

# Journal of the Senate

TUESDAY, MARCH 30, 2021

The Senate was called to order by the President.

## Devotional Exercises

Devotional exercises were conducted by the Reverend Katelyn Macrae of Richmond.

## Pledge of Allegiance

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

## Message from the House No. 41

A message was received from the House of Representatives by Ms. Melissa Kucserik, its First Assistant Clerk, as follows:

Madam President:

I am directed to inform the Senate that:

The House has passed House bills of the following titles:

**H. 152.** An act relating to education property tax.

**H. 153.** An act relating to Medicaid reimbursement rates for home- and community-based service providers.

**H. 159.** An act relating to community and economic development and workforce revitalization.

**H. 171.** An act relating to the governance and financing of Vermont's child care system.

**H. 183.** An act relating to sexual violence.

**H. 435.** An act relating to miscellaneous Department of Corrections-related amendments.

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

The House has adopted House concurrent resolutions of the following titles:

**H.C.R. 29.** House concurrent resolution honoring Barre Town's Town Clerk and Treasurer, Donna Kelty.

**H.C.R. 30.** House concurrent resolution honoring Angeline Faraci for her teaching and soccer coaching achievements.

**H.C.R. 31.** House concurrent resolution in memory of U.S. Second Circuit Judge Peter W. Hall.

**H.C.R. 32.** House concurrent resolution honoring Ronald J. Cioffi for his outstanding leadership of the VNA & Hospice of the Southwest Region.

**H.C.R. 33.** House concurrent resolution in memory of Mary Theresa Ojala of Rutland.

**H.C.R. 34.** House concurrent resolution recognizing March 26, 2021 as SEL (Social and Emotional Learning) Day in Vermont.

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:

Madam President:

I am directed by the Governor to inform the Senate that on the twenty-ninth day of March 2021 he approved and signed a bill originating in the Senate of the following title:

**S. 117.** An act relating to extending health care regulatory flexibility during and after the COVID-19 pandemic and to coverage of health care services delivered by audio-only telephone.

### **Joint Senate Resolution Adopted on the Part of the Senate**

#### **J.R.S. 21.**

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

By Senator Balint,

**J.R.S. 21.** Joint resolution relating to weekend adjournment.

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

That when the two Houses adjourn on Friday, April 2, 2021, it be to meet again no later than Tuesday, April 6, 2021.

### **Bill Introduced**

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

**S. 132.**

By Senator Lyons,

An act relating to health care reform implementation.

To the Committee on Health and Welfare.

**Bills Referred**

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

**H. 152.**

An act relating to education property tax.

To the Committee on Education.

**H. 153.**

An act relating to Medicaid reimbursement rates for home- and community-based service providers.

To the Committee on Health and Welfare.

**H. 159.**

An act relating to community and economic development and workforce revitalization.

To the Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

**H. 171.**

An act relating to the governance and financing of Vermont's child care system.

To the Committee on Health and Welfare.

**H. 183.**

An act relating to sexual violence.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

**H. 435.**

An act relating to miscellaneous Department of Corrections-related amendments.

To the Committee on Institutions.

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**Consideration Resumed; Bill Amended; Third Reading Ordered****S. 10.**

Consideration was resumed on Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to extending certain unemployment insurance provisions related to COVID-19.

Thereupon, pending the question, Shall the bill be amended as recommended by the Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs, as substituted?, was decided in the affirmative on a roll call, Yeas 18, Nays 12.

Senator Benning having demanded the yeas and nays, they were taken and are as follows:

**Roll Call**

**Those Senators who voted in the affirmative were:** Balint, Baruth, Bray, Campion, Clarkson, Cummings, Hardy, Hooker, Lyons, MacDonald, McCormack, Nitka, Pearson, Perchlik, Pollina, Ram, Sirotkin, White.

**Those Senators who voted in the negative were:** Benning, Brock, Chittenden, Collamore, Ingalls, Kitchel, Mazza, Parent, Sears, Starr, Terenzini, Westman.

Thereupon, third reading of the bill was ordered.

**Bills Passed**

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

**S. 79.** An act relating to improving rental housing health and safety.

**S. 101.** An act relating to promoting housing choice and opportunity in smart growth areas.

**Message from the House No. 42**

A message was received from the House of Representatives by Ms. Melissa Kucserik, its First Assistant Clerk, as follows:

Madam President:

I am directed to inform the Senate that:

The House has passed House bills of the following titles:

**H. 210.** An act relating to addressing disparities and promoting equity in the health care system.

- H. 436.** An act relating to miscellaneous changes to Vermont's tax laws.
- H. 437.** An act relating to changes that affect the revenue of the State.
- H. 438.** An act relating to capital construction and State bonding.
- H. 439.** An act relating to making appropriations for the support of government.

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

### **Adjournment**

On motion of Senator Balint, the Senate adjourned until one o'clock in the afternoon on Wednesday, March 31, 2021.