

Journal of the House

Tuesday, February 10, 2026

At ten o'clock in the forenoon, the Speaker called the House to order.

Devotional Exercises

Devotional exercises were conducted by Rep. Ken Wells of Brownington.

Pledge of Allegiance

Page Brogan Malay of Pittsford led the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Message from the Senate No. 14

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 joint resolution of the following title:

J.R.S. 40. Joint resolution relating to weekend adjournment on February 13, 2026.

In the adoption of which the concurrence of the House is requested.

House Bills Introduced

House bills of the following titles were severally introduced, read the first time, and referred to committee as follows:

H. 891

By Rep. Burrows of West Windsor,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to amending the definition of harassment in Title 16

To the Committee on Education.

H. 892

By Rep. Burrows of West Windsor,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to school attendance requirements

To the Committee on Education.

H. 893

By Rep. Boutin of Barre City,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to creating the municipal emergency shelter program and reimbursing municipal corporations for costs associated with emergency housing programs

To the Committee on Human Services.

H. 894

By Reps. Page of Newport City and Labor of Morgan,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to prohibiting the use of snowmobiles on the Beebe Spur Rail Trail

To the Committee on Transportation.

H. 895

By Reps. Tomlinson of Winooski, Berbeco of Winooski, Burke of Brattleboro, Cina of Burlington, Cole of Hartford, Critchlow of Colchester, Dodge of Essex, Headrick of Burlington, LaMont of Morristown, McGill of Bridport, and Rachelson of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to secondary enforcement of certain motor vehicle violations

To the Committee on Judiciary.

Bill Referred to Committee on Ways and Means**H. 566**

House bill, entitled

An act relating to sealing post-charge court diversion records upon successful completion

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.

Ceremonial Reading**H.C.R. 166**

Offered by Representatives Page of Newport City, Arsenault of Williston, Bailey of Hyde Park, Bishop of Colchester, Campbell of St. Johnsbury, Cina of Burlington, Galfetti of Barre Town, Hango of Berkshire, Harple of Glover, Higley of Lowell, Holcombe of Norwich, Kascenska of Burke, Keyser of Rutland City, Kleppner of Burlington, Labor of Morgan, Marcotte of Coventry, McFaun of Barre Town, Morris of Springfield, Nelson of Derby, Ode of Burlington, Oliver of Sheldon, Olson of Starksboro, Pinsonault of Dorset, Pouech of Hinesburg, Sibilia of Dover, Sweeney of Shelburne, Tagliavia of Corinth, Walker of Swanton, and Wells of Brownington

Offered by Senators Ingalls and Morley

House concurrent resolution congratulating The Pick and Shovel in Newport City on its golden anniversary

Whereas, in 1975, the Hamblett family established The Pick and Shovel, an amazing retail emporium, in a complex of interconnected downtown Newport City buildings where it had owned businesses for generations, and

Whereas, since opening day, The Pick and Shovel has been home to an unparalleled shopping experience, and the store proudly proclaims that “if we don’t have it you don’t need it,” and

Whereas, this retailer’s imposing configuration, a maze of lengthy corridors and adjacent sales spaces, can require employees to guide customers to their desired destinations, and

Whereas, the unbelievable scope of the inventory includes apparel (including a broad selection of footwear), small and large appliances, building supplies, farm merchandise, hardware, heating equipment, home care and decor products, a kids’ section filled with toys, lawn accessories, maple sugaring components, unusual pets and pet merchandise, and patio and pool furniture, and The Pick and Shovel also offers a variety of in-house consumer services, and

Whereas, among the food products on sale at The Pick and Shovel are specially packaged maple syrup, Tim and Doug’s delicious ice cream served on-site seasonally, and sundry other delectable munchies, and

Whereas, the collection of Vermont swag for sale fulfills the dreams of the most discerning gift and souvenir hunters, and

Whereas, the Hamblett family and their employees can take great pride in The Pick and Shovel's half-century of extraordinary retailing, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates The Pick and Shovel in Newport City on its golden anniversary, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to The Pick and Shovel.

Having been adopted in concurrence on Friday, January 16, 2026 in accord with Joint Rule 16b, was read.

**Committee Relieved of Consideration and Bill Committed to
Other Committee**

H. 403

Rep. Mihaly of Calais moved that the Committee on General and Housing be relieved of House bill, entitled

An act relating to fair labor standards and housing standards for agricultural workers

And that the bill be committed to the Committee on Agriculture, Food Resiliency, and Forestry, which was agreed to.

Third Reading; Bill Passed

H. 611

House bill, entitled

An act relating to miscellaneous provisions affecting the Department of Vermont Health Access

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

Adjournment

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