

# Journal of the House

Friday, May 1, 2026

At nine o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon, **Rep. Houghton of Essex Junction** called the House to order.

## Devotional Exercises

Devotional exercises were conducted by Rep. Emilie Krasnow of South Burlington.

## Memorial Service

House members rose as the Chair placed before the House the following name of a member of past sessions of the Vermont General Assembly who had passed away recently:

Rep. Almon Woodward of Fairfax

Member of the House,  
Sessions 1981-1990

Thereupon, the members of the House held a moment of silence in memory of the deceased member.

## Bill Referred to Committee on Appropriations

### S. 325

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to regional planning and Act 250 Tier jurisdiction

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

## Ceremonial Readings

### H.C.R. 269

Offered by Representatives Coffin of Cavendish and Kimbell of Woodstock

Offered by Senator Major

House concurrent resolution congratulating Brody Allen of Reading on completing the NRA Marksmanship Qualification Program and earning the Distinguished Smallbore Rifleman Award

*Whereas*, annually, starting in December and continuing into April, the Precision Valley Fish and Game Association (PVFGA) in Perkinsville conducts training sessions under the auspices of the National Rifle Association

(NRA) Marksmanship Qualification Program, in which participants can achieve marksmanship proficiency awards, and

*Whereas*, the recognition levels start with Pro-Marksman and advance upwards to Marksman; Marksman First Class; Sharpshooter; Expert; and, ultimately, the most advanced designation, Distinguished Expert, and

*Whereas*, as the enrollee proceeds up the ranks, the accuracy and sophistication required becomes increasingly rigorous, with only prone shooting and a lower threshold score required for the Pro-Marksman, Marksman, and Marksman First Class designations, and

*Whereas*, to qualify for the Distinguished Expert designation, the by-now highly competent marksman has typically earned all the prior designations and must successfully complete two shooting regimens, one entailing prone and sitting shooting, scoring a minimum of 18 points, and a second kneeling and off-hand shooting, aiming at a five-bullseye target, directing two shots at each of the five bulls, and tallying a minimum of 16 points, and

*Whereas*, Brody Allen of Reading began this challenging NRA program in 2018, and on April 4, 2026, at the monthly meeting of the PVFGA, this accomplished young man of only 17 years of age was awarded the coveted Distinguished Expert designation, honoring him for his completion of this challenging marksmanship program, *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That the General Assembly congratulates Brody Allen of Reading on completing the NRA Marksmanship Qualification Program and earning the Distinguished Smallbore Rifleman Award, *and be it further*

***Resolved:*** That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Brody Allen and PVFGA.

Having been adopted in concurrence on Friday, April 24, 2026 in accord with Joint Rule 16b, was read.

**H.C.R. 270**

Offered by Representative Lipsky of Stowe

Offered by Senators Westman, Cummings, Perchlik, and Watson

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2026 Stowe High School Division II championship boys' Nordic ski team

*Whereas*, three words, Stowe High School, are the best description of the 2026 Vermont Principals' Association's boys' Nordic skiing championship tournament, conducted this past winter over two days at the Rikert Outdoor

Center in Ripton, for the freestyle or skate competition, and concluding with a day of classic racing at the Craftsbury Outdoor Center, and

*Whereas*, although the skiers competed for separate Division I and Division II honors, the boys from Stowe High School skied as if only one title was at stake, amazingly clinching first place among all skiers at both locations in the individual and relay races, a truly unusual feat of athletic prowess and skill, and

*Whereas*, in the Division II overall boys' scoring (reflecting that in Nordic skiing the lower score represents the superior performance) Stowe's 71 points far outdistanced second-place Peoples Academy, which tallied 145 points, and

*Whereas*, the deservedly proud Stowe boys' Nordic skiers were Heath Colbert-Lourie, Nico DeLena, Chris Graupe, Hawkley Mitchell, Dean Roy, Travis Roy, James Rozendaal, Paul Slesar, Henry Sterner, Soren Wilkens, and Charles Zimmerman, and

*Whereas*, first-year Head Coach Ethan Self began his new role in grand style and with great promise for the future, and

*Whereas*, an added bonus for four of the Stowe boys was their selection as members of the Vermont team at the 2026 NENSA Eastern High School Championships, skied at Gore Mountain Nordic Center in North Creek, New York, *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2026 Stowe High School Division II championship boys' Nordic ski team, *and be it further*

***Resolved:*** That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Stowe High School.

Having been adopted in concurrence on Friday, April 24, 2026 in accord with Joint Rule 16b, was read.

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

**S. 327**

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to economic development

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

**Message from the Senate No. 52**

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 considered bills originating in the House of the following titles:

**H. 46.** An act relating to the Rare Disease Advisory Council.

**H. 582.** An act relating to adult protective services.

**H. 778.** An act relating to dam safety.

**H. 949.** An act relating to homestead property tax yields, the nonhomestead property tax rate, and technical changes to education finance.

And has passed the same in concurrence with proposals of amendment in the adoption of which the concurrence of the House is requested.

Pursuant to the request of the House for a Committee of Conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on House bill entitled:

**H. 951.** An act relating to making appropriations for the support of the government.

The President announced the appointment as members of such Committee on the part of the Senate:

Senator Perchlik  
Senator Lyons  
Senator Westman

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

**H.C.R. 271.** House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2026 Colchester High School State championship debate team.

**H.C.R. 272.** House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2026 Mount Mansfield Union High School Cougars dance team on winning the school's eighth State jazz and 18th overall State dancing championship.

**H.C.R. 273.** House concurrent resolution recognizing May 2026 as National Tennis Month in Vermont.

**H.C.R. 274.** House concurrent resolution congratulating Mount Mansfield Union High School Cougar Bea Molson on winning her second girls' individual State tennis championship.

**H.C.R. 275.** House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2025 Mt. Mansfield Union High School Cougars on winning a third consecutive Division II girls' tennis championship.

**H.C.R. 276.** House concurrent resolution honoring the brave Vermont Vietnam War veterans who were exposed to Agent Orange and recognizing the important initiative of the Orange Heart Medal Foundation, Inc. to honor their military service.

**H.C.R. 277.** House concurrent resolution thanking Pieter Van Schaik for his special land donation to the Albert C. Lord State Forest in Cavendish.

**H.C.R. 278.** House concurrent resolution congratulating the Vergennes Fire Department on its 150th anniversary.

**H.C.R. 279.** House concurrent resolution honoring General Assembly Head Doorkeeper Michael C. Wiater and his wife, Sergeant at Arms Administrative Assistant Donna Wiater, for their dedicated State public service and extending future best wishes.

**H.C.R. 280.** House concurrent resolution congratulating Northshire Bookstore on 50 years of outstanding literary merchandising and promotion.

**H.C.R. 281.** House concurrent resolution in memory of former Representative and Moretown and Brandon Selectboard member Stephen Andrew Carr.

**H.C.R. 282.** House concurrent resolution honoring General Assembly Doorkeeper Dennis Miles for his superb dedication to serving the General Assembly and all Vermonters.

**H.C.R. 283.** Senate concurrent resolution recognizing May 6, 2026, as Vermont Golf Day.

### **Adjournment**

At nine o'clock and fifty-six minutes in the forenoon, on motion of **Rep. McCoy of Poultney**, the House adjourned until Tuesday, May 5, 2026, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, pursuant to the provisions of J.R.S. 51.

**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. 271**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2026 Colchester High School State championship debate team

**H.C.R. 272**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2026 Mount Mansfield Union High School Cougars dance team on winning the school's eighth State jazz and 18th overall State dancing championship

**H.C.R. 273**

House concurrent resolution recognizing May 2026 as National Tennis Month in Vermont

**H.C.R. 274**

House concurrent resolution congratulating Mount Mansfield Union High School Cougar Bea Molson on winning her second girls' individual State tennis championship

**H.C.R. 275**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2025 Mt. Mansfield Union High School Cougars on winning a third consecutive Division II girls' tennis championship

**H.C.R. 276**

House concurrent resolution honoring the brave Vermont Vietnam War veterans who were exposed to Agent Orange and recognizing the important initiative of the Orange Heart Medal Foundation, Inc. to honor their military service

**H.C.R. 277**

House concurrent resolution thanking Pieter Van Schaik for his special land donation to the Albert C. Lord State Forest in Cavendish

**H.C.R. 278**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Vergennes Fire Department on its 150th anniversary

**H.C.R. 279**

House concurrent resolution honoring General Assembly Head Doorkeeper Michael C. Wiater and his wife, Sergeant at Arms Administrative Assistant Donna Wiater, for their dedicated State public service and extending future best wishes

**H.C.R. 280**

House concurrent resolution congratulating Northshire Bookstore on 50 years of outstanding literary merchandising and promotion

**H.C.R. 281**

House concurrent resolution in memory of former Representative and Moretown and Brandon Selectboard member Stephen Andrew Carr

**H.C.R. 282**

House concurrent resolution honoring General Assembly Doorkeeper Dennis Miles for his superb dedication to serving the General Assembly and all Vermonters

**H.C.R. 283**

Senate concurrent resolution recognizing May 6, 2026, as Vermont Golf Day

[The full text of the concurrent resolutions appeared in the House Calendar Addendum on the preceding legislative day and will appear in the Public Acts and Resolves of the 2026 Adjourned Session.]