



GOLD STANDARD



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SENATE SESSION - THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2017

HB 353-FN, relative to sales of beer in refillable containers.

Commerce: OTP/A 3-2

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill authorizes the sale of beer in refillable containers.

- This bill allows certain on- and off-premises liquor licensees to fill refillable containers of beer, aka "growlers". A growler is a way for a craft beer lover to bring home draft beer in the same form as they would enjoy it at a restaurant. This removes one small barrier to free commerce.
- This allows consumers wishing to minimize their impact on the environment to opt to reuse containers, rather than being forced to utilize containers that must be discarded after use or go through a more energy intensive recycling process.
- This gives NH brewers another way to distribute their product without investing in expensive bottling or canning equipment.

HB 353

YEA OTP/A

HB 474-FN, regulating the use of a cell site simulator device.

Judiciary: OTP/A 5-0

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill limits the use of cell site simulator devices for the purposes of tracking or intercepting communications without a warrant or judicially-recognized exception to the warrant requirement.

- Article 19 of the NH Bill of Rights states "Every subject hath a right to be secure from all unreasonable searches and seizures of his person, his houses, his papers, and all his possessions." This bill helps to protect that right by clearly indicating its applicability to electronic communication devices.
- Police departments across the country have been found to utilize such devices without first obtaining a warrant, demonstrating the need for a law such as this. <https://goo.gl/Wo0td7>

HB 474

YEA OTP/A

HB 654-FN, establishing a committee to study the regulation and taxation of vacation rentals and short-term rentals.

Ways and Means: OTP/A 5-0

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill grants municipalities the ability to seek and execute search warrants on private property without evidence that a crime has been committed.

- This bill, as amended, allows municipalities to obtain a search warrant to inspect short-term/vacation rentals, upon probable cause that the property is unfit for human habitation.
- The short-term vacation rental market is already competitive, and utilizes active renter review systems.
- While the bill does contain some protections for short-term rental property owners, it erodes the rights of property owners and interferes in a marketplace that, while not perfect, self-regulates at least as well as other more highly-regulated market segments.

HB 654

NAY OTP/A