2009 FEB. 12

HB 227 — relative to payment for tobacco products purchased by retailers

Committee / Recommendation:

Commerce and Consumer Affairs / ITL (17 - 2)

→ NHLA's Pro-Liberty Recommendation:

YEA ON ITL

This bill, which would require retailers to pay wholesalers within 10 days for tobacco products, is anti-liberty:

- Unduly changes the terms of a private agreement between willing participants.
- Enforces an unreasonably strict punishment, revocation of the retailer's license, which does not fit the "crime".

HB 369 — establishing a spending cap on state budget requests

Committee / Recommendation:

Finance / ITL (21 –4)

→ NHLA's Pro-Liberty Recommendation:

NAY ON ITL

This bill, which would limit state budgets to the rate of inflation plus one percent, is pro-liberty:

• Tying the state budget to the Consumer Price Index will help ensure a steady tax rate for New Hampshire residents and business owners.

HB 440 — repealing the state's authority to bond school building aid costs

Committee / Recommendation:

Finance / ITL (14 – 10)

→ NHLA's Pro-Liberty Recommendation:

NAY ON ITL

This bill, which removes the state's ability to use bonding to meet their portion of town/city school building aid bond payments if FY 2009 ends in a deficit, is pro-liberty:

Borrowing money to make a loan payment is wrong and would set a terrible precedent. Removing this cushion will
enable the legislature to focus on spending cuts, which is the appropriate remedy to resolve the projected deficit.

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 a Liberty Rating grading state legislators' support of liberty. Our Liberty Watchlists are an effort to highlight bills that, if passed, stand to substantially increase or decrease freedom in New Hampshire—these votes may be used in our annual Liberty Rating. We invite legislators to visit our website, www.nhliberty.org.