

# House Calendar

Friday, April 17, 2026

102nd DAY OF THE ADJOURNED SESSION

House Convenes at 9:30 A.M.

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**ORDERS OF THE DAY**

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**ACTION CALENDAR**

**Third Reading**

**H. 955**

An act relating to next steps in transforming Vermont's education system

**Amendment to be offered by Reps. Logan of Burlington and Burrows of West Windsor to H. 955**

That the bill be amended as follows:

First: By striking out Sec. 24a, prohibition on charging fees beyond tuition; legislative intent, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 24a to read as follows:

Sec. 24a. 16 V.S.A. § 828 is amended to read:

§ 828. TUITION TO APPROVED SCHOOLS; AGE; APPEAL

\* \* \*

(e)(1) A school eligible to receive tuition pursuant to this section shall be prohibited from requiring tuition or fees of any kind from a student attending the school, according to the provisions of this chapter, above the amount of tuition paid by a sending school district pursuant to section 823 or 824 of this chapter, as applicable.

(2) A public school located in Vermont that receives tuition pursuant to section 823 or 824 of this chapter, as applicable, shall be prohibited from charging any student attending the school a fee of any kind above the amount of tuition paid by a sending school district pursuant to section 823 or 824 of this chapter, as applicable, regardless of whether the student is a resident student or a student attending the school on tuition.

Second: By striking out Sec. 24, 16 V.S.A. § 828, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 24 to read as follows:

Sec. 24. 16 V.S.A. § 828 is amended to read:

§ 828. TUITION TO APPROVED SCHOOLS; AGE; APPEAL

\* \* \*

(e)(1) A school eligible to receive tuition pursuant to this section shall be prohibited from requiring tuition or fees of any kind from a student attending the school, according to the provisions of this chapter, above the amount of

tuition paid by a sending school district pursuant to section 823 ~~or 824~~ of this chapter, ~~as applicable~~.

(2) A public school located in Vermont that receives tuition pursuant to section 823 ~~or 824~~ of this chapter, ~~as applicable~~, shall be prohibited from charging any student attending the school a fee of any kind above the amount of tuition paid by a sending school district pursuant to section 823 ~~or 824~~ of this chapter, ~~as applicable~~, regardless of whether the student is a resident student or a student attending the school on tuition.

## NOTICE CALENDAR

### Favorable with Amendment

#### S. 89

An act relating to expanding survivor benefits

**Rep. Burrows of West Windsor**, for the Committee on General and Housing, recommends that the House propose to the Senate that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 20 V.S.A. § 3171 is amended to read:

#### § 3171. DEFINITIONS

As used in this chapter:

\* \* \*

(3) “Emergency personnel” means:

(A) firefighters as defined in subdivision 3151(3) of this title; ~~and~~

(B) emergency medical personnel and volunteer personnel as defined in 24 V.S.A. § 2651;

(C) law enforcement officers who have been certified by the Vermont Criminal Justice Council pursuant to section 2358 of this title;

(D) facility employees of the Department of Corrections and Department of Corrections employees who provide direct security and treatment services to offenders under supervision in the community;

(E) classified family services employees in the Family Services Division of the Department for Children and Families; and

(F) classified medical employees of State-operated therapeutic community residences or inpatient psychiatric hospital units.

(4) "Line of duty" means:

(A) answering or returning from with respect to firefighters, emergency medical personnel, and volunteer personnel:

(i) service in answer to a call of the department or service for a fire or emergency or, including going to and returning from a fire or emergency or participating in a fire or emergency training drill; or

(B)(ii) similar service in another town or district to which the department or service has been called for firefighting or emergency purposes;

(B) with respect to law enforcement officers:

(i) service as a law enforcement officer in answer to a complaint lodged with the department or in response to a disorder, including going to, returning from, and investigating or responding to the complaint or disorder; or

(ii) service under orders from the department or in any emergency for which the law enforcement officer serves as a law enforcement officer;

(C) with respect to covered employees of the Department of Corrections, discharging their duties as employees;

(D) with respect to classified family services employees in the Family Services Division of the Department for Children and Families, discharging their duties as employees; and

(E) with respect to classified medical employees of State-operated therapeutic community residences or inpatient psychiatric hospital units, discharging their duties as employees.

\* \* \*

Sec. 2. 20 V.S.A. § 3172 is amended to read:

§ 3172. EMERGENCY PERSONNEL SURVIVORS BENEFIT REVIEW

BOARD

(a)(1) There is created the Emergency Personnel Survivors Benefit Review Board, which shall consist of the State Treasurer or designee, the Attorney General or designee, the Chief Fire Service Training Officer of the Vermont Fire Service Training Council or designee, and one member of the public to represent the interests of emergency personnel appointed by the Governor for a term of two years.

(2) Survivors of emergency personnel, employed by or who volunteer for the State of Vermont, a county or municipality of the State, or a nonprofit

entity that provides services in the State, who die in the line of duty or of an occupation-related illness may request the Board award a monetary benefit under section 3173 of this ~~title~~ chapter, except survivors of emergency personnel as defined in subdivisions 3171(3)(C)–(F) of this chapter may request the monetary benefit only for deaths that occur on or after July 1, 2026.

(3) The Board shall be responsible for determining whether to award monetary benefits under section 3173 of this chapter. To assist the Board with applications involving deaths from occupation-related illness, the Board may pay reasonable fees from the Emergency Personnel Survivors Benefit Special Fund for a medical expert and other services as necessary to review applications and make recommendations to the Board.

(4) A decision to award monetary benefits shall be made by unanimous vote of the Board and shall be made within 60 days after the receipt of all information necessary to enable the Board to determine eligibility.

(5) The Board may request any information necessary for the exercise of its duties under this section. Nothing in this section shall prevent the Board from initiating the investigation or determination of a claim before being requested by a survivor or employer of emergency personnel.

\* \* \*

Sec. 3. 20 V.S.A. § 3175 is amended to read:

§ 3175. EMERGENCY PERSONNEL SURVIVORS BENEFIT SPECIAL  
FUND

(a) The Emergency Personnel Survivors Benefit Special Fund is established in the Office of the State Treasurer for the purpose of the payment of claims distributed pursuant to this chapter. The Fund shall comprise appropriations transfers made by the General Assembly, amounts transferred by the Emergency Board when the General Assembly is not in session, and contributions or donations from any other source. Expenses incurred pursuant to subdivision 3172(a)(3) of this chapter shall be paid from the Fund. All balances in the Fund at the end of the fiscal year shall be carried forward. Interest earned shall remain in the Fund.

(b) In the event that the balance of the Fund is insufficient to pay monetary benefits awarded by the Board when the General Assembly is not in session, the Emergency Board may, pursuant to its authority under 32 V.S.A. § 133, transfer into the Fund additional amounts necessary to pay the monetary benefits.

Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

**(Committee vote: 10-0-1)**

**Rep. Dickinson of St. Albans Town**, for the Committee on Appropriations, recommends that the bill ought to pass in concurrence with proposal of amendment as recommended by the Committee on General and Housing.

**(Committee Vote: 11-0-0)**

**Senate Proposal of Amendment**

**H. 626**

An act relating to sexual extortion, voyeurism, and disclosure of sexually explicit images without consent.

The Senate proposes to the House to amend the bill in Sec. 1, 13 V.S.A. § 2605, by striking out subsection (j) and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (j) to read as follows:

(j) Penalties.

(1) For a first offense involving a victim who is 18 years of age or older, a person who violates subsection (b), (c), or (d), ~~or (e)~~ of this section shall be imprisoned not more than two years or fined not more than \$1,000.00, or both. For a second or subsequent offense involving a victim who is 18 years of age or older, a person who violates subsection (b), (c), or (d), ~~or (e)~~ of this section shall be imprisoned not more than three years or fined not more than \$5,000.00, or both.

(2) For a first offense involving a victim who is under 18 years of age, a person who violates subsection (b), (c), or (d) of this section shall be imprisoned not more than three years or fined not more than \$5,000.00, or both. For a second or subsequent offense involving a victim who is under 18 years of age, a person who violates subsection (b), (c), or (d) of this section shall be imprisoned not more than five years or fined not more than \$10,000.00, or both.

(3) A person who violates subsection ~~(e)~~(e) of this section shall be imprisoned not more than five years or fined not more than \$5,000.00, or both.

## **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 April 16, 2026.

#### **H.C.R. 252**

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

#### **H.C.R. 253**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2025 Green Mountain Council Class of Eagle Scouts

#### **H.C.R. 254**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2026 Bellows Free Academy-St. Albans Bobwhites Division I championship boys' basketball team

#### **H.C.R. 255**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2026 Bellows Free Academy-St. Albans Comets Division I girls' championship ice hockey team

#### **H.C.R. 256**

House concurrent resolution congratulating Grant Montgomery on his dual State championship alpine skiing victories

#### **H.C.R. 257**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2026 Hartford High School Hurricanes girls' ice hockey team on winning a third consecutive Division II championship

#### **H.C.R. 258**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2026 Hartford High School Hurricanes Division II championship girls' basketball team

### **H.C.R. 259**

House concurrent resolution congratulating Terese Black on being named the 2026 Vermont Mother of the Year

### **H.C.R. 260**

House concurrent resolution congratulating Hartford Hurricanes Captain Charlotte Jasmin on being named the 2026 Vermont girls' basketball Gatorade Player of the Year

### **H.C.R. 261**

House concurrent resolution recognizing May 2026 as Older Americans Month and designating May 6, 2026, as Age Strong Vermont Day

### **For Informational Purposes**

### **ANNOUNCEMENT: PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSAL 4 – EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT**

*Room 11, Broadcast via YouTube*

The House Committee on Judiciary will hold a **public hearing on April 21 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.** in Room 11 of the State House. Those interested in testifying may attend the hearing in person or virtually.

The Committee will take testimony on Proposal 4, a proposed amendment to the Vermont Constitution to specify that the government must not deny equal treatment under the law on account of a person's race, ethnicity, sex, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or national origin. **Anyone interested in testifying must sign up in advance of the hearing through the following online form no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 20.** For those planning to testify, instructions on how to access and participate in the hearing will be sent the morning of the hearing. Each participant will be given 3 minutes to testify.

#### **Online sign-up form:**

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/links/house-judiciary-public-hearing-regarding-prop-4>

#### **For those not planning to testify, the hearing will be available to watch live on YouTube using the following link:**

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/streaming/house-judiciary>

Written testimony is encouraged and can be submitted through email to [testimony@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:testimony@leg.state.vt.us) or mailed to the House Committee on Judiciary, c/o Megan Cannella, 115 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05633. For more information about the format of this event, contact Megan Cannella at [Megan.Cannella@vtleg.gov](mailto:Megan.Cannella@vtleg.gov).

### **CROSSOVER DATES**

The Joint Rules Committee established the following crossover dates:

(1) All **Senate/House** bills must be reported out of the last committee of reference (including the Committees on Appropriations and Finance/Ways and Means, except as provided below in (2) and the exceptions listed below) on or before **Friday, March 13, 2026**, and filed with the Secretary/Clerk so they may be placed on the Calendar for Notice the next legislative day – Committee bills must be voted out of Committee by **Friday, March 13, 2026**.

(2) All **Senate/House** bills referred pursuant to Senate Rule 31 or House Rule 35(a) to the Committees on Appropriations and Finance/Ways and Means must be reported out by the last of those committees on or before **Friday, March 20, 2026**, and filed with the Secretary/Clerk so they may be placed on the Calendar for Notice the next legislative day.

**Exceptions to the foregoing deadlines include the major money bills (the general Appropriations bill (“The Big Bill”), the Transportation Capital bill, the Capital Construction bill, and the Fee/Revenue bills).**

### **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.

### **JOINT FISCAL COMMITTEE NOTICES**

Grants and Positions that have been submitted to the Joint Fiscal Committee by the Administration, under 32 V.S.A. §5(b)(3)(D):

**JFO #3274:** \$50,000.00 to the Vermont Secretary of State's office from the Vermont Community Foundation. Funds are for the Local Civic Journalism program to support the State of Vermont Local Journalism Awards. This award expands the Local Journalism grants in the FY26 Secretary of State's budget. *[Received March 16, 2026]*

**JFO #3275:** \$250,000.00 to the Vermont Police Academy, Criminal Justice Training Council from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services. Funds to support curriculum

development of de-escalation of volatile and high-risk situations.  
*[Received March 16, 2026]*

**JFO #3276:** Twelve (12) limited-service positions to the Agency of Human Services, various departments, to staff the Rural Health Transformation Initiative. The Rural Health Transformation grant, JFO #3272 was approved at the Joint Fiscal Committee meeting on February 6, 2026. All limited-service positions are expected to be funded through 9/30/2031. *[Received March 31, 2026]*