State of
New Hampshire

HOUSE RECORD

First Year of the 165th General Court

Calendar and Journal of the 2017 Session

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Vol. 39 | Concord, N.H. | Thursday, November 30, 2017 | No. 21

HOUSE JOURNAL No. 20 (Cont'd)

Thursday, November 2, 2017

Rep. Hinch moved that the House adjourn.
Motion adopted.

HOUSE JOURNAL No. 21

Thursday, November 30, 2017

The House assembled at 10:00 a.m., and was called to order by Paul C. Smith, Clerk of the House.

His Excellency, Governor Christopher Sununu, joined the Clerk on the rostrum for the day's opening ceremonies.

Prayer was offered by House Chaplain, Reverend Kate Atkinson, Rector of St. Paul's Church in Concord.

Faithful God, for centuries You have inspired men and women to offer their service to You, to their country, and to their fellow human beings. We give You thanks today for the dedication and hard work of Shawn Jasper, and we pray for Your blessing on him as he takes up his new responsibilities. May he continue to use his gifts wisely and successfully in service to the State of New Hampshire. We pray too for Gene, James and Steve, giving thanks for their willingness to put themselves forward today, and their openness to taking on a demanding position. Please bless today's proceedings and speak clearly to the minds and hearts of everyone who casts their vote. May the one who is elected be fully energized and equipped to take on his important duties. Give him grace to act with integrity and to be true to the role he undertakes. And we remember too that we are all members of the human family, sharing sorrow as well as joys. We give You thanks today for the life of Jarrod Itse, knowing that he is safe and whole and strong and radiant in Your glorious presence. Bless us all as we journey together and seek to serve honestly, generously and well. Amen.

Representative Kevin Scully, member from Nashua, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The National Anthem was sung by Cadet Airman Kathleen Laramie of the Civil Air Patrol Greater Nashua Composite Squadron.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Reps. Dickey, Hull and Chip Rice, the day, illness.
Reps. Azarian, Binford, Burton, Comtois, Hennessey, Irwin, Spillane, Sylvia and Rio Tilton, the day, important business.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Jack and Lisa Laramie, and Linda Martineau, father, mother and grandmother of the singer, and representing the New Hampshire Civil Air Patrol, Col. Kevin Harbison, Lt. Col. Darin Ninness, and Lt. Col. Bruce Determann, guests of Rep. Scully. William Smith and Julian Kiska, guests of Rep. Torosian. Eagle Scout Dominic Scarponi, and Phil, Tammy and Sam Scarponi, guests of Rep. Cahill. Sharon Butler, guest of Rep. Alicea. Lynda Hunt, wife of Rep. Hunt. Fourth-grade students from Peter Woodbury School in Bedford, guests of the Bedford Delegation.

COMMUNICATION

VIA EMAIL November 13, 2017

Mr. Speaker,
It is with mixed emotions that I write this letter of resignation to you. The two terms that I have served the people of Rockingham County #8 Salem, have been inspirational. The experience I have had during my tenure I will carry with me forever. I look forward to the next chapter in my life. I thank you for your leadership and mentorship. I very much look forward to the possibility of working with you in the future. Please consider my resignation as of November 14, 2017.
Respectfully,
Representative Fred Doucette
Assistant Majority Leader
Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services
Rockingham #8, Salem

COMMUNICATION

November 22, 2017

Paul C. Smith
Clerk of the House
Room 317
State House
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Paul:
Due to my confirmation today as the next Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food, I hereby resign my seat in the New Hampshire House of Representatives, effective at 9:59 a.m. on November 30, 2017. Needless to say, it has been an honor to serve a total of 23 years in the House and an incredible privilege to have served the last three years as Speaker. I greatly appreciate your invaluable assistance and support in my role as Speaker. Although I look back at my time in the House as some of the best years of my life, I am eager to face new challenges as Commissioner of Agriculture. Thank you again. I wish you, the next Speaker, and the full House a smooth transition going into the 2018 Session.

Sincerely,
Shawn N. Jasper
Speaker of the House

COMMUNICATION

November 8, 2017

Mr. Paul Smith
Clerk of the House of Representatives
State House
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Paul:
Please be advised that the following representative-elect was sworn into office by the Governor and Executive Council on this day:

Strafford County District No. 13
Casey M. Conley, d, Dover (6 Florence St.) 03820

COMMUNICATION

November 22, 2017

Mr. Paul Smith
Clerk of the House of Representatives
State House
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Paul:
Please be advised that the following representative-elect was sworn into office by the Governor and Executive Council on this day:

Sullivan County District No. 1
Brian M. Sullivan, d, Grantham (642 Olde Farms Rd.) 03753

CALL OF THE ROLL

With 358 members having answered the call, the Clerk declared a quorum present.

Reps. Chandler, McConnell and Shurtleff offered the following proposed ground rules for election:

GROUND RULES FOR ELECTION

The rules of these elections shall be the rules of the 2017 New Hampshire House of Representatives, subject to the following ground rules:
Only sworn members of the House of Representatives shall be eligible to participate and vote. Access to the floor shall be limited to members and such other officers, House staff, and assistants as may be required by the Clerk and Sergeant-at-Arms. The Clerk shall prepare a checklist of those present and qualified to vote. Votes shall be cast by secret paper ballot.
Election of candidates shall be by majority vote of those members present and voting. Each blank ballot shall be counted as a vote cast. All candidates shall remain in the running unless they withdraw of their own volition. Balloting shall continue until a Speaker is elected. If there is no candidate with a majority of votes, there shall be a 30-minute recess after the announcement of the results.
On each ballot, the Clerk shall have printed, in alphabetical order, the names of all candidates, who prior to the opening of the session, informed the Clerk of their candidacies. There shall be one blank line for write-in candidates. Each candidate shall name two tellers to count the ballots.
First ballot nominating and seconding speeches shall be limited to a total of 15 minutes for each candidate. Subsequent speeches shall be limited to a total of 3 minutes per candidate. Candidates who desire to concede or withdraw shall speak first. No other limitations shall apply to these speeches.

Rep. Scully offered an amendment to ground rules for election:

AMENDMENT TO GROUND RULES FOR ELECTION

The rules of these elections shall be the rules of the 2017 New Hampshire House of Representatives, subject to the following ground rules:
Only sworn members of the House of Representatives shall be eligible to participate and vote. Access to the floor shall be limited to members and such other officers, House staff, and assistants as may be required by the Clerk and Sergeant-at-Arms. The Clerk shall prepare a checklist of those present and qualified to vote. Votes shall be cast by secret paper ballot.
Election of candidates shall be by majority vote of those members present and voting. Each blank ballot shall be counted as a vote cast. ~~All candidates shall remain in the running unless they withdraw of their own volition.~~ *The candidate with the least number of votes in each voting round will be removed from further consideration.* Balloting shall continue until a Speaker is elected. If there is no candidate with a majority of votes, there shall be a 30-minute recess after the announcement of the results.
On each ballot, the Clerk shall have printed, in alphabetical order, the names of all candidates, who prior to the opening of the session, informed the Clerk of their candidacies. There shall be one blank line for write-in candidates. Each candidate shall name two tellers to count the ballots.
First ballot nominating and seconding speeches shall be limited to a total of 15 minutes for each candidate. Subsequent speeches shall be limited to a total of 3 minutes per candidate. Candidates who desire to concede or withdraw shall speak first. No other limitations shall apply to these speeches.

Rep. Scully spoke in favor.
On a division vote, with 142 members having voted in the affirmative, and 221 in the negative, the amendment to ground rules for election failed.

The question now being adoption of the ground rules for election.
Ground rules for election adopted.

ELECTION OF HOUSE SPEAKER

The Chair declared nominations for Speaker were in order.
Rep. Luneau placed the name of Rep. Shurtleff in nomination for Speaker and addressed the House.
Rep. Ebel seconded the nomination and addressed the House.
Rep. Shurtleff accepted the nomination and addressed the House.

Rep. Barbara Griffin placed the name of Rep. Chandler in nomination for Speaker and addressed the House.
Reps. Burt, Sanborn, Baldasaro and Steve Smith seconded the nomination and addressed the House.
Rep. Chandler accepted the nomination and addressed the House.

Rep. Dyer placed the name of Rep. McConnell in nomination for Speaker and addressed the House.
Rep. Phinney seconded the nomination and addressed the House.
Rep. McConnell accepted the nomination and addressed the House.

The Chair, at the request of the candidates, named Reps. Dyer and Phinney as tellers for Rep. McConnell; Reps. White and Weber as tellers for Rep. Shurtleff; Reps. Graham and Barry for Rep. Chandler and the Chair appointed Reps. Schuett, Wall, Welch and Bates as tellers for the House.

The Chair declared nominations closed.

FIRST BALLOT

Of the 367 votes cast, 184 votes were needed for election. Rep. McConnell received 10 votes, Rep. Shurtleff received 153 votes, and Rep. Chandler received 182 votes. There were 22 scatter votes. No candidate was elected on the first ballot.

The House recessed at 11:47 a.m.

RECESS

(Clerk in the Chair)

The House reconvened at 12:18 p.m.

No candidate having withdrawn, Rep. Shurtleff spoke in favor of his nomination, Rep. Chandler spoke in favor of his nomination and Rep. McConnell spoke in favor of his nomination.

The Chair called for the second ballot.

SECOND BALLOT

Of the 360 votes cast, 181 votes were needed for election. Rep. McConnell received 11 votes, Rep. Shurtleff received 152 votes, and Rep. Chandler received 192 votes. There were 5 scatter votes.

The Chair declared Rep. Gene Chandler the duly elected Speaker of the House for the 2018 House Session.

The Sergeant-at-Arms escorted Speaker Chandler to the rostrum. The Speaker addressed the House.

(Speaker Chandler in the Chair)

ADJOURN FROM THE EARLY SESSION

Rep. Hinch offered the following: RESOLVED, that the House now adjourn from the early session, that the business of the late session be in order at the present time.
Motion adopted.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Rep. Baldasaro requested Unanimous Consent of the House regarding memorial remarks for Jarrod Itse, son of Rep. Itse and addressed the House.

MOTION TO PRINT REMARKS

Rep. Shurtleff moved that the remarks made by Rep. Baldasaro during Unanimous Consent be printed in the Permanent Journal.
Without objection, the Speaker ordered.

REMARKS

Rep. Baldasaro: Thank you, Mister Speaker. Congratulations. You know, about a week ago, we had one of our State Representatives whose son passed away at 23-years old. He was a gift from God. Twenty-three years of being in a wheelchair, of needing 24-hour services and I had the opportunity to meet him and I had dinner for the first time at Dan's house about 11, almost 12 years ago. I got to meet his son for the first time and he had the will to live. He was in a wheelchair with tubes, machinery going on 24-hours a day, nursing, everything going on. Jarrod Itse had the will to live. He had fight in him to be part of life and he went to school and other stuff. How many times have we known Dan to have to leave because of his son, because the nurse could not be there? He stuck it out here for 18 years, but he put 150%, him and his wife, Lisa, in the care of their child to live. Many didn't think that Jarrod would survive a year, 2 years. Dan told me he loved that movie "The Patriot" and it just came on while he was sitting at home and I was impressed there. I went to the wake and I went to the funeral, but what was more important, was each and every one in this House, Republicans and Democrats, we came together. Rep. Itse had a lot of debt over the years because of the equipment 24-hours a day. $50,000, I think his wife said in electric bills. Other bills that he had to pay, he had to leave an outstanding paying job to pay for his child, but he didn't care about that because God gave him a gift that lived almost 24 years and he cherished every moment because his wife and him would take shifts at nighttime because his wife, Lisa told me that every 4 minutes or 5 minutes, they had to give him medication. I don't wish that upon anyone, but God bless that child and that family on what they decided to take care of. I mean it was some sad stories that I heard about at birth where they said just let him starve. Okay, because they knew that he for 40-seconds or so, he didn't get oxygen, but not Dan Itse, not his wife. They stood side by side and said they would raise that warrior and that's what they did. But most important, like I said to get back to what I said a second ago was, we came together, Republicans and Democrats, to raise over $13,000 for the funeral that put Jarrod in the ground properly because nobody in this room, myself as a father of 7 children, ever expect to have to bury a son or a daughter or grandchild. This is unexpected. Most people in their life don't put money away to replace a water heater, never mind the expense of a funeral of

which is about $10,000 to $12,000. Dan Itse, with the team, as a well-respected man that he is, and his wife. The team, Republicans and Democrats came together as one team and took care of that family and we are hoping more money comes in to help out because of the debt and everything else. If you go to Dan's house, on the outside you'll see the ramp up there that is all rusted, you'll see the house that needs work on it. He could not do anything at his home for 23 years because of the dust, because of the different things that would attract into the machine that was in his house to help his son stay alive. But, you in this room should be thankful for the deeds that we did for a fellow representative. God bless you all and I really appreciate it and especially the Itse family because within 2 days, people came out of the woodwork to help Representative Dan Itse, one of our own. They put party aside and that's the way this House should work, to take care of Representative Dan Itse. I thank each and every one of you. God bless you.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Rep. Itse requested Unanimous Consent of the House regarding thanks to members.

MOTION TO PRINT REMARKS

Rep. Shurtleff moved that the remarks made by Rep. Itse during Unanimous Consent be printed in the Permanent Journal.
Without objection, the Speaker ordered.

REMARKS

Rep. Itse: Thank you, Mister Speaker and I have the honor of saying that for a third term. I have been truly humbled and honored. I know my wife and my family as well by the care and love and support that you all have shown to us. Words cannot express my gratitude and I'll be honest with you, I'm going to make every endeavor not to know the amounts individually that are in the Go Fund Me account. I don't want to know. When 23 years ago and Jarrod was born and they said to us you should really deny him nutrition and hydration, you are just prolonging the process. We said no, he's just another one of our children. We will take him home for however long we have him. I'll be honest with you we did not think it was going to be 23 years. We were sent home with a life expectancy of 2 weeks. It has caused me to live life rather on the edge for the last 23 years and it caused me to become a very different individual, to fight for people who cannot fight for themselves. As much as I would not have wanted that to have happened to Jarrod, I would give my right arm for it not to have happened, neither would I give up the person he required me to become. And now, the last few years especially, last 8 months I have taken care of him due to lack of nursing, close to 50 hours a week at a minimum, more if people cancelled. I read to him a lot. I'm so grateful for that time with him. Now I'm going to have a lot of time on my hands. That, in itself, is a huge adjustment, but I'll be using part of that to serve this House more fully. Thank you.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Rep. Hinch moved that the House stand adjourned from the 2017 House Session.
Motion adopted.

The House adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

The 1st year Session of the 165th New Hampshire House of Representatives stands adjourned.