## New Hampshire Liberty Alliance Gold Standard

 HB
 1307
 NAY/ITL
 HB
 435
 NAY/STDY

 HB
 1532
 NAY/OTPAHB
 263
 NAY/OTPA

 HB
 1264
 NAY/OTPAHB
 1501
 YEA/ITL

 HB
 1611
 YEA/ITL
 HB
 1379
 NAY/ITL

 HB
 1586
 NAY/STDY
 HB
 1351
 NAY/OTPA

NHLiberty.org

#### March 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014

#### Regular Calendar Part I

### HB 1307, prohibiting the state and political subdivisions from acquiring military-equipped vehicles or equipment which are not readily available in an open national commercial market.

Committee recommendation: Executive Departments and Administration: ITL 11-8

This bill, which upholds a community -like atmosphere to towns and municipalities, is pro-liberty:

• Restricts towns and municipalities from purchasing or receiving military equipment, saving those tax dollars for more important needs

• Prohibits the continual increase in armament of the local police force ensuring they are focused on building better community relations vs. escalating confrontations to the point where citizens are killed.

• Prevents the purchase of equipment that was designed for the battle field, not for community policing.

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#### **Regular Calendar Part II**

# HB 1532, relative to notification for radon level prior to sale or lease of property. Committee recommendation: Commerce and Consumer Affairs: OTP/A 12-1 This bill, relative to notification of radon and arsenic levels, is anti-liberty: While encouraging informed buyers is a good thing, dictating the language of private contracts is a bad thing. It is the buyer's responsibility to hire a home inspection professional, and have any desired tests made. This is not a cost that should be placed upon the seller.

#### HB 1264, relative to carrying of firearms by nonresidents.

Committee recommendation: Criminal Justice and Public Safety: OTP/A 12-6

This bill, as amended, creates a study committee, is anti-liberty:

• Nay on OTP as amended. The committee amendment did not have a public hearing, is substantively different from the original bill, and is non-germane to the original bill.

• Yea on OTP for the original bill. NH Part 1 Article 2-a. [The Bearing of Arms.] is for all persons, even those from Vermont.

• The NHLA opposes the committee amendment -- NAY on OTP/A. NHLA supports the original intent and language of the bill before the committee amendment. - YEA on OTP.

#### HB 1611, adding certain products to the controlled drug act.

Committee recommendation: Criminal Justice and Public Safety: ITL 16-0

This bill, adding certain products to the controlled drug act, is **anti-liberty**:

• Most of the related chemical compounds, sometimes known as bath salts, K-2, and Spice, are already banned under the federal controlled drug act. Adding them to NH law is redundant.

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• While currently legal, making these specific substances illegal will lead to manufacturers creating potentially more-harmful substances to skirt the prohibition. The complex compounds can be modified by changing one chemical element, thus making it legal but less proven.

• The growth in sales of these substances stems from the prohibition on marijuana, which is similar in effect but is shown to be much less dangerous to a user's health than these chemicals.

#### HB 1586, relative to student and teacher information protection and privacy

Committee recommendation: Education: Refer to Study 14-5, Minority: OTP

This bill, relative to student and teacher information protection and privacy, is pro-liberty:

• HB 1586 protects the privacy rights of students and teachers while addressing other data and privacy issues that other legislation does not include.

• During public hearing, the HEC spoke very highly of the thorough research and documentation supplied by the prime sponsor. No additional study is needed or appropriate.

# HB 1351, prohibiting tanning facilities from tanning persons under 18 years of age. Committee recommendation: Executive Departments and Administration: OTP/A 10-9 This bill, prohibiting tanning facilities from tanning persons under 18 years of age, is anti-liberty: The trend towards infantilization of the youth of the state, particularly over something as trivial as choosing to take a tan, at the same time shows a disrespect for their judgment and does nothing to help a young adult learn to make decisions for themselves. This bill has a disproportionate impact on young women. Young women are already allowed to make enormously more significant health choices wholly independent of their parents.

#### HB 435, relative to funding for chartered public school pupils.

Committee recommendation: Finance: Referred for interim study, 13-8 Minority: OTP/A

This bill, relative to funding for chartered public school pupils, is pro-liberty:

• NH charter schools are part of the public school system.

• For many low- and middle-income families, charter schools provide their only access to schools of their choice.

• No new money is needed because the state budget's line item for charter schools has a surplus. State adequacy will not increase from existing levels per the LBO. Adequacy costs will decrease, with surpluses projected at \$6M and \$11.8M in 2014 and 2015 respectively.

• If HB 435 passed, charter schools would receive only 2% of the state adequacy aid with the 98% going to traditional public schools.

#### HB 263, (New Title) relative to reporting a person as medically unfit to drive.

Committee recommendation: Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs OTP/A 12-5

This bill, which grants legal immunity to medical providers who report patients to the DMV/DOS, is **antiliberty**:

• The bill is written broadly and can be arbitrarily imposed and enforced. For example, there is no time period in which the driver must be deemed unfit to "safely operate a motor vehicle" based on one person's observation. A person with two broken legs is obviously unfit, but once healed should not be restricted under the scarlet letter of the medical reporting.

• This bill enables private medical records to be retained indefinitely by the DMV, possibly violating HIPAA rules and weakening—by practice if not intent—the privacy of personal medical records.

#### HB 1501, requiring licensing of outpatient abortion facilities.

Committee recommendation: Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs ITL 17-0

This bill, which would create a new business license, is anti-liberty:

• Government interference in the market through business licensing discourages competition, and creates unnecessary compliance costs that will ultimately be passed on to the consumer.

• This bill delegates most details to the Department of Health and Human Services, directing them in 10 different parts of HB1501 to develop rules that would carry the force of law.

#### Bills Removed from Consent Calendar

HB 1379, excluding firearms records from public records subject to disclosure under 91-A.

Committee recommendation: Judiciary: ITL 13-1

This bill, excluding firearms records from public records subject to disclosure under the Right-to-know law, is **pro-liberty**:

• The current law (RSA 159:6-a) only limits inspection of those applications and records – this bill goes further in protecting privacy to prevent disclosure of this personal information.

The New Hampshire Liberty Alliance is a non-partisan coalition of New Hampshire citizens working to increase individual freedom in the Granite State. Each year we compile voting records from a wide variety of legislation and release our **Liberty Rating**, grading our state legislators' support of liberty. These Gold Standards are an effort to highlight bills that, if passed, stand to substantially increase or decrease freedom in New Hampshire. Your vote on these bills may be used in our annual Liberty Rating.

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