

# Journal of the Senate

FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2026

The Senate was called to order by the President.

## Devotional Exercises

A moment of silence was observed in lieu of devotions.

## Message from the House No. 41

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 House bills of the following titles:

**H. 657.** An act relating to various programming and requirements within the Department for Children and Families.

**H. 941.** An act relating to municipal regulation of agriculture.

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

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

**J.R.S. 47.** Joint resolution relating to weekend adjournment on April 3, 2026.

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.

Scarlett Bedford of Sharon  
Finch Heilenbach of Charlotte  
Madeline Howard of Montpelier  
James Laughlin of Barre City  
Ella Morrison of Barre Town  
Evie Scott of Northfield  
Addison Towne of Morrisville

**Bill Referred to Committee on Finance****H. 519.**

House bill of the following title, appearing on the Calendar for notice, and affecting the revenue of the state, under the rule was referred to the Committee on Finance:

An act relating to Vermont State Employees' Retirement System Group G membership.

**Bills Referred**

House bills of the following titles were read the first time and referred:

**H. 657.**

An act relating to various programming and requirements within the Department for Children and Families.

To the Committee on Health and Welfare.

**H. 941.**

An act relating to municipal regulation of agriculture.

To the Committee on Government Operations.

**Bills Passed in Concurrence**

House bills of the following titles were read the third time and passed in concurrence:

**H. 84.** An act relating to allowing telehealth appointments to be recorded with patient and provider consent.

**H. 540.** An act relating to the recommendations of the Post-Adjudication Reparative Program Working Group.

**Appointment Confirmed**

Under suspension of the rules (and particularly, Senate Rule 93), as moved by Senator Collamore, the following Gubernatorial appointment was confirmed by the Senate, without report given by the Committee to which it was referred and without debate:

Donahue, Mike of Shelburne - Member Vermont Economic Progress Council - April 28, 2025 to March 31, 2029.

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**Appointment Confirmed**

Pending entry on the Calendar for notice, on motion of Senator Collamore, the rules were suspended and the nomination of Kendal Smith as Commissioner of the Department of Labor was taken up for immediate consideration.

The nomination of

Smith, Kendal of Barre - Commissioner Labor, Department of - September 22, 2025 to February 28, 2027.

Was confirmed by the Senate, upon full report given by the Committee to which it was referred, on a roll call, Yeas 29, 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, Benson, Bongartz, Brennan, Brock, Chittenden, Clarkson, Collamore, Cummings, Gulick, Harrison, Hashim, Heffernan, Ingalls, Lyons, Major, Mattos, Morley, Norris, Perchlik, Plunkett, Ram Hinsdale, Vyhovsky, Watson, Weeks, Westman, White, Williams.

**Those Senators who voted in the negative were:** None.

**The Senator absent and not voting was:** Hardy.

**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 Collamore, Weeks and Williams,

Offered by Reprs. Bosch and Burditt,

**S.C.R. 9.**

Senate concurrent resolution extending the warmest 90th birthday and 30th anniversary wishes to former Rutland County Senators Judith E. Bloomer Crowley and John P. Crowley.

**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 adopted in concurrence:

Offered by All Members of the House,

**H.C.R. 239.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the winning teams at the 18th annual Jr Iron Chef VT culinary extravaganza.

Offered by Reps. Bartholomew and Burrows,

**H.C.R. 240.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating Stephen R. Bissette on his designation as the sixth Vermont Cartoonist Laureate.

Offered by Reps. Austin and others,

Offered by Senators Baruth, Brennan, Gulick and Vyhovsky,

**H.C.R. 241.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating University of Vermont Distinguished Professor and Vermont Climatologist Dr. Lesley-Ann Dupigny-Giroux on winning the Mani L. Bhaumik Award for Public Engagement with Science.

Offered by Reps. Morrissey and others,

Offered by Sens. Bongartz and Plunkett,

**H.C.R. 242.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2026 Mount Anthony Union High School Patriots on winning the Division I boys' Nordic skiing championship.

Offered by Reps. Canfield and others,

Offered by Senators Collamore, Hardy, Heffernan, Weeks and Williams,

**H.C.R. 243.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2026 Fair Haven Union High School Slaters bowling team on winning a second consecutive State championship.

Offered by Reps. LaMont and others,

**H.C.R. 244.**

House concurrent resolution recognizing the week of April 11–17, 2026, as Black Maternal Health Week in Vermont.

Offered by Reps. Duke and others,

Offered by Senators Collamore, Gulick, Hardy, Perchlik, Ram Hinsdale and Weeks,

**H.C.R. 245.**

House concurrent resolution celebrating the importance of the Vermont visitor economy and recognizing April 16, 2026, as Tourism Economy Day at the State House.

Offered by Rep. McGill,

**H.C.R. 246.**

House concurrent resolution designating April 10, 2026, as Vermont Children's Alliance Day at the State House.

**Message from the House No. 42**

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 a bill originating in the Senate of the following title:

**S. 210.** An act relating to access to autopsy reports.

And has passed the same in concurrence with proposal of amendment in the adoption of which the concurrence of the Senate is requested.

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

**H.C.R. 239.** House concurrent resolution congratulating the winning teams at the 18th annual Jr Iron Chef VT culinary extravaganza.

**H.C.R. 240.** House concurrent resolution congratulating Stephen R. Bissette on his designation as the sixth Vermont Cartoonist Laureate.

**H.C.R. 241.** House concurrent resolution congratulating University of Vermont Distinguished Professor and Vermont Climatologist Dr. Lesley-Ann Dupigny-Giroux on winning the Mani L. Bhaumik Award for Public Engagement with Science.

**H.C.R. 242.** House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2026 Mount Anthony Union High School Patriots on winning the Division I boys' Nordic skiing championship.

**H.C.R. 243.** House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2026 Fair Haven Union High School Slaters bowling team on winning a second consecutive State championship.

**H.C.R. 244.** House concurrent resolution recognizing the week of April 11–17, 2026, as Black Maternal Health Week in Vermont.

**H.C.R. 245.** House concurrent resolution celebrating the importance of the Vermont visitor economy and recognizing April 16, 2026, as Tourism Economy Day at the State House.

**H.C.R. 246.** House concurrent resolution designating April 10, 2026, as Vermont Children's Alliance Day at the State House.

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. 9.** Senate concurrent resolution extending the warmest 90th birthday and 30th anniversary wishes to former Rutland County Senators Judith E. Bloomer Crowley and John P. Crowley..

And has adopted the same in concurrence.

### **Adjournment**

On motion of Senator Baruth, the Senate adjourned, to reconvene on Tuesday, April 7, 2026, at nine o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon pursuant to J.R.S. 47.