

# Journal of the House

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Friday, April 4, 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 Rep. Kevin Winter of Ludlow.

## Pages Honored

In appreciation of their many services to the members of the General Assembly, the Speaker recognized the following named Pages who completed their service today and presented them with commemorative pins:

**Skyler Barnard of Montpelier**  
**Molly Despathy of Danville**  
**Cecilia Huling of Thetford**  
**Elliot Olstad of Lincoln**  
**Mary Rogerson of Cabot**  
**Heidi Thompson of Reading**  
**Emanuel Van Fleet of Worcester**

## Bill Referred to Committee on Ways and Means

### S. 18

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to licensure of freestanding birth centers

Appearing on the Notice Calendar, and pursuant to House Rule 35(a), affecting the revenue of the State, was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

## Bill Referred to Committee on Appropriations

### S. 27

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to medical debt relief and excluding medical debt from credit reports

Appearing on the Notice Calendar, and pursuant to House Rule 35(a), carrying an appropriation, was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

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**Third Reading; Bill Passed****S. 9**

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to after-hours access to orders against sexual assault

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

**Message from the Senate No. 36**

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 Senate concurrent resolution of the following title:

**S.C.R. 4.** Senate concurrent resolution recognizing the success of the American System of Conservation Funding and commemorating the 75th anniversary of the enactment of federal sport fish restoration legislation.

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

**H.C.R. 70.** House concurrent resolution designating April 10, 2025 as Alzheimer's Awareness Day at the State House.

**H.C.R. 71.** House concurrent resolution celebrating the 40th anniversary of the first class at Landmark College and extending best wishes for continued academic success.

**H.C.R. 72.** House concurrent resolution commemorating May 9, 2025 as the 250th anniversary of Ethan Allen's arrival in Castleton in association with the War for Independence.

**H.C.R. 73.** House concurrent resolution designating April 10, 2025 as Museums and Libraries Day at the State House.

**H.C.R. 74.** House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2025 Boys & Girls Clubs of Vermont Youth of the Year honorees.

**H.C.R. 75.** House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2025 Essex High School Hornets girls' gymnastics team on winning a second consecutive State championship.

**H.C.R. 76.** House concurrent resolution honoring Robin Lunge for her dedicated public service in Vermont State government.

**H.C.R. 77.** House concurrent resolution recognizing April 2025 as Fair Housing Month in Vermont.

**H.C.R. 78.** House concurrent resolution in memory of former Representative and Secretary of Administration Kathleen C. Hoyt of Norwich.

**H.C.R. 79.** House concurrent resolution celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Vermont Arts Exchange and its collaborative artistic endeavors.

**H.C.R. 80.** House concurrent resolution honoring the Italian artist Michelangelo Pistoletto for his extraordinary creativity, collaborative artistic leadership, and nomination for the 2025 Nobel Peace Prize.

### **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 4th day of April 2025, he returned without signature and *vetoed* a bill originating in the House of Representatives of the following title:

**H. 489 An act relating to fiscal year 2025 budget adjustments**

### **Governor's Veto Letter**

“April 4, 2025

The Honorable BetsyAnn Wrask  
Clerk of the Vermont House of Representatives  
State House  
Montpelier, VT 05633

Dear Ms. Wrask:

Pursuant to Chapter II, Section 11 of the Vermont Constitution, I'm returning H.489, *An act relating to fiscal year 2025 budget adjustments*, without my signature.

It's clear, we're at an impasse on a non-budget adjustment-related policy, which has once again, been included in the latest budget adjustment bill. However, nothing prevents us from moving forward with a traditional bill, where we agree on the majority of the mid-year financial true ups.

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I'm hopeful, the Legislature will stop sending me bills they know I will veto and instead send me a clean budget adjustment bill without controversial policy, so we can move forward with the many challenges we face.

Sincerely,

Philip B. Scott  
Governor

PBS/kp”

### **Adjournment**

At nine o'clock and forty-six minutes in the forenoon, on motion of **Rep. McCoy of Poultney**, the House adjourned until Tuesday, April 8, 2025, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, pursuant to the provisions of J.R.S. 20.

### **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. 70**

House concurrent resolution designating April 10, 2025 as Alzheimer's Awareness Day at the State House

#### **H.C.R. 71**

House concurrent resolution celebrating the 40th anniversary of the first class at Landmark College and extending best wishes for continued academic success

#### **H.C.R. 72**

House concurrent resolution commemorating May 9, 2025 as the 250th anniversary of Ethan Allen's arrival in Castleton in association with the War for Independence

#### **H.C.R. 73**

House concurrent resolution designating April 10, 2025 as Museums and Libraries Day at the State House

#### **H.C.R. 74**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2025 Boys & Girls Clubs of Vermont Youth of the Year honorees

**H.C.R. 75**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2025 Essex High School Hornets girls' gymnastics team on winning a second consecutive State championship

**H.C.R. 76**

House concurrent resolution honoring Robin Lunge for her dedicated public service in Vermont State government

**H.C.R. 77**

House concurrent resolution recognizing April 2025 as Fair Housing Month in Vermont

**H.C.R. 78**

House concurrent resolution in memory of former Representative and Secretary of Administration Kathleen C. Hoyt of Norwich

**H.C.R. 79**

House concurrent resolution celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Vermont Arts Exchange and its collaborative artistic endeavors

**H.C.R. 80**

House concurrent resolution honoring the Italian artist Michelangelo Pistoletto for his extraordinary creativity, collaborative artistic leadership, and nomination for the 2025 Nobel Peace Prize

**S.C.R. 4**

Senate concurrent resolution recognizing the success of the American System of Conservation Funding and commemorating the 75th anniversary of the enactment of federal sport fish restoration legislation

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