

Journal of the House

Thursday, February 16, 2023

At three o'clock in the afternoon, the Speaker called the House to order.

Devotional Exercises

Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. Earle Kooperkamp, Church of the Good Shepherd, Barre.

Message from the Senate No. 17

A message was received from the Senate by Ms. Kucserik, its Assistant Secretary, as follows:

Madam Speaker:

I am directed to inform the House that:

The Senate has on its part passed Senate bill of the following title:

S. 54. An act relating to individual and small group insurance markets.

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

House Bills Introduced

House bills of the following titles were severally introduced, read the first time, and referred to committee as follows:

H. 268

By Rep. Howard of Rutland City,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to campaign expenditures and candidate salaries

To the Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs.

H. 269

By Rep. Sibilica of Dover,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the Rural Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment Grant Program

To the Committee on Transportation.

H. 270

By Reps. Birong of Vergennes and McCarthy of St. Albans City,
House bill, entitled

An act relating to miscellaneous amendments to the adult-use and medical cannabis programs

To the Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs.

H. 271

By Reps. Emmons of Springfield and Morris of Springfield,
House bill, entitled

An act relating to approval of amendments to the charter of the Town of Springfield

To the Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs.

H. 272

By Rep. Birong of Vergennes,
House bill, entitled

An act relating to a reciprocity requirement for out-of-state consumer shipping licenses

To the Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs.

H. 273

By Rep. Birong of Vergennes,
House bill, entitled

An act relating to direct-to-consumer shipping of spirits and fortified wines

To the Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs.

H. 274

By Reps. Pearl of Danville, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Cole of Hartford, Graham of Williamstown, Leavitt of Grand Isle, Lipsky of Stowe, Mattos of Milton, O'Brien of Tunbridge, Rice of Dorset, Sims of Craftsbury, Surprenant of Barnard, Templeman of Brownington, and Wilson of Lyndon,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to agriculture and nutrition education

To the Committee on Agriculture, Food Resiliency, and Forestry.

H. 275

By Reps. Dolan of Waitsfield, Anthony of Barre City, Austin of Colchester, Boyden of Cambridge, Brady of Williston, Goslant of Northfield, Hango of Berkshire, Higley of Lowell, Hooper of Randolph, Hooper of Burlington, Jerome of Brandon, Lipsky of Stowe, McCann of Montpelier, Morgan of Milton, Priestley of Bradford, Roberts of Halifax, Smith of Derby, Toof of St. Albans Town, and Torre of Moretown,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the Introduction to Trade School Education Grant Pilot Project

To the Committee on Education.

H. 276

By Reps. Stevens of Waterbury and Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to creating a rental housing registry

To the Committee on General and Housing.

H. 277

By Rep. Sibilias of Dover,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to creating a Rural Business Technical Assistance Exchange

To the Committee on Commerce and Economic Development.

Senate Bill Referred**S. 54**

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to individual and small group insurance markets

Was read the first time and referred to the Committee on Health Care.

Bill Referred to Committee on Ways and Means**H. 175**

House bill, entitled

An act relating to modernizing the Children and Family Council for Prevention Programs

Appearing on the Notice Calendar, and pursuant to House Rule 35(a), affecting the revenue of the State, was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Ceremonial Reading

H.C.R. 25

House concurrent resolution recognizing the critical importance of 3SquaresVT for thousands of Vermonters

Offered by: Representative Williams of Barre City

Whereas, 3SquaresVT is the Vermont name for the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and the Vermont Department for Children and Families—Economic Services Division serves as the State’s administrative authority, and

Whereas, SNAP is the most effective and efficient anti-hunger program in the country, providing nine meals for every one that the private charitable food system offers, and

Whereas, more than 40,000 households, consisting of over 70,000 Vermonters of all ages and demographics, are 3SquaresVT beneficiaries, and

Whereas, this critical program supports the food needs of friends, neighbors, and families, with privacy and dignity, and it mitigates the impact of poverty on our most vulnerable residents, and

Whereas, 3SquaresVT strengthens Vermont’s local communities’ economic vitality, and, through the spending of more than \$18,000,000 in federal funds each month on food purchases, supports Vermont’s retailers, grocers, farmers, and members of the State’s workforce, and

Whereas, without a vibrant 3SquaresVT program, an essential nutritional lifeline for over 10 percent of Vermonters would vanish, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes the critical importance of 3SquaresVT for thousands of Vermonters.

Having been adopted in concurrence on Friday, February 10, 2023 in accord with Joint Rule 16b, was read.

Third Reading; Bill Passed

H. 35

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the Victims Assistance Program

Was taken up, read the third time, and passed.

Favorable Report; Second Reading; Third Reading Ordered

H. 190

Rep. Garofano of Essex, for the Committee on Human Services, to which had been referred House bill, entitled

An act relating to removing the residency requirement from Vermont's patient choice at end of life laws

Reported in favor of its passage. The bill, having appeared on the Notice Calendar, was taken up, read the second time, and third reading ordered.

Adjournment

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