

# Journal of the House

Friday, January 24, 2025

At nine o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon, the Speaker called the House to order.

## Devotional Exercises

Devotional exercises were conducted by Toussaint St. Negritude, poet, Newark.

## Memorial Service

House members rose as the Speaker placed before the House the following names of members of past sessions of the Vermont General Assembly who had passed away recently:

Rep. Edward R. Zuccaro of St. Johnsbury	Member of the House, Sessions 1981-1988
Rep. Richard Howrigan of Fairfield	Member of the House, Sessions 1995-2012

Thereupon, the members of the House held a moment of silence in memory of the deceased members.

## Rules Suspended, House Bills Introduced

Pending first reading of House bills, on motion of **Rep. McCoy of Poultney**, the rules were suspended and the bills were read the first time by number and referred to committee as follows:

### H. 79

By Rep. Cordes of Bristol,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to certification of community-based perinatal doulas

To the Committee on Health Care.

### H. 80

By Reps. Cordes of Bristol, Berbeco of Winooski, Black of Essex, Cina of Burlington, Critchlow of Colchester, Demar of Enosburgh, Goldman of Rockingham, McFaun of Barre Town, and Page of Newport City,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the Office of the Health Care Advocate

To the Committee on Health Care.

**H. 81**

By Reps. Headrick of Burlington, Dodge of Essex, Arsenault of Williston, Berbeco of Winooski, Bluemle of Burlington, Burrows of West Windsor, Chapin of East Montpelier, Cina of Burlington, Graning of Jericho, Hooper of Burlington, Howard of Rutland City, Logan of Burlington, McCann of Montpelier, McGill of Bridport, Minier of South Burlington, Priestley of Bradford, Tomlinson of Winooski, and Waszazak of Barre City,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to requiring legislative approval prior to entering into certain immigration agreements

To the Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs.

**H. 82**

By Reps. Holcombe of Norwich and Casey of Montpelier,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to establishing the Division of Planning and Evaluation and strengthening the regulatory capacity of the Green Mountain Care Board

To the Committee on Health Care.

**H. 83**

By Reps. McCann of Montpelier, Bishop of Colchester, Black of Essex, Dodge of Essex, Headrick of Burlington, Howard of Rutland City, Logan of Burlington, McGill of Bridport, Mrowicki of Putney, Priestley of Bradford, and Tomlinson of Winooski,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to firearms storage

To the Committee on Judiciary.

**H. 84**

By Reps. Hooper of Burlington, Austin of Colchester, Bishop of Colchester, Bluemle of Burlington, Branagan of Georgia, Burt of Cabot, Campbell of St. Johnsbury, Casey of Montpelier, Coffin of Cavendish, Critchlow of Colchester, Dodge of Essex, Duke of Burlington, Greer of Bennington, Hango of Berkshire, Harrison of Chittenden, Higley of Lowell, Howard of Rutland City,

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Kleppner of Burlington, Maguire of Rutland City, McCann of Montpelier, Morgan, M. of Milton, Morrissey of Bennington, Mrowicki of Putney, Nielsen of Brandon, Pinsonault of Dorset, and Satcowitz of Randolph,

House bill, entitled

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

To the Committee on Health Care.

### **H. 85**

By Reps. Lipsky of Stowe, Bosch of Clarendon, Branagan of Georgia, Burt of Cabot, Canfield of Fair Haven, Carris-Duncan of Whitingham, Charlton of Chester, Coffin of Cavendish, Cooper of Pownal, Demar of Enosburgh, Dolgin of St. Johnsbury, Galfetti of Barre Town, Goodnow of Brattleboro, Greer of Bennington, Gregoire of Fairfield, Hango of Berkshire, Harvey of Castleton, Higley of Lowell, Keyser of Rutland City, Maguire of Rutland City, Morgan, L. of Milton, Morgan, M. of Milton, Morrissey of Bennington, Nelson of Derby, Nielsen of Brandon, Parsons of Newbury, Pinsonault of Dorset, Powers of Waterford, Pritchard of Pawlet, Southworth of Walden, Sweeney of Shelburne, Wells of Brownington, and Winter of Ludlow,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the taxation of vehicles used for forestry operations

To the Committee on Ways and Means.

### **H. 86**

By Reps. Sheldon of Middlebury, Austin of Colchester, Bartholomew of Hartland, Chapin of East Montpelier, Logan of Burlington, Morris of Springfield, and Satcowitz of Randolph,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to establishing the Chloride Contamination Reduction Program at the Agency of Natural Resources

To the Committee on Environment.

### **H. 87**

By Reps. Hango of Berkshire, Austin of Colchester, Birong of Vergennes, Sibilia of Dover, Stone of Burlington, Bartley of Fairfax, Boyden of Cambridge, Coffin of Cavendish, Goslant of Northfield, Gregoire of Fairfield, Higley of Lowell, Kascenska of Burke, Keyser of Rutland City, Laroche of Franklin, Luneau of St. Albans City, McFaun of Barre Town, Morgan, L. of Milton, Morgan, M. of Milton, Noyes of Wolcott, Page of Newport City,

Pinsonault of Dorset, Southworth of Walden, and Tagliavia of Corinth,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to raising awareness of military-related postsecondary opportunities

To the Committee on Education.

**H. 88**

By Reps. McCann of Montpelier, Harple of Glover, Headrick of Burlington, Logan of Burlington, McGill of Bridport, Priestley of Bradford, Tomlinson of Winooski, and Waszazak of Barre City,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to a prohibition on utility disconnections during periods of extreme heat

To the Committee on Energy and Digital Infrastructure.

**H. 89**

By Reps. Tagliavia of Corinth, Coffin of Cavendish, Demar of Enosburgh, Keyser of Rutland City, Labor of Morgan, Morgan, M. of Milton, Page of Newport City, and Powers of Waterford,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to school choice for all Vermont students

To the Committee on Education.

**H. 90**

By Reps. Canfield of Fair Haven and Waszazak of Barre City,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the Vermont earned income tax credit and the Vermont child tax credit

To the Committee on Ways and Means.

**H. 91**

By Reps. McGill of Bridport, Cole of Hartford, Cordes of Bristol, Garofano of Essex, and Wood of Waterbury,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the Emergency Temporary Shelter Program

To the Committee on Human Services.

**H. 92**

By Reps. McFaun of Barre Town, Berbeco of Winooski, Black of Essex, Boutin of Barre City, Charlton of Chester, Cina of Burlington, Coffin of Cavendish, Dobrovich of Williamstown, Dolgin of St. Johnsbury, Galfetti of Barre Town, Gregoire of Fairfield, Higley of Lowell, Labor of Morgan, Maguire of Rutland City, Malay of Pittsford, Morrissey of Bennington, Nielsen of Brandon, North of Ferrisburgh, Noyes of Wolcott, Olson of Starksboro, Page of Newport City, Parsons of Newbury, Powers of Waterford, Tagliavia of Corinth, Winter of Ludlow, and Wood of Waterbury,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to Human Services Board fair hearing proceedings

To the Committee on Human Services.

**H. 93**

By Reps. Hooper of Burlington, Austin of Colchester, Bluemle of Burlington, Boyden of Cambridge, Branagan of Georgia, Burt of Cabot, Canfield of Fair Haven, Casey of Montpelier, Coffin of Cavendish, Critchlow of Colchester, Duke of Burlington, Greer of Bennington, Hango of Berkshire, Harrison of Chittenden, Higley of Lowell, Howard of Rutland City, Maguire of Rutland City, McCann of Montpelier, Morgan, M. of Milton, Morrissey of Bennington, Mrowicki of Putney, Nielsen of Brandon, Ode of Burlington, Page of Newport City, Pinsonault of Dorset, and Satcowitz of Randolph,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the creation and maintenance of a database of veterans in Vermont

To the Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs.

**H. 94**

By Reps. Harrison of Chittenden, Boyden of Cambridge, Casey of Montpelier, Logan of Burlington, McCann of Montpelier, O'Brien of Tunbridge, Sibilia of Dover, and Surprenant of Barnard,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to events at accessory on-farm businesses

To the Committee on Environment.

**Ceremonial Reading****H.C.R. 2**

Offered by Representatives Hango of Berkshire, Laroche of Franklin, Oliver of Sheldon, Walker of Swanton, and Gregoire of Fairfield

Offered by Senators Brock and Norris

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2024 Missisquoi Valley Union High School Thunderbirds Division I championship softball team

*Whereas*, at 2024 Division I softball's decisive contest, played at Castleton, the fifth-seeded Thunderbirds challenged the second-seeded Mt. Anthony Patriots for the sport's top honor, and the game proved an exciting day on the diamond, and

*Whereas*, although the Patriots were the first on the scoreboard, these opening runs signaled the start of a seesaw battle during which each team enjoyed a lead, but at the end of the seven standard innings, the teams were tied at seven-all, necessitating extra innings to determine the game's outcome, and

*Whereas*, in the eighth inning, sensing the suspense should be ended quickly, a Thunderbird stole both second and third base, accelerating her scoring of the final run, and securing an 8–7 Missisquoi victory, and

*Whereas*, the thrilled Thunderbirds, who played with skill and enthusiasm, were Kerri Campbell, Molly Gagne, Molly Medor, Brooke Rainville, Sierra Reynolds, Lizi Bourdeau, Kirby King, Josie Maguire, Cayley Renaudette, Abigail Wilcox, Lillianna Fournier, Addison Gates, Avery Guyette, Addy Longway, Brooke Pilbin, Jady Lapan, and Ava Howe, and

*Whereas*, Head Coach Bill Sheets; assistant coaches Megan Rowell, Connie Sheets, and Emily Bourdeau; and team managers Alexis Beyor and Kyle Perkins were all critical to the Thunderbirds' success, *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2024 Missisquoi Valley Union High School Thunderbirds Division I championship softball team, *and be it further*

***Resolved:*** That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Missisquoi Valley Union High School.

Having been adopted in concurrence on Friday, January 17, 2025 in accord with Joint Rule 16b, was read.

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**Message from the Senate No. 9**

A message was received from the Senate by Ms. Gradel, its Assistant Secretary, as follows:

Madam Speaker:

I am directed to inform the House that:

The Senate has on its part adopted concurrent resolutions originating in the House of the following titles:

**H.C.R. 7.** House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2024 Fair Haven Union High School Slaters Division II championship boys' football team.

**H.C.R. 8.** House concurrent resolution designating January 29, 2025 as Mental Health Advocacy Day at the State House.

**H.C.R. 9.** House concurrent resolution honoring the Vermonters who created the Tony-Award winning musical Hadestown and the Vermont theatrical youth ensembles now staging exhilarating teen performances.

**Adjournment**

At nine o'clock and forty-seven minutes in the forenoon, on motion of **Rep. McCoy of Poultney**, the House adjourned until Tuesday, January 28, 2025, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, pursuant to the provisions of J.R.S. 8.

**Concurrent Resolutions Adopted**

The following concurrent resolutions, having been placed on the Consent Calendar on the preceding legislative day, and no member having requested floor consideration as provided by Rule 16b of the Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives, are hereby adopted on the part of the House:

**H.C.R. 7**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2024 Fair Haven Union High School Slaters Division II championship boys' football team

**H.C.R. 8**

House concurrent resolution designating January 29, 2025 as Mental Health Advocacy Day at the State House

**H.C.R. 9**

House concurrent resolution honoring the Vermonters who created the Tony-Award winning musical Hadestown and the Vermont theatrical youth ensembles now staging exhilarating teen performances

[The full text of the concurrent resolutions appeared in the House Calendar Addendum on the preceding legislative day and will appear in the Public Acts and Resolves of the 2025 Biennial Session.]