

# Journal of the House

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**Tuesday, February 22, 2022**

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

## **Devotional Exercises**

Devotional exercises were conducted by Rep. Cina of Burlington.

## **Pledge of Allegiance**

Page Sadie Farris of Grande Isle led the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **House Bill Introduced**

### **H. 712**

By Rep. Yantachka of Charlotte,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to provider eligibility for broadband grants under the Vermont Community Broadband Fund

Was read the first time and referred to the Committee on Energy and Technology.

## **Bills Referred to Committee on Appropriations**

House bills of the following titles, appearing on the Notice Calendar, and pursuant to House Rule 35(a), carrying an appropriation, were referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

### **H. 483**

House bill, entitled

An act relating to potential new models of funding and governance structures to improve the quality, duration, and access to career technical education in Vermont

### **H. 566**

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the establishment of the Vermont Forest Future Program

**Second Reading; Bill Amended; Third Reading Ordered****H. 456**

**Rep. James of Manchester**, for the Committee on Education, to which had been referred House bill, entitled

An act relating to establishing strategic goals and reporting requirements for the Vermont State Colleges

Reported in favor of its passage when amended by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 16 V.S.A. § 2171a is added to read:

§ 2171a. STRATEGIC GOALS

(a) The Corporation shall establish its priorities, budget and allocate its resources, and develop its capabilities to ensure that students successfully achieve their academic goals in a manner and in an environment that is:

- (1) affordable;
- (2) accessible;
- (3) equitable; and
- (4) relevant to Vermont's needs.

(b) As used in this chapter:

(1) "Accessible" means each student, regardless of where the student's home campus is located, has increased access to academic opportunities, majors, and courses across the Corporation's academic system.

(2) "Affordability standard" means the extent to which affordability is being achieved for students and for the Corporation as determined jointly by the Corporation and VSAC.

(3) "Affordable" means a level of financial commitment that results from the application of the affordability standard.

(4) "Equitable" means the extent to which gaps in educational access and success are being reduced for students from economically deprived backgrounds, first-generation students, students of color, and other marginalized groups.

(5) "Relevant to Vermont's needs" means that students graduate as informed and engaged citizens who are prepared for the world of work and for participating in a democratic society.

(6) “Total cost of attendance” has the meaning provided in 20 U.S.C. § 10871l, as amended.

(7) “Unmet need” means the total cost of attendance minus:

(A) the Student Aid Index, as determined under 20 U.S.C. § 1087mm, as in effect on July 31, 2023; and

(B) all nonloan student financial assistance.

(8) “VSAC” means the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation.

(c) The Corporation’s Board of Trustees shall approve and maintain institutional missions that align to the strategic goals set out in subsection (a) of this section.

Sec. 2. 16 V.S.A. § 2171b is added to read:

§ 2171b. VERMONT STUDENT ASSISTANCE CORPORATION AND  
VERMONT STATE COLLEGES; REPORTING

On or before January 15, 2024 and on or before January 15 annually thereafter, VSAC, with the assistance of and in collaboration with the Corporation, shall submit a written report to the House and Senate Committees on Education containing:

(1) the Corporation’s progress in attaining affordability for full-time students enrolled with the Corporation for the first time;

(2) the Corporation’s progress in attaining affordability for all other students;

(3) the average and median amount of unmet need for full-time students enrolled with the Corporation for the first time and the average and median amount of unmet need for all other students;

(4) the average, median, annual, and cumulative student and parent debt by loan type (federal direct to student, federal direct to parent, state, or private) for students obtaining a two-year or four-year degree; and

(5) for students enrolled with the Corporation, their average:

(A) yearly continuation rate;

(B) academic progress, showing satisfactory and unsatisfactory progress; and

(C) graduation rate.

## Sec. 3. REPORT

On or before July 1, 2023, the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation, in collaboration with the Agency of Education, shall submit a written report to the House and Senate Committees on Education on how to implement a requirement that all high school students complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid as a condition of graduation.

## Sec. 4. 16 V.S.A. § 2171(c) is amended to read:

(c) The Corporation may acquire, hold, and dispose of property in fee or in trust, or any other estate, except as provided in subsection (d) of this section; shall have a common seal; and shall be an instrumentality of the State for the purposes set forth in this section. The State of Vermont shall support and maintain the Corporation. The sale, lease, demolition, or disposal of property by the Corporation shall comply with the applicable requirements of 32 V.S.A. § 962.

## Sec. 5. REPEAL

16 V.S.A. § 2188 is repealed.

## Sec. 6. AFFORDABILITY STANDARD; DETERMINATION

On or before July 1, 2023, the Vermont State Colleges and the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation shall jointly recommend to the Senate and House Committees on Education and the Senate and House Committees on Appropriations the definition of the affordability standard under Sec. 1 of this act.

## Sec. 7. EFFECTIVE DATES

Secs. 1 and 2 shall take effect on July 1, 2023, and Secs. 3, 4, 5, and 6 and this section shall take effect on passage.

Having appeared on the Notice Calendar, the bill was taken up and read the second time.

Pending the question, Shall the bill be amended as recommended by the Committee on Education?, **Representatives James of Manchester, Arrison of Weathersfield, Austin of Colchester, Brady of Williston, Brown of Richmond, Conlon of Cornwall, Cupoli of Rutland City, Hooper of Randolph, Toof of St. Albans Town, Webb of Shelburne, and Williams of Granby** moved that the report of the Committee on Education be amended by striking out Sec. 3, report, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 3 to read as follows:

## Sec. 3. REPORT

On or before July 1, 2023, the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation, in collaboration with the Agency of Education, shall submit a written report to the House and Senate Committees on Education on whether and how to implement a requirement that all high school students complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid as a condition of graduation.

Which was agreed to. Thereupon, the report of the Committee on Education, as amended, was agreed to and third reading ordered.

**Third Reading; Bills Passed**

House bills of the following titles were severally taken up, read the third time, and passed:

**H. 491**

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the creation of the City of Essex Junction and the adoption of the City charter

**H. 515**

House bill, entitled

An act relating to banking, insurance, and securities

**H. 708**

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the approval of an amendment to the charter of the City of Burlington

**H. 709**

House bill, entitled

An act relating to miscellaneous agricultural subjects

**Second Reading; Bill Amended; Third Reading Ordered****H. 448**

**Rep. Hooper of Burlington**, for the Committee on Government Operations, to which had been referred House bill, entitled

An act relating to approval of amendments to the charter of the City of Burlington

Reported in favor of its passage when amended as follows:

By striking out Sec. 2, 24 App. V.S.A. chapter 3 (City of Burlington), in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 2 to read as follows:

Sec. 2. 24 App. V.S.A. chapter 3 is amended to read:

CHAPTER 3. CITY OF BURLINGTON

\* \* \*

§ 48. ENUMERATED

The City Council shall have power:

\* \* \*

(66) To regulate thermal energy systems in residential and commercial buildings, including assessing carbon impact or alternative compliance payments, for the purpose of reducing greenhouse gas emissions throughout the City. No assessment of carbon impact or alternative compliance payment shall be imposed unless previously authorized by a majority of the legal voters of the City voting on the question at an annual or special City meeting duly warned for that purpose.

\* \* \*

**Rep. Ode of Burlington**, for the Committee on Ways and Means, recommended the bill ought to pass when amended as recommended by the Committee on Government Operations.

The bill, having appeared on the Notice Calendar, was taken up and read the second time.

Pending the question, Shall the bill be amended as recommended by the Committee on Government Operations?, **Rep. McCoy of Poultney** demanded the Yeas and Nays, which demand was sustained by the Constitutional number. The Clerk proceeded to call the roll and the question, Shall the bill be amended as recommended by the Committee on Government Operations?, was decided in the affirmative. Yeas, 96. Nays, 47.

Those who voted in the affirmative are:

Ancel of Calais	Goldman of Rockingham	Pajala of Londonderry
Anthony of Barre City	Grad of Moretown	Partridge of Windham
Arrison of Weathersfield	Hooper of Montpelier	Patt of Worcester
Austin of Colchester	Hooper of Randolph	Pearl of Danville
Bartholomew of Hartland	Hooper of Burlington	Pugh of South Burlington
Birong of Vergennes	Houghton of Essex	Rachelson of Burlington
Black of Essex	Howard of Rutland City	Rogers of Waterville
Bluemle of Burlington	James of Manchester	Satcowitz of Randolph

Bock of Chester	Jerome of Brandon	Scheu of Middlebury
Bongartz of Manchester	Jessup of Middlesex	Sheldon of Middlebury
Bos-Lun of Westminster	Killacky of South Burlington	Sibilia of Dover
Brady of Williston	Kimbell of Woodstock	Sims of Craftsbury
Briglin of Thetford	Kitzmiller of Montpelier	Small of Winooski
Brown of Richmond	Kornheiser of Brattleboro	Squirrell of Underhill
Brownell of Pownal	LaLonde of South Burlington	Stebbins of Burlington
Brumsted of Shelburne	Lanpher of Vergennes	Stevens of Waterbury
Burke of Brattleboro	Lefebvre of Newark	Surprenant of Barnard
Burrows of West Windsor	Lippert of Hinesburg	Taylor of Colchester
Campbell of St. Johnsbury	Masland of Thetford	Till of Jericho
Christie of Hartford	McCarthy of St. Albans City	Toleno of Brattleboro
Cina of Burlington	McCormack of Burlington	Townsend of South Burlington
Coffey of Guilford	McCullough of Williston	Troiano of Stannard
Colburn of Burlington	Morris of Springfield	Vyhovsky of Essex
Colson of Winooski	Mrowicki of Putney	Walz of Barre City
Conlon of Cornwall	Mulvaney-Stanak of Burlington	Webb of Shelburne
Copeland Hanzas of Bradford	Nicoll of Ludlow	White of Bethel
Cordes of Lincoln	Nigro of Bennington	White of Hartford
Dolan of Essex	Norris of Shoreham	Whitman of Bennington
Dolan of Waitsfield	Notte of Rutland City	Wood of Waterbury
Durfee of Shaftsbury	Noyes of Wolcott	Yacovone of Morristown
Elder of Starksboro	O'Brien of Tunbridge	Yantachka of Charlotte
Emmons of Springfield	Ode of Burlington	
Gannon of Wilmington		

Those who voted in the negative are:

Achey of Middletown Springs	Helm of Fair Haven	Norris of Sheldon
Beck of St. Johnsbury	Higley of Lowell	Page of Newport City
Brennan of Colchester	Labor of Morgan	Palasik of Milton
Burditt of West Rutland	LaClair of Barre Town	Parsons of Newbury
Canfield of Fair Haven	Laroche of Franklin	Peterson of Clarendon
Corcoran of Bennington	Lefebvre of Orange	Rosenquist of Georgia
Cupoli of Rutland City	Leffler of Enosburgh	Scheuermann of Stowe
Donahue of Northfield	Marcotte of Coventry	Shaw of Pittsford
Fagan of Rutland City	Martel of Waterford	Smith of Derby
Feltus of Lyndon	Mattos of Milton	Smith of New Haven
Goslant of Northfield	McCoy of Poultney	Strong of Albany
Graham of Williamstown	McFaun of Barre Town	Sullivan of Dorset
Gregoire of Fairfield	Morgan, L. of Milton	Terenzini of Rutland Town
Hango of Berkshire	Morgan, M. of Milton	Toof of St. Albans Town
Harrison of Chittenden	Morrissey of Bennington	Walker of Swanton
	Murphy of Fairfax	Williams of Granby

Those members absent with leave of the House and not voting are:

Chase of Colchester	Donnally of Hyde Park	Seymour of Sutton
Dickinson of St. Albans Town	Garofano of Essex	
	Long of Newfane	

Thereupon, third reading was ordered.

**House Resolution Adopted**

**H.R. 18**

House resolution, entitled

House resolution revising and adopting by rule the House member dress code

Was taken up and adopted on the part of the House.

**Message from the Senate No. 28**

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 passed Senate bills of the following titles:

**S. 175.** An act relating to confidential information concerning the initial arrest and charge of a child.

**S. 265.** An act relating to expanding criminal threatening to include threats to third persons.

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

**Adjournment**

At eleven o'clock and eighteen minutes in the forenoon, on motion of **Rep. McCoy of Poultney**, the House adjourned until tomorrow at three o'clock in the afternoon.