

Journal of the House

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

At one o'clock in the afternoon, **Rep. Houghton of Essex Junction** called the House to order.

Devotional Exercises

A moment of silence was observed in lieu of a devotional.

House Bill Introduced

H. 957

By Reps. Burkhardt of South Burlington, Arsenault of Williston, and Brady of Williston,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to approval of amendments to the charter of the Town of Williston

Was read the first time and referred to the Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs.

Bill Referred to Committee on Ways and Means

S. 255

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to establishing a pilot Law Enforcement Governance Council in Windham County

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

Rules Suspended, Immediate Consideration; Bill Committed

S. 198

On motion of **Rep. Marcotte of Coventry**, the rules were suspended and Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to the regulation of tobacco products and tobacco substitutes

Pending entry on the Notice Calendar, was taken up for immediate consideration and committed to the Committee on Human Services.

Joint Senate Resolution Adopted in Concurrence**J.R.S. 49**

By Senator Baruth,

J.R.S. 49. Joint resolution relating to weekend adjournment on April 17, 2026.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That when the two Houses adjourn on Friday, April 17, 2026, it be to meet again no later than Tuesday, April 21, 2026.

Was taken up, read, and adopted in concurrence.

**Amendment Offered; Recess; Third Reading;
Bill Passed in Concurrence****S. 218**

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to reducing chloride contamination of State waters

Was taken up and, pending third reading of the bill, **Reps. Boutin of Barre City, Priestley of Bradford, Galfetti of Barre Town, and Soucy of Barre Town** moved that the House propose to the Senate that the bill be amended in Sec. 4, municipal salt applicators; Vermont Local Roads curriculum; affirmative defense, by inserting a new subsection to be subsection (f) to read as follows:

(f) If a municipal salt applicator or municipality does not qualify for the affirmative defense to liability under subsection (b) of this section, a claim against the municipal salt applicator or municipality for injury to persons or property or loss of life caused by the negligent or wrongful act or omission of the municipal salt applicator while acting within the scope of employment shall be treated in the same manner and to the same extent as if the claim was brought against an employee of the State under the Tort Claims Against the State Act in 12 V.S.A. chapter 189.

At one o'clock and twenty-two minutes in the afternoon, the Chair declared a recess until the fall of the gavel.

At one o'clock and forty-six minutes in the afternoon, the Chair called the House to order.

Thereupon, the question, Shall the House propose to the Senate to amend the bill as offered by Rep. Boutin of Barre City and others?, was disagreed to.

Thereafter, the bill was read a third time.

Pending the question, Shall the bill pass in concurrence?, **Rep. McCoy of Poultney** demanded the Yeas and Nays, which demand was sustained by the Constitutional number. The Clerk proceeded to call the roll and the question, Shall the bill pass in concurrence?, was decided in the affirmative. Yeas, 85. Nays, 54.

Those who voted in the affirmative are:

Arsenault of Williston	Emmons of Springfield	Minier of South Burlington
Austin of Colchester	Garofano of Essex	Morris of Springfield
Bartholomew of Hartland	Goldman of Rockingham	Morrow of Weston
Berbeco of Winooski	Goodnow of Brattleboro	Mrowicki of Putney
Birong of Vergennes	Graning of Jericho	Noyes of Wolcott
Bishop of Colchester	Greer of Bennington	Nugent of South Burlington
Black of Essex	Harple of Glover	O'Brien of Tunbridge
Bluemle of Burlington	Headrick of Burlington	Ode of Burlington
Bos-Lun of Westminster	Holcombe of Norwich	Olson of Starksboro
Boyden of Cambridge	Hooper of Randolph	Pezzo of Colchester
Brady of Williston	Howard of Rutland City	Pouech of Hinesburg
Brown of Richmond	Hoyt of Hartford	Priestley of Bradford
Burke of Brattleboro	Hunter of Manchester	Rachelson of Burlington
Burkhardt of South Burlington	James of Manchester	Satcowitz of Randolph
Campbell of St. Johnsbury	Kimbell of Woodstock	Scheu of Middlebury
Carris Duncan of Whitingham	Kleppner of Burlington	Sheldon of Middlebury
Casey of Montpelier	Kornheiser of Brattleboro	Sibilia of Dover
Chapin of East Montpelier	Krasnow of South Burlington	Squirrell of Underhill
Cole of Hartford	Lalley of Shelburne	Stevens of Waterbury
Conlon of Cornwall	LaLonde of South Burlington	Stone of Burlington
Cooper of Pownal	LaMont of Morristown	Sweeney of Shelburne
Corcoran of Bennington	Logan of Burlington *	Tomlinson of Winooski
Critchlow of Colchester	Long of Newfane	Torre of Moretown
Dodge of Essex	Lueders of Lincoln	Waszazak of Barre City
Dolan of Essex Junction	Masland of Thetford	Waters Evans of Charlotte
Duke of Burlington	McCann of Montpelier	White of Waitsfield
Durfee of Shaftsbury	McGill of Bridport	White of Bethel
Eastes of Guilford	Mihaly of Calais	Wood of Waterbury
		Yacovone of Morristown

Those who voted in the negative are:

Bailey of Hyde Park	Gregoire of Fairfield	Morrissey of Bennington
Bartley of Fairfax	Hango of Berkshire	Nelson of Derby
Bosch of Clarendon	Harvey of Castleton	North of Ferrisburgh
Boutin of Barre City	Higley of Lowell	Oliver of Sheldon
Branagan of Georgia	Howland of Rutland Town	Page of Newport City
Brigham of St. Albans Town	Kascenska of Burke	Pinsonault of Dorset
Burditt of West Rutland	Keyser of Rutland City	Powers of Waterford
Burt of Cabot	Labor of Morgan	Pritchard of Pawlet
Canfield of Fair Haven	Laroche of Franklin	Quimby of Lyndon

Casey of Hubbardton	Lipsky of Stowe	Soucy of Barre Town
Charlton of Chester	Long of Milton	Southworth of Walden
Coffin of Cavendish	Luneau of St. Albans City	Steady of Milton
Demar of Enosburgh	Maguire of Rutland City	Tagliavia of Corinth
Dickinson of St. Albans Town	Malay of Pittsford	Taylor of Mendon
Dolgin of St. Johnsbury	Marcotte of Coventry	Walker of Swanton
Feltus of Lyndon	McCoy of Poultney	Wells of Brownington
Galfetti of Barre Town	Micklus of Milton	Winter of Ludlow
Goslant of Northfield	Morgan, L. of Milton	
	Morgan, M. of Milton	

Those members absent with leave of the House and not voting are:

Burrows of West Windsor	Dobrovich of Williamstown	Nielsen of Brandon
Christie of Hartford	Donahue of Northfield	Nigro of Bennington
Cina of Burlington	Krowinski of Burlington	Parsons of Newbury

Rep. Logan of Burlington provided the following vote explanation:

“Madam Speaker:

As the saying goes, ‘An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.’ I support voluntary salt application education that provides a low-cost preventive solution for what will down the road become a much larger and more costly harm to our State’s waters.”

**Third Reading;
Bill Passed in Concurrence with Proposal of Amendment**

S. 163

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to the role of advanced practice registered nurses in hospital care

Was taken up, read the third time, and passed in concurrence with proposal of amendment.

Action on Bill Postponed

H. 237

House bill, entitled

An act relating to prescribing by doctoral-level psychologists

Was taken up and, pending consideration of the Senate proposal of amendment, on motion of **Rep. Black of Essex**, action on the bill was postponed one legislative day.

Adjournment

At two o'clock and four minutes in the afternoon, on motion of **Rep. McCoy of Poultney**, the House adjourned until tomorrow at one o'clock in the afternoon.