

Journal of the House

Monday, May 18, 2026

At eleven o'clock in the forenoon, **Rep. Wood of Waterbury** called the House to order. Noting a lack of quorum and pursuant to House Rule 9, the House adjourned until Tuesday, May 19, 2026 at ten o'clock in the forenoon.

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 18th day of May, 2026, he signed bills originating in the House of the following titles:

- H. 46 An act relating to the Rare Disease Advisory Council**
- H. 536 An act relating to community action agencies**
- H. 582 An act relating to adult protective services**
- H. 814 An act relating to neurological rights and the use of
artificial intelligence technology in health and human
services**

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 18th day of May 2026, he returned without signature and *vetoed* a bill originating in the House of Representatives of the following title:

- H. 674 An act relating to the creation of the Vermont
Sister State Program**

Governor's Veto Letter

“May 18, 2026

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 unsigned and without my approval, in the time permitted by the Constitution, H.674, *An act relating to the creation of the Vermont Sister State Program*.

This bill would create a 9-person Sister State Program Committee, allocate significant authority to the Committee for choosing Sister State applicants for recommendation to the Governor, and would have sole authority to terminate partnerships with a simple majority vote of those present at a meeting.

Chapter II, Section 20 of the Vermont Constitution provides: “The Governor is to correspond with other states, [and] transact business with officers of government, civil and military...” The Committee's sole authority to terminate partnerships in the bill becomes Constitutionally impermissible as it usurps the Governor's express Constitutional authority to transact business with officers of government.

I understand the value of these partnerships and could support a bill provided it removes the termination provision while keeping the remaining sections.

Sincerely,

Philip B. Scott

Governor

PBS/kp”