

Journal of the House

Wednesday, April 10, 2013

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

Devotional Exercises

Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. Auburn Watersong of Christ Episcopal Church, Montpelier, Vt.

House Bill Introduced

H. 535

Reps. Botzow of Pownal introduced a bill, entitled

An act relating to the approval of the adoption and to the codification of the charter of the Town of Woodford

Which was read the first time and referred to the committee on Government Operations.

Joint Resolution Adopted in Concurrence

J.R.S. 25

By Senators Baruth and Benning,

J.R.S. 25. Joint resolution relating to weekend adjournment.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That when the two Houses adjourn on Friday, April 12, 2013, it be to meet again no later than Tuesday, April 16, 2013.

Was taken up read and adopted in concurrence.

Remarks Journalized

On motion of **Rep. Russell of Rutland City**, the following remarks by **Rep. Zagar of Barnard** were ordered printed in the Journal:

“Mr. Speaker:

Seated in the balcony are the 4th, 5th and 6th grade classes from the Barnard Academy in my hometown of Barnard, and it's a real pleasure to have the opportunity to introduce them today.

Back in my day it was called the Barnard Central School, and it was a lot smaller than it is today, with only 3 small rooms at the time. When we got in

trouble the teacher would stick us in big cardboard refrigerator boxes in the corner of the room with desks inside and small cutout windows, and when we were sick they'd lay us down in the storage closet on cots.

I'm sure that these kids already know the little history lesson that I'm about to give because it's part of the curriculum at our school, but the other members here might not know that in 1978, Mrs. Gina Holden's 3rd and 4th grade Barnard Central School classes wrote a letter to their representatives requesting that the honeybee be named Vermont's official state insect to help commemorate Vermont's bicentennial.

According to Mrs. Holden, who was also my 3rd grade teacher years later, the honeybee was actually the students' second choice for state bug. "At first they wanted to have the ladybug," she said. "But then they discovered New Hampshire had already chosen it. Well of course then they didn't want to have anything to do with it."

In response to the students' letter, Reps. Michael Smith of Woodstock and Susan Webb of Plymouth, who represented Barnard's district at that time, introduced H.507 "A State Insect: The Honeybee", and after Rep. Smith obtained an exemption to allow children younger than the 7th grade to testify, four Barnard fourth graders, including an uncle of one of the 4th graders here today, became the youngest Vermont citizens to testify in the legislature. Before the House General and Military Affairs Committee, they said that the honeybee provides food for mankind and exemplifies the Vermont tradition of diligence and hard work. According to news reports from that time, the students "overwhelmed the legislators with information until the harried lawmakers voted a quick favorable recommendation".

In the words of Rep. Webb: "These are very sincere little people who are interested in their project. It's a good thing to have our school children knowing what's going on in Montpelier." Rep. Smith added, "I think it will be one of my easiest bills to get through".

There was one brief moment of controversy on the matter, however, when Rep Peter Guiliani of Montpelier questioned the morals of the honeybee, because they are ruled by a cruel Queen Bee who kills her male partners after certain activities, though he didn't go into further detail.

The bill was amended by the Senate, changing honey bee from two words to one word, which was approved by the House, and was passed unanimously on a roll call vote. Governor Snelling signed the bill into law on February 17, 1978, the year I was born, with the following remarks to the students:

"I hope you have learned that you can make a difference. When you get older, there will be all sorts of people who will argue with you about the things you want to change and say you can't hope to change them. But you know different, because you have made a difference."

If I still have your attention kids, I would just like to say to you, as someone who grew up in our small town and attended our small school, that I really hope you appreciate where you live, and I hope that you're growing roots here for the future. But, if you absolutely must leave Vermont in the future for work or for college, I hope that you'll never forget those roots and that you'll return here someday with your talents and your families, because Vermont needs you. If I can come out of our little school and end up in here trying to do good for our state, then you kids can do anything, but I think I can speak on behalf of everyone in this chamber, when I say: please do it in Vermont.

I hope you were inspired by your visit today, and that the rest of the body will join me in welcoming you."

**Committee Relieved of Consideration
and Bill Committed to Other Committee**

H. 516

Rep. Sweaney of Windsor moved that the committee on Appropriations be relieved of House bill, entitled

An act relating to establishing the Vermont Center for Geographic Information as the Division of Geospatial Technologies under the Department of Information and Innovation

And that the bill be committed to the committee on Government Operations, which was agreed to.

Proposal of Amendment Agreed to; Third Reading Ordered

S. 159

Rep. McCormack of Burlington, for the committee on Natural Resources and Energy, to which had been referred Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to various amendments to Vermont's land use control law and related statutes

Reported in favor of its passage in concurrence with proposal of amendment as follows:

First: In Sec. 1, 10 V.S.A. § 6001, in subdivision (3)(D)(vii), by striking unless the chair of the district commission, after notice and opportunity for

hearing, determines that action has been taken to circumvent the requirements of this chapter, and

Second: By striking Sec. 6 (repeal of 10 V.S.A. § 6001e) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof [Deleted.]

Third: In Sec. 14, 10 V.S.A. § 6089, in the last sentence, by striking 6001(3)(D)(vii) and inserting in lieu thereof 6001e

Fourth: In Sec. 21, 10 V.S.A. § 8020(c) and (d), in subsection (d), in the first sentence, after document, by striking and and inserting in lieu thereof or

The bill, having appeared on the Calendar one day for notice, was taken up, read the second time and the recommendation of proposal of amendment agreed to and third reading ordered.

Action on Bill Postponed

H. 198

House bill, entitled

An act relating to the Legacy Insurance Management Act

Was taken up and pending third reading of the bill, on motion of **Rep. Wilson of Manchester**, action on the bill was postponed until the next legislative day.

Third Reading; Bills Passed

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

H. 262

House bill, entitled

An act relating to establishing a program for the collection and recycling of paint;

H. 527

House bill, entitled

An act relating to approval of the adoption and the codification of the charter of the Town of Northfield.

Action on Bill Postponed

H. 512

House bill, entitled

An act relating to approval of amendments to the charter of the City of Barre

Was taken up and pending the reading of the report of the committee on Government Operations, on motion of **Rep. Higley of Lowell**, action on the bill was postponed until Tuesday, April 16, 2013.

Favorable Report; Third Reading Ordered

H. 529

Rep. Martin of Wolcott, for the committee on Government Operations, to which had been referred House bill, entitled

An act relating to approval of an amendment to the charter of the Winooski Incorporated School District related to the term of district treasurer

Reported in favor of its passage. The bill, having appeared on the Calendar one day for notice, was taken up, read the second time and third reading ordered.

Favorable Report; Third Reading Ordered

S. 3

Rep. Savage of Swanton, for the committee on General, Housing and Military Affairs, to which had been referred Senate bill, entitled

An act relating to allowing participation in out-of-state contests requiring a fee to enter

Reported in favor of its passage in concurrence. The bill, having appeared on the Calendar one day for notice, was taken up, read the second time and third reading ordered.

Adjournment

At one o'clock and fifty minutes in the afternoon, on motion of **Rep. Turner of Milton**, the House adjourned until tomorrow at one o'clock in the afternoon.