

Journal of the Senate

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2020

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Devotional Exercises

Devotional exercises were conducted by the Reverend John H. D. Lucy of Jericho.

Rules Suspended; Bill Committed

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

S. 337. An act relating to energy efficiency entities and programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the thermal energy and transportation sectors.

Was taken up for immediate consideration.

Thereupon, pending second reading of the bill, on motion of Senator Bray the bill was committed to the Committee on Finance.

Bill Referred to Committee on Appropriations

S. 153.

Senate bill of the following title, appearing on the Calendar for notice and carrying an appropriation or requiring the expenditure of funds, under the rule was referred to the Committee on Appropriations:

An act relating to creating the Vermont 250th Commission.

Joint Resolutions Placed on Calendar

J.R.S. 38.

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

By Senator Baruth,

J.R.S. 38. Joint resolution providing for a Joint Assembly for the election of two legislative Trustees of the Vermont State Colleges Corporation.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the two Houses meet in Joint Assembly on Thursday, February 20, 2020, at ten o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon to elect

two legislative Trustees of the Vermont State Colleges Corporation to serve a four year term commencing March 1, 2020, and expiring on March 1, 2024. In case election of all such Trustees 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 in such election, until all such Trustees are elected.

Thereupon, in the discretion of the President, under Rule 51, the joint resolution was placed on the Calendar for action the next legislative day.

J.R.S. 39.

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

By Senator Ashe,

J.R.S. 39. Joint resolution establishing a procedure for the conduct of the election of two legislative trustees of the Vermont State Colleges Corporation by plurality vote by the General Assembly in 2020.

Whereas, in recent years it has become increasingly necessary to shorten the length of time spent by the General Assembly in joint session for the election of various officials, and

Whereas, if elections for multiple vacancies were to be decided by a plurality vote, then a great savings of time can be effectuated, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That, notwithstanding the current provisions of Joint Rule 10, and for this election only, the election of two legislative trustees of the Vermont State Colleges Corporation at a Joint Assembly to be held on February 20, 2020, shall be governed by the following procedure:

(1) All candidates for the office of Trustee shall be voted upon and decided on the same ballot; members may vote for any number of candidates up to and including the maximum number of vacancies to be filled, which in this case shall be two.

(2) The two candidates receiving the greater number of votes shall be declared elected to fill the two vacancies.

(3) In the event that the first balloting for the Trustee vacancies results in a tie vote for a vacant position, then voting shall continue on successive ballots for the unfilled position or positions until the vacancies have been filled by election declared of the two candidates receiving the greater number of votes.

Thereupon, in the discretion of the President, under Rule 51, the joint resolution was placed on the Calendar for action the next legislative day.

Adjournment

On motion of Senator Ashe, the Senate adjourned until one o'clock in the afternoon on Thursday, February 6, 2020.