

# Journal of the Senate

---

THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 2012

The Senate was called to order by the President.

## Devotional Exercises

Devotional exercises were conducted by the Chaplain Calvin Kemp of Colchester.

## Message from the House No. 41

A message was received from the House of Representatives by Ms. H. Gwynn Zakov, 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. 535.** An act relating to racial disparities in the Vermont criminal justice system.

**H. 773.** An act relating to veterans' tax exemption.

**H. 774.** An act relating to meat inspection, delivery of liquid fuels, dairy operations, and animal foot baths.

**H. 780.** An act relating to compensation for certain state employees.

**H. 782.** An act relating to miscellaneous tax changes for 2012.

**H. 785.** An act relating to capital construction and state bonding budget adjustment.

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. 53.** Joint resolution relating to weekend adjournment.

And has adopted the same in concurrence.

The House has considered the report of the Committee of Conference upon the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on House bill of the following title:

**H. 630.** An act relating to reforming Vermont's mental health system.

And has adopted the same on its part.

---

**Bills Referred**

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

**H. 535.**

An act relating to racial disparities in the Vermont criminal justice system.  
To the Committee on Judiciary.

**H. 773.**

An act relating to veterans' tax exemption.  
To the Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

**H. 774.**

An act relating to meat inspection, delivery of liquid fuels, dairy operations, and animal foot baths.  
To the Committee on Agriculture.

**H. 780.**

An act relating to compensation for certain state employees.  
To the Committee on Government Operations.

**H. 782.**

An act relating to miscellaneous tax changes for 2012.  
To the Committee on Finance.

**H. 785.**

An act relating to capital construction and state bonding budget adjustment.  
To the Committee on Institutions.

**Committee Assignments**

Pursuant to Senate Rule 6, in the event a senator is absent from the Senate for more than two weeks, the Committee on Committees may designate any other senator to occupy temporarily a position on a standing committee to which such absent senator is assigned. Under Rule 6 such temporarily assigned Senator shall have all the powers of a regular member on such assigned committee but shall be the most junior member of the committee. Additionally, pursuant to Rule 6, the temporary assignment or assignments shall terminate absolutely upon return of the absent senator to committee duties or upon order of the Committee on Committees.

Pursuant to Rule 6, the Committee on Committees assigns Senator Carris to the Finance Committee in the absence of Senator Fox.

Pursuant to Rule 6, the Committee on Committees assigns Senator Campbell to the Health and Welfare Committee in the absence of Senator Fox.

### **Joint Assembly**

At one o'clock in the forenoon, the hour having arrived for the meeting of the two Houses in Joint Assembly pursuant to:

**J.R.S. 50.** Joint resolution providing for a Joint Assembly to vote on the retention of two Superior Judges and one Magistrate.

The Senate repaired to the hall of the House.

Having returned therefrom, at two o'clock in the forenoon, the President assumed the Chair.

### **Bill Amended; Bill Passed**

#### **S. 151.**

Senate bill entitled:

An act relating to grave markers.

Was taken up.

Thereupon, pending third reading of the bill, Senator Ashe moved to amend the bill as follows:

First: In Sec. 1, 9 V.S.A. § 3221, by striking out subsection (a) in its entirety and inserting a new subsection (a) to read as follows:

(a) A scrap metal processor as defined in 9 V.S.A. § 3021 shall not knowingly purchase or give anything of value in exchange for a metal grave marker, or any grave ornament or flag holder bearing a description or an emblem from any branch of the United States armed services or a police or fire department or which bears the designation "veteran."

Second: In Sec. 1, 9 V.S.A. § 3221 in subsection (b) by striking out the words "business or metal dealer" and inserting in lieu thereof the following: scrap metal processor

Third: In Sec. 1, 9 V.S.A. § 3221, by striking out subsection (c) in its entirety

Which was agreed to.

Thereupon, the bill was read the third time and passed.

---

**Proposal of Amendment; Third Reading Ordered****H. 634.**

Senator White, for the Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred House bill entitled:

An act relating to remedies for failure to pay municipal tickets.

Reported recommending that the Senate propose to the House to amend the bill by striking out Sec. 3 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 3 to read as follows:

**Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATES**

(a) Sec. 1 of this act shall take effect on July 1, 2012.

(b) Sec. 2 of this act and this section shall take effect on passage.

And that the bill ought to pass in concurrence with such proposal of amendment.

Thereupon, the bill was read the second time by title only pursuant to Rule 43, and the proposal of amendment was agreed to, and third reading of the bill was ordered.

**Bills Passed**

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

**S. 183.** An act relating to the testing of potable water supplies.

**S. 200.** An act relating to the reporting requirements of health insurers.

**S. 223.** An act relating to extending health insurance coverage for autism spectrum disorders.

**Joint Resolution Adopted in Concurrence****J.R.H. 33.**

Joint House resolution entitled:

Joint resolution authorizing the state of Vermont to accept a reprint of an engraving of Thaddeus Stevens for the state house art collection.

Having been placed on the Calendar for action, was taken up and adopted in concurrence.

**Adjournment**

On motion of Senator Mazza, the Senate adjourned until eleven o'clock and thirty minutes in the morning.