

Journal of the House

Thursday, January 16, 2025

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

Devotional Exercises

Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. Earl Kooperkamp, Church of the Good Shepherd, Barre City.

House Bills Introduced

House bills of the following titles were severally introduced, read the first time, and referred to committee as follows:

H. 38

By Reps. Christie of Hartford, Stevens of Waterbury, Bos-Lun of Westminster, Burrows of West Windsor, Chapin of East Montpelier, Cina of Burlington, Cole of Hartford, Headrick of Burlington, Howard of Rutland City, Krasnow of South Burlington, Masland of Thetford, McGill of Bridport, Mrowicki of Putney, Priestley of Bradford, and Rachelson of Burlington,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to adding new positions to the Human Rights Commission

To the Committee on General and Housing.

H. 39

By Reps. Maguire of Rutland City, Burditt of West Rutland, Canfield of Fair Haven, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Donahue of Northfield, Galfetti of Barre Town, Gregoire of Fairfield, Hango of Berkshire, Harrison of Chittenden, Higley of Lowell, Howland of Rutland Town, Keyser of Rutland City, Labor of Morgan, Lipsky of Stowe, Luneau of St. Albans City, Malay of Pittsford, McCoy of Poultney, McFaun of Barre Town, Morgan, L. of Milton, Morgan, M. of Milton, Morrissey of Bennington, Nelson of Derby, Nielsen of Brandon, Parsons of Newbury, Pinsonault of Dorset, Powers of Waterford, Southworth of Walden, Taylor of Milton, and Toof of St. Albans Town,

House bill, entitled

An act relating to repeal of authorization of overdose prevention centers

To the Committee on Human Services.

Executive Order Referred to Committee

The Speaker placed before the House Executive Order No. 01-25, which was read and referred to the Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs.

Joint Resolution Adopted in Concurrence**J.R.S. 7**

By Senator Perchlik,

J.R.S. 7. Joint resolution to provide for a Joint Assembly to hear the budget message of the Governor.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the two Houses meet in Joint Assembly on Tuesday, January 28, 2025, at one o'clock in the afternoon to receive the budget message of the Governor.

Was taken up, read, and adopted in concurrence.

Remarks Journalized

On motion of **Rep. Birong of Vergennes**, the following remarks by **Rep. Black of Essex** were ordered printed in the Journal:

“Madam Speaker:

I’m sorry. Bear with me, please. I always say that I’m just a soccer mom from Essex. I didn’t come from the world of advocacy and the things and people that I’ve been exposed to in my life frankly, I’ve been a little sheltered. Now I’m in this weird little world that we all belong to, and you meet people along the way. You are also exposed to new people and new experiences, and then, every once in a while, you meet someone, and they end up like your soul sister. For a little soccer mom from Essex, one of the people that I have met in this weird little world, ended up being one of my best friends. She would find this very funny because we joked about it all the time. I want to recognize the passing of someone who we all may have seen around the State House a lot, working in advocacy throughout the State of Vermont. I asked someone to give me a synopsis of her c.v. because, frankly, my best times with her were spent over beer. She was a retired zoning administrator, a selectboard member for the Town of Bakersfield, and Commissioner for the Vermont Commission on Women.

She was a cabinet member of Emerge Vermont, and a fierce advocate for the LGBTQIA Alliance. Two days ago, we lost Brenda Churchill, and I wanted to recognize her. We lost someone truly great in this State. She was a

friend to me, and a friend to so many in this Chamber. So, have a beer this weekend in memory of Brenda. She'd like that. Thank you."

Adjournment

At three o'clock and thirteen minutes in the afternoon, on motion of **Rep. McCoy of Poultney**, the House adjourned until tomorrow at nine o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon.