

Journal of the Senate

FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 2025

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Devotional Exercises

Devotional exercises were conducted by the Reverend Christie Leary of Windsor.

Message from the House No. 39

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 adopted House concurrent resolutions of the following titles:

H.C.R. 70. House concurrent resolution designating April 10, 2025 as Alzheimer's Awareness Day at the State House.

H.C.R. 71. House concurrent resolution celebrating the 40th anniversary of the first class at Landmark College and extending best wishes for continued academic success.

H.C.R. 72. House concurrent resolution commemorating May 9, 2025 as the 250th anniversary of Ethan Allen's arrival in Castleton in association with the War for Independence.

H.C.R. 73. House concurrent resolution designating April 10, 2025 as Museums and Libraries Day at the State House.

H.C.R. 74. House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2025 Boys & Girls Clubs of Vermont Youth of the Year honorees.

H.C.R. 75. House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2025 Essex High School Hornets girls' gymnastics team on winning a second consecutive State championship.

H.C.R. 76. House concurrent resolution honoring Robin Lunge for her dedicated public service in Vermont State government.

H.C.R. 77. House concurrent resolution recognizing April 2025 as Fair Housing Month in Vermont.

H.C.R. 78. House concurrent resolution in memory of former Representative and Secretary of Administration Kathleen C. Hoyt of Norwich.

H.C.R. 79. House concurrent resolution celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Vermont Arts Exchange and its collaborative artistic endeavors.

H.C.R. 80. House concurrent resolution honoring the Italian artist Michelangelo Pistoletto for his extraordinary creativity, collaborative artistic leadership, and nomination for the 2025 Nobel Peace Prize.

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. 4. Senate concurrent resolution recognizing the success of the American System of Conservation Funding and commemorating the 75th anniversary of the enactment of federal sport fish restoration legislation.

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.

Skyler Barnard of Montpelier
Molly Despathy of Danville
Cecilia Huling of East Thetford
Elliot Olstad of Lincoln
Mary Rogerson of Cabot
Heidi Thompson of Reading
Emanuel Van Fleet of Worcester

Bill Introduced

Senate bill of the following title was introduced, read the first time and referred:

S. 144.

By Senators Vyhovsky and Gulick,

An act relating to secondary enforcement of certain motor vehicle violations.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

Bill Referred

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

H. 91. An act relating to the Vermont Homeless Emergency Assistance and Responsive Transition to Housing Program.

And pursuant to Temporary Rule 44A was referred to the Committee on Rules.

Appointments Confirmed

Under suspension of the rules (and particularly, Senate Rule 93), as moved by Senator Collamore, the following Gubernatorial appointments were confirmed together as a group by the Senate, without reports given by the Committees to which they were referred and without debate:

Atherton, David J. of Brandon, VT - Member of the Transportation Board - September 26, 2024 to February 28, 2027.

Cleveland, Richard of Northfield - Member of the Travel Information Council - April 9, 2024 to February 28, 2026.

Deimling, Beth of Grand Isle - Member of the Fish and Wildlife Board - August 30, 2024 to February 28, 2030.

Hook, Linda of Brunswick - Member of the Fish and Wildlife Board - August 30, 2024 to February 28, 2030.

Kennett, Elizabeth of Rochester - Member of the Travel Information Council - April 9, 2024 to February 28, 2026.

Miller, Marilyn of Montpelier - Member of the Transportation Board - May 15, 2024 to February 28, 2026.

Pudvar, Tim of Shelburne - Member of the Transportation Board - June 27, 2024 to February 28, 2027.

Shatney, Mandy of Barre - Member of the Travel Information Council - April 9, 2024 to February 28, 2025.

Sultan, Kirsten A. of Lyndonville - Member of the Land Use Review Board - January 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Appointments Confirmed

The following Gubernatorial appointments were confirmed separately by the Senate, upon full reports given by the Committees to which they were referred:

The nomination of

Collier, Andrew of Westford - Commissioner, Department of Motor Vehicles - December 9, 2024 to February 28, 2027.

Was confirmed by the Senate on a roll call, Yeas 28, 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, Ingalls, Lyons, Major, Mattos, Norris, Perchlik, Plunkett, Ram Hinsdale, Vyhovsky, Watson, Weeks, Westman, White.

Those Senators who voted in the negative were: None.

Those Senators absent and not voting were: Heffernan, Williams.

The nomination of

Flynn, Joseph of South Hero - Secretary, Agency of Transportation- March 1, 2025 to February 28, 2027.

Was confirmed by the Senate on a roll call, Yeas 28, 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, Ingalls, Lyons, Major, Mattos, Norris, Perchlik, Plunkett, Ram Hinsdale, Vyhovsky, Watson, Weeks, Westman, White.

Those Senators who voted in the negative were: None.

Those Senators absent and not voting were: Heffernan, Williams.

The nomination of

Morrison, Jennifer of North Hero - Commissioner, Department of Public Safety - March 1, 2025 to February 28, 2027.

Was confirmed by the Senate on a roll call, Yeas 28, Nays 0.

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, Ingalls, Lyons, Major, Mattos, Norris, Perchlik, Plunkett, Ram Hinsdale, Vyhovsky, Watson, Weeks, Westman, White.

Those Senators who voted in the negative were: None.

Those Senators absent and not voting were: Heffernan, Williams.

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 Brennan, Beck, Collamore, Mattos, Norris, Perchlik, Weeks, Westman and Williams,

Offered by Reps. Austin and others,

S.C.R. 4.

Senate concurrent resolution recognizing the success of the American System of Conservation Funding and commemorating the 75th anniversary of the enactment of federal sport fish restoration legislation.

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 All Members of the House,

H.C.R. 70.

House concurrent resolution designating April 10, 2025 as Alzheimer's Awareness Day at the State House.

Offered by Rep. Mrowicki,

Offered by Senators Harrison and Hashim,

H.C.R. 71.

House concurrent resolution celebrating the 40th anniversary of the first class at Landmark College and extending best wishes for continued academic success.

Offered by Rep. Harvey,

Offered by Senators Weeks, Collamore and Williams,

H.C.R. 72.

House concurrent resolution commemorating May 9, 2025 as the 250th anniversary of Ethan Allen's arrival in Castleton in association with the War for Independence.

Offered by Rep. Burke,

H.C.R. 73.

House concurrent resolution designating April 10, 2025 as Museums and Libraries Day at the State House.

Offered by All Members of the House,

H.C.R. 74.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2025 Boys & Girls Clubs of Vermont Youth of the Year honorees.

Offered by Reps. Dodge and others,

H.C.R. 75.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2025 Essex High School Hornets girls' gymnastics team on winning a second consecutive State championship.

Offered by Reps. Houghton and others,

H.C.R. 76.

House concurrent resolution honoring Robin Lunge for her dedicated public service in Vermont State government.

Offered by Reps. Stevens and others,

Offered by Senators Clarkson, Bongartz, Brock, Gulick, Hardy, Mattos, Perchlik, Ram Hinsdale, Watson, Weeks and White,

H.C.R. 77.

House concurrent resolution recognizing April 2025 as Fair Housing Month in Vermont.

Offered by Reps. Holcombe and others,

H.C.R. 78.

House concurrent resolution in memory of former Representative and Secretary of Administration Kathleen C. Hoyt of Norwich.

Offered by Reps. Greer and others,

Offered by Sens. Bongartz and Plunkett,

H.C.R. 79.

House concurrent resolution celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Vermont Arts Exchange and its collaborative artistic endeavors.

Offered by Rep. Casey,

H.C.R. 80.

House concurrent resolution honoring the Italian artist Michelangelo Pistoletto for his extraordinary creativity, collaborative artistic leadership, and nomination for the 2025 Nobel Peace Prize.

Adjournment

On motion of Senator Baruth, the Senate adjourned, to reconvene on Tuesday, April 8, 2025, at nine o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon pursuant to J.R.S. 20.