

Journal of the Senate

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2022

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Devotional Exercises

Devotional exercises were conducted by the Imam Islam of Burlington.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Consideration Postponed

Senate bill entitled:

S. 79.

An act relating to improving rental housing health and safety.

Was taken up.

Thereupon, pending consideration of the Governor's veto, Senator Sirotkin moved that consideration of the bill be postponed until Tuesday, March 22, 2022, which was agreed to.

Joint Senate Resolution Adopted on the Part of the Senate

J.R.S. 38.

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. 38. Joint resolution relating to weekend adjournment.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That when the two Houses adjourn on Friday, February 4, 2022, it be to meet again no later than Tuesday, February 8, 2022.

Joint Resolutions Placed on Calendar

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

By Senator Balint,

J.R.S. 39. 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 17, 2022, at ten o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon to vote on the election of two legislative Trustees of the Vermont State Colleges Corporation to serve a four year term commencing March 1, 2022, and expiring on March 1, 2026, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Joint Assembly shall be concurrently conducted electronically at which members of the General Assembly may participate and debate from a remote location; that voting by ballot shall be conducted, as practicable, consistent with Vermont's "Early or Absentee Voters" statute at 17 V.S.A. §2531, et seq.; that after nominations and debates, if necessary, the Joint Assembly shall recess until Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at 2:00 pm (or as otherwise ordered by the Joint Assembly) so that ballots may be submitted; and that upon reconvening, the results of the vote shall be announced or the Joint Assembly shall proceed until the above is completed.

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

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

By Senator Balint,

J.R.S. 40. 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 2022.

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 pursuant to J.R.S. 38, 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.

Third Reading Ordered

S. 280.

Senate committee bill entitled:

An act relating to miscellaneous changes to laws related to vehicles.

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 third reading of the bill was ordered.

Adjournment

On motion of Senator Balint, the Senate adjourned until one o'clock in the afternoon on Wednesday, February 2, 2022.