masland of Thetford	Troiano of Stannard
Copeland-Hanzas of Bradford	McCarthy of St. Albans City	Walz of Barre City
	McCormack of Burlington	Webb of Shelburne

Corcoran of Bennington	McCullough of Williston	White of Hartford
Demrow of Corinth	Mrowicki of Putney	Wood of Waterbury
Dolan of Waitsfield *	Murphy of Fairfax	Yacovone of Morristown
Donahue of Northfield	Nicoll of Ludlow	Yantachka of Charlotte
Donovan of Burlington	Noyes of Wolcott	Young of Greensboro
Durfee of Shaftsbury	O'Brien of Tunbridge	
	Ode of Burlington	

Those who voted in the negative are:

Bancroft of Westford	Hango of Berkshire	Norris of Shoreham
Batchelor of Derby	Harrison of Chittenden	Notte of Rutland City
Bates of Bennington	Helm of Fair Haven	Page of Newport City
Beck of St. Johnsbury	Higley of Lowell	Palasik of Milton
Brennan of Colchester	Kimbell of Woodstock	Quimby of Concord
Burditt of West Rutland	LaClair of Barre Town	Rosenquist of Georgia
Canfield of Fair Haven	Lefebvre of Newark	Savage of Swanton
Cupoli of Rutland City	Leffler of Enosburgh	Scheuermann of Stowe
Dickinson of St. Albans Town	Marcotte of Coventry	Seymour of Sutton
Fagan of Rutland City	Martel of Waterford	Shaw of Pittsford
Feltus of Lyndon	McCoy of Poultney	Smith of Derby
Gamache of Swanton	McFaun of Barre Town	Smith of New Haven
Goslant of Northfield	Morgan of Milton	Strong of Albany
Graham of Williamstown	Morrissey of Bennington	Terenzini of Rutland Town
	Myers of Essex	Toof of St. Albans Town

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

Cordes of Lincoln	Gregoire of Fairfield	Mattos of Milton
Forguites of Springfield	Hooper of Randolph	Rachelson of Burlington
Gardner of Richmond	Howard of Rutland City	Trieber of Rockingham
Gonzalez of Winooski	James of Manchester	
Grad of Moretown	Lippert of Hinesburg	

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

“Madam Speaker:

This bill is an important piece of legislation to protect affordable health coverage for all Vermonters.”

Rep. Dolan of Waitsfield explained her vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

I support this bill because it preserves the critical elements in the affordable care act that benefits all of us, such as coverage for people with pre-existing conditions and to achieve stabilization of the health care marketplace.”

Third Reading; Bill Passed**H. 541**

House bill, entitled

An act relating to changes that affect the revenue of the State

Was taken up and read the third time.

Pending the question, Shall the bill pass? **Rep. Harrison of Chittenden** demanded the Yeas and Nays, which demand was sustained by the Constitutional number. The Clerk proceeded to call the roll and the question, Shall the bill pass? was decided in the affirmative. Yeas, 116. Nays, 22.

Those who voted in the affirmative are:

Ancel of Calais	Fagan of Rutland City	Ode of Burlington
Anthony of Barre City	Fegard of Berkshire	O'Sullivan of Burlington
Austin of Colchester	Feltus of Lyndon	Page of Newport City
Bancroft of Westford	Gannon of Wilmington	Pajala of Londonderry
Bartholomew of Hartland	Giambatista of Essex	Partridge of Windham
Bates of Bennington	Goslant of Northfield	Patt of Worcester
Beck of St. Johnsbury	Haas of Rochester	Potter of Clarendon
Birong of Vergennes	Hashim of Dummerston	Pugh of South Burlington
Bock of Chester	Helm of Fair Haven	Rachelson of Burlington
Brennan of Colchester	Hill of Wolcott	Ralph of Hartland
Briglin of Thetford	Hooper of Montpelier	Redmond of Essex
Brownell of Pownal	Hooper of Burlington	Rogers of Waterville
Browning of Arlington	Houghton of Essex	Scheu of Middlebury
Brumsted of Shelburne	Jerome of Brandon	Scheuermann of Stowe *
Burditt of West Rutland	Jessup of Middlesex	Seymour of Sutton
Burke of Brattleboro	Jickling of Randolph	Shaw of Pittsford
Campbell of St. Johnsbury	Killacky of South Burlington	Sheldon of Middlebury
Canfield of Fair Haven	Kimbell of Woodstock	Sibilia of Dover
Carroll of Bennington	Kitzmillier of Montpelier	Smith of Derby
Chase of Colchester	Kornheiser of Brattleboro	Squirrell of Underhill
Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs	Krowinski of Burlington	Stevens of Waterbury
Christensen of Weathersfield	LaLonde of South Burlington	Sullivan of Dorset
Christie of Hartford	Lanpher of Vergennes	Sullivan of Burlington
Cina of Burlington	Long of Newfane	Szott of Barnard
Coffey of Guilford	Macaig of Williston	Taylor of Colchester
Colburn of Burlington	Marcotte of Coventry	Till of Jericho *
Colston of Winooski	Martel of Waterford	Toleno of Brattleboro
Conlon of Cornwall	Masland of Thetford	Toll of Danville
Conquest of Newbury	McCarthy of St. Albans City	Townsend of South Burlington
Copeland-Hanzas of Bradford	McCormack of Burlington	Trieber of Rockingham
Corcoran of Bennington	McCoy of Poultney *	Troiano of Stannard
Demrow of Corinth	McCullough of Williston	Walz of Barre City
Dolan of Waitsfield	Mrowicki of Putney	Webb of Shelburne
	Murphy of Fairfax	White of Hartford

Donahue of Northfield	Myers of Essex	Wood of Waterbury
Donovan of Burlington	Nicoll of Ludlow	Yacovone of Morristown
Durfee of Shaftsbury	Norris of Shoreham	Yantachka of Charlotte
Elder of Starksboro	Notte of Rutland City	Young of Greensboro
Emmons of Springfield	Noyes of Wolcott	
	O'Brien of Tunbridge	

Those who voted in the negative are:

Batchelor of Derby	Higley of Lowell	Quimby of Concord
Cupoli of Rutland City	LaClair of Barre Town	Rosenquist of Georgia
Dickinson of St. Albans Town	Lefebvre of Newark	Savage of Swanton
Gamache of Swanton	Leffler of Enosburgh	Smith of New Haven
Graham of Williamstown	McFaun of Barre Town *	Strong of Albany
Hango of Berkshire	Morgan of Milton	Terenzini of Rutland Town
Harrison of Chittenden	Morrissey of Bennington	Toof of St. Albans Town
	Palasik of Milton	

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

Cordes of Lincoln	Grad of Moretown	James of Manchester
Forguites of Springfield	Gregoire of Fairfield	Lippert of Hinesburg
Gardner of Richmond	Hooper of Randolph	Mattos of Milton
Gonzalez of Winooski	Howard of Rutland City	

Rep. McCoy of Poultney explained her vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

I thank the House Ways and Means Committee for their hard work. I voted yes; however, I remain concerned about reducing the capital gains exclusion percentage by 10%.”

Rep. McFaun of Barre Town explained his vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

Although I appreciate the good work of the Ways and Means Committee I can’t vote for a tax that is going to affect low income people.”

Rep. Scheuermann of Stowe explained her vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

Thank you Madam Speaker. I vote yes on this bill because it is a sound one. While I don’t agree with all of the provisions, I truly appreciate the work on the estate tax, the land gains tax, the downtown tax credit program, and the online travel agencies. I thank the committee for their work.”

Rep. Till of Jericho explained his vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

I vote yes. A yes vote is a vote to increase the exemption from the estate tax. A yes vote is a vote to increase downtown and village center and affordable housing tax credits and assistance. A yes vote is a vote to simplify the lands gains tax. A yes vote is a vote to clarify the property transfer tax. A no vote because of disagreement with a single provision is a vote to not do these things and is extremely foolish.”

Third Reading; Bill Passed

H. 542

House bill, entitled

An act relating to making appropriations for the support of government

Was taken up and read the third time.

Pending the question, Shall the bill pass? **Rep. McCoy of Poultney** demanded the Yeas and Nays, which demand was sustained by the Constitutional number. The Clerk proceeded to call the roll and the question, Shall the bill pass? was decided in the affirmative. Yeas, 137. Nays, 1.

Those who voted in the affirmative are:

Ancel of Calais	Gannon of Wilmington	Ode of Burlington
Anthony of Barre City	Giambatista of Essex	O'Sullivan of Burlington
Austin of Colchester	Goslant of Northfield	Page of Newport City
Bancroft of Westford	Graham of Williamstown	Pajala of Londonderry
Bartholomew of Hartland	Haas of Rochester	Palasik of Milton
Batchelor of Derby	Hango of Berkshire	Partridge of Windham
Bates of Bennington	Harrison of Chittenden	Patt of Worcester
Beck of St. Johnsbury	Hashim of Dummerston	Potter of Clarendon
Birong of Vergennes	Helm of Fair Haven	Pugh of South Burlington
Bock of Chester	Higley of Lowell	Quimby of Concord
Brennan of Colchester	Hill of Wolcott	Rachelson of Burlington
Briglin of Thetford	Hooper of Montpelier	Ralph of Hartland
Brownell of Pownal	Hooper of Burlington	Redmond of Essex
Browning of Arlington	Houghton of Essex	Rogers of Waterville
Brumsted of Shelburne	Jerome of Brandon	Rosenquist of Georgia
Burditt of West Rutland	Jessup of Middlesex	Savage of Swanton
Burke of Brattleboro	Jickling of Randolph	Scheu of Middlebury
Campbell of St. Johnsbury	Killacky of South Burlington	Scheuermann of Stowe
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Chase of Colchester	Kornheiser of Brattleboro	Sheldon of Middlebury *
Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs	Krowinski of Burlington	Sibilia of Dover
Christensen of Weathersfield	LaClair of Barre Town	Smith of Derby
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Cina of Burlington	Lanpher of Vergennes	Squirrell of Underhill
Coffey of Guilford	Lefebvre of Newark	Stevens of Waterbury *
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Colston of Winooski	Leffler of Enosburgh	Sullivan of Dorset
Conlon of Cornwall	Long of Newfane	Sullivan of Burlington
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Copeland-Hanzas of Bradford	Marcotte of Coventry	Taylor of Colchester
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Cupoli of Rutland City	Masland of Thetford	Till of Jericho
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Dickinson of St. Albans Town	McCormack of Burlington	Toll of Danville *
Dolan of Waitsfield *	McCoy of Poultney	Toof of St. Albans Town
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Durfee of Shaftsbury	Morgan of Milton	Troiano of Stannard
Elder of Starksboro	Mrowicki of Putney	Walz of Barre City
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Fagan of Rutland City	Myers of Essex	White of Hartford
Fegard of Berkshire	Nicoll of Ludlow	Wood of Waterbury
Feltus of Lyndon	Norris of Shoreham	Yacovone of Morristown
Gamache of Swanton	Notte of Rutland City	Yantachka of Charlotte
	Noyes of Wolcott	Young of Greensboro
	O'Brien of Tunbridge	

Those who voted in the negative are:

Colburn of Burlington

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

Cordes of Lincoln	Grad of Moretown	James of Manchester
Forguites of Springfield	Gregoire of Fairfield	Lippert of Hinesburg
Gardner of Richmond	Hooper of Randolph	Mattos of Milton
Gonzalez of Winooski	Howard of Rutland City	

Rep. Dolan of Waitsfield explained her vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

I support this bill and look forward to working with everyone here today to achieve a long term funding solution to provide clean water statewide. Providing safe clean water is a priority for all of us. Flood resilience is a priority for all of us. With outdoor recreation and tourism being a \$2.5 billion per year industry, clean water is also important to a healthy economic future.”

Rep. Sheldon of Middlebury explained her vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

I vote yes on this fiscally responsible budget that balances many needs while reflecting the priorities of Vermonters.”

Rep. Stevens of Waterbury explained his vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

I voted yes on this bill. The investments made within this budget will continue to serve low income Vermonters, middle class Vermonters, our downtowns, our National Guard, and our efforts to provide affordable housing to more Vermonters. I am grateful for the committee’s long work, and for the coherent vision it represents on our behalf.”

Rep. Toll of Danville explained her vote as follows:

“Madam Speaker:

Today the Vermont legislature exhibited a standard that other states and our national leaders should model. Working together, legislators from all political parties found common ground in support of our state budget on a nearly unanimous vote.

Well done – Vermont!”

Third Reading; Bill Passed in Concurrence

S. 14

Senate bill, entitled

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

Was taken up, read the third time and passed in concurrence.

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

H. 543

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

House bill entitled

An act relating to capital construction and State bonding

Rep. Fagan of Rutland City for the committee on Appropriations recommended that the bill ought to pass when amended as follows:

In Sec. 28, replacement of Middlesex Secure Residential Recovery facility, in subsection (b), by striking out subdivisions (2) and (3) in their entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

(2) Beginning on August 15, 2019, the Secretary of Human Services shall notify the chairs of the House Committees on Appropriations, on Corrections and Institutions, and on Health Care and the Senate Committees

on Appropriations, on Health and Welfare, and on Institutions at least monthly of updates on the status of the RRMC and RMHS negotiations.

(3) On or before December 15, 2019, the Secretary shall submit a written report on the status of the RRMC and RMHS negotiations to the House Committees on Appropriations, on Corrections and Institutions, and on Health Care and the Senate Committees on Appropriations, on Health and Welfare, and on Institutions. The report shall include an analysis of the current costs to the state of operating secure residential beds as compared to the costs of operating these beds at RRMC and RMHS.

Having appeared on the Calendar one day for notice, was taken up, read the second time, the report of the committee on Appropriations agreed to and third reading ordered.

Adjournment

At twelve o'clock and thirteen minutes in the afternoon, on motion of **Rep. McCoy of Poultney**, the House adjourned until Tuesday, April 2, 2019, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, pursuant to the provisions of J.R.S. 20.

Concurrent Resolutions Adopted

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

H.C.R. 99

House concurrent resolution recognizing March as Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month in Vermont;

H.C.R. 100

House concurrent resolution recognizing May 19–25, 2019 as National Public Works Week in Vermont;

H.C.R. 101

House concurrent resolution recognizing former Representative Ann Seibert of Norwich for her leadership in the enactment of anti-smoking legislation in Vermont;

H.C.R. 102

House concurrent resolution congratulating Ted's Pizza Shop in Rutland on its 60th anniversary;

H.C.R. 103

House concurrent resolution congratulating the American Legion on its centennial;

H.C.R. 104

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2019 Fair Haven Union High School Slaters Division II girls' basketball championship team;

H.C.R. 105

House concurrent resolution congratulating Bellows Falls Union High School Head Field Hockey Coach Bethany Coursen on being named the MAX Field Hockey 2018 Vermont State Coach of the Year and the New England Region Coach of the Year;

H.C.R. 106

House concurrent resolution honoring Robert S. Thorn Jr. for his innovative leadership as a mental health administrator, counselor, and educator;

H.C.R. 107

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2019 West Rutland High School Golden Horde Division IV girls' basketball championship team;

H.C.R. 108

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2019 Thetford Academy Panthers Division III girls' basketball championship team;

H.C.R. 109

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Thetford Academy Panthers Division III boys' basketball championship team;

H.C.R. 110

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2018 Thetford Academy Panthers Division III boys' cross-country championship team;

H.C.R. 111

House concurrent resolution designating April 2019 as Fair Housing Month in Vermont;

H.C.R. 112

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Mt. St. Joseph Academy Mounties Division II boys' basketball championship team;

H.C.R. 113

House concurrent resolution in memory of former Sergeant at Arms Teresa M. Randall;

H.C.R. 114

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2019 Danville School Indians Division IV boys' basketball championship team;

H.C.R. 115

House concurrent resolution designating April 2019 as Veterans Suicide Awareness Month in Vermont;

H.C.R. 116

House concurrent resolution recognizing April 2, 2019 as Equal Pay Day in Vermont;

H.C.R. 117

House concurrent resolution celebrating the unique attributes of Green River Reservoir State Park;

H.C.R. 118

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2019 Boys & Girls Clubs of Vermont Youth of the Year Award honorees;

H.C.R. 119

House concurrent resolution observing April 2, 2019 as National Service Recognition Day in Vermont;

H.C.R. 120

House concurrent resolution honoring U.S. Navy Chief Petty Officers' century and a quarter of outstanding service to our nation;

[The full text of the concurrent resolutions appeared in the House Calendar Addendum on the preceding legislative day and will appear in the Public Acts and Resolves of the 2019, seventy-fifth Biennial session.]