

# House Calendar

Friday, April 24, 2026

109th 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**

**Favorable with Amendment**

**S. 255**

An act relating to establishing a pilot Law Enforcement Governance Council in Windham County

**Rep. Morgan, M. of Milton**, for the Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs, recommends that the House propose to the Senate that the bill be amended in Sec. 7, reporting and evaluation, by striking out subdivision (b) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subdivision (b) to read as follows:

(b) On or before September 30, 2030, and again on or before December 31, 2033, the Council, in consultation with the Windham County Sheriff and Windham County Assistant Judges, shall submit a comprehensive evaluation of the pilot program to the House Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs and the Senate Committee on Government Operations, including:

(1) an assessment of cost-effectiveness compared to alternative service delivery models;

(2) an analysis of service quality improvements;

(3) an evaluation of the governance model's effectiveness;

(4) recommendations regarding continuation, modification, or expansion of the program; and

(5) a proposed framework for statewide replication, if warranted.

**(Committee vote: 9-0-1)**

**Rep. Page of Newport City**, for the Committee on Ways and Means, recommends that the bill ought to pass in concurrence with proposal of amendment as recommended by the Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs.

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

**Favorable**

**H. 956**

An act relating to approval of an amendment to the charter of the City of Burlington relating to the Office of Racial Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging

**Rep. Stone of Burlington**, for the Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs, recommends that the bill ought to pass.

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

**NOTICE CALENDAR**

**Favorable with Amendment**

**S. 173**

An act relating to vocational rehabilitation

**Rep. Cooper of Pownal**, for the Committee on Commerce and Economic Development, 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. 21 V.S.A. § 641 is amended to read:

§ 641. VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

(a) When as a result of an injury covered by this chapter, an employee is unable to perform work for which the employee has previous training or experience, the employee shall be entitled to vocational rehabilitation services, including retraining and job placement, as may be reasonably necessary to restore the employee to suitable employment. Vocational rehabilitation services shall be provided as follows:

\* \* \*

(2) The Department shall provide an injured worker with a form that includes information and employee rights. The form shall clearly and simply explain the worker's rights, including the choice of provider, the right to challenge a determination, the right to request vocational rehabilitation services in the future if the work injury affects the worker's ability to earn the worker's preinjury wage, and reimbursement for related expenses. The worker shall sign the form and return it to the Department.

\* \* \*

Sec. 2. VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION WORKING GROUP; REPORT

(a) Creation. There is created the Vocational Rehabilitation Working Group to provide recommendations to the General Assembly on how to improve the current vocational rehabilitation system to ensure that it meets the needs of eligible injured workers in a timely and cost-effective manner.

(b) Membership. The Working Group shall be composed of the following members:

(1) one current member of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of House, who shall be a member of the Committee on Commerce and Economic Development;

(2) one current member of the Senate, appointed by the Committee on Committees, who shall be a member of the Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs;

(3) the Commissioner of Labor or designee;

(4) the Commissioner of Financial Regulation or designee;

(5) two representatives on behalf of workers' compensation claimants, one of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House and one of whom shall be appointed by the Committee on Committees;

(6) two representatives on behalf of employers and workers' compensation insurance carriers, one of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House and one of whom shall be appointed by the Committee on Committees; and

(7) two vocational rehabilitation counselors currently certified in Vermont, one of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House and one of whom shall be appointed by the Committee on Committees.

(c) Powers and duties. The Working Group shall meet over the summer and fall to discuss and develop recommendations on how to improve the current vocational rehabilitation system and prepare recommendations for consideration by the General Assembly. The Working Group shall consider the following topics:

(1) Initial screening.

(A) Is the current initial screening requirement relevant and helpful or a hindrance to accessing vocational rehabilitation services?

(B) Do other states require an initial screening before a claimant receives a vocational rehabilitation assessment? What are other possible approaches that Vermont may wish to consider?

(C) Should the three questions currently asked as part of the initial screening be modified? Are there additional or different questions that should be asked?

(D) What improvements could be made to ensure that those conducting the initial screenings and vocational rehabilitation providers who provide services to workers' compensation claimants are familiar with Vermont's workers' compensation system?

(E) Who has current oversight over the initial screening process to ensure that the system is working as intended?

(2) Vocational rehabilitation generally.

(A) What mechanisms could better and earlier identify which claimants are likely to require vocational rehabilitation services?

(B) Are claimants being adequately and timely informed of their right to request a vocational rehabilitation assessment? Is information about the workers' compensation system and benefits as a whole being clearly conveyed in plain, easily understood language?

(C) Are some of the current requirements for providing vocational rehabilitation services too onerous and administratively unnecessary?

(D) How could vocational rehabilitation services be provided in a way that is more cost-effective for the workers' compensation system?

(E) How could the Department of Labor's oversight of vocational rehabilitation be improved?

(3) Wage replacement benefits.

(A) Could utilization of vocational services be improved by enabling claimants to access vocational rehabilitation benefits while receiving wage replacement benefits?

(B) Could the workers' compensation system take into account the diminished earning capacity of those claimants who are unable to earn a preinjury wage but are not eligible to receive permanent total disability benefits?

(C) Should the average weekly wage be indexed to the cost of living for vocational rehabilitation purposes?

(d) Meetings. The Commissioner of Labor or designee shall serve as the chair of the Working Group and shall call the first meeting of the Working Group to occur on or before August 14, 2026.

(e) Assistance. The Working Group shall have the administrative, technical, and legal assistance of the Department of Labor.

(f) Report. On or before December 15, 2026, the Working Group shall submit a written report to the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development and the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs with its findings and any recommendations for legislative action. The Working Group shall cease to exist upon submission of the report.

(g) Compensation and reimbursement. Except for those members regularly employed by the State, members of the Working Group shall be entitled to reimbursement of expenses as permitted under 32 V.S.A. § 1010 for not more than five meetings. These payments shall be made from monies appropriated to the Department of Labor.

Sec. 3. 21 V.S.A. chapter 13 is amended to read:

#### CHAPTER 13. APPRENTICESHIP

##### § 1111. DEFINITIONS

As used in this chapter:

\* \* \*

(22) “Nontraditional ~~apprenticeship~~ population” means a group of individuals who have historically been excluded from various occupations, such as individuals from the same gender, race, or ethnicity, the members of which comprise fewer than 25 percent of the program participants in an apprenticeable occupation.

(23) “Nontraditional apprenticeship industry or occupation” refers to an industry sector or occupation that represents fewer than 10 percent of apprenticeable occupations or the programs under the national apprenticeship system, using the calendar year 2023 as the benchmark.

\* \* \*

(33) “Underserved communities” means the populations sharing a particular characteristic, as well as geographic communities, who have been systematically denied a full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social, and civic life. This term includes individuals who ~~belong to communities of color, such as Black and African American, Hispanic and Latino, Native American, Alaskan Native and Indigenous, Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander, Middle Eastern, and North African persons. It also includes individuals who belong to communities that face discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, gender non-conforming, and non-~~

binary (LGBTQ+ persons); persons who face discrimination based on pregnancy or pregnancy-related conditions; parents; and caregivers. It also includes individuals who belong to communities that face discrimination based on their religion and disability; first-generation professionals or first-generation college students; individuals with limited English proficiency; immigrants; individuals who belong to communities that may face employment barriers based on older age or former incarceration; persons who live in rural areas; veterans and military spouses; and persons otherwise adversely affected by persistent poverty, discrimination, or inequality:

(A) face employment barriers based on age or former incarceration;

(B) live in rural areas;

(C) lack access to transportation options or high-speed internet;

(D) are veterans or spouses of veterans; and

(E) are otherwise adversely affected by poverty, discrimination, or inequality. Individuals may belong to more than one underserved community and face intersecting barriers.

\* \* \*

#### § 1113. VERMONT REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

\* \* \*

(e) Strategic planning and reporting. The Vermont Registered Apprenticeship Program shall:

(1) develop and disseminate a strategic plan once every five years, beginning on July 1, 2024 ~~2026~~, which shall include information on how the Program will implement the requirements of this chapter;

(2) prepare and submit to the Vermont General Assembly an annual report on the status of the Vermont Registered Apprenticeship Program on or before December 1 of each year that includes:

(A) ~~general program~~ Program statistics, including a list of programs by county;

(B) an analysis of apprentices in the ~~program~~ Program disaggregated by age, race, sex, gender identity, ~~New American status~~ language access needs, Veteran status, disability, industry, and education status, including participation in career ~~and~~ technical education;

(C) nontraditional occupations by gender and race;

(D) new occupations approved;

(E) an analysis of the average starting and ending wage by occupation;

(F) new sponsors, employers, or industries involved with programs over the previous period;

(G) a summary of how allocated funds were used and analysis of the impact of those funds, including uses of any federal funds awarded during the year; and

(H) a summary of significant activities of the ~~program~~ Program.

§ 1114. VERMONT APPRENTICESHIP ADVISORY BOARD

\* \* \*

(c) Duties. The Board shall:

\* \* \*

(6) Create and convene working groups that are tasked with specific activities related to improving the quality, safety, diversity, and alignment of apprenticeship programs. Working group membership is not limited to appointed members of the Board and shall be selected and serve at the discretion of the Chair.

(7) Ensure that the registered apprenticeship program addresses barriers to participation and completion of the program, including underserved populations.

(8) Strengthen relationships with community partners that serve:

(A) underserved populations and historically marginalized communities that have not previously accessed apprenticeship programs; and

(B) individuals who face systemic barriers to participation in the program as evidenced by a disproportionate lack of participation in apprenticeship programs.

\* \* \*

§ 1119. APPRENTICES REGISTERED; AGREEMENT

\* \* \*

(c) An apprenticeship agreement shall contain:

(1) the names and signatures of the apprentice, of the program sponsor or employer, and of a parent or guardian of the apprentice if the apprentice is a minor;

(2) the date of birth ~~and Social Security number~~ of the apprentice;

(3) the contact information of the program sponsor and the Vermont Registered Apprenticeship Program;

(4) a statement of the occupation in which the apprentice is to be trained and the beginning date and duration of apprenticeship;

\* \* \*

(12) to conform to the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972, 42 U.S.C. chapter 21, subchapter VI and for affirmative action compliance in apprenticeship programs, and for compliance with reporting and analysis of the Vermont Registered Apprenticeship Program, the voluntary disclosure of the apprentice's race, color, national origin, place of birth, sex, gender, gender identity, primary language spoken, age, veteran status, sexual orientation, ethnicity, and disability status; and

(13) if the apprentice completed secondary school in Vermont and is between 18 and 25 years of age, the name of the secondary school from which the apprentice is a graduate, and if the apprentice attended a regional CTE center, the name of the center where the apprentice received technical education while in secondary school;

(14) a statement that the apprentice will be accorded equal opportunity in all phases of apprenticeship employment and training, without discrimination because of race, color, national origin, place of birth, sex, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, primary language spoken, genetic information, veteran status, and disability status; and

(15) optional fields for:

(A) the Social Security number of the apprentice; and

(B) the demographic characteristics of the apprentice.

(d) An apprenticeship agreement shall not be modified unless it is in writing and signed by the parties.

\* \* \*

## § 1123. PRE-APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS

\* \* \*

(b) A pre-apprenticeship program may be ~~registered~~ certified by the Department after successfully demonstrating:

\* \* \*

§ 1124. YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS

(a) A youth apprenticeship program is one that prepares a youth apprentice for acceptance into an apprenticeship program and is designed for youth apprentices who ~~start the program while still enrolled in high school~~:

(1) have not completed secondary education;

(2) are in an educational program approved by the Agency of Education; and

(3) are enrolled in a career technical education program.

(b) A youth apprenticeship program may be registered by the Department after ~~submitting a regional CTE center submits~~ the following information to the Department:

(1) a written plan that articulates the work processes and how a youth apprentice will receive supervised work experience and on-the-job training or training in an experiential setting;

(2) how time spent by a youth apprentice in each major work process will be spent or that specifies how competencies or proficiencies are aligned between ~~their~~ the youth's high school education and the youth apprenticeship program, and that states which graduation requirements will be met;

(3) a description of the mentoring that will be provided to the youth apprentice;

(4) a description or timeline explaining the periodic reviews and evaluations of the youth ~~apprentices~~ apprentice's performance on the job and in related technical instruction;

(5) a process for maintaining appropriate progress records, including the reviews and evaluations;

(6) a description of related classroom-based instruction, which may be fulfilled through dual or concurrent enrollment ~~in secondary or post-secondary~~ courses;

(7) whether and how the program is aligned with high school diploma requirements ~~and career clusters~~;

(8) whether the program meets the related technical instruction requirements for an apprenticeship program;

(9) if a program includes paid work during or outside the school year and outside the school day, a progressively increasing, clearly defined schedule of wages to be paid to the youth apprentice as skills are mastered;

(10) how the program prepares the youth apprentice for placement in further education, employment, or an a registered apprenticeship program; and

(11) ~~the terms by which the program grants advanced standing or credit to individuals applying for the youth apprenticeship with demonstrated competency or acquired experience, training, or skills~~ the procedure for advanced standing that grants credit for demonstrated competency, acquired experience, training, or skills to youths who are interested in transferring to full apprenticeship registration upon completion of the youth apprenticeship program;

(12) an accounting of costs for the program covered by the participating partners, grants, or other sources of funds; and

(13) an assurance that school staff, employer partners, and others involved in the program are aware of youth legal protections regarding child labor, wage payment, and youth apprenticeship and other applicable laws and regulations.

(c) An apprenticeship plan submitted in conformity with subsection (b) of this section shall be developed in partnership with apprenticeship sponsors for specific occupational areas and sending high schools.

\* \* \*

#### Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

and that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read: “An act relating to vocational rehabilitation and apprenticeships”

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

**Rep. Nigro of Bennington**, for the Committee on Appropriations, recommends that the report of the Committee on Commerce and Economic Development be amended in Sec. 2, Vocational Rehabilitation Working Group, by striking out subsection (g) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (g) to read as follows:

(g) Compensation and reimbursement.

(1) Except for those members regularly employed by the State, members of the Working Group shall be entitled to reimbursement of expenses as permitted under 32 V.S.A. § 1010 for not more than five meetings. These payments shall be made from monies appropriated to the Department of Labor.

(2) A legislative member of the Working Group serving in the member’s capacity as a legislator shall be entitled to per diem compensation

and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to 2 V.S.A. § 23 for not more than five meetings. These payments shall be made from monies appropriated to the General Assembly.

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

### S. 223

An act relating to water quality of the waters of Vermont

**Rep. Hoyt of Hartford**, for the Committee on Environment, 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. WATER QUALITY, LAKE CLASSIFICATION, AND ANTIDegradation STUDY GROUP; REPORT

(a) Creation. There is created the Water Quality, Lake Classification, and Antidegradation Study Group, which shall conduct the evaluations set forth in subsection (c) of this section, including the review of existing classified waters of the State and candidate waters with water quality data supporting reclassification, assessment of antidegradation requirements, examination of the regulatory framework for Class A waters, and examination of the adequacy of the current water classification system for lakes and ponds. Based on these evaluations, the Study Group shall recommend to the General Assembly legislative or policy changes to strengthen environmental protection, provide regulatory certainty, and support public uses of State waters.

(b) Membership. The Study Group shall be composed of the following members:

(1) two current members of the House of Representatives, not all from the same political party, who shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House;

(2) two current members of the Senate, not all from the same political party, who shall be appointed by the Committee on Committees;

(3) the Secretary of Natural Resources or designee;

(4) a Department of Environmental Conservation water quality scientist or technical staff member, appointed by the Secretary of Natural Resources;

(5) two persons representing businesses, industries, or development that interact with water quality permitting, including the State antidegradation policy, use of high quality waters, and water classification, one of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House and one of whom shall be appointed by the Committee on Committees;

(6) two persons representing nonprofit environmental advocacy groups, one of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House and one of whom shall be appointed by the Committee on Committees;

(7) one person representing the Federation of Vermont Lakes and Ponds, appointed by the Governor; and

(8) one person representing the Green Mountain Water Environment Association, appointed by the Speaker of the House.

(c) Powers and duties. The Study Group shall:

(1) Develop an inventory of the waters of the State, with the existing classification designations, as set forth in the Vermont Water Quality Standards, including candidate high quality waters with water quality data that meets or exceeds the minimum criteria supporting reclassification for such waters.

(2) Assess the State's obligations under the federal Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. §§ 1251–1388, as enacted as of January 1, 2026, with respect to the adoption of an antidegradation rule to implement the State's antidegradation policy under the Vermont Water Quality Standards, including an evaluation of State and federal statutory and regulatory requirements and the identification of any legal, administrative, policy, or practical barriers to full compliance.

(3) Identify and evaluate the statutory and regulatory frameworks, rules, policies, and procedures governing Class A waters, including whether modifications are needed to facilitate the reclassification of eligible waters, adequately protect and support designated and existing uses, and provide regulatory certainty for activities in Class A waters.

(4) Evaluate whether the existing water classification system in the State and related statutory and regulatory frameworks protect the ecological integrity of the State's lakes and ponds, adequately address current and potential threats to the water quality of the State's lakes and ponds, and provide regulatory certainty.

(5) Recommend legislative amendments and identify any rules, policies, or procedures that may require revision to implement the Study Group's recommendations.

(d) Assistance. The Study Group shall have the administrative, technical, and legal assistance of the Agency of Natural Resources and shall have the legal and drafting assistance of the Office of Legislative Counsel.

(e) Report. On or before December 15, 2026, the Study Group shall submit a written report to the General Assembly that shall include its findings and recommendations under subsection (c) of this section.

(f) Meetings.

(1) The Secretary of Natural Resources shall call the first meeting of the Study Group to occur on or before August 1, 2026.

(2) The Study Group shall select at its first meeting a chair from among the four legislators serving as members.

(3) A majority of the Study Group shall constitute a quorum.

(4) The Study Group shall cease to exist on February 15, 2027.

(g) Compensation and reimbursement.

(1) For attendance at meetings during adjournment of the General Assembly, a legislative member of the Study Group serving in the member's capacity as a legislator shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to 2 V.S.A. § 23 for not more than eight meetings. These payments shall be made from monies appropriated to the General Assembly.

(2) Other members of the Study Group shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses as permitted under 32 V.S.A. § 1010 for not more than eight meetings. These payments shall be made from monies appropriated to the General Assembly.

Sec. 2. CONTINGENCY OF FUNDING

Notwithstanding the provisions of 2 V.S.A. § 23 and 32 V.S.A. § 1010 to the contrary, the required payment under Sec. 1(g) of this act of per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses to the legislative members and other members of the Water Quality, Lake Classification, and Antidegradation Study Group is contingent upon an appropriation of funds in fiscal year 2027 from the General Fund to the Vermont General Assembly for the specific purpose of compensation and reimbursement of the Study Group members.

Sec. 3. AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES REPORT ON  
ESTABLISHING A CERTIFICATION PROGRAM FOR  
WETLANDS PROFESSIONALS

(a)(1) On or before January 15, 2027, the Secretary of Natural Resources shall submit to the House Committee on Environment and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy a report recommending whether

to establish a program to certify wetlands professionals in the State for the purposes of identifying and delineating wetlands boundaries. The report shall:

(A) describe the benefits and disadvantages of a wetlands professional certification program, including whether it could accelerate wetlands permitting, reduce the amount of wetlands services available, increase the cost of wetlands services, or delay the permitting process; and

(B) discuss how a wetlands professional certification program could impact the liability of wetlands professionals, including whether certification requirements would subject wetlands professionals to increased risk of liability or increased liability insurance requirements.

(2) If the Secretary of Natural Resources recommends the establishment of a program to certify wetlands professionals in the State, the report shall include:

(A) a description of the proposed certification program;

(B) the proposed requirements for certification;

(C) a description of the activities that a wetlands professional would be authorized to conduct as part of or exclusively under a certification; and

(D) what benefit, if any, services from a certified wetlands professional would provide to customers or in regulatory proceedings.

(b) In developing the report required under subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary of Natural Resources shall consult with wetlands professionals who currently conduct wetlands delineations and other persons with knowledge of wetlands permitting and services provided by wetlands professionals.

Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.

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

**Favorable**

**S. 179**

An act relating to the Uniform Disclaimer of Property Interests Act

**Rep. Goodnow of Brattleboro**, for the Committee on Judiciary, recommends that the bill ought to pass in concurrence.

**(Committee Vote: 8-0-3)**

**Rep. Ode of Burlington**, for the Committee on Ways and Means, recommends that the bill ought to pass in concurrence.

**(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 and Senate Calendar of April 23, 2026.

#### **H.C.R. 262**

House concurrent resolution honoring Vermont singer-songwriter and two-time Grammy Award nominee Noah Berkenkamp Kahan for his amazing contributions to American popular music and for creating and leading The Busyhead Project

#### **H.C.R. 263**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2026 Mount Mansfield Union High School Division I championship girls' basketball team

#### **H.C.R. 264**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2026 Richford High School Rockets Division IV championship girls' basketball team

#### **H.C.R. 265**

House concurrent resolution congratulating Ryan and Gabrielle Viens on their life-saving rescue support for Grand Isle County Sheriff's Department Sgt. Nicholas Pillsbury

#### **H.C.R. 266**

House concurrent resolution congratulating Linda Alvarez on being named the 2026 Vermont Teacher of the Year and commending the two distinguished finalists

**H.C.R. 267**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Mount Mansfield Union High School Cougars girls' Nordic ski team on winning a second consecutive Division I championship

**H.C.R. 268**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2026 Mt. Mansfield Union High School Cougars State co-champions girls' snowboarding team

**H.C.R. 269**

House concurrent resolution congratulating Brody Allen of Reading on completing the NRA Marksmanship Qualification Program and earning the Distinguished Smallbore Rifleman Award

**H.C.R. 270**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2026 Stowe High School Division II championship boys' Nordic ski team

**S.C.R. 11**

Senate concurrent resolution honoring the outstanding former Williston Fire Chief Kenneth Morton Jr.

**For Informational Purposes**

**ANNOUNCEMENT: PUBLIC HEARING ON ACCESS TO PRIMARY CARE**

*Room 11,*

*Broadcast via YouTube*

The Vermont House Committee on Health Care will hold a **public hearing on Thursday, April 30 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 access to primary care and invites individuals to share their experiences, recommendations, and insights to inform members as they consider legislation related to primary care. **Anyone interested in testifying must sign up in advance of the hearing through the following online form no later than 4:30 p.m. on April 29.** 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 2.5 minutes to testify.

Online sign-up form: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/public-hearing-on-primary-care>

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

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

Written testimony is encouraged and can be submitted through email at [testimony@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:testimony@leg.state.vt.us) or mailed to the House Committee on Health Care, 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 #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]*

**JFO #3277:** \$36,000.00 to the Vermont Legislature, Sergeant at Arms office from the National Conference of State Legislatures. The grant will extend up to \$500.00 to each member of the General Assembly to secure their homes. Funds would be available once as a reimbursement during the lawmaker's service for expenses incurred after June 1, 2026. *[Received April 14, 2026]*