

Journal of the Senate

FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 2017

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Devotional Exercises

Devotional exercises were conducted by the Reverend Rick Swanson of Stowe.

Message from the House No. 35

A message was received from the House of Representatives by Ms. Rebecca Silbernagel, 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. 230. An act relating to consent by minors for mental health treatment related to sexual orientation and gender identity.

H. 290. An act relating to clarifying ambiguities relating to real estate titles and conveyances.

H. 312. An act relating to retirement and pensions.

H. 411. An act relating to Vermont's energy efficiency standards for appliances and equipment.

H. 462. An act relating to social media privacy for employees.

H. 502. An act relating to modernizing Vermont's parentage laws.

H. 503. An act relating to bail.

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

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

H.C.R. 76. House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2016 Milton High School Yellow Jackets Division II championship girls' soccer team.

H.C.R. 77. House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2017 St. Johnsbury Academy girls' indoor track and field team on winning a third consecutive Division I indoor championship.

H.C.R. 78. House concurrent resolution honoring the TRIO academic programs in Vermont and designating March 17, 2017 as TRIO Day at the State House.

H.C.R. 79. House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2017 Mt. Anthony Union High School Patriots championship wrestling team.

H.C.R. 80. House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2016 St. Johnsbury Academy Hilltoppers Division I championship baseball team.

H.C.R. 81. House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2016 St. Johnsbury Academy Hilltoppers girls' track and field team on winning a second straight Division I outdoor championship.

H.C.R. 82. House concurrent resolution designating the month of March 2017 as Professional Social Workers Month.

H.C.R. 83. House concurrent resolution honoring the outstanding municipal service of Stowe Town Clerk and Treasurer Alison Kaiser and expressing best wishes as she continues her rehabilitation process.

H.C.R. 84. House concurrent resolution congratulating the Holton Home Inc. on its 125th anniversary.

H.C.R. 85. House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2017 Burr and Burton Academy Bulldogs championship girls' snowboarding team.

H.C.R. 86. House concurrent resolution congratulating Rylee Field of Montpelier on her being crowned Miss Vermont 2016.

H.C.R. 87. House concurrent resolution designating March 23, 2017 as Vermont Nonprofit Legislative Day at the State House.

H.C.R. 88. House concurrent resolution congratulating the Montpelier Senior Activity Center on its 50th Anniversary.

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. 10. Senate concurrent resolution designating Friday, March 24, 2017 as Northeast Kingdom Day in Vermont.

And has adopted the same in concurrence.

Action Reconsidered; Consideration Interrupted by Recess

S. 88.

Assuring the Chair that he voted with the majority whereby the bill was referred to the Committee on Finance, Senator Rodgers moved that the Senate reconsider its action on Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to increasing the smoking age from 18 to 21 years of age.

Which was agreed to.

Thereupon, the pending question, Shall the bill be committed to the Committee on Finance?, was disagreed to on a roll call, Yeas 14, Nays 14.

There being a tie, the Secretary took the casting vote of the President, who voted "Nay".

Senator Sears having demanded the yeas and nays, they were taken and are as follows:

Roll Call

Those Senators who voted in the affirmative were: Ashe, Benning, Branagan, Champion, Collamore, Degree, Flory, Kitchel, Mullin, Nitka, Pearson, Sears, Starr, Westman.

Those Senators who voted in the negative were: Ayer, Balint, Baruth, Bray, Brooks, Clarkson, Cummings, Ingram, Lyons, McCormack, Pollina, Rodgers, Sirotkin, White.

Those Senators absent and not voting were: MacDonald, Mazza.

Thereupon, the pending question, Shall the report of the Committee on Health and Welfare be amended as recommended by Senator Ingram?, Senator Ashe moved that the Senate recess until one o'clock and fifteen minutes in the afternoon.

Which was agreed to.

Called to Order

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Consideration Resumed; Bill Ordered to Lie

S. 88.

Consideration was resumed on Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to increasing the smoking age from 18 to 21 years of age.

Thereupon, pending the question, Shall the report of the Committee on Health and Welfare be amended as recommended by Senator Ingram?, Senator Ayer moved that the bill be ordered to lie.

Which was agreed to.

Bills Referred to Committee on Appropriations

Senate bills of the following titles, appearing on the Calendar for notice, and carrying an appropriation or requiring the expenditure of funds, under the rule were severally referred to the Committee on Appropriations:

S. 34. An act relating to cross-promoting development incentives and State policy goals.

S. 100. An act relating to promoting affordable and sustainable housing.

Bill Introduced

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

S. 140.

By Senator Mullin,

An act relating to using a single wholesale drug distributor to supply prescription drugs for Vermont Medicaid.

To the Committee on Health and Welfare.

Bills Referred

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

H. 230.

An act relating to consent by minors for mental health treatment related to sexual orientation and gender identity.

To the Committee on Health and Welfare.

H. 290.

An act relating to clarifying ambiguities relating to real estate titles and conveyances.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

H. 312.

An act relating to retirement and pensions.

To the Committee on Government Operations.

H. 411.

An act relating to Vermont's energy efficiency standards for appliances and equipment.

To the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy.

H. 462.

An act relating to social media privacy for employees.

To the Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

H. 502.

An act relating to modernizing Vermont's parentage laws.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

H. 503.

An act relating to bail.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

Bills Passed

Senate bills of the following titles were severally read the third time and passed:

S. 52. An act relating to the Public Service Board and its proceedings.

S. 134. An act relating to court diversion and pretrial services.

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:

By Reps. Beck and others,

By Senators Kitchel, Benning, Rodgers, Starr and Westman,

S.C.R. 10.

Senate concurrent resolution designating Friday, March 24, 2017 as Northeast Kingdom Day in Vermont.

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:

By Reps. Turner and others,

H.C.R. 76.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2016 Milton High School Yellow Jackets Division II championship girls' soccer team.

By Reps. Beck and others,

By Senators Benning and Kitchel,

H.C.R. 77.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2017 St. Johnsbury Academy girls' indoor track and field team on winning a third consecutive Division I indoor championship.

By Reps. Giambatista and others,

H.C.R. 78.

House concurrent resolution honoring the TRIO academic programs in Vermont and designating March 17, 2017 as TRIO Day at the State House.

By Reps. Morrissey and others,

By Senators Campion and Sears,

H.C.R. 79.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2017 Mt. Anthony Union High School Patriots championship wrestling team.

By Reps. Beck and others,

By Senators Benning and Kitchel,

H.C.R. 80.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2016 St. Johnsbury Academy Hilltoppers Division I championship baseball team.

By Reps. Beck and others,

By Senators Benning and Kitchel,

H.C.R. 81.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2016 St. Johnsbury Academy Hilltoppers girls' track and field team on winning a second straight Division I outdoor championship.

By Reps. Cina and others,

By Senator Ingram,

H.C.R. 82.

House concurrent resolution designating the month of March 2017 as Professional Social Workers Month.

By Rep. Scheuermann,

By Senator Westman,

H.C.R. 83.

House concurrent resolution honoring the outstanding municipal service of Stowe Town Clerk and Treasurer Alison Kaiser and expressing best wishes as she continues her rehabilitation process.

By Reps. Stuart and others,

By Senators White and Balint,

H.C.R. 84.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Holton Home Inc. on its 125th anniversary.

By Reps. Olsen and others,

H.C.R. 85.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2017 Burr and Burton Academy Bulldogs championship girls' snowboarding team.

By Reps. Kitzmiller and Hooper,

By Senators Brooks, Cummings and Pollina,

H.C.R. 86.

House concurrent resolution congratulating Rylee Field of Montpelier on her being crowned Miss Vermont 2016.

By Reps. Rachelson and others,

By Senators Balint, Baruth, Clarkson and Ingram,

H.C.R. 87.

House concurrent resolution designating March 23, 2017 as Vermont Nonprofit Legislative Day at the State House.

By Reps. Hooper and Kitzmiller,

By Senators Brooks, Cummings and Pollina,

H.C.R. 88.

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Montpelier Senior Activity Center on its 50th Anniversary.

Adjournment

On motion of Senator Ashe, the Senate adjourned, to reconvene on Tuesday, March 28, 2017, at nine o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon pursuant to J.R.S. 24.