

Journal of the House

Thursday, June 5, 2025

At nine o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon, **Rep. Casey of Montpelier** called the House to order. Noting a lack of quorum and pursuant to House Rule 9, the House adjourned until Friday, June 6, 2025 at nine o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon.

Message from the Governor

A message was received from His Excellency, the Governor, by Mr. Jason G. Gibbs, 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 5th day of June, 2025, he signed bills originating in the House of the following titles:

- H. 105 An act relating to expanding the Youth Substance Awareness Safety Program**
- H. 222 An act relating to civil orders of protection**
- H. 231 An act relating to technical corrections to fish and wildlife statutes**
- H. 458 An act relating to the Agency of Digital Services**
- H. 482 An act relating to Green Mountain Care Board authority to adjust a hospital's reimbursement rates and to appoint a hospital observer**
- H. 504 An act relating to approval of amendments to the charter of the City of Rutland**

Message from the Governor

A message was received from His Excellency, the Governor, by Mr. Jason G. Gibbs, 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 5th day of June, 2025, he *allowed to become law without his signature* a bill originating in the House of the following title:

**H. 1 An act relating to accepting and referring complaints by the
State Ethics Commission**

Governor's Letter

June 5, 2025

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

Dear Ms. Wrask:

Pursuant to the Vermont Constitution, I'm allowing H.1, *An act relating to accepting and referring complaints by the State Ethics Commission*, to become law without my signature.

Just last year, in a rare area of consensus in that session, the Legislature agreed to enhance accountability and transparency in State ethics laws, including applying these higher standards to its own branch.

Among the many changes in H.1, it's my belief this bill softens the Legislature's commitment to the statutory State Code of Ethics. I'm concerned about how this change will be viewed by Vermonters, who want their state government to set a high standard for the conduct of its officials and the transparency with which issues are addressed.

Nevertheless, considering the balance of the bill and remaining ethical requirements, it does not rise to the level of a veto.

For these reasons, I'm allowing H.1 to become law without my signature and urge the Legislature to take another look at this in the next session. In the meantime, the Executive Branch will continue to adhere to the standards applied to it by both our laws, as well as the self-imposed higher standards of my executive order on this matter.

Sincerely,

Philip B. Scott
Governor
PBS/kp