

Journal of the Senate

THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2022

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Devotional Exercises

A moment of silence was observed in lieu of devotions.

Message from the House No. 47

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

Madam President:

I am directed to inform the Senate that:

The House has considered bills originating in the Senate of the following titles:

S. 72. An act relating to the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children.

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

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

Bill Referred to Committee on Finance

H. 736.

House bill of the following title, appearing on the Calendar for notice, and affecting the revenue of the state, under the rule was referred to the Committee on Finance:

An act relating to the Transportation Program and miscellaneous changes to laws related to transportation.

Bills Referred to Committee on Appropriations

House bills of the following titles, appearing on the Calendar for notice, and carrying an appropriation or requiring the expenditure of funds, under the rule were severally referred to the Committee Appropriations:

H. 465. An act relating to boards and commissions.

H. 655. An act relating to telehealth licensure and registration and to provisional licensure for professions regulated by the Office of Professional Regulation.

H. 661. An act relating to licensure of mental health professionals.

Bill Passed in Concurrence

H. 718.

House bill of the following title was read the third time and passed in concurrence:

An act relating to approval of the dissolution of Colchester Fire District No. 1.

Bill Passed in Concurrence with Proposals of Amendment

H. 731.

House bill of the following title was read the third time and passed in concurrence with proposals of amendment:

An act relating to technical corrections for the 2022 legislative session.

House Proposals of Amendment Concurred In

S. 239.

House proposals of amendment to Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to enrollment in Medicare supplemental insurance policies.

Was taken up.

The House proposes to the Senate to amend the bill as follows:

First: In Sec. 2, by striking out subsection (a) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (a) to read as follows:

(a) The Department of Financial Regulation shall convene a group of interested stakeholders, including Vermonters eligible for Medicare by reason of age, disability status, or end stage renal disease and representatives of health care providers, the Community of Vermont Elders, the area agencies on aging, the Office of the Health Care Advocate, and the Department of Vermont Health Access, to consider issues relating to Medicare Advantage plans and to the availability of, enrollment in, and use of supplemental coverage by individuals enrolled in Medicare. A majority of the stakeholders shall not have a financial stake in any Medicare supplemental coverage or Medicare Advantage product.

Second: In Sec. 2, subsection (b), by adding a new subdivision to be subdivision (4) to read as follows:

(4) the costs of Medicare Part B premiums, Medicare Part D plans, Medicare supplement plans, and Medicare Advantage plans; the effect of those costs on access to health care for Vermonters with low income who are not eligible for Medicaid or for a Medicare Savings Program; the income eligibility thresholds for Medicare Savings Programs in Vermont and in other states; and whether Vermont should consider revising the income eligibility thresholds for its Medicare Savings Programs;

And by renumbering the remaining subdivisions in subsection (b) to be numerically correct

Thereupon, the question, Shall the Senate concur in the House proposals of amendment?, was decided in the affirmative.

Senate Resolution Adopted

S.R. 23.

Senate resolution entitled:

Senate resolution extending concurrently conducted electronic sessions and committee meetings

Having been placed on the Calendar for action, was taken up and adopted.

Adjournment

On motion of Senator Balint, the Senate adjourned until eleven o'clock and thirty minutes in the morning.