

Journal of the Senate

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2025

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Devotional Exercises

A moment of silence was observed in lieu of devotions.

Bill Introduced

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

S. 152.

By Senators Clarkson, Harrison and Vyhovsky,

An act relating to requirements for older drivers to renew operator's licenses.

To the Committee on Transportation.

Bill Referred

Pursuant to Temporary Rule 44A, the following bill having failed to meet crossover and having been granted an exception by the Committee on Rules, was read the first time and referred as follows:

H. 454.

An act relating to transforming Vermont's education governance, quality, and finance systems.

To the Committee on Education.

Bill Passed in Concurrence with Proposal of Amendment

H. 10.

House bill of the following title was read the third time and passed in concurrence with proposal of amendment:

An act relating to approval of amendments to the charter of the City of Barre.

Third Reading Ordered**H. 118.**

Senator Vyhovsky, for the Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred House bill entitled:

An act relating to expanding the scope of hate-motivated crimes.

Reported that the bill ought to pass in concurrence.

Thereupon, the bill was read the second time by title only pursuant to Rule 43, and third reading of the bill was ordered.

Point of Privilege Journalized

During announcements, on a point of personal privilege, Senator Gulick addressed the Chair, and on motion of Senator Vyhovsky, her remarks were entered into the Journal, and are as follows:

“I rise with an announcement, following in the footsteps of my colleague from Windsor yesterday.

“Many are feeling helpless right now, not knowing what to do in the face of a cruel and toxic President and administration. We senators can certainly do what is within the scope of the legislature; we can draft policy, write resolutions and pass bills that at least attempt to improve the lives of Vermonters. But we can also use this position of privilege to speak up, and not sit quietly while the President of the United States and his people trigger a constitutional crisis and cause great moral and economic harm to our state. Crippling tariffs, draining of beloved institutions, mass firings, tax cuts for the wealthy and most terrifying, the unlawful abduction of Vermonters.

“So I invite my Senate colleagues, one on each day until the end of session, to stand and speak in defiance of the President and his administration. And I leave you with these lines from the 5th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution: 'No person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of the law.'”

Message from the House No. 44

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. 293. An act relating to health equity data reporting and registry disclosure requirements.

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

The House has considered Senate proposal of amendment to the following House bill:

H. 80. An act relating to the Office of the Health Care Advocate.

And has concurred therein.

The Governor has informed the House that on April 15, 2025, he approved and signed a bill originating in the House of the following title:

H. 154. An act relating to designating November as the Vermont Month of the Veteran.

Adjournment

On motion of Senator Baruth, the Senate adjourned until one o'clock in the afternoon on Thursday, April 17, 2025.