

HB 590 — relative to the retirement age for group II members

Committee — Recommendation: **Executive Departments & Administration — OTP (15 – 4)**

→ NHLA's Pro-Liberty Recommendation: **YEA on OTP**

This bill, which would increase the retirement years of service requirement from 20 to 25 years, is pro-liberty:

- It saves money in difficult economic times while reducing the burden on our already underfunded retirement system.
- It is more in line with the reality found in the private sector.

HB 481 — establishing a recreational saltwater license for taking finfish ...

Committee — Recommendation: **Fish & Game & Marine Resources — OTP/A (15 – 1)**

→ NHLA's Pro-Liberty Recommendation: **NAY on OTP**

This bill, which establish a recreational saltwater license for the taking of finfish in coastal and estuarine areas, is anti-liberty:

- It is being put forth mainly to comply with a new Federal requirement that States create such a licensing system, or they will be required to pay to use the Federal MRIP registry. However, this Federal requirement is unconstitutional per Article X of the Bill of Rights. New Hampshire should not pass laws merely to bow to Federal abuses.

HB 461 — establishing a state-owned casino to provide funds for public education

Committee — Recommendation: **Local & Regulated Revenues — OTP/A (15 – 4)**

→ NHLA's Pro-Liberty Recommendation: **YEA on ITL**

This bill, which would put the State of New Hampshire in the casino business, is anti-liberty:

- The proper role of our State government does not include running a casino.

HB 81 — prohibiting smoking within 25 feet of playgrounds

Committee — Recommendation: **Health & Human Services — ITL (12 – 7)**

→ NHLA's Pro-Liberty Recommendation: **YEA on ITL**

This bill, which would fine people at least \$100 for smoking near a playground, is anti-liberty:

- Smoking is still legal and punishing smokers, who already pay a sin tax for their vice, for doing so is unreasonable.

HB 155 — allowing municipalities to adopt a non-wartime veterans' property tax credit

Committee — Recommendation: **Local & Regulated Revenues — ITL (16 – 3)**

→ NHLA's Pro-Liberty Recommendation: **YEA on ITL**

This bill, which would increase property taxes on everyone else who does not qualify for this new credit, is anti-liberty:

- It shifts the property tax burden to non-veterans, regardless of ability to pay.

HCR 6 — affirming States' rights based on Jeffersonian principles

Committee — Recommendation: **State–Federal Relations & Veterans Affairs — ITL (11 – 7)**

→ NHLA's Pro-Liberty Recommendation: **NAY on ITL**

This resolution, which would remind the Federal Government that the states are sovereign, is pro-liberty:

- New Hampshire has a long tradition of standing up to unreasonable and unconstitutional encroachments by the Federal Government.

HB 533 — reducing the rates of the business profits tax and the business enterprise tax	
Committee — Recommendation:	Ways & Means — ITL (15 – 4)
→ NHLA's Pro-Liberty Recommendation:	NAY on ITL
<p><i>This bill, which would reduce business taxes, is pro-liberty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Decreasing taxes allows private companies more control over how to spend or reinvest their profits.</i> • <i>It will help stimulate the economy and save jobs.</i> 	

HB 679 — [an exemption from the interest/dividends tax for those 62 years of age or older]	
Committee — Recommendation:	Ways & Means — ITL (16 – 3)
→ NHLA's Pro-Liberty Recommendation:	YEA on ITL
<p><i>This bill, which would exempt up to \$24,000 from this unconstitutional income tax, is anti-liberty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Any tax on income is unconstitutional and should be repealed, not merely tinkered with.</i> • <i>Even though reducing taxes is a concept to be supported, our Constitution requires levied taxes to be proportional; this tax fails that test by giving a special exemption to only one group of people.</i> 	

HB 614 — relative to domicile of students for voting purposes	
Committee — Recommendation:	Election Law — OTP/A (11 – 7)
→ NHLA's Pro-Liberty Recommendation:	NAY on OTP/A
<p><i>This bill, which would ensure that college students from out of state get to vote in all New Hampshire elections, is anti-liberty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>It encourages non-residents to vote in our elections, which disenfranchises true residents of New Hampshire.</i> 	

— CONSENT CALENDAR —

HB 555 — decriminalizing possession of one ounce or less of marijuana	
Committee — Recommendation:	Criminal Justice & Public Safety — ITL (15 – 5)
→ NHLA's Pro-Liberty Recommendation:	NAY on ITL
<p><i>This bill, which would reduce the penalties for possessing less than one ounce of marijuana, is pro-liberty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>In a free society, individuals should not be harshly punished for peaceful activities which do not harm others. Thus, it is more appropriate to punish simple marijuana possession with a citation and a fine than with a criminal conviction and possible incarceration.</i> • <i>Modeled after laws in other states, this bill would help avoid the unintended consequences associated with marijuana prohibition. By reducing the extent to which an individual's life is disrupted by a minor marijuana arrest, it would reduce the expense of the criminal justice system and allow law enforcement to focus its efforts on serious crimes.</i> 	

HB 588 — relative to lowering the legal drinking age	
Committee — Recommendation:	Local & Regulated Revenues — ITL (17 – 0)
→ NHLA's Pro-Liberty Recommendation:	NAY on ITL
<p><i>This bill, which would lower the drinking age from 21 to 18, is pro-liberty:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Individuals are recognized as adults at 18 for the nearly everything else: They can enter into contracts, vote, join the armed forces, and buy tobacco and firearms. Why should the drinking age be three years higher?</i> 	

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, <http://www.nhliberty.org/>.