

Journal of the House

Thursday, March 10, 2016

At one o'clock in the afternoon the Speaker called the House to order.

Devotional Exercises

Devotional exercises were conducted by Alan Chiang, Pianist from South Burlington, Vt.

Senate Bill Referred

S. 190

Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to maintaining prescription drugs outside the original prescription container

Was read and referred to the committee on Human Services.

Joint Resolution Placed on Calendar

J.R.H. 23

Joint resolution authorizing Green Mountain Boys State educational program to use the State House

Offered by: Representatives Lawrence of Lyndon and Marcotte of Coventry

Whereas, the American Legion in Vermont sponsors the Green Mountain Boys State program, which provides an opportunity for boys in high school to study the workings of State government in Montpelier, and

Whereas, as part of their visit to the State's capital city, the boys conduct a mock legislative session in the State House, and

Whereas, this is an invaluable educational experience that provides firsthand knowledge about the legislative process, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the Sergeant at Arms shall make available the chambers and committee rooms of the State House for the Green Mountain Boys State program on Thursday, June 23, 2016 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the American Legion Department of Vermont in Montpelier.

Which was read and, in the Speaker's discretion, placed on the Calendar for action on the next legislative day under Rule 52.

House Resolution Adopted

H.R. 14

House resolution, entitled

House resolution relating to the cultural, religious, and political status of Tibet and Tibetans

Offered by: Representatives Townsend of South Burlington, Cole of Burlington, Conquest of Newbury, Deen of Westminster, Devereux of Mount Holly, Donovan of Burlington, Evans of Essex, Forguites of Springfield, Gonzalez of Winooski, Head of South Burlington, Higley of Lowell, Hubert of Milton, Jewett of Ripton, Krowinski of Burlington, LaClair of Barre Town, LaLonde of South Burlington, Lanpher of Vergennes, Lewis of Berlin, Long of Newfane, Macaig of Williston, Martel of Waterford, Martin of Wolcott, McCormack of Burlington, McCullough of Williston, Murphy of Fairfax, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Patt of Worcester, Pearson of Burlington, Pugh of South Burlington, Rachelson of Burlington, Ram of Burlington, Russell of Rutland City, Ryerson of Randolph, Sheldon of Middlebury, Stuart of Brattleboro, Sullivan of Burlington, Sweaney of Windsor, Till of Jericho, Wright of Burlington, and Yantachka of Charlotte

Whereas, Tibet has a long and proud cultural, religious, and political history, and

Whereas, the People's Republic of China invaded Tibet in 1950, and

Whereas, since 1950, the people of Tibet have experienced continuing threats to every aspect of their autonomy and historic heritage, and

Whereas, the Tibetan community in Vermont is located primarily in Burlington and South Burlington, and is deeply concerned with the welfare of Tibet and its people, and

Whereas, the State Department's 2014 International Religious Freedom Report stated that Chinese authorities "severely restricted religious freedom and engaged in widespread interference in religious practices, especially in Tibetan Buddhist monasteries and nunneries," and

Whereas, the State Department's 2015 Tibet Negotiations Report documented that with respect to U.S. diplomats and journalists, "permission to travel to the TAR [Tibet Autonomous Region] is routinely denied," now therefore be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives:

That this legislative body supports the U.S. government's promoting improved access to Tibet for U.S. diplomats, journalists, and citizens, including Tibetan Americans; encourages the government of the People's Republic of China and representatives of the Dalai Lama to resume negotiations, discontinued in 2010, for a middle-way approach that would provide true autonomy for Tibet within the People's Republic of China; supports the U.S. government's making human rights a high priority in its relationship with the People's Republic of China, including the rights of Tibetans and other nonChinese people; supports programs that assist sustainable development and cultural traditions on the Tibetan plateau; supports humanitarian assistance for Tibetan refugees; and supports acknowledgment of Tibet's critical environmental significance, and be it further

Resolved: That the Clerk of the House be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Office of Tibet in Washington, D.C., to the International Campaign for Tibet, to President Obama, to the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Washington, D.C., and to the Vermont Congressional Delegation.

Which was read and adopted.

Bill Referred to Committee on Ways and Means

H. 571

House bill, entitled

An act relating to driver's license suspensions, driving with a suspended license, and DUI penalties

Appearing on the Calendar, affecting the revenue of the state, under the rule, was referred to the committee on Ways and Means.

Third Reading; Bills Passed

House bills of the following titles were severally taken up, read the third time and passed:

H. 112

House bill, entitled

An act relating to access to financial records in adult protective services investigations;

H. 517

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the classification of State waters;

H. 526

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the Commissioner of Liquor Control and the Liquor Control Board;

H. 674

House bill, entitled

An act relating to public notice of wastewater discharges;

H. 747

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the State Treasurer's authority to intercept State funding to a municipality or school district in default from a Municipal Bond Bank borrowing;

H. 778

House bill, entitled

An act relating to State enforcement of the federal Food Safety and Modernization Act.

Bill Read Second Time; Third Reading Ordered

H. 857

Rep. Klein of East Montpelier spoke for the committee on Natural Resources & Energy.

House bill entitled

An act relating to timber harvesting

Having appeared on the Calendar one day for notice, was taken up, read the second time and third reading ordered.

Bill Read Second Time; Third Reading Ordered

H. 858

Rep. Grad of Moretown spoke for the committee on Judiciary.

House bill entitled

An act relating to miscellaneous criminal procedure amendments

Having appeared on the Calendar one day for notice, was taken up, read the second time and third reading ordered.

Bill Referred to Committee on Appropriations

H. 629

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the administration and issuance of vital records

Appearing on the Calendar, carrying an appropriation, under rule 35a, was referred to the committee on Appropriations.

Adjournment

At two o'clock and fifteen minutes in the afternoon, on motion of **Rep. Turner of Milton**, the House adjourned until tomorrow at nine o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon.