



NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBERTY ALLIANCE

GOLD STANDARD

HB 427 NAY ITL
HB 1328 NAY ITL
HB 1557 NAY ITL
HB 1566 YEA ITL
HB 1581 YEA OTP/A
HB 1628 NAY ITL
HB 1710 YEA ITL
SB 33 YEA IS



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HOUSE SESSION - THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2018

Part One

HB 1328-FN, relative to motor vehicle inspections.

Transportation: ITL 11-4

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill would reduce the burden on NH citizens by making motor vehicle inspections biennial.

- 33 states, including states with much harsher winters than NH (e.g. Michigan, Wisconsin, North Dakota, and Minnesota), do not require any periodic safety inspections. Another 6 states require only biennial inspections.
- According to the Department of Transportation, only 1.2% of accidents are caused by a problem with the vehicle itself, leading to loss of control. The same study found that in only 6.8% of accidents was vehicle condition a factor at all, of which almost all were cases of tire/wheel damage (e.g. vehicle runs over a nail). Most accidents are caused by driver error or negligence.
- Yearly inspections are a special hardship on those with older vehicles and lower incomes, who often need the vehicle in order to get to work. Vehicles often fail for causes that have no material impact on safety.
- A comprehensive study by Brigham Young University concluded "This finding strongly suggests that vehicle safety inspection programs are no longer necessary, and are simply a form of residual government oversight." (<https://goo.gl/D9rxE7>)

HB 1328

NAY ITL

HB 1557-FN, requiring meetings and sessions of committees of the house of representatives to be recorded and made available on the Internet.

Legislative Administration: ITL 10-0

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill requires live internet streaming and retention of all committees meetings of the NH house.

- The NH house has broad powers to impact the lives of NH citizens and as a result, the modest spending in this bill is justified to improve transparency.
- Concerns expressed over potential imperfections in audio quality are insufficient to justify the ITL as senate committee hearings area already recorded and while the sound is a times imperfect, the transparency provided is still invaluable to citizens.

HB 1557

NAY ITL

Part Two

HB 427, allowing hobby distillation of liquors.

Commerce and Consumer Affairs: ITL 12-1

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill would remove state restrictions on hobby distillation of liquors leaving only federal law to infringe upon the rights of those who would seek to enjoy this hobby.

- While the majority is correct that this change would not affect federal law, there is no compelling reason for New Hampshire law to help uphold unwise federal laws.
- Home distilling has only federal restrictions in at least 8 US states including Massachusetts and Maine (<https://www.hobbydistillersassociation.org/index.php/legalization/state-laws-by-state>).

HB 427

NAY ITL

SB 33, relative to the definition of political advocacy organization.

SB 33

Election Law: IS 18-2

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill defines a political advocacy organization so broadly as to potentially be interpreted as applying to individuals.

YEA IS

- This bill requires civic groups, news sources, and potentially individuals to register as political advocacy organizations, and disclose sources of income if they spend more than \$5,000 in a year and mention by name any candidate during the 60 days prior to the election.
- The bill contains language that states: "Political advocacy organization" means any entity, including, but not limited to, an organization described in RSA 664:2, III'. This unbounded definition may have unintended consequences and may infringe upon the freedom of speech of individuals.
- While the appropriate vote is ITL, IS is acceptable.

Part Three

HB 1566, prohibiting open carry of a firearm in certain public places.

HB 1566

Criminal Justice and Public Safety: ITL 12-8

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill prohibits the open carrying of a firearm in multiple places including private property where property owners are already free to determine their own policy.

YEA ITL

- The language in this bill is so broad that it would prohibit a person from carrying or storing in their car a firearm in a number of places that they typically travel to during daily activities, including locations like retail drug stores, and most restaurants.
- Forcing citizens to store firearms in cars parked off site of these establishments could lead to a rise in firearm theft from vehicles.
- Possession crimes by their very nature make law-abiding citizens criminals where no actual crime has been committed.

HB 1581, relative to commencement of an administrative license suspension.

HB 1581

Transportation: OTP/A 11-4

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill requires that a driver's license revocation or suspension resulting from a hearing commence no sooner than the day of the hearing at 11:59 PM.

YEA OTP/A

- The current law interferes with the ability of the accused to attend the trial. The bill and the amendment ensure that the citizen has the right to be at the hearing and return home before loss of license.

HB 1628-FN, relative to number plates for motor vehicles.

HB 1628

Transportation: ITL 11-4

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill removes the requirement for vehicle owners to install a state-mandated front license plate on passenger vehicles.

NAY ITL

- Many vehicle types do not include mounting brackets for a front plate, which requires owners to damage/drill into the bumper to install a mount. The state should not require owners to damage their vehicles.
- 19 states in the US and 9 (of 13) Canadian jurisdictions do not require front license plates at all while another 7 states do not require them depending on certain circumstances. Vermont no longer requires an unique front plate as of 2012. Rear-plate-only vehicles are already on our roads.
- Support Floor Amendment 2018-0462h which removes the requirement for an E-Z Pass transponder from the bill.

HB 1710-FN-A, relative to the provision allowing operators to retain a portion of meals and rooms taxes collected and the appropriation of meals and rooms tax revenues to school building aid.

HB 1710

Ways and Means: ITL 20-3

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill effectively increases taxes on businesses that collect the meals and rooms tax by capping the amount that they can withhold to administer the collection of these taxes.

YEA ITL

- This increases taxes on business and will likely result in higher prices as these costs are passed on to consumers.