

House Calendar

Tuesday, January 6, 2026

1st DAY OF THE ADJOURNED SESSION

House Convenes at 10:00 A.M.

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ACTION CALENDAR

Unfinished Business of Monday, June 16, 2025

Governor's Veto

H. 91

An act relating to the Vermont Homeless Emergency Assistance and Responsive Transition to Housing Program

Text of Veto Message

The text of the communication from His Excellency, the Governor, whereby he vetoed and returned unsigned **House Bill No. H. 91** to the House is as follows:

June 11, 2025

The Honorable BetsyAnn Wrask
Clerk of the Vermont House of Representatives
State House
Montpelier, VT 05633
Dear Ms. Wrask:

Pursuant to Chapter II, Section 11 of the Vermont Constitution, I'm returning H.91, *An act relating to the Vermont Homeless Emergency Assistance and Responsive Transition to Housing Program*, without my signature.

For quite some time I've talked about the need to put an end to the pandemic-era "hotel/motel" program. We are the only state in the region that continues to operate an emergency housing program at this scale and unfortunately, H.91 does not adequately reduce the size or cost of the program. In fact, this bill proposes we spend millions of dollars more than the \$45 million used last year (for comparison, in 2019 we appropriated \$5 million).

It's also important to point out that since the expansion of the program, 135 individuals sheltering in hotels and motels have died. It's my belief many of these deaths may have been prevented had there been more accountability and better engagement.

Rather than continuing to fund a program that isn't good for those in it, I believe we should focus on real solutions like building additional shelter capacity and requirements to engage in work, training, and treatment for those who need it. That way, those who are experiencing homelessness are more

likely to get back on their feet and into permanent housing. H.91 does not adequately address how this would be accomplished.

It's my hope the Legislature and community stakeholders will work with the Agency of Human Services to transform the hotel/motel program into one that delivers value for Vermont taxpayers, those in the program, the community-based organizations providing shelters and services, and communities that have been unfairly burdened by this failed program.

Sincerely,

Philip B. Scott
Governor

PBS/kp

For Informational Purposes

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION (H.C.R.) PROCESS

Joint Rules 16a–16d provide the procedure for the General Assembly to adopt concurrent resolutions pursuant to the Consent Calendar. Here are the steps for Representatives to introduce an H.C.R. and to have it ceremonially read during a House session:

1. Meet with or email Legislative Counselor Michael Chernick regarding your H.C.R. draft request. Come prepared with an idea and any relevant supporting documents.
2. Have a date in mind if you want a ceremonial reading. You should communicate with Counselor Chernick **at least two weeks prior** to the week you want your ceremonial reading to happen.
3. Counselor Chernick will draft your H.C.R., and Resolutions Editor and Coordinator Jill Pralle will edit it. Upon completion of this process, a paper or electronic copy will be released to you. If a paper copy is released to you, a sponsor sign-out sheet will also be included.
4. Please submit a final sponsor list (with all sponsors listed) to Counselor Chernick by paper *or* electronically, but not both.
5. The final list of sponsors needs to be submitted, by email *or* on a paper sign-out sheet, to Counselor Chernick **not later than 1:00 p.m. the Wednesday of the week prior** to the H.C.R.'s appearance on the Consent Calendar.

6. The Office of Legislative Counsel will then send your H.C.R. to the House Clerk's Office for incorporation into the Consent Calendar and House Calendar Addendum for the following week.
7. The week that your H.C.R. is on the Consent Calendar, any presentation copies that you requested will be mailed or available for pickup on Friday, after the House and Senate adjourn, which is when your H.C.R. is adopted pursuant to Joint Rules.
8. Your H.C.R. can be ceremonially read during a House session once it is adopted, meaning it must have been adopted through the House Consent Calendar not later than the week prior to your requested ceremonial reading date. Contact Second Assistant Clerk Courtney Reckord to confirm your requested ceremonial reading date.
9. A Note: If there is a **specific date, week, or month that your resolution must be read** (e.g. to designate a specified period of time or to recognize a group on a certain day), please inform Second Assistant Clerk Courtney Reckord as soon as possible, so she can reserve that date in advance. You do not need to have the resolution drafted by then.