

Journal of the Senate

THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2019

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Devotional Exercises

A moment of silence was observed in lieu of devotions.

Senate Bill Recommitted

S. 132.

Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to hate crimes and bias incidents.

Was taken up.

Thereupon, pending second reading of the bill, on motion of Senator Nitka, the bill was recommitted to the Committee on Judiciary.

Bills Referred to Committee on Appropriations

Senate bills of the following titles, appearing on the Calendar for notice, and carrying an appropriation or requiring the expenditure of funds, under the rule were severally referred to the Committee on Appropriations:

S. 58. An act relating to the State hemp program.

S. 163. An act relating to housing safety and rehabilitation.

Senate Resolution Placed on Calendar

S.R. 4.

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

By Senator Ashe,

S.R. 4. Senate resolution relating to adoption of a temporary Rule 44A.

Resolved by the Senate:

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

Rule 44A. (a) Any bill failing to make the crossover dates of March 15, 2019 and March 22, 2019 shall be referred to the Committee on Rules. This provision shall not apply to the following measures:

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

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

(c) All bills referred to the Committee on Rules and still in the Committee on Rules on the convening of the 2020 adjourned session shall be referred to another committee of jurisdiction pursuant to Senate Rule 24, if applicable.

(d) This Temporary Rule 44A shall expire on the convening of the 2020 adjourned session.

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

Bill Introduced

Senate bill of the following title was introduced, read the first time and referred:

S. 171.

By Senators Bray, Balint, Campion, Clarkson, Hardy, McCormack, Pearson and Perchlik,

An act relating to addressing climate change, increasing weatherization, and rating the energy performance of buildings.

To the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy.

Bills Referred

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

H. 514.

An act relating to miscellaneous tax provisions.

To the Committee on Finance.

H. 518.

An act relating to fair and impartial policing.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

Bill Amended; Third Reading Ordered**S. 55.**

Senator Lyons, for the Committee on Health and Welfare, to which was referred Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to the regulation of toxic substances and hazardous materials.

Reported recommending that the bill be amended by striking out Sec. 4 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof two new sections to be numbered Secs. 4 and 4a to read as follows:

Sec. 4. 18 V.S.A. § 1776 is amended to read:

§ 1776. RULEMAKING; ADDITIONAL CHEMICALS OF CONCERN TO CHILDREN; PROHIBITION OF SALE

* * *

(b) Additional chemicals of concern to children. The Commissioner may by rule add additional chemicals to the list of chemicals of high concern to children, provided that the Commissioner of Health, on the basis of ~~the weight~~ of credible, peer-reviewed scientific evidence information, has determined that a chemical proposed for addition to the list meets both of the following criteria in subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection:

(1) The Commissioner of Health has determined that an authoritative governmental entity or accredited research university has demonstrated that the chemical:

(A) harms the normal development of a fetus or child or causes other developmental toxicity;

(B) causes cancer, genetic damage, or reproductive harm;

(C) disrupts the endocrine system;

(D) damages the nervous system, immune system, or organs or causes other systemic toxicity; or

(E) is a persistent bioaccumulative toxic.

(2) The chemical has been found through:

(A) biomonitoring to be present in human blood, umbilical cord blood, breast milk, urine, or other bodily tissues or fluids;

(B) sampling and analysis to be present in household dust, indoor air, drinking water, or elsewhere in the home environment; or

(C) monitoring to be present in fish, wildlife, or the natural environment.

* * *

(d) Rule to regulate sale or distribution.

(1) The Commissioner, ~~upon the recommendation of~~ after consultation with the Chemicals of High Concern to Children Working Group, may adopt a rule to regulate the sale or distribution of a children's product containing a chemical of high concern to children upon a determination that:

~~(A) children will~~ may be exposed to a chemical of high concern to children in the children's product; ~~and~~

~~(B) there is a probability that, due to the degree of exposure or frequency of exposure of a child to a chemical of high concern to children in a children's product, exposure could cause or contribute to one or more of the adverse health impacts listed under subdivision (b)(1) of this section.~~

(2) In determining whether children ~~will~~ may be exposed to a chemical of high concern in a children's product, the Commissioner shall review available, credible information regarding:

(A) the market presence of the children's product in the State;

(B) the type or occurrence of exposures to the relevant chemical of high concern to children in the children's product;

(C) the household and workplace presence of the children's product; or

(D) the potential ~~and frequency~~ of exposure of children to the chemical of high concern to children in the children's product.

(3) A rule adopted under this section may:

(A) prohibit the children's product containing the chemical of high concern to children from sale, offer for sale, or distribution in the State; or

(B) require that the children's product containing the chemical of high concern to children be labeled prior to sale, offer for sale, or distribution in the State.

(4) In any rule adopted under this subsection, the Commissioner shall adopt reasonable time frames for manufacturers, distributors, and retailers to comply with the requirements of the rules. No prohibition on sale or manufacture of a children's product in the State shall take effect sooner than two years after the adoption of a rule adopted under this section unless the Commissioner determines that an earlier effective date is required to protect human health and the new effective date is established by rule.

(5) The Chemicals of High Concern to Children Working Group may, at its discretion, submit to the House Committees on Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife and on Human Services and the Senate Committees on Natural Resources and Energy and on Health and Welfare the recommendations or information from a consultation provided to the Commissioner under subdivision (1) of this subsection.

* * *

(f) Additional rules.

~~(1) On or before July 1, 2017, the~~ The Commissioner of Health shall adopt by rule the process and procedure to be required when the Commissioner of Health adopts a rule under subsection (b), (c), or (d) of this section. The rule shall provide:

(A) all relevant criteria for evaluation of the chemical;

(B) criteria by which a chemical, due to its presence in the environment or risk of harm, shall be prioritized for addition or removal from the list of chemicals of high concern to children or for regulation under subsection (d) of this section;

(C) time frames for labeling or phasing out sale or distribution; ~~and~~

(D) requirements for when or how a manufacturer of a children's product that contains a chemical of high concern to children provides the notice required under subsection 1775(a) of this title when the manufacturer intends to introduce the children's product for sale between the required dates for reporting; and

(E) other information or process determined as necessary by the Commissioner for implementation of this chapter.

* * *

Sec. 4a. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH; RULEMAKING DATE

On or before January 1, 2020, the Commissioner of Health shall adopt the rule required under 18 V.S.A. § 1776(f)(1)(D) (notice by manufacturer of

children's product containing a chemical of high concern to children between reporting dates).

And that when so amended the bill ought to pass.

Thereupon, the bill was read the second time by title only pursuant to Rule 43, the recommendation of amendment was agreed to.

Thereupon, the bill was read the second time by title only pursuant to Rule 43, and pending the question, Shall the bill be amended as recommended by the Committee on Health and Welfare?, Senator Bray moved to amend the recommendation of the Committee on Health and Welfare as follows:

First: By striking out Secs. 1 and 2 and their reader assistance in their entirety and inserting in lieu thereof new Secs. 1 and 2 and their reader assistance as follows:

* * * Toxics Use Reduction and Reporting * * *

Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 6633 is added to read:

§ 6633. INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON CHEMICAL MANAGEMENT

(a) Creation. There is created the Interagency Committee on Chemical Management in the State to:

- (1) evaluate chemical inventories in the State on an annual basis;
- (2) identify potential risks to human health and the environment from chemical inventories in the State; and
- (3) propose measures or mechanisms to address the identified risks from chemical inventories in the State.

(b) Membership. The Interagency Committee on Chemical Management shall be composed of the following eight members:

- (1) the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets or designee;
- (2) the Secretary of Natural Resources or designee;
- (3) the Commissioner of Health or designee;
- (4) the Commissioner of Labor or designee;
- (5) the Commissioner of Public Safety or designee;
- (6) the Secretary of Commerce and Community Development or designee;
- (7) the Secretary of Digital Services or designee; and
- (8) the Secretary of Transportation or designee.

(c) Powers and duties. The Interagency Committee on Chemical management shall:

(1) Convene a citizen advisory panel to provide input and expertise to the Committee. The citizen advisory panel shall consist of persons available to the Committee on an as-needed basis to provide the following expertise:

(A) one individual with expertise in toxicology;

(B) one individual with expertise in environmental health;

(C) one individual with expertise in maternal and child health;

(D) one individual with expertise in industrial hygiene or occupational health;

(E) one individual with expertise in human health and environmental risk assessment;

(F) one individual with expertise in manufacturing products or processes located in Vermont and subject to Vermont recordkeeping and reporting requirements;

(G) one individual with expertise in retail sales located in Vermont;

(H) one individual associated with a small business located in Vermont and subject to Vermont recordkeeping and reporting requirements;

(I) one individual associated with an academic institution with expertise in chemical management or chemical policy;

(J) one individual with expertise in environmental law;

(K) one individual with expertise in public policy, with a focus on chemical policy; and

(L) one individual with expertise in development and administration of information reporting technology or databases.

(2) Monitor actions taken by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to regulate chemicals under the Toxic Substances Control Act, 15 U.S.C. chapter 53, and notify relevant State agencies of any EPA action relevant to the jurisdiction of the agency.

(3) Annually review chemical inventories in the State in relation to emerging scientific evidence in order to identify chemicals of high concern not regulated by the State.

(4) Develop written procedures, guidance, and other resources that are necessary and appropriate to carry out the functions of the Interagency Committee on Chemical Management.

(d) Assistance. The Interagency Committee on Chemical Management shall have the administrative, technical, and legal assistance of the Agency of Natural Resources, the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, the Department of Health, the Department of Public Safety, the Department of Labor, the Agency of Commerce and Community Development, and the Agency of Digital Services.

(e) Report. On or before December 15, 2020 and biennially thereafter, the Interagency Committee on Chemical Management shall report to the Governor and make recommendations regarding the actions of the Committee in accordance with this section. Copies of the report shall be submitted to: the Senate Committees on Natural Resources and Energy, on Health and Welfare, and on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs and the House Committees on Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife, on Human Services, and on Commerce and Economic Development. The provisions of 2 V.S.A. §20(d) regarding expiration of required reports shall not apply to the report to be made under this section. The report shall include:

(1) a summary of chemical use in the State based on reported chemical inventories;

(2) a summary of identified risks to human health and the environment from reported chemical inventories;

(3) a summary of any change under federal statute or rule affecting the regulation of chemicals in the State; and

(4) recommended legislative or regulatory action to reduce risks to human health and the environment from regulated and unregulated chemicals of emerging concern.

(f) Meetings.

(1) The Secretary of Natural Resources or designee shall be the Chair of the Interagency Committee on Chemical Management.

(2) The Secretary of Natural Resources or designee shall call the first meeting of the Interagency Committee on Chemical Management to occur on or before July 1, 2019.

(3) A majority of the membership of the Interagency Committee on Chemical Management shall constitute a quorum.

(g) Authority of agencies. The establishment of the Interagency Committee on Chemical Management shall not limit the independent authority of a State agency to regulate chemical use or management under existing State or applicable federal law.

Sec. 2. TRANSITION; LEGISLATIVE INTENT

It is the intent of the General Assembly that:

(1) the Interagency Committee on Chemical Management established by Executive Order No. 02-19 shall fulfill the powers and duties of the Interagency Committee on Chemical Management under 10 V.S.A. § 6633; and

(2) the persons appointed as members of the citizen advisory committee of the Interagency Committee on Chemical Management established by Executive Order No. 02-19 shall continue as members of the citizen advisory committee established under 10 V.S.A. § 6633.

Second: In Sec. 5 (effective dates), by striking out subsection (a) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (a) to read as follows:

(a) This section and Secs. 1 and 2 (the Interagency Committee on Chemical Management; transition) shall take effect on passage.

Which was agreed to.

Thereupon, the recommendation of amendment of the Committee on Health and Welfare, as amended, was agreed to and third reading of the bill was ordered, on a roll call, Yeas 25, Nays 5.

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: Ashe, Balint, Baruth, Bray, Champion, Clarkson, Cummings, Hardy, Hooker, Ingram, Kitchel, Lyons, MacDonald, Mazza, McCormack, Nitka, Pearson, Perchlik, Pollina, Rodgers, Sears, Sirotkin, Starr, Westman, White.

Those Senators who voted in the negative were: Benning, Brock, Collamore, McNeil, Parent.

Bills Amended; Third Readings Ordered

S. 112.

Senator Sears, for the Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to earned good time.

Reported recommending that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. FINDINGS

The General Assembly finds that:

(1) For nearly 40 years, Vermont had a system of statutory good time that permitted offenders to receive reductions in their sentences for maintaining good behavior and participating in programming while in the custody of the Commissioner of Corrections. This good time system was repealed in 2005.

(1) In 2018, the General Assembly directed 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, to submit a report (the Report) to the Legislature on the advisability and feasibility of reinstating a system of earned good time for persons under Department of Corrections supervision. The Report was filed on November 15, 2018.

(2) In the Report, the Commissioner found that:

(A) empirical studies show that earned good time is effective at prison population management, has little to no community impact or effect on public safety, and is perceived by correctional administrators as having a positive impact on facility control;

(B) earned good time reduces incarceration costs by an amount ranging from \$1,800.00 to \$5,500.00 per inmate, depending on the number of days an inmate's sentence is reduced; and

(C) although research is mixed, studies show that earned good time can result in a crime rate reduction of 1–3.5 percent.

(3) On the basis of the Report's findings, the Commissioner concluded that the Department should "reinstigate a program of earned good time for sentenced inmates and individuals on furlough."

(4) In order to reduce the State's prison population by reintegrating offenders into the community while maintaining public safety, a system of earned good time should be reinstated in Vermont as soon as possible.

Sec. 2. 28 V.S.A. § 818 is added to read:

§ 818. EARNED GOOD TIME; REDUCTION OF TERM

(a) On or before July 1, 2020, the Department shall file a proposed rule implementing an earned good time program.

(b) The earned good time program implemented pursuant to this section shall comply with the following standards:

(1) The program shall be available for all eligible offenders under the supervision of the Department who have been sentenced and committed to the custody of the Commissioner.

(2) Offenders with a sentence of 180 days or less shall earn a reduction of five days in the minimum and maximum terms of confinement for each month during which the offender faithfully has observed all the rules and regulations of the institution to which the offender is committed.

(3) For offenders with a sentence of greater than 180 days, the program shall be a merit-based system designed to incentivize offenders to meet milestones identified by the Department that prepare offenders for reentry.

(4) An offender who receives pre-adjudication or post-adjudication treatment in an inpatient setting for a substance use disorder shall earn a reduction of one day in the minimum and maximum terms of confinement for each day that the offender receives the inpatient treatment.

(5) The Department shall provide timely notice each month to the offender any time the offender receives a reduction in his or her term of supervision pursuant to this section, and the Department shall maintain a system that documents and records all such reductions in each offender's permanent file.

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.

And that when so amended the bill ought to pass.

Thereupon, the bill was read the second time by title only pursuant to Rule 43, the recommendation of amendment was agreed to, and third reading of the bill was ordered.

S. 134.

Senator Collamore, for the Committee on Government Operations, to which was referred Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to background investigations for State employees with access to federal tax information.

Reported recommending that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 3 V.S.A. § 241 is amended to read:

§ 241. BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS

* * *

(b) As used in this chapter, “Recipient” means the following authorities of the Executive Branch of State government that receive FTI:

- (1) Agency of Human Services, including the:
 - (A) Department for Children and Families;
 - (B) Department of Health;
 - (C) Department of Mental Health; and
 - (D) Department of Vermont Health Access.
- (2) Department of Labor.
- (3) Department of Motor Vehicles.
- (4) Department of Taxes.
- (5) Agency of Digital Services.
- (6) Department of Buildings and General Services.

(c)(1) The Recipient shall conduct an initial background investigation of any individual, including a current or prospective employee, volunteer, contractor, or subcontractor, to whom the Recipient will permit access to FTI for the purpose of assessing the individual’s fitness to be permitted access to FTI.

(2) The Recipient shall, at least every 10 years, conduct a periodic background reinvestigation of any employee, volunteer, contractor, or subcontractor to whom the Recipient permits access to FTI.

(3) The impact of the results of a background investigation performed pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be the subject of impact bargaining between the State and the collective bargaining representative for the employee’s bargaining unit to the extent required by any collective bargaining agreements between the parties.

* * *

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.

And that when so amended the bill ought to pass.

Thereupon, the bill was read the second time by title only pursuant to Rule 43, the recommendation of amendment was agreed to, and third reading of the bill was ordered.

S. 141.

Senator Ingram, for the Committee on Health and Welfare, to which was referred Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to nutritional requirements for children's meals.

Reported recommending that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 18 V.S.A. § 4310 is added to read:

§ 4310. BEVERAGES IN CHILDREN'S MEALS

(a) A food service establishment serving a children's meal shall offer as a default beverage:

(1) water, sparkling water, or flavored water that does not contain added natural or artificial sweeteners; or

(2) milk or a nondairy milk alternative; or

(3) 100 percent fruit juice or fruit juice combined with water or carbonated water that does not contain added sweeteners, in a serving size of not more than eight ounces.

(b) Nothing in this section shall prohibit a food service establishment from selling or providing, or a customer from purchasing, a beverage other than the default beverage included with a children's meal if the customer requests a substitute beverage.

(c) As used in this section:

(1) "Children's meal" means a combination of food items and a beverage, primarily intended for consumption by children, sold together at a single price.

(2) "Default beverage" means the beverage automatically included as part of a children's meal.

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.

And that when so amended the bill ought to pass.

Thereupon, the bill was read the second time by title only pursuant to Rule 43, the recommendation of amendment was agreed to, and third reading of the bill was ordered.

Bills Passed

Senate bills of the following titles were severally read the third time and passed:

S. 7. An act relating to the evaluation of social service integration with accountable care organizations.

S. 30. An act relating to the regulation of hydrofluorocarbons.

Bill Amended; Bill Passed**S. 31.**

Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to requiring hospitals to provide certain financial information to patients and prohibiting surprise billing for emergency medical services.

Was taken up.

Thereupon, pending third reading of the bill, Senator Benning moved to amend the bill by in Sec. 2, price transparency; billing processes; report, in subsection (a), by striking out the following “Building on its efforts pursuant to 2015 Acts and Resolves No. 54, Sec. 21, the” and inserting in lieu thereof the word The

Which was agreed to.

Thereupon, the bill was read the third time and passed.

Bills Passed

Senate bills of the following titles were severally read the third time and passed:

S. 68. An act relating to Indigenous Peoples’ Day.

S. 105. An act relating to miscellaneous judiciary procedures.

Bills Amended; Bills Passed**S. 107.**

Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to elections corrections.

Was taken up.

Thereupon, pending third reading of the bill, Senators Collamore, Bray, Clarkson, Pollina and White moved to amend the bill in Sec. 7, 17 V.S.A. chapter 45 (political parties), in § 2308 (composition of county committee), by striking out subsection (a) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (a) to read as follows:

(a) The number of delegates to the county committee that each town caucus is entitled to elect shall be apportioned by the State committee, based upon the number of votes cast for the party's candidate for Governor in the last election, provided that each town caucus shall be entitled to elect at least two delegates.

Which was agreed to.

Thereupon, the bill was read the third time and passed.

S. 110.

Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to data privacy and consumer protection.

Was taken up.

Thereupon, pending third reading of the bill, Senators Baruth, Hardy, Ingram, McNeil, Parent and Perchlik moved to amend the bill by as follows:

First: By striking out the following: "K-12 school purposes" in the ten places it appears and inserting in lieu thereof the following: PreK-12 school purposes

Second: In § 2443a, in subdivision (a)(4)(A), by striking out the following: "K-12 purposes" and inserting in lieu thereof the following: PreK-12 school purposes

Third: In § 2443(4) by striking out the word "public" immediately preceding the word "kindergarten"

Fourth: In § 2443e by striking out subdivision (5) in its entirety.

And by renumbering the remaining subdivisions in that section to be numerically correct

Which was agreed to.

Thereupon, the bill was read the third time and passed.

Third Reading Ordered

S. 169.

Senate committee bill entitled:

An act relating to firearms procedures.

Having appeared on the Calendar for notice for one day, was taken up.

Thereupon, the bill was read the second time by title only pursuant to Rule 43, and pending the question, Shall the bill be read a third time?, Senator

Sears moved to amend the bill in Sec. 1 (13 V.S.A. § 4021), in subdivision (d)(1)(F)(ii), by striking out “April 11, 2018” and inserting in lieu thereof October 1, 2018

Which was agreed to.

Thereupon, pending the question, Shall the bill be read third time?, Senator Rodgers moved to amend the bill in Sec. 1, 13 V.S.A. § 4021(d)(1)(B), by striking out subdivision (ii) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subdivision (ii) to read as follows:

(ii) possessed by an out-of-state law enforcement officer in Vermont for legitimate law enforcement purposes.

Which was agreed to.

Thereupon, pending the question, Shall the bill be read third time?, Senator Collamore moved to strike out Sec. 3 of the bill in its entirety.

Which was disagreed to on a roll call, Yeas 10, Nays 20.

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, Brock, Collamore, Mazza, McNeil, Nitka, Parent, Rodgers, Starr, Westman.

Those Senators who voted in the negative were: Ashe, Balint, Baruth, Bray, Campion, Clarkson, Cummings, Hardy, Hooker, Ingram, Kitchel, Lyons, MacDonald, McCormack, Pearson, Perchlik, Pollina, Sears, Sirotkin, White.

Thereupon, third reading of the bill was ordered on a roll call, Yeas 20, Nays 10.

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, Balint, Baruth, Bray, Campion, Clarkson, Cummings, Hardy, Hooker, Ingram, Kitchel, Lyons, MacDonald, McCormack, Pearson, Perchlik, Pollina, Sears, Sirotkin, White.

Those Senators who voted in the negative were: Benning, Brock, Collamore, Mazza, McNeil, Nitka, Parent, Rodgers, Starr, Westman.

House Proposal of Amendment Concurred In**J.R.S. 17.**

House proposal of amendment to joint Senate resolution entitled:

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

Was taken up.

The House proposes to the Senate to amend the joint resolution as follows:

In the final resolved clause by striking “Thursday, March 28, 2019” and inserting in lieu thereof Wednesday, March 27, 2019

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

Rules Suspended; Bill Committed**S. 170.**

Pending entry on the Calendar for notice, on motion of Senator Bray, the rules were suspended and Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to the Standard Offer Program and hydroelectric plants.

Was taken up for immediate consideration.

Thereupon, pending the reading of the report of the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy, Senator Bray moved that Senate Rule 49 be suspended in order to commit the bill to the Committee on Finance with the report of the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy *intact*,

Which was agreed to.

Message from the House No. 30

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

Mr. President:

I am directed to inform the Senate that:

The House has passed House bills of the following titles:

H. 13. An act relating to miscellaneous amendments to alcoholic beverage and tobacco laws.

H. 104. An act relating to professions and occupations regulated by the Office of Professional Regulation.

H. 133. An act relating to miscellaneous energy subjects.

H. 204. An act relating to miscellaneous provisions affecting navigators, Medicaid records, and the Department of Vermont Health Access.

H. 235. An act relating to repealing the sunset of the authority to conduct on-farm slaughter.

H. 292. An act relating to town banners over highway rights-of-way.

H. 330. An act relating to repealing the statute of limitations for civil actions based on childhood sexual abuse.

H. 358. An act relating to technical corrections.

H. 394. An act relating to the disposition of the remains of veterans.

H. 427. An act relating to a uniform process for foreign credential verification in the Office of Professional Regulation.

H. 521. An act relating to amending the special education laws.

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

Adjournment

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