



New Hampshire Liberty Alliance

Gold Standard

NHLiberty.org

March 8th, 2012

HB1297	YEA/OTPa	HB1532	NAY/OTP
HB1348	NAY/ITL	HB1651	NAY/ITL
HB1590	YEA/ITL	HB1696	NAY/ITL
HB1700	NAY/ITL	HB1699	NAY/OTPa
HB1318	NAY/ITL	CACR8	YEA/OTP
HB1449	NAY/ITL	HB1713	NAY/ITL
HB1468	NAY/ITL	HB1676	YEA/ITL
HB1511	NAY/ITL	HB1549	YEA/OTP
HB1526	YEA/OTPa	HB1605	NAY/ITL

HB 1297, relative to health care exchanges.

Committee recommendation: Commerce and Consumer Affairs : OTP-A 10 - 6

This bill as amended, prohibiting the implementation of a state health insurance exchange under Healthcare Reform, is **pro-liberty**:

- Healthcare Reform is a federal government takeover of health insurance that forces citizens to buy health insurance and manages health coverage decisions centrally via a federal bureaucracy.
- Imposes new unfunded mandates onto the State of New Hampshire and its citizens.
- If New Hampshire creates a state exchange, the state will have voluntarily accepted the unconstitutional terms of Healthcare Reform.
- By prohibiting the establishment of a state health insurance exchange, New Hampshire is contributing to a national 10th Amendment effort that forces the federal government's hand.

HB 1297
YEA
ON
OTP/A

HB 1348, relative to playing mind sports for money.

Committee recommendation: Commerce and Consumer Affairs : ITL 15 - 1

This bill, which would allow individuals to play mind sports for money, is **pro-liberty**:

- Playing games that harm no one should never be a crime, regardless of incentives.
- Defines certain parimutual (collectively pooled winnings) based games that are predominantly skill based to be excluded from RSA 647:2, V [Gambling Offenses].
- Eight friends can finally--legally--sit around a table and just play a game of poker.

HB 1348
NAY
ON
ITL

HB 1590, requiring the disclosure to patients and prospective patients of the charges for medical procedures.

Committee recommendation: Commerce and Consumer Affairs : ITL 15 - 2

This bill, which requires additional mandates in NH businesses, is **anti-liberty**:

- Government should not put mandates on private businesses. Presently, these businesses provide this information when asked.
- It is unrealistic for anyone to create a written estimate for a patient who has not yet been seen by the provider. In situations other than routine services or tests, a provider would have no way of determining the course of treatment for a patient based on a phone conversation. An auto mechanic will not do this for anything other than routine service for a vehicle without first seeing and assessing the condition of the vehicle.
- If there was a market demand for this, the market would produce it. It follows that when there is a market demand for this in the future, the market will produce it.

HB 1590
YEA
ON
ITL

HB 1700, repealing licensing requirements for money transmitters

Committee recommendation: Commerce and Consumer Affairs : ITL 11 - 6

This bill, repealing licensing requirements for money transmitters, is **pro-liberty**:

- Licensing of money transmitters in New Hampshire is a redundant burden. No substantive security benefit is enjoyed yet local businesses assume thousands in compliance costs, lawyer's fees, uncertainty, and opportunity costs.
- This bill opens up competition and enables companies working with new payment technologies to locate and thrive in New Hampshire.

HB 1700
NAY
ON
ITL

HB 1318, relative to carrying firearms.

Committee recommendation: Criminal Justice and Public Safety: ITL 10 - 6

This bill, which allows people to arm themselves for defense without government permission, is **pro-liberty**:

- Vermont never licensed the carrying of firearms. Arizona, Alaska, and Wyoming have all removed the requirement.
- Statistically, the sort of people who carry guns have a crime rate that is 1/100th of the population at large.
- Laws only affect the law-abiding and criminals arm themselves without government permission.

HB 1318
NAY
ON
ITL

HB 1449, requiring a search warrant for searches of privately-owned property.

Committee recommendation: Criminal Justice and Public Safety: ITL 8 - 5

This bill, requiring a search warrant for searches of private property, is **pro-liberty**:

- NH Const., Part I, Article 19 and U.S. Constitution, Amendment IV require warrants for the search of private property.
- The requirement of a warrant, and the definition of an acceptable warrant, is the balance between the rights of the individual and the interest of the broader public.

HB 1449
NAY
ON ITL

HB 1468, relative to seizure of personal property.

Committee recommendation: Criminal Justice and Public Safety: ITL 9 - 5

This bill, which prohibits the police from seizing personal property without a warrant, is **pro-liberty**:

- NH Const., Part I, Article 19 and U.S. Constitution, Amendment IV require warrants for the seizure of private property.

HB 1468
NAY
ON ITL

HB 1511, relative to felons possessing firearms.

Committee recommendation: Criminal Justice and Public Safety: ITL : 14 - 2

This bill, reducing the list of prohibited weapons a felon may possess, is **pro-liberty**:

- According to our Constitution, the purpose of all criminal punishment is to reform a person. But once a person has repaid his debt to society, the law should--for nearly every purpose--consider him citizen in good standing.
- So many acts are now felonies, some scholars estimate the average citizen unknowingly commits three felonies each day. Most of those felonies are not crimes of violence, but crimes against bureaucrat's personal opinion.
- The constitutional right to self-defense (NH Const., Part I, Article 2) is one of the most important acts. Even a reformed felon--who may have been out of prison for decades--should be able to protect himself and his family from criminals when in his own home.
- Prosecution falls disproportionately upon minorities, especially for non-violent consensual acts which have been classified as 'felonies'.

HB 1511
NAY
ON ITL

HB 1526, decriminalizing possession of less than one half ounce of marijuana.

Committee recommendation: Criminal Justice and Public Safety: OTP - A 9 - 7

This bill, which would reduce the penalties for possessing less than ½ ounce of marijuana, is **pro-liberty**:

- Marijuana possession does not offend society as a whole, and should therefore not involve the criminal justice system--and all the serious, unintended consequences for both the accused and the taxpaying public.
- Instead, simple possession should be treated as public health issue (as with alcohol or tobacco). It is more appropriate to discourage simple possession with a citation and a fine rather than with a criminal conviction and prison time.
- Shifting police focus from non-violent activities will afford police opportunities to focus on serious crimes that actually threaten public safety.

HB 1526
YEA
ON
OTP/A

HB 1532-FN, relative to trespass on land which is not posted.

Committee recommendation: Criminal Justice and Public Safety: OTP - A 14 - 2

This bill, granting officers with “probable cause to suspect” criminal activity unlimited access to private property, is **anti-liberty**:

- The US 4th Amendment and the NH 19th amendment define warrants and prohibit searches without them.
- The requirement of a warrant, and the definition of an acceptable warrant, is the balance between the rights of the individual and the interest of the broader public.

HB 1532
NAY
ON
OTP

HB 1651-FN, requiring the division of state police to equip special weapons and tactics (SWAT)units or teams with tactical cameras.

Committee recommendation: Criminal Justice and Public Safety: ITL 13 - 3

This bill, requiring a video recording of S.W.A.T Operations, is **pro-liberty**:

- S.W.A.T. (Special Weapons And Tactics) operations are the very edge of the sword of justice. No one can claim that any person could recollect with certainty what occurs during a surprise forced entry, especially if shots are fired.
- Requiring an accurate record where lethal force provides a method to review, refine, and judge such deployment in the future. This increases the safety of both officers and citizens.
- Weapons carried by S.W.A.T. officers are different in design and intent than defensive sidearms. Accommodations for additional equipment can be done in an unobtrusive manner.
- Small, uncomplicated, and relatively inexpensive cameras thus attached would satisfy the requirements of this bill.

HB 1651
NAY
ON
ITL

HB 1696-FN, limiting the offense of speeding to cases resulting in property damage or personal injury to another and excluding speeding offenses from the habitual offender status.

Committee recommendation: Criminal Justice and Public Safety: ITL 15 - 1

This bill, which limits penalties for victimless speeding, is **pro-liberty**:

- Supports Article 18 Part 1 of the NH Constitution: Penalties to be Proportional to the Offense. The punishment for speeding that causes no harm is too steep. Monetary fines and the threat of habitual offender (leading to the loss of driver's license) are too harsh.
- Responsible drivers should not have to feel like criminals while commuting to work a little late and a little fast.
- Would put \$8.9 million back into commuter's pockets.

HB 1696

**NAY
ON
ITL**

HB 1699-FN, relative to driving under the influence of drugs

Committee recommendation: Criminal Justice and Public Safety: OTP - A 8 - 5

This bill, which expands prohibitions on drivers to include all chemical substances, whether natural or synthetic, is **anti-liberty**:

- This bill will markedly increase state, county, and local expenditures per fiscal note.
- Without definitive tests and scientifically based maximum acceptable levels for the thousands of substances that would fall under the purview of this bill, this bill is virtually unenforceable and subjective.
- For example, an individual taking products that contain an anti-histamine (Benadryl and OTC cold medications) can be considered under the influence as these can impair driving. This would be sufficient grounds for bio-invasive tests of any or all of any combination of the following: blood, urine, or breath. If arrested, this could result in DUI charges.

HB 1699

**NAY
ON
OTP/A**

CACR 8, relative to education. Providing that the legislature shall have the power to authorize schools.

Committee recommendation: Education: OTP 12 - 5

This amendment, which clarifies local control of the curricula, and also provides that the State may supplement the local funding of schools, is **pro-liberty**:

- Consistent with Part 1, Article 6 of the NH Constitution, the constitutional guarantee of independence from State interference in our schools, whether public or private.
- Allows the State legislature to supplement the educational provisions made by the towns and cities, resolving the Claremont crisis. This removes the Court from school funding and allows the Legislature to determine the amount of supplementary funding that is needed by individual towns and cities.

CACR 8

**YEA
ON
OTP**

HB1713, abolishing the department of education and transferring all functions, duties and responsibilities to the commissioner of education and the state board of education.

Committee recommendation: Education : ITL : 16 - 1

This bill, which transfer education functions from DOE to State BOE, is **pro-liberty**:

- Eliminating the state DOE allows more local control to meet the needs of individual communities and removes mandated uniformity that stifles school competition and solutions that are unique to each SAU.
- The Office of Commissioner stays intact to handle critical functions of the state education system while cutting out many layers of needless bureaucracy.
- The data collection will take place at the local (SAU) level instead of the state level.
- The state DOE encourages wasteful spending through its Bureau of School Approval and Facility Management.
- The Bureau of Credentialing would be removed. Teachers at private schools across the NH (as well as many other states) are not required to have state teaching credentials; they must have mastery of the subjects they teach. Instead, any additional professional credentials might be a competitive advantage for those individuals, but should not be required.

HB 1713

**NAY
ON
ITL**

HB 1676-FN-A, relative to campaign contributions and expenditures.

Committee report: Election Law : ITL : 15 - 4

This bill, which would set up a "clean election" fund, is **anti-liberty**:

- Using tax dollars to fund electioneering, thereby forcing tax payers to financially support candidates they will not vote for, is an improper use of government funds.
- Candidates with ideas that resonate with voters are able to fundraise effectively.
- Setting up a fund that can have a balance of up to \$6,000,000 if not necessary or prudent in any economic environment.

HB 1676

**YEA
ON
ITL**

HB 1549, prohibiting the adoption of a requirement that employers participate in the E-Verify system and the use of motor vehicle records for the E-Verify system.

Committee report: Executive Departments and Administration : OTP : 11 - 1

This bill, banning any future requirement that employers vet employees via E-Verify, is **pro-liberty**:

- The NH Constitution does not provide requirements or grant authority to regulate the eligibility of residents to work on Federal Laws.
- This was initially proposed as a purely-voluntary system for employers but, because voluntary take-up was insufficient to sustain the Federal budget, the program has been mandated for many classes of employer.
- The passage of this law will not prohibit private employers from voluntarily using the E-Verify system.
- Free people should not need the Federal government's permission to earn a living.

HB 1549

**YEA
ON
OTP**

HB 1605-FN, relative to checking firearms at courthouse entrances.

Committee recommendation: Judiciary : ITL : 9 - 7

This bill, relative to checking firearms at courthouse entrances, is **pro-liberty**:

- Objects left in cars are prone to being stolen, it would be a better practice to provide secure storage.
- If a place deprives you of your tools of self defense, they ought to take responsibility for storage.
- Is there something wrong with the existing storage lockers provided for Law Enforcement Officers that make them defective for civilian firearms?

HB 1605

**NAY
ON
ITL**