

Journal of the Senate

FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 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. 49

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. 218. An act relating to reducing chloride contamination of State waters.

And has passed the same in concurrence.

The House has considered a bill originating in the Senate of the following title:

S. 163. An act relating to the role of advanced practice registered nurses in hospital care.

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 considered joint resolution originating in the Senate of the following title:

J.R.S. 49. Joint resolution relating to weekend adjournment on April 17, 2026.

And has adopted the same in concurrence.

Message from the House No. 50

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. 955. An act relating to next steps in transforming Vermont's education system.

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. 237. An act relating to prescribing by doctoral-level psychologists.

And has concurred therein.

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

H.C.R. 252. House concurrent resolution honoring Mary Houghton of Brattleboro as an extraordinary advocate for sustainable and affordable housing.

H.C.R. 253. House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2025 Green Mountain Council Class of Eagle Scouts.

H.C.R. 254. House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2026 Bellows Free Academy-St. Albans Bobwhites Division I championship boys' basketball team.

H.C.R. 255. House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2026 Bellows Free Academy-St. Albans Comets Division I girls' championship ice hockey team.

H.C.R. 256. House concurrent resolution congratulating Grant Montgomery on his dual State championship alpine skiing victories.

H.C.R. 257. House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2026 Hartford High School Hurricanes girls' ice hockey team on winning a third consecutive Division II championship.

H.C.R. 258. House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2026 Hartford High School Hurricanes Division II championship girls' basketball team.

H.C.R. 259. House concurrent resolution congratulating Terese Black on being named the 2026 Vermont Mother of the Year.

H.C.R. 260. House concurrent resolution congratulating Hartford Hurricanes Captain Charlotte Jasmin on being named the 2026 Vermont girls' basketball Gatorade Player of the Year.

H.C.R. 261. House concurrent resolution recognizing May 2026 as Older Americans Month and designating May 6, 2026, as Age Strong Vermont Day.

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

Committee Relieved of Further Consideration; Bill Committed**H. 727.**

On motion of Senator Cummings, the Committee on Finance was relieved of further consideration of House bill entitled:

An act relating to sustainable data center deployment,
and the bill was committed to the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy.

Bill Referred to Committee on Finance**H. 944.**

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 the fiscal year 2027 Transportation Program and miscellaneous changes to laws related to transportation.

Bill Referred to Committee on Appropriations**H. 762.**

House bill of the following title, appearing on the Calendar for notice, and carrying an appropriation or requiring the expenditure of funds, under the rule, was referred to the Committee on Appropriations:

An act relating to the County and Regional Governance Study Committee.

Bill Referred

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

H. 955. An act relating to next steps in transforming Vermont's education system.

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

Bill Passed in Concurrence with Proposal of Amendment**H. 410.**

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

An act relating to the calculation of recidivism and other related criminology measures.

Third Reading Ordered**H. 723.**

Senator Williams, for the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy, to which was referred House bill entitled:

An act relating to posting of land.

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.

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:

Loranger, Pamela of Colchester - Member Transportation Board - March 1, 2025 to February 29, 2028.

Nicholson, Mark of Barre - Member Transportation Board - March 1, 2025 to February 29, 2028.

Robinson, Robert of Cambridge - Member Transportation Board - March 7, 2025 to February 29, 2028.

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 Reps. Kornheiser and others,

Offered by Senators Harrison and Hashim,

H.C.R. 252.

House concurrent resolution honoring Mary Houghton of Brattleboro as an extraordinary advocate for sustainable and affordable housing.

Offered by Reps. Morgan and others,

Offered by All Members of the Senate,

H.C.R. 253.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2025 Green Mountain Council Class of Eagle Scouts.

Offered by Reps. Luneau and others,

H.C.R. 254.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2026 Bellows Free Academy-St. Albans Bobwhites Division I championship boys' basketball team.

Offered by Reps. Luneau and others,

H.C.R. 255.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2026 Bellows Free Academy-St. Albans Comets Division I girls' championship ice hockey team.

Offered by Reps. Luneau and others,

H.C.R. 256.

House concurrent resolution congratulating Grant Montgomery on his dual State championship alpine skiing victories.

Offered by Reps. Cole and others,

Offered by Senators White, Clarkson and Major,

H.C.R. 257.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2026 Hartford High School Hurricanes girls' ice hockey team on winning a third consecutive Division II championship.

Offered by Reps. Cole and others,

Offered by Senators White, Clarkson and Major,

H.C.R. 258.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2026 Hartford High School Hurricanes Division II championship girls' basketball team.

Offered by Reps. Branagan and others,

Offered by Senators Chittenden, Collamore, Mattos, Norris, Perchlik and Williams,

H.C.R. 259.

House concurrent resolution congratulating Terese Black on being named the 2026 Vermont Mother of the Year.

Offered by Reps. Cole and others,

Offered by Senators White, Clarkson and Major,

H.C.R. 260.

House concurrent resolution congratulating Hartford Hurricanes Captain Charlotte Jasmin on being named the 2026 Vermont girls' basketball Gatorade Player of the Year.

Offered by Rep. Noyes,

H.C.R. 261.

House concurrent resolution recognizing May 2026 as Older Americans Month and designating May 6, 2026, as Age Strong Vermont Day.

Adjournment

On motion of Senator Baruth, the Senate adjourned, to reconvene on Tuesday, April 21, 2026, at nine o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon pursuant to J.R.S. 49.