



# GOLD STANDARD

JANUARY 7, 2015

Rule 22c NAY  
Rule 63 YEA  
Rule 30 YEA



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## Amend House Rule 22(c)

### Doubling the number of seconds required for a successful roll call motion

This rule change, which reduces transparency and accountability of government, is **anti-liberty**:

- It has been practice and precedent of the house to require no more than ten members to second a roll call motion since the Constitution was amended, adding a seconding requirement, in 1966.
- Voters should be able to know how they are being represented. Accountability of state government to its constituents is better served through roll call votes.
- Thousand dollar estimates of the cost of each roll call vote are exaggerated and originate from a time when house clerks were tasked with typing copies of the house journal. A more modern estimate would be a fraction of that cost.

# NAY

# RULE 22 (C)

## Amend House Rule 63

### Allowing discreet possession of weapons in Representatives Hall & Gallery

This proposed rule change restores the traditional policy regarding weapons and is **pro-liberty**:

- The current rule violates the New Hampshire Constitution, Part I Article 2-a: *"All persons have the right to keep and bear arms in defense of themselves, their families, their property and the state."*
- It has been longstanding practice of the House to allow weapons, which are not restricted anywhere else in the State House or Legislative Office Building.
- As with gun control policies in general, only law abiding citizens would disarm. Those members of the public with violent intent will not hesitate to bring a weapon due to a concern for breaking a rule.
- An assembly is not safer because it is unarmed. Instead, it becomes a target.

# YEA

# RULE 63

## Amend House Rule 30 (Rep. Itse Floor Amendment)

### Creating a Government Oversight and Audit Committee

This rule change would create a means for citizens to redress their grievances and is **pro-liberty**:

- The New Hampshire Constitution creates the responsibility for the legislature to hear petitions for redress of grievances (Bill of Rights, Articles 31 and 32).
- The Constitution further styles the House of Representatives as the "Grand Inquest of the State" (Part II, Article 17), conferring upon it the duty of identifying and rectifying abuse of the citizens by the government.
- This amendment to the rules would create a standing committee of the House to carry out these functions, and exercise the constitutional power of the House of Representatives to compel appearance by the members of government in question.

# YEA

# RULE 30

Representatives,  
On this first session day of the new year, let us take this moment to introduce ourselves. The New Hampshire Liberty Alliance is a non-partisan coalition working to increase individual liberty. We do this by monitoring bills in the legislature and encouraging citizen involvement, private charity, & a civil society.

Bills are evaluated based on their effects on civil liberties, personal responsibility, property rights, accountability, constitutionality, affordability, regulation, fiscal impact, and taxation. From this evaluation process we publish the Gold Standard for every session day to present the argument that a given bill is pro- or anti-liberty. The Gold Standard reports form the foundation for our annual Liberty Rating, a report card by which we score Representatives and Senators.

The Liberty Rating is based on pro-liberty and anti-liberty votes and their impact on the state of New Hampshire. Pro-liberty votes protect individual freedom of choice and personal responsibility, recognize the superiority of liberty over coercion, respect the citizen's right of self-ownership, promote good government, and recognize the value of voluntary economic decisions. Anti-liberty votes replace self-governance with interventionism, assume agencies backed by force are superior to voluntary choices backed by personal accountability, and assume a better economy can be designed by a central authority that compels communities to pay for policies people do not willingly support. We announce the annual report at our Liberty Dinner at which we honor the Legislator of the Year.

We're looking forward to working with each one of you during the next two years. As a non-partisan organization, we want to hear input from everyone. If you disagree with our Gold Standard recommendation please share with us your opinion on the issue. We'll include your comments on our website with your liberty rating page soon to be listed on the NHLA website. You can contact the NHLA by visiting our website at [www.nhliberty.org/contact](http://www.nhliberty.org/contact).

In Liberty,  
Your friends at the New Hampshire Liberty Alliance

*You are Cordially Invited*

*Meet some of the volunteers of the  
New Hampshire Liberty Alliance for  
Complimentary Lunch and lively discussion.*

*Today during lunch break  
in the State House cafeteria*