



## REGULAR CALENDAR

### SB 406 – Relative to merger of lots or parcels.

Committee report: Municipal & County Government: Interim Study (10–8) Our recommendation:

**NAY on STUDY  
YEA on OTP/A**

This bill, which prohibits a city, town, or county from merging lots or parcels without the owner’s consent, is **pro-liberty**:

- It reinforces property rights, a foundational premise of the N.H. Constitution. **Part I, Art. 2** states, “All men have certain natural, essential, and inherent rights among which are, the enjoying and defending life and liberty; acquiring, possessing and protecting property, and in a word, seeking and obtaining happiness.”
- This bill simply blocks towns from violating **Part I, Art. 12**, of the N.H. Constitution, which reads, in part, “no part of a man’s property shall be taken from him, or applied to public uses, without his own consent.”
- Zoning ordinances, if enforced retroactively, can result in a regulatory taking. This bill prevents that.
- Involuntary mergers can have dramatic negative effects on property values.

### SB 477 – Relative to driver education school applicants.

Committee report: Transportation: OTP/A (10–2)

Our recommendation:

**NAY on OTP/A**

This bill, which requires driver education teachers to submit fingerprints when applying to teach, and expands the requirement to report arrests for various crimes to mere application to teach, is **anti-liberty**:

- A person should not be treated as if they are guilty of a crime merely because they are arrested—guilty until proven innocent. Until a case has been fully adjudicated and a person has been *convicted*, requiring that information about the same be disclosed can only be prejudicial to the applicant.
- Requiring fingerprints for employment is an additional violation of one’s privacy, and should not be expanded to cover yet another class of employment.
- In addition, the bill makes no provision for the proper disposal of such fingerprint records after background checks are run, and provides no protection against the sharing of such records with other agencies or departments.

## CONSENT CALENDAR

### SB 415 – Relative to remedies against landlords.

Committee report: Judiciary: OTP (17–0)

Our recommendation:

**YEA on OTP**

This bill, which prohibits the assessment of a daily fine for certain violations by landlords or tenants prior to the issuance of a temporary order, is **pro-liberty**:

- It postpones the start of fines and assessments until the case has been adjudicated, thus avoiding applying penalties based on allegations alone.
- This will allow more time for tenants and landlords to settle outside the courtroom.

### SB 166 – Relative to mineral extraction, mining, and reclamation in New Hampshire.

Committee report: Resources, Recreation & Development: OTP/A (16–0)

Our recommendation:

**NAY on OTP/A**

This bill, which expands mining regulation, is **anti-liberty**:

- It greatly expands the justifications for which a mining permit may be denied.
- It gives the power to arbitrarily revoke mining permits to the DRED commissioner, which creates a high potential for abuse and corruption.
- The \$20,000 fine for violating provisions of this bill violates **Part I, Art. 18** of the N.H. Constitution:  
All penalties ought to be proportioned to the nature of the offense. No wise legislature will affix the same punishment to the crimes of theft, forgery, and the like, which they do to those of murder and treason. Where the same undistinguishing severity is exerted against all offenses, the people are led to forget the real distinction in the crimes themselves, and to commit the most flagrant with as little compunction as they do the lightest offenses. For the same reason a multitude of sanguinary laws is both impolitic and unjust. The true design of all punishments being to reform, not to exterminate mankind.

### SB 302 – Relative to notice of driver's license expiration.

Committee report: Transportation: OTP/A (12–0)

Our recommendation:

**YEA on OTP/A**

This bill, which allows the Department of Safety to notify people of license expirations electronically, is **pro-liberty**:

- This could result in a potential cost savings of up to \$250,000 per year.

### SB 405 – Relative to grounds for revocation of school bus driver's certificate.

Committee report: Transportation: OTP/A (12–1)

Our recommendation:

**NAY on OTP/A**

This bill, which revokes the school bus certificate of an operator who tests positive for an illegal drug, is **anti-liberty**:

- This bill could penalize someone for using a drug that may be legal when and where he used it. For example, Massachusetts has decriminalized marijuana, other surrounding states have legalized marijuana for medicinal purposes, and Portugal has completely legalized the drug. If someone were to travel to one of these places and use marijuana there, they would not be committing a crime, yet they would be punished upon their return to New Hampshire as if they had committed a crime here.

### SB 413 – Relative to obstructions on motor vehicle windows.

Committee report: Transportation: OTP/A (13–0)

Our recommendation:

**YEA on OTP/A**

This bill, which permits stickers on rear windows of motor vehicles that do not obstruct the driver's view, is **pro-liberty**:

- The existing law regarding the prohibition of stickers on rear windows is being interpreted more broadly than it was intended, and this bill fixes that.

*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 Liberty Watchlists 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.*