

Journal of the Senate

TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2020

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Devotional Exercises

A moment of silence was observed in lieu of devotions.

Pledge of Allegiance

The President then led the members of the Senate in the pledge of allegiance.

Message from the House No. 27

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

Mr. President:

I am directed to inform the Senate that:

The House has considered a bill originating in the Senate of the following title:

S. 54. An act relating to the regulation of cannabis.

And has passed the same in concurrence with proposal of amendment in the adoption of which the concurrence of the Senate is requested.

Message from the Governor

A message was received from His Excellency, the Governor, by Ms. Brittney L. Wilson, Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs, as follows:

Mr. President:

I am directed by the Governor to inform the Senate that on the fifth day of March, 2020 he approved and signed a bill originating in the Senate of the following title:

S. 110. An act relating to data privacy and consumer protection.

Joint Senate Resolution Adopted on the Part of the Senate

J.R.S. 44.

Joint Senate resolution of the following title was offered, read and adopted on the part of the Senate, and is as follows:

By Senator Ashe,

J.R.S. 44. Joint resolution relating to weekend adjournment.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That when the two Houses adjourn on Friday, March 13, 2020, it be to meet again no later than Tuesday, March 17, 2020.

Bills Referred

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

H. 254.

An act relating to adequate shelter for livestock.

To the Committee on Agriculture.

H. 555.

An act relating to the authority of nonprofits to sell food concessions on State-owned lands within the jurisdiction of the Department of Buildings and General Services.

To the Committee on Institutions.

Bill Amended; Bill Passed

S. 183.

Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to competency to stand trial and insanity as a defense.

Was taken up.

Thereupon, pending third reading of the bill, Senator Nitka moved to amend the bill in Sec. 4, Rule 16.1 (a)(1), by striking out subparagraphs (H) and (I) in their entirety and inserting in lieu thereof new subparagraphs (H) and (I) to read as follows:

(H) provide specimens of ~~his~~ the defendant's handwriting; ~~and~~

(I) submit to a reasonable physical or medical inspection of ~~his~~ the defendant's body or, if notice is given by the defendant that sanity is in issue or that expert testimony will be offered as provided in Rule 12.1, to a reasonable mental examination by a psychiatrist or other expert; and

Which was agreed to.

Thereupon, pending third reading of the bill, Senators Pearson and Ingram moved to amend the bill in Sec. 2, 13 V.S.A. § 4820, in subsection (b), by

striking out the following: “the court shall appoint counsel from Vermont Legal Aid to represent the person who is the subject of the proceedings” and inserting in lieu thereof the following: the person shall be entitled to have counsel appointed from Vermont Legal Aid to represent the person

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. 205. An act relating to criminal and civil surcharges.

S. 281. An act relating to the Working Group on the Status of Libraries in Vermont.

Bill Amended; Bill Passed

S. 307.

Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to binding interest arbitration for employees of the Vermont Judiciary and the Vermont State Colleges.

Was taken up.

Thereupon, pending third reading of the bill, Senator Pollina moved to amend the bill in Sec. 4, effective date, by striking out the following: “2020” and inserting in lieu thereof the following: 2021

Which was agreed to.

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

Adjournment

On motion of Senator Ashe, the Senate adjourned until one o'clock in the afternoon on Wednesday, March 11, 2020.