

# Journal of the House

Thursday, February 20, 2025

At three o'clock in the afternoon, the Speaker called the House to order.

## Devotional Exercises

Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. Dr. Walter Brownridge of Christ the Episcopal Church, Montpelier.

## Message from the Governor

A message was received from His Excellency, the Governor, by Ms. Jaye Pershing Johnson, Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs, as follows:

Madam Speaker:

I am directed by the Governor to inform the House of Representatives that on the 19th day of February, 2025, he signed a bill originating in the House of the following title:

**H. 35 An act relating to unmerging the individual and small group health insurance markets**

## 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. 286

By Reps. Masland of Thetford and Mrowicki of Putney,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to drinking water standards for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances

To the Committee on Environment.

### H. 287

By Reps. Hooper of Burlington, Bosch of Clarendon, Coffin of Cavendish, Dobrovich of Williamstown, Gregoire of Fairfield, Harrison of Chittenden, Hooper of Randolph, Morgan, M. of Milton, Morrissey of Bennington, Mrowicki of Putney, Page of Newport City, Pinsonault of Dorset, and Winter of Ludlow,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to a consortium on nuclear power feasibility

To the Committee on Energy and Digital Infrastructure.

**H. 288**

By Reps. Hooper of Burlington, Birong of Vergennes, Bosch of Clarendon, Boyden of Cambridge, Burt of Cabot, Casey of Montpelier, Coffin of Cavendish, Dobrovich of Williamstown, Gregoire of Fairfield, Hooper of Randolph, Morgan, M. of Milton, Morrissey of Bennington, Mrowicki of Putney, Ode of Burlington, Page of Newport City, Pinsonault of Dorset, and Winter of Ludlow,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to reduced motor vehicle registration fees for veterans

To the Committee on Transportation.

**H. 289**

By Reps. McCoy of Poultney, Harrison of Chittenden, Bailey of Hyde Park, Howland of Rutland Town, and Southworth of Walden,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to affordable climate initiatives

To the Committee on Energy and Digital Infrastructure.

**H. 290**

By Rep. Krasnow of South Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the State Employees Labor Relations Act

To the Committee on General and Housing.

**H. 291**

By Reps. Masland of Thetford, Eastes of Guilford, Kimbell of Woodstock, Mrowicki of Putney, and Olson of Starksboro,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to enrollment of posted land in the Use Value Appraisal Program

To the Committee on Agriculture, Food Resiliency, and Forestry.

**H. 292**

By Reps. Masland of Thetford, Mrowicki of Putney, and Olson of Starksboro,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the land application and sale of biosolids containing PFAS

To the Committee on Environment.

**H. 293**

By Rep. Maguire of Rutland City,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to health equity data reporting and registry disclosure requirements

To the Committee on Human Services.

**H. 294**

By Reps. Headrick of Burlington, Carris-Duncan of Whitingham, Chapin of East Montpelier, Logan of Burlington, and McCann of Montpelier,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to commissary and telecommunications prices in State correctional facilities and fair compensation for incarcerated labor

To the Committee on Corrections and Institutions.

**H. 295**

By Reps. Greer of Bennington, Nelson of Derby, Bailey of Hyde Park, Bos-Lun of Westminster, Carris-Duncan of Whitingham, Casey of Montpelier, Charlton of Chester, Coffin of Cavendish, Cooper of Pownal, Hooper of Burlington, Keyser of Rutland City, Labor of Morgan, LaMont of Morristown, Lipsky of Stowe, Logan of Burlington, Malay of Pittsford, McGill of Bridport, Minier of South Burlington, Morgan, L. of Milton, Morrow of Weston, Nielsen of Brandon, Nigro of Bennington, and Pouech of Hinesburg,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to payment of vacation leave upon separation from employment

To the Committee on General and Housing.

**H. 296**

By Reps. Birong of Vergennes, Hango of Berkshire, Minier of South Burlington, Austin of Colchester, Gregoire of Fairfield, Lalley of Shelburne, Logan of Burlington, McCann of Montpelier, McGill of Bridport, Morgan, M. of Milton, Nugent of South Burlington, Pouech of Hinesburg, and Stone of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to Vermont's adoption of the Dietician Licensure Compact  
To the Committee on Health Care.

**H. 297**

By Reps. Priestley of Bradford, Branagan of Georgia, Burke of Brattleboro, Chapin of East Montpelier, Headrick of Burlington, Howard of Rutland City, Marcotte of Coventry, McCann of Montpelier, McGill of Bridport, Mrowicki of Putney, Satcowitz of Randolph, Sweeney of Shelburne, and White of Waitsfield,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the creation of the Free Degree Promise Grant Program for the Community College of Vermont  
To the Committee on Education.

**H. 298**

By Reps. Dodge of Essex, Headrick of Burlington, Cole of Hartford, Donahue of Northfield, Logan of Burlington, McGill of Bridport, Minier of South Burlington, Olson of Starksboro, and Tomlinson of Winooski,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to restricting the Department of Corrections' cooperation with federal immigration authorities  
To the Committee on Corrections and Institutions.

**H. 299**

By Rep. Rachelson of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to prohibiting the transfer of Family Court cases to criminal court when the offender is a victim of human trafficking  
To the Committee on Judiciary.

**H. 300**

By Reps. Morgan, M. of Milton, Boyden of Cambridge, Hango of Berkshire, Hooper of Burlington, Morgan, L. of Milton, Pinsonault of Dorset, and Waters Evans of Charlotte,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to an income tax credit for emergency first responders

To the Committee on Ways and Means.

**Bill Amended; Third Reading; Bill Passed****H. 98**

House bill, entitled

An act relating to confirmatory adoptions

Was taken up and, pending third reading of the bill, **Rep. LaLonde of South Burlington** moved to amend the bill in Sec. 1, 15A V.S.A. § 1-114, by adding a new subsection (h) to read as follows:

(h) Unless notice has been waived or consent given for the adoption, a copy of the petition and notice of a proceeding under this section shall be served upon any person entitled to notice within 30 days after the petition is filed. The notice shall include the address and telephone number of the court where the petition is pending and a statement that the person served with the notice and petition shall file a written appearance in the proceeding within 20 days after service in order to participate in the proceeding and to receive further notice of the proceeding, including notice of the time and place of any hearing. Service of the notice and petition shall be made in a manner appropriate under the Vermont Rules of Probate Procedure unless the court otherwise directs. Proof of service on each person entitled to receive notice shall be on file with the court before the court acts on the petition.

and by redesignating the remaining subsections to be alphabetically correct.

Which was agreed to. Thereupon, the bill was read the third time and passed.

**Third Reading; Bill Passed****H. 154**

House bill, entitled

An act relating to designating November as the Vermont Month of the Veteran

Was taken up, read the third time, and passed.

**Adjournment**

At three o'clock and fourteen minutes in the afternoon, on motion of **Rep. McCoy of Poultney**, the House adjourned until tomorrow at nine o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon.