

House Calendar

Friday, January 16, 2026

11th DAY OF THE ADJOURNED SESSION

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ORDERS OF THE DAY

ACTION CALENDAR

Third Reading

H. 649

An act relating to captive insurance companies

S. 60

An act relating to establishing the Farm Security Special Fund to provide grants for farm losses due to weather conditions

Favorable with Amendment

H. 534

An act relating to community action agencies

Rep. Noyes of Wolcott, for the Committee on Human Services, recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 3 V.S.A. chapter 59 is amended to read:

CHAPTER 59. COMMUNITY ~~SERVICES~~ ACTION AGENCIES

§ 3901. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE

(a) Recognizing that the economic well-being and social equity of every Vermonter has long been a fundamental concern of the State, it remains evident that ~~poverty continues to be the lot of~~ a substantial number of Vermont's population continues to experience poverty. It is the policy of ~~this~~ the State to help develop the full potential of each of its citizens so they can contribute to the fullest extent possible to the life of our communities and the State as a whole.

(b) It is the purpose of this chapter to strengthen, supplement, and coordinate efforts that further this policy through:

(1) the strengthening of community capabilities for planning, coordinating, and managing federal, State, and other sources of assistance related to the problem of poverty;

(2) the better organization and utilization of a range of services related to the needs of ~~the poor~~ individuals with low income; and

(3) the broadening of the resource base of programs to secure a more active role in assisting ~~the poor~~ individuals with low income from business, labor, and other groups from the private sector.

§ 3902. OFFICE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

(a) The Director of the Office of Economic Opportunity is hereby authorized to allocate available financial assistance for community ~~services~~ action agencies and programs in accordance with State and federal law and regulation.

(b) The Director may provide financial assistance to community ~~services~~ action agencies for the planning, conduct, administration, and evaluation of community ~~service~~ action programs to provide a range of services and activities having a measurable and potentially major impact on causes of poverty in the community or in areas of the community where poverty is a particularly acute problem. Components of those services and activities may involve, without limitation of other activities and supporting facilities designed to assist ~~low-income~~ participants with low income:

- (1) to secure and retain meaningful employment;
- (2) to obtain adequate education;
- (3) to make better use of available income;
- (4) to ~~provide and maintain adequate housing and a suitable living environment~~ have access to safe, secure, and permanent housing;
- (5) to obtain prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery services ~~for the prevention of narcotics addiction, alcoholism, and for the rehabilitation of narcotic addicts and alcoholics~~ individuals with substance use disorder;
- (6) to obtain emergency assistance through loans and grants to meet immediate and urgent individual and family needs, including the need for health services, nutritious food, housing, and unemployment-related assistance;
- (7) to remove obstacles and solve personal and family problems that block achievement of self-sufficiency;
- (8) to achieve greater participation in the affairs of the community;
- (9) to make more frequent and effective use of other programs related to the purposes of this chapter; and
- (10) to coordinate and establish linkages between governmental and other social service programs to ensure the effective delivery of such services to ~~low-income~~ persons; with low income and to encourage the use of entities

in the private sector of the community in efforts to ameliorate poverty in the community.

(c) The Director is authorized to adopt rules pursuant to chapter 25 of this title appropriate to the carrying out of this chapter and its purposes thereof.

§ 3903. DESIGNATION OF AGENCIES TO PROVIDE SERVICES AND
ACTIVITIES TO AMELIORATE OR ELIMINATE POVERTY

The Director shall designate private nonprofit ~~community-based~~ community-based organizations ~~who that~~ have demonstrated or ~~who that~~ can demonstrate the ability to provide services and activities as defined in subsection 3902(b) of this title as community ~~services action~~ agencies.

§ 3904. COMMUNITY ~~SERVICES ACTION~~ AGENCY ASSESSMENT
AND PLAN

Each designated community ~~services action~~ agency shall determine the need for activities and services within the area served by the agency ~~and shall thereafter prepare a community services plan that describes the method by which the agency will provide those services every three years, complete an assessment, and incorporate that information into an annual community action plan.~~ The plan shall include a schedule for the anticipated provision of new or additional ongoing services and shall specify the resources that are needed by and available to the agency to implement the plan. ~~The community services plan shall be updated annually.~~

§ 3905. COMMUNITY ~~SERVICES ACTION~~ AGENCIES;
ADMINISTRATION

(a) Each community ~~services action~~ agency shall administer its programs as set out in the community ~~services action~~ plan and as approved by its board of directors.

(b) Each board of a nonprofit ~~community-based~~ community-based organization that is designated a community ~~services action~~ agency under section 3903 of this chapter shall have an executive committee of not more than seven members who shall be representative of the composition of the board and the board shall be so constituted that:

(1) ~~one-third of the members of the board are elected public officials currently holding office, or their designees, except that if the number of elected officials reasonably available and willing to serve is less than one-third of the membership of the board, membership on the board of appointive public officials may be counted in meeting such one-third requirement;~~

(2) a minimum of one-third of the members of the board are persons chosen in accordance with election procedures adequate to ensure that they are representative of the poor individuals with low income in the area served; and

(2) one-third of the members of the board are elected public officials currently holding office, or their designees, except that if the number of elected officials reasonably available and willing to serve is less than one-third of the membership of the board, membership on the board of appointive public officials may be counted in meeting such one-third requirement; and

(3) the remainder of the members of the board are officials or members of business, industry, labor, religious, welfare, education, or other major groups and interests in the community.

(c) Each member of ~~the~~ a board selected to represent a specific geographic area within a community shall reside in the area ~~he or she~~ the member represents. ~~No person selected under subdivision (b)(2) or (3) of this section as a member of a board shall serve on such board for more than five consecutive years, or more than a total of 10 years~~ Each board shall adopt term limits to govern its members.

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

(Committee Vote: 10-0-1)

Favorable

H. 84

An act relating to allowing telehealth appointments to be recorded with patient and provider consent

Rep. Berbeco of Winooski, for the Committee on Health Care, recommends that the bill ought to pass.

(Committee Vote: 10-0-1)

CONSENT CALENDAR FOR ACTION

Concurrent Resolutions for Adoption Under Joint Rules 16a - 16d

The following concurrent resolutions have been introduced for approval by the Senate and House and will be adopted automatically unless a Senator or Representative requests floor consideration in that member's chamber before today's adjournment. Requests for floor consideration in either chamber should be communicated to the Senate Secretary's Office or the House Clerk's

Office, as applicable. For text of resolutions, see Addendum to House Calendar of January 15, 2026.

H.C.R. 163

House concurrent resolution honoring Mary Houghton of Brattleboro as an extraordinary advocate for sustainable and affordable housing

H.C.R. 164

House concurrent resolution congratulating the St. Albans Town Fire Department on 50 years of remarkable community service

H.C.R. 165

House concurrent resolution honoring Micheline Lemay of Stowe for her outstanding outdoor recreation and mindfulness leadership

H.C.R. 166

House concurrent resolution congratulating The Pick and Shovel in Newport City on its golden anniversary

H.C.R. 167

House concurrent resolution recognizing January 2026 as Mentoring Month in Vermont

H.C.R. 168

House concurrent resolution congratulating the members of Troop 60336 of Milton on earning the Girl Scout Bronze Award

H.C.R. 169

House concurrent resolution recognizing the unique role of certified registered nurse anesthetists in the Vermont health care system

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.