HB 135 NAY/OTPA HB 185 NAY/OTPA HB 451 NAY/ITL HB 295 NAY/OTPA HB 619 YEA/RCMT HB 411 NAY/OTP or YEA/ITL HB 617 NAY/OTPA

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HB 135, relative to physical force in defense of a person and relative to the definition of non-deadly force.

Committee recommendation: Criminal Justice and Public Safety, 12-6 OTP/A

This bill, which would infringe on the right to bear arms, is **anti-liberty**:

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- The right to keep and bear arms is an original guarantee in our form of government. Both the U.S. and New Hampshire constitutions hold these rights sacred and not to be infringed.
- There has been no demonstrated or reported problem with public safety since the enactment of the current "stand your ground" law.
- Any short-sighted overreaction to existing statute is emotion-based legislation with no statistical grounding.

HB 135 NAY on OTP/A

### HB 451, repealing the license requirement for carrying a concealed pistol or revolver

Committee recommendation: Criminal Justice and Public Safety, 14-4 ITL

This bill, which would repeal requirements for a license to carry a concealed pistol or revolver, is **pro-liberty**:

- A requirement to have a license to carry a concealed firearm is an infringement on an individual's right to self-defense.
- Citizens can and do carry openly without any effect on public safety.
- There are other penalties for using a firearm in the actual commission of a crime.

HB 451 NAY on ITL

### HB 619, prohibiting images of a person's residence to be taken from the air.

Committee recommendation: Criminal Justice and Public Safety, 16–2 OTP/A

This bill, which would prohibit some images of a person's residence to be taken from the air, is **anti-liberty**:

- The penalties against the government spying on persons are good, but the limitations on valid businesses and private parties using this technology are overly broad and very difficult to enforce.
- Wiretapping and eavesdropping are crimes already, and taking somebody's image clandestinely can be part of a tort action; therefore, this bill is unnecessary. There is no demonstrable problem that needs to be solved at this time.
- This bill also criminalizes legitimate activities where nothing nefarious is going on.

Our full recommendation: YEA on recommit or ITL, YEA on the floor amendment, and NAY on OTP/A.

HB 619 YEA on RECOM

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 185, relative to the fuel oil discharge cleanup fund.

Committee recommendation: Ways and Means, 11–7 OTP/A

This bill, which would increase the fuel oil discharge cleanup fund, is anti-liberty:

• This is a 25% increase in a fee for a dedicated fund which already had an excess of funding in the last biennium. This is unnecessary.

HB 185 NAY on OTP/A

# HB 295, requiring criminal background checks for volunteers and employees at your skills camps.

Committee recommendation: Ways and Means, 11-7 OTP/A

This bill, which would require criminal background checks by yet another, is **anti-liberty**:

- It makes the State violate individuals' privacy and meddles in the private affairs of private companies.
- Background checks are already standard procedure for many youth camps, generally required in order to obtain liability insurance. This bill is an attempt to fix a problem that has already been solved by the private sector.
- This sort of mandate will have the unintended consequence of driving away volunteers and employees who simply wish to protect their privacy.
- It feeds into the overblown moral panic over pedophilia that has been gripping our nation since the 1980s.
- It creates a new \$25 fee that these people must pay to the State in order to secure a private-sector job.

HB 295 NAY on OTP/A

### HB 411, repealing a future reduction in vessel registration fees.

Committee recommendation: Ways and Means, 11-7 OTP

This bill, which would repeal the scheduled 2016 sunset of a fee increased in 2009, is anti-liberty:

• This is a future tax increase and would be better left to the Legislature that would have greater knowledge as to the need for funding at that time.

HB 411 NAY on OTP

## HB 617, increasing the rate of the road toll and establishing the New Hampshire state and municipal road and bridge account.

Committee recommendation: Ways and Means, 11-7 OTP/A

This bill, which is a tax increase, is **anti-liberty**:

- This bill is an increase in a tax which should be more closely evaluated for compliance with the constitutional restrictions on it (N.H. Const., Part II, Article 6-a), before it is increased.
- This bill reaches well into the purview of future Legislatures, especially for the diesel tax.

HB 617 NAY on OTP/A

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