

Journal of the Senate

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2025

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Devotional Exercises

Devotional exercises were conducted by the Reverend Rick Swanson of Stowe.

Message from the House No. 18

A message was received from the House of Representatives by Ms. Courtney Reckord, its Second Assistant Clerk, as follows:

Mr. President:

I am directed to inform the Senate that:

The House has considered joint resolution originating in the Senate of the following title:

J.R.S. 11. Joint resolution relating to weekend adjournment on February 14, 2025.

And has adopted the same in concurrence.

Message from the House No. 19

A message was received from the House of Representatives by Ms. Courtney Reckord, its Second Assistant Clerk, as follows:

Mr. President:

I am directed to inform the Senate that:

The House has passed a House bill of the following title:

H. 41. An act relating to abuse of the dead body of a person.

In the passage of which the concurrence of the Senate is requested.

The House has considered joint resolutions originating in the Senate of the following titles:

J.R.S. 12. Joint resolution providing for the election of a Sergeant at Arms, and three trustees of the University of Vermont and State Agricultural College.

J.R.S. 13. Joint resolution establishing a procedure for the conduct of the election of the University of Vermont and State Agricultural College trustees by plurality vote by the General Assembly in 2025.

And has adopted the same in concurrence.

The House has adopted House concurrent resolutions of the following titles:

H.C.R. 28. House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2024 Bellows Free Academy-Fairfax High School Bullets Division III championship baseball team.

H.C.R. 29. House concurrent resolution congratulating Montgomery runner Elinor Purrier St. Pierre on her outstanding athletic achievement at the 2024 Paris Olympics.

H.C.R. 30. House concurrent resolution in memory of former Representative, House Republican Leader, and Milton Town Manager Donald H. Turner Jr..

H.C.R. 31. House concurrent resolution in memory of former University of Vermont associate professor, poet, and community leader Mary Jane Dickerson.

H.C.R. 32. House concurrent resolution honoring former Killington Town Clerk and Treasurer Lucrecia Wonsor for her insightful municipal government leadership.

H.C.R. 33. House concurrent resolution honoring criminal defense and personal injury attorney and Thetford Academy indoor track coach Charles Buttrey of Thetford.

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

The House has considered concurrent resolution originating in the Senate of the following title:

S.C.R. 2. Senate concurrent resolution honoring the Vermont Old Cemetery Association..

And has adopted the same in concurrence.

Pages Honored

In appreciation of their many services to the members of the General Assembly, the President recognized the following-named pages who are completing their services today and presented them with letters of appreciation.

Peter Burkholder of Barnard
Salvador Doyle of Montpelier
Lucy Hakim of Shelburne
Daphne Krohn of South Burlington
Dean Roy of Stowe
Hayley Sherman of East Montpelier
Henry Smith of Shelburne

Committee Relieved of Further Consideration; Bill Committed

S. 64.

On motion of Senator Lyons, the Committee on Health and Welfare was relieved of further consideration of Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to amendments to the scope of practice for optometrists, and the bill was committed to the Committee on Government Operations.

Bill Referred

House bill of the following title was read the first time and referred:

H. 41.

An act relating to abuse of the dead body of a person.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

Appointment Confirmed

The following Gubernatorial appointment was confirmed by the Senate, upon a full report given by the Committee to which it was referred:

The nomination of

Johnson, Kerrick L. of Middlesex - Commissioner, Department of Public Service - January 6, 2025 to January 31, 2025.

Was confirmed by the Senate on a roll call, Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Senator Collamore having demanded the yeas and nays, they were taken and are as follows:

Roll Call

Those Senators who voted in the affirmative were: Baruth, Beck, Bongartz, Brennan, Brock, Chittenden, Clarkson, Collamore, Cummings, Douglass, Gulick, Hardy, Harrison, Hart, Hashim, Heffernan, Ingalls, Lyons, Major, Mattos, Norris, Perchlik, Plunkett, Ram Hinsdale, Vyhovsky, Watson, Weeks, Westman, White, Williams.

Those Senators who voted in the negative were: None.

Senate Concurrent Resolution

The following joint concurrent resolution, having been placed on the consent calendar on the preceding legislative day, and no Senator having requested floor consideration as provided by the Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives, was adopted on the part of the Senate:

Offered by Senators Weeks, Collamore, Williams, Baruth, Bongartz, Chittenden, Clarkson, Douglass, Gulick, Hardy, Hashim, Ingalls, Lyons, Major, Norris, Perchlik and Watson,

Offered by All Members of the House,

S.C.R. 2.

Senate concurrent resolution honoring the Vermont Old Cemetery Association.

House Concurrent Resolutions

The following joint concurrent resolutions having been placed on the consent calendar on the preceding legislative day, and no Senator having requested floor consideration as provided by the Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives, were severally adopted in concurrence:

Offered by Reps. Bartley and Branagan,

Offered by Senators Brock and Norris,

H.C.R. 28.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2024 Bellows Free Academy-Fairfax High School Bullets Division III championship baseball team.

Offered by All Members of the House,

Offered by Senators Brock and Norris,

H.C.R. 29.

House concurrent resolution congratulating Montgomery runner Elinor Purrier St. Pierre on her outstanding athletic achievement at the 2024 Paris Olympics.

Offered by All Members of the House,

Offered by All Members of the Senate,

H.C.R. 30.

House concurrent resolution in memory of former Representative, House Republican Leader, and Milton Town Manager Donald H. Turner Jr.

Offered by Reps. Graning and Squirrell,

H.C.R. 31.

House concurrent resolution in memory of former University of Vermont associate professor, poet, and community leader Mary Jane Dickerson.

Offered by Rep. Harrison,

Offered by Senators Collamore, Weeks and Williams,

H.C.R. 32.

House concurrent resolution honoring former Killington Town Clerk and Treasurer Lucrecia Wonsor for her insightful municipal government leadership.

Offered by Reps. Masland and Holcombe,

H.C.R. 33.

House concurrent resolution honoring criminal defense and personal injury attorney and Thetford Academy indoor track coach Charles Buttrey of Thetford.

Adjournment

On motion of Senator Baruth, the Senate adjourned, to reconvene on Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at nine o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon pursuant to J.R.S. 11.