

March 16th, 2011

HB442 YEA/OTP HB389 YEA/ITL HB158 YEA/OTP CACR12NAY/OTP HB513 NAY/ITL HB218 YEA/OTP HB560 YEA/ITL HB540 NAY/ITL HB589 YEA/OTP HB546 YEA/ITL HB109 YEA/OTP HB156 YEA/OTP HB316 YEA/OTP HB213 YEA/OTP HB341 YEA/OTP HB229 YEA/OTP HB387 NAY/OTP HB557 YEA/OTP

HB 442-FN, relative to the use of marijuana for medicinal purposes.

Committee report: Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs: OTP / A: (14-3)

This bill, legalizing marijuana for the purpose of treating medical conditions, is pro-liberty:

- Doctors and patients, not bureaucrats, should be the ones to make important medical decisions.
- Natural cannabis has demonstrable medical benefits that no other drug (even synthetics) can match.
- Federal involvement in state medical law is not authorized by the U.S. Constitution, and is a violation of state sovereignty, as protected by Part I, Art. 7 of the New Hampshire Constitution.

HB 158, relative to the misuse of social security number.

Committee report: Judiciary: OTP / A (15 – 2)

This bill, allowing a civil cause of action in the misuse of another's social security number, is pro-liberty:

• Victims of identity theft should be able to punish the perpetrators for this gross invasion of privacy.

HB 513-FN, relative to end of life aid in dying for certain persons suffering from a terminal disease.

Committee report: Judiciary: ITL: (15-1)

This bill, allowing adults diagnosed with a terminal condition to request medication which would enable then to control the time, place, and manner of their death, is pro-liberty:

- Adults have a fundamental right to make decisions about their bodies—whether it be smoking, eating trans fats, buckling a seatbelt, or choosing to end their pain and suffering from a terminal condition.
- Adults who currently choose to end their own lives (an act which is perfectly legal) should be able to have their loved ones present at the end without their risking felony charges (RSA 630:4).

HB 560, increasing the minimum wage.

Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services: ITL: (11-4) Committee report:

This bill, which may make it more expensive to create new jobs, is anti-liberty.

- Minimum wage laws lower the number of entry-level jobs and make it harder for people of low skill to get their start in the workforce.
- Higher wages for everyone are better accomplished through job creation more jobs means more competition to hire all workers.

HB 589, repealing written majority authorization for an employee organization to be certified as the exclusive representative of public employees in a bargaining unit.

Committee report: Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services: OTP: (11-4)

This bill, restoring protections associated with secret ballot elections for workers, is pro-<u>liberty:</u>

- This bill would uphold an individual's right to privacy when voting in an election of an exclusive representative of an employee organization.
- Unlike a secret ballot election, where a worker can make a decision without undue intimidation, under card check, there's nothing stopping union bosses from intimidating workers one-on-one -- or three-onone into signing so-called "union authorization cards" that are essentially irrevocable.

HB 109, relative to residential fire sprinklers

Committee report: Municipal and County Government: OTP / A: (13-3)

This bill, prohibiting planning boards from requiring sprinklers in one and two family residences, is pro-liberty:

- Prevents mandating onerous and costly installations of a fire suppression systems in homes.
- Allows for other fire safety provisions, such as fire ponds, to be considered by the planning board.

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 Gold Standards 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.

HB 316, relative to due process requirements in property appraisals for property tax purposes.

Committee report: Municipal and County Government: OTP / A: (14 - 1)

This bill, ensuring that homeowners retain the right of appeal in tax disputes, is pro-liberty:

- People should not have to give up their right to privacy in order to appeal an unfair tax assessment.
- Protects the constitutional right to due process in the property assessment process.

HB 316 YEA on OTP/A

HB 341, relative to local spending caps.

Committee report: Municipal and County Government: OTP / A: (13 - 2)

This bill, explicitly allowing spending caps to be enacted in charter towns, is pro-liberty:

• The New Hampshire courts have ruled in some cases that the state must explicitly grant power to enact a spending cap. This cures that problem.

HB 341
YEA
on
OTP/A

HB 387, requiring providers of prepaid cellular telephone service to provide subscriber information to the enhanced 911 system.

Committee report: Science, Technology and Energy: OTP / A: (8-6)

This bill, requiring personal information about mobile phone subscribers be given to government agents without a warrant, is anti-liberty.

- Information for emergency services providers is the location of the phone; which is available to the phone company but has no relation to the given address of the phone purchaser.
- Claims of 'emergency' can be used to justify any action.

HB 387 NAY on OTP/A

HB 389-FN-L, relative to broadband infrastructure.

Committee report: Science, Technology and Energy: ITL: (9-8)

This bill, which encourages local governments to compete with private industry, is antiliberty.

• Current law already permits municipalities to build broadband infrastructure - this bill removes the requirement that they do so in areas not served by an existing broadband carrier or provider. By definition, if the area is already being served, the municipality will be directly competing with the private industry.

HB 389 YEA on ITL

CACR 12, relating to funding of public education. [...]

Committee report: Ways and Means: OTP / A: (13-6)

This bill, which eliminates local control of education in an attempt to resolve Claremont funding crisis, is anti-liberty.

- This amendment would provide the General Court with the authority to set standards for education (curriculum) and standards of accountability (assessments). This would remove local control.
- Uses the term "reasonable," which would invite additional lawsuits.
- Giving the general court an enumerated power of "full discretion to determine the... methods of raising... funding" puts all options on the table.

CACR12 NAY on OTP/A

HB 218, repealing the New Hampshire rail transit authority.

Committee report: Transportation: OTP: (11-5)

This bill, which repeals a committee for an uneconomical transportation system, is proliberty.

- In modern times, train service is heavily subsidized by all taxpayers regardless of usage.
- Rail transit makes economic sense only in limited, high-density, high-population areas. It is impractical here; the rural nature of New Hampshire means that most riders will still have to travel by car many miles to board a train.
- Rail transit projects invariably go way over budget and are completed far later than the original deadline. Recent rail boondoggles have proved this.
- Once a rail system is implemented it will be very hard to get rid of.

HB 218
YEA
on
OTP

HB 540-FN, relative to motor vehicle inspections.

Committee report: Transportation: ITL: (11-1)

This bill, which would change the motor vehicle inspection requirement from annual to biennial, is pro-liberty:

- The state imposes a major unnecessary expense by requiring annual inspections.
- The people of New Hampshire would save millions of dollars and thousands of hours every year.
- Minnesota abolished vehicle inspections some years ago, with no obvious impact on highway safety.

HB 540 NAY on ITL

HB 546, relative to the use of hand-held cellular phones while driving.

Committee report: Transportation: ITL: (10-4)

This bill, an ineffective and unenforceable solution to distracted driving, is anti-liberty.

- Distracted driving is already prohibited.
- Without government coercion, many people have voluntarily adopted hands-free usage.
- This law is over-reaching -- merely holding a phone near one's ear is considered to be a violation.
- Studies also show that cell-phone bans do not actually improve road safety: http://is.gd/dPglcV

HB 156-FN-A, reducing the rates of the tobacco tax.

HB 213-FN-A, reducing the rate of the business profits tax.

HB 229-FN-A, repealing the tax on gambling winnings.

HB 557-FN-A, relative to the standards and burden of proof with respect to the business profits tax deduction for reasonable compensation attributable to owners of partnerships, limited liability companies, and sole proprietorships.

Committee report: Ways and Means: OTP (/ A): (-)

• Lower taxes spawn business growth and economic development, leading to more jobs in NH.

HB 156 HB 213 HB 229 HB 557 YEA