

Senate Calendar

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2026

SENATE CONVENES AT: 1:00 P.M.

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ORDERS OF THE DAY

NOTICE CALENDAR

Joint Resolution for Second Reading

Favorable with Recommendation of Amendment

J.R.S. 37.

Joint resolution supporting, in solidarity with national and international ski organizations and numerous skiers across the globe, the introduction of long-overdue gender equality in Nordic combined Olympic competition.

Reported favorably with recommendation of amendment by Senator Ram Hinsdale for the Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

The Committee recommends that the resolution be amended by striking out all Whereas and Resolved clauses and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Whereas, Nordic combined is a challenging winter sport, requiring competitors to prove their skills as both Nordic skiers and alpine ski jumpers, and

Whereas, the first documented Nordic combined competition occurred in Oslo, Norway, in 1892, 32 years before the inaugural Winter Olympics was held in France in 1924, at which Nordic combined was one of the featured events, and

Whereas, the proud century of Nordic combined competition in the Winter Olympics has been tarnished due to its exclusion of women, and

Whereas, women have exhibited outstanding Nordic combined performances in non-Olympic competition, and among the premier women's Nordic combined competitors is Vermonter Tara Geraghty-Moats, who has earned national and international recognition, and

Whereas, unfortunately for this sport, the exclusion of women from Olympic Nordic combined competition persuaded Tara Geraghty-Moats to pursue her Winter Olympic dreams as a biathlon athlete, and

Whereas, Vermont is proudly the home of many outstanding women Winter Olympians, who are medal winners in sports other than Nordic combined, and

Whereas, ironically, although the IOC recently "welcomed the Political Declaration adopted unanimously by the 69th session of the [United Nations] Commission on the Status of Women ... reaffirming the importance of sport as

a vehicle for gender equality,” it continued this exclusionary policy for the 2026 Winter Olympics, and

Whereas, beyond 2026, Nordic combined Winter Olympic competition may be imperiled, as the IOC may decide to eliminate the sport entirely as a way to end this embarrassing gender exclusion controversy, and

Whereas, the International Ski and Snowboard Federation (FIS), Nordic Combined USA, and male and female Nordic combined skiers from different nations are strongly advocating for the IOC to continue this fabled sport in Winter Olympic competition but with gender equality, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly supports, in solidarity with national and international ski organizations and numerous skiers across the globe, the introduction of long-overdue gender equality in Nordic combined Olympic competition, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the General Assembly urges the IOC only to introduce new Olympic sports that practice gender equality, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to FIS, Nordic Combined USA, U.S. Ski & Snowboard, and the IOC.

and that after adoption the title of the resolution be amended to read:

“Joint resolution supporting, in solidarity with national and international ski organizations and numerous skiers across the globe, the introduction of long-overdue gender equality in Nordic combined Olympic competition and urging that the International Olympic Committee (IOC) only introduce new Olympic sports that practice gender equality.”

(Committee vote: 4-0-1)

CONFIRMATIONS

The following appointments will be considered by the Senate, as a group, under suspension of the Rules, as moved by the President *pro tempore*, for confirmation together and without debate, by consent thereby given by the Senate. However, upon request of any senator, any appointment may be singled out and acted upon separately by the Senate, with consideration given to the report of the Committee to which the appointment was referred, and with full debate; and further, all appointments for the positions of Secretaries of Agencies, Commissioners of Departments, Judges, Magistrates, and members of the Public Utility Commission and the Cannabis Control Board, underlined below, shall be fully and separately acted upon.

Sarah Furman of Rutland – Member of the Vermont Economic Development Authority – By Senator Beck for the Committee on Finance (February 4, 2026)

Kaj Samson of Montpelier - Commissioner of the Department of Financial Regulation - By Senator Brock for the Committee on Finance (February 4, 2026)

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Announcement: Joint Public Hearing on the Governor's Recommended FY 2027 Budget

The Vermont House and Senate Committees on Appropriations will hold two **joint public hearings on Thursday, February 12, 2026, at 1:45 p.m. and Thursday, February 19, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.** in Room 11 of the State House. Interested parties may attend the hearing in person or virtually.

The Committees will take testimony on the Governor's recommended budget at the above dates and times. **Anyone interested in testifying must sign up in advance of the hearings through the following online form not later than 10:00 a.m. on February 12, 2026, for the first hearing, and 10:00 a.m. on February 19, 2026, for the second hearing.** Registration will be first-come, first-served and will be limited to 40 people on each date. For those planning to testify, instructions on how to access and participate in the hearing will be sent once you have signed up for the hearing.

Online sign-up form: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/links/public-hearing-on-fy27-budget>

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

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

Written testimony is encouraged and can be submitted electronically through email at testimony@vtleg.gov or mailed to the House Committee on Appropriations, c/o Autumn Crabtree, 115 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05633. For more information about the format of these events, contact Autumn Crabtree at Autumn.Crabtree@vtleg.gov or Elle Oille-Stanforth at Elle.Oille-Stanforth@vtleg.gov

NOTICE OF JOINT ASSEMBLY

Thursday, February 19, 2026 - 10:30 A.M. – House Chamber - Election of an Adjutant and Inspector General, and of two (2) trustees for the Vermont State Colleges Corporation.

Candidates for the positions of Adjutant and Inspector General, and legislative candidates for Vermont State Colleges Corporation trustees must notify the Secretary of State in writing of their candidacies not later than Thursday, February 12, 2026, by 4:00 P.M., pursuant to the provisions of 2 V.S.A. §12(b). Otherwise their names will not appear on the ballots for these positions.

The following rules shall apply to the conduct of these elections:

First: All nominations for these offices will be presented in alphabetical order prior to voting.

Second: There will be only one nominating speech of not more than three (3) minutes and not more than two seconding speeches of not more than one (1) minute each for each nominee.

JFO NOTICE

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

JFO #3271: \$218,385.00 to the Vermont Center for Crime Victim Services from the U.S. Department of Justice. Funds will be used to consolidate data into one case management system.

[Received January 27, 2026]

JFO #3272: \$195,053,740.00 to the Vermont Agency of Human Services, Central Office from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Participation in the Rural Health Transformation Plan (RHTP) will help to ensure long-term health care system sustainability in Vermont. This grant includes two (2) limited-service positions (LSP): one (1) Health Care Reform Integration Manager to the Office of Health Care Reform and one (1) Financial Manager II to the Agency of Human Services Central Office. Both limited positions are expected to last through 9/30/2031.

[Received January 27, 2026]

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Crossover Dates

The Joint Rules Committee established the following crossover deadlines:

(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.

Note: The Senate will not act on bills that do not meet these crossover deadlines, without the consent of the Senate Rules Committee.

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).