

# **Journal of the House of the State of Vermont Adjourned Session, 2020**

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**Tuesday, January 7, 2020**

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

### **Devotional Exercises**

Devotional exercises were conducted by Lucy Cannon Neel of Holland, Carol Irons of Albany and Carol McGranaghan of Orange.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Page Addie Nevitt of Hinesburg led the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Communication from the Governor**

June 20, 2019

The Honorable Mitzi Johnson  
Speaker of the House  
115 State Street, Drawer 33  
Montpelier, Vermont 05633-5301

Dear Speaker Johnson,

I have the great honor to inform you that I have appointed Kristi C. Morris, 59 Coolidge Road, Springfield, VT 05156, to serve in the General Assembly representing House District Windsor-3-2.

Sincerely,

/s/Philip B. Scott  
Governor

PBS/jm

C: James Condos, Secretary of State  
William MaGill, Clerk of the House

### **New Member Seated**

Kristi C. Morris, the newly appointed member, having taken and subscribed the oath administered by the Clerk, as required by the Constitution and laws of the State, was conducted to his seat by the Doorkeeper.

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**Communication from Rep. Jickling**

August 21, 2019  
Randolph, Vermont

Dear Mr. MaGill,

I write to inform you that I will be resigning my Legislative seat, effective September 1, 2019. It has been an honor to represent the Orange-Washington-Addison communities in the House, and serve in such an inclusive and policy-focused body.

Thank you,  
Ben Jickling

**Communication from the Governor**

January 7, 2020

The Honorable Mitzi Johnson  
Speaker of the House  
115 State Street, Drawer 33  
Montpelier, Vermont 05633-5301

Dear Speaker Johnson,

I have the great honor to inform you that I have appointed Peter Reed, 4341 Braintree Hill Rd. Braintree, VT 05606, to serve in the General Assembly representing House District Orange-Washington-Addison.

Sincerely,

/s/Philip B. Scott  
Governor

PBS/jm

C: James Condos, Secretary of State  
William MaGill, Clerk of the House

**New Member Seated**

Peter Reed, the newly appointed member, having taken and subscribed the oath administered by the Clerk, as required by the Constitution and laws of the State, was conducted to his seat by the Doorkeeper.

**Communication from Clerk**

The Speaker placed before the House a communication from the Clerk as follows:

Honorable Speaker Johnson  
Speaker of the House

Madam Speaker,

I have the honor to inform you and the members of the House that I have appointed Rebecca Silbernagel of Fayston as First Assistant Clerk and Alona Tate of Montpelier as Second Assistant Clerk.

Sincerely,

William M. MaGill

Clerk of the House

### **Oath Administered to Clerks**

The Doorkeepers were directed to conduct Rebecca Silbernagel of Fayston, the First Assistant Clerk, and Alona Tate of Montpelier, the Second Assistant Clerk, to the bar of the House where the oath was administered by the Clerk.

Thereupon, the assistant clerks entered upon the discharge of their duties.

### **Rules Suspended; House Bills Introduced**

Pending first reading of the bills, on motion of **Rep. McCoy of Poultney**, the rules were suspended and the bills were read the first time by number and committee grouping and referred or placed on the Calendar as follows:

#### **H. 552**

By Reps. Emmons of Springfield and Shaw of Pittsford,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the Vermont Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Pollution Control Revolving Fund;

To the committee on Corrections and Institutions.

#### **H. 553**

By Rep. Sullivan of Dorset,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to equal access to corrections programming;

To the committee on Corrections and Institutions.

#### **H. 554**

By Rep. Christensen of Weathersfield,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to approval of the dissolution of the Village of Perkinsville and the merger of the Village with the Town of Weathersfield;

To the committee on Government Operations.

**H. 555**

By Rep. Page of Newport City,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to rulemaking on food concessions, lotteries, raffles, or games of chance on lands and buildings within the jurisdiction of the Department of Buildings and General Services;

To the committee on Corrections and Institutions.

**H. 556**

By Reps. Cordes of Lincoln and Killacky of South Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to gender-free restrooms in public buildings and places of public accommodation;

To the committee on General, Housing, and Military Affairs.

**H. 557**

By Reps. Ancel of Calais and Demrow of Corinth,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to municipal regulation of livestock running at large;

To the committee on Government Operations.

**H. 558**

By Rep. Grad of Moretown,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to exempting the Victims Compensation Board from the Open Meeting Law;

To the committee on Government Operations.

**H. 559**

By Rep. Yacovone of Morristown,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the elimination of daylight saving time and the introduction of year-round observance of standard time;

To the committee on General, Housing, and Military Affairs.

**H. 560**

By Reps. Harrison of Chittenden, Howard of Rutland City and Szott of Barnard,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to creation of the Cemetery Vandalism Fund;

To the committee on General, Housing, and Military Affairs.

**H. 561**

By Rep. Harrison of Chittenden,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the management of food residuals;

To the committee on Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife.

**H. 562**

By Rep. Harrison of Chittenden,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the definition of agricultural land for the purposes of use value appraisals;

To the committee on Agriculture and Forestry.

**H. 563**

By Reps. Walz of Barre City, Harrison of Chittenden and Marcotte of Coventry,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to low-alcohol spirits beverages;

To the committee on General, Housing, and Military Affairs.

**H. 564**

By Reps. LaLonde of South Burlington and Grad of Moretown,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to inquests and public records;

To the committee on Judiciary.

**H. 565**

By Rep. Wood of Waterbury,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to requiring proof of financial responsibility at the time of registration;

To the committee on Transportation.

**H. 566**

By Rep. Sullivan of Dorset,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the arbitration of employment disputes;

To the committee on General, Housing, and Military Affairs.

**H. 567**

By Rep. Harrison of Chittenden,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the regulation of short-term rentals by municipalities;

To the committee on General, Housing, and Military Affairs.

**H. 568**

By Reps. Grad of Moretown, Colburn of Burlington and Jessup of Middlesex,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to human trafficking and prostitution;

To the committee on Judiciary.

**H. 569**

By Reps. Colburn of Burlington, Gonzalez of Winooski, Grad of Moretown and Kornheiser of Brattleboro,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to prostitution;

To the committee on Judiciary.

**H. 570**

By Rep. Masland of Thetford,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to an online database, buildings, and compliance with energy standards;

To the committee on Energy and Technology.

**H. 571**

By Rep. Pugh of South Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to testing for bloodborne pathogens on behalf of persons assisting in emergency situations;

To the committee on Human Services.

**H. 572**

By Rep. Pugh of South Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the Maternal Mortality Review Panel;

To the committee on Human Services.

**H. 573**

By Rep. Patt of Worcester,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to allowing municipal and cooperative utilities to offer innovative rates and services;

To the committee on Energy and Technology.

**H. 574**

By Reps. Burke of Brattleboro and Coffey of Guilford,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to wrecker exemption from gross weight limits on highways;

To the committee on Transportation.

**H. 575**

By Rep. Harrison of Chittenden,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to bears doing damage to agricultural crops;

To the committee on Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife.

**H. 576**

By Rep. Brennan of Colchester,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the management of food residuals by agricultural fairs and festivals;

To the committee on Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife.

**H. 577**

By Rep. McCullough of Williston,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the basic needs budget and livable wage;

To the committee on General, Housing, and Military Affairs.

**H. 578**

By Reps. LaLonde of South Burlington and Grad of Moretown,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to operator's license and privilege to operate suspensions and proof of financial responsibility;

To the committee on Judiciary.

**H. 579**

By Rep. LaLonde of South Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to establishing a classification system for criminal property offenses;

To the committee on Judiciary.

**H. 580**

By Reps. LaLonde of South Burlington and Grad of Moretown,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to establishing a classification system for criminal offenses;

To the committee on Judiciary.

**H. 581**

By Rep. McCullough of Williston,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the funding of the Department of Fish and Wildlife;

To the committee on Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife.

**H. 582**

By Rep. McCullough of Williston,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the management of fish and wildlife;

To the committee on Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife.

**H. 583**

By Rep. Marcotte of Coventry,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the beverage container redemption system;

To the committee on Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife.

**H. 584**

By Rep. McCullough of Williston,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to disclosure of cyanobacteria outbreak prior to conveyance of real property;

To the committee on Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife.

**H. 585**

By Rep. Harrison of Chittenden,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the intentional release of balloons;

To the committee on Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife.

**H. 586**

By Rep. Masland of Thetford,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to allowing Vermonters to choose their manner of electricity generation by owning solar generation as supported by the continuation and stability of net metering;

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To the committee on Energy and Technology.

**H. 587**

By Rep. Grad of Moretown,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to presumptive diversion to treatment court;

To the committee on Judiciary.

**H. 588**

By Rep. Grad of Moretown,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to sharing information about child abuse and neglect in military families with military authorities;

To the committee on Human Services.

**H. 589**

By Rep. LaLonde of South Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to Family Division jurisdiction over adult defendants;

To the committee on Judiciary.

**H. 590**

By Rep. Shaw of Pittsford,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to a Town Highway Structures grant award for the Town of Pittsford;

To the committee on Transportation.

**H. 591**

By Reps. Burditt of West Rutland and Rachelson of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to restricting the release of personal information by State agencies and departments, including the Department of Motor Vehicles, and municipalities;

To the committee on Judiciary.

**H. 592**

By Rep. Rachelson of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to discharge from parole for juvenile offenders;

To the committee on Corrections and Institutions.

**H. 593**

By Rep. Rachelson of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to rights of minors in law enforcement custody;

To the committee on Judiciary.

**H. 594**

By Rep. Rachelson of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to eliminating felony-murder for juveniles;

To the committee on Judiciary.

**H. 595**

By Rep. Rachelson of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to regulating the use of facial recognition technology;

To the committee on Commerce and Economic Development.

**H. 596**

By Rep. Grad of Moretown,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to exempting certain nonprofit mortgage lenders from licensure;

To the committee on Commerce and Economic Development.

**H. 597**

By Rep. Shaw of Pittsford,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to expediting the tax sale process for a mobile home;

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To the committee on General, Housing, and Military Affairs.

**H. 598**

By Rep. Christie of Hartford,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to appeals of mortgage foreclosure judgments;

To the committee on Judiciary.

**H. 599**

By Rep. Chase of Colchester,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the use of drones by law enforcement officers;

To the committee on Government Operations.

**H. 600**

By Rep. Sullivan of Dorset,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to firearm suspicious activity reporting;

To the committee on Judiciary.

**H. 601**

By Rep. Grad of Moretown,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to criteria for judicial appointments;

To the committee on Judiciary.

**H. 602**

By Rep. Webb of Shelburne,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to requiring a warrant to obtain information from a home surveillance system;

To the committee on Judiciary.

**H. 603**

By Rep. Fagan of Rutland City,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to modernizing the statutes related to the Vermont National Guard;

To the committee on General, Housing, and Military Affairs.

**H. 604**

By Rep. Masland of Thetford,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to supporting Vermont renewable energy companies and local generation through an expansion of incentives;

To the committee on Energy and Technology.

**H. 605**

By Rep. Elder of Starksboro,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to high school driver education instruction;

To the committee on Education.

**H. 606**

By Rep. Marcotte of Coventry,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to regulating storage units;

To the committee on Commerce and Economic Development.

**H. 607**

By Rep. Conquest of Newbury,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to increasing the supply of primary care providers in Vermont;

To the committee on Health Care.

**H. 608**

By Rep. Ancel of Calais,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to incompatible local offices;

To the committee on Government Operations.

**H. 609**

By Rep. Ancel of Calais,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to amending the indebtedness provision in a union school district's articles of agreement;

To the committee on Ways and Means.

**H. 610**

By Reps. Grad of Moretown and LaLonde of South Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to firearms and domestic violence;

To the committee on Judiciary.

**Committee Appointment Changes**

The Speaker announced the following changes to committees:

**Rep. Reed of Braintree** to the committee on Health Care;

**Rep. Trieber of Rockingham** to the committee on Judiciary.

**Rep. Jessup of Middlesex** to the committee on Appropriations;

**Rep. Hill of Wolcott** to the committee on Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife;

**Rep. Morris of Springfield** to the committee on Commerce and Economic Development;

**Message from the Senate No. 1**

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

Madam Speaker:

I am directed to inform the House that:

The Senate has on its part adopted joint resolutions of the following titles:

**J.R.S. 29.** Joint resolution to provide for a Joint Assembly to receive the State-of-the-State message from the Governor.

**J.R.S. 30.** Joint resolution to provide for a Joint Assembly to hear the budget message of the Governor.

**J.R.S. 31.** Joint resolution relating to Town Meeting adjournment.

**J.R.S. 32.** Joint resolution relating to weekend adjournment.

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

**Bill Recommended**

**S. 163**

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to housing safety and rehabilitation

Appearing on the Calendar for Action, and pending the report of the committee, **Rep. Stevens of Waterbury** moved to recommit the bill to General, Housing, and Military Affairs, which was agreed to.

**Bill Committed**

**H. 351**

House bill, entitled

An act relating to workers' compensation, unemployment insurance, and ski tramway amendments

Appearing on the Calendar for Action, was taken up and pending consideration of the Senate proposal of amendment, on motion of **Rep. Marcotte of Coventry**, the bill was committed to the committee on Commerce and Economic Development.

**Action on Bill Postponed**

**H. 107**

House bill, entitled

An act relating to paid family and medical leave

Was taken up and pending consideration of the Senate proposal of amendment, on motion of **Rep. Stevens of Waterbury**, action on the bill was postponed until January 8, 2020.

**Action on Bill Postponed**

**S. 23**

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to increasing the minimum wage

Was taken up and pending consideration of the Senate proposal of amendment to the House proposal of amendment, on motion of **Rep. Stevens of Waterbury**, action on the bill was postponed until January 8, 2020.

**Bill Committed****S. 141**

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to nutritional requirements for children's meals

Appearing on the Calendar for Action, was taken up and pending consideration of the Senate's adherence, on motion of **Rep. Pugh of South Burlington**, the bill was committed to the committee on Human Services.

**Adjournment**

At ten o'clock and forty-six minutes in the forenoon, on motion of **Rep. McCoy of Poultney**, the House adjourned until tomorrow at one o'clock in the afternoon.