

# Journal of the House

Wednesday, May 6, 2020

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

## Devotional Exercises

Devotional exercises were conducted by Rep. Brian Cina of Burlington.

## Message from the Senate No. 36

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

Madam Speaker:

I am directed to inform the House that:

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

**S. 333.** An act relating to establishing a moratorium on ejection and foreclosure actions during the COVID-19 emergency.

And has concurred therein.

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

**J.R.S. 50.** Joint resolution relating to weekend adjournment.

**J.R.S. 51.** Joint resolution to postpone the Joint Assembly to vote on the retention of five Superior Judges and one Environmental Judge.

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

## House Bills Introduced

House bills of the following titles were severally introduced, read the first time and referred to committee or placed on the Calendar as follows:

### H. 946

By Reps. Yacovone of Morristown and Patt of Worcester,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to approval of the adoption of the charter of the Town of Elmore;

To the committee on Government Operations.

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**Committee Bill Introduced****H. 947**

By the committee on Government Operations,

An act relating to temporary municipal tax rate provisions in response to COVID-19;

Was read and pursuant to House rule 48, bill placed on the Calendar for Notice.

**Committee Bill Introduced****H. 948**

By the committee on Government Operations,

An act relating to temporary municipal proceedings provisions in response to the COVID-19 outbreak;

Was read and pursuant to House rule 48, bill placed on the Calendar for Notice.

**H. 949**

By Reps. Macaig of Williston and McCullough of Williston,  
House bill, entitled

An act relating to approval of amendments to the charter of the Town of Williston;

To the committee on Government Operations.

**Committee Bill Introduced****H. 950**

By the committee on Human Services,

An act relating to allowing remote witnesses for advance directives for a limited time;

Was read and pursuant to House rule 48, bill placed on the Calendar for Notice.

**Senate Bill Referred****S. 346**

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to creating the COVID-19 Essential Employees Hazard Grant Program

Was read and referred to the committee on Commerce and Economic Development.

**Bill Referred to Committee on Appropriations**

**S. 343**

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to delaying special education changes due to the COVID-19 state of emergency

Appearing on the Calendar, carrying an appropriation, under rule 35(a), was referred to the committee on Appropriations.

**Joint Resolution Adopted in Concurrence**

**J.R.S. 50**

By Senator Ashe,

**J.R.S. 50.** Joint resolution relating to weekend adjournment.

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That when the two Houses adjourn on Thursday, May 7, 2020, or, Friday, May 8, 2020, it be to meet again no later than Tuesday, May 12, 2020.

Was taken up, read and adopted in concurrence.

**Joint Resolution Adopted in Concurrence**

**J.R.S. 51**

By Senator Nitka

**J.R.S. 51.** Joint resolution to postpone the Joint Assembly to vote on the retention of five Superior Judges and one Environmental Judge.

*Whereas*, the Joint Assembly to vote on the retention of five Superior Judges and one Environmental Judge pursuant to J.R.S. 49 was scheduled for Friday, April 24, 2020; and

*Whereas*, it is critical to take steps to control outbreaks of COVID-19 to minimize the risk to the public, maintain the health and safety of Vermonters and limit the spread of infection in our community; and

*Whereas*, the COVID-19 pandemic requires the General Assembly, defer action on the retention of judges to a subsequent Joint Assembly, *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

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That the two Houses meet in Joint Assembly on Thursday, May 21, 2020, at ten o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon to vote on the retention of five Superior Judges and one Environmental Judge. In case the vote to retain said Judges shall not be made on that day, the two Houses shall meet in Joint Assembly at ten o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon on each succeeding day, Saturdays and Sundays excepted, and proceed until the above is completed.

Was taken up, read and adopted in concurrence.

### **Adjournment**

At ten o'clock and forty-nine minutes in the forenoon, on motion of **Rep. McCoy of Poultney**, the House adjourned until Friday May 8, 2020 at ten o'clock in the forenoon.