



GOLD STANDARD

SENATE SESSION - THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2015

SB 228 NAY OTP
SB 125 NAY OTP/A
SB 118 YEA ITL
SB 1 YEA OTP/A
SB 2 YEA OTP/A
SB 199 YEA ITL



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SB 228-FN, relative to the maximum total education grant, adjustment of stabilization grants, and adequate education funding for full-day kindergarten pupils.

SB 228

Education Committee Recommendation: OTP, 4-1

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill would require the state to fund non-compulsory attendance.

- Although it is reasonable and appropriate to reduce the stabilization funding given to districts with fewer students in the Free & Reduced Lunch program, the other part of the bill would fund full-day kindergarten.
- Compulsory attendance begins at age 6 by Sept. 30th of that school year, so the state should not pay for full-time school for a year that is optional.
- This bill would increase state education expenses by \$2M in 2016 and by \$25M in 2017, plus an indeterminate amount for public charter schools offering full-day kindergarten.

NAY OTP

SB 125-FN, relative to certification & licensure for mold assessment or remediation.

SB 125

Executive Departments & Administration Committee Recommendation: OTP/A, 4-0

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill creates yet another hurdle for business owners.

- Requiring a license to remove mold doesn't guarantee the licensee will do a good job.
- Licensing often creates the unintended consequence of creating more of the behavior it ostensibly intends to remedy, in this case amateur work. Hiring a certified and licensed professional becomes more expensive and more homeowners will attempt to do the work themselves to save money.
- Licensing would reduce a homeowners options for mold removal services while increasing expense.

NAY OTP/A

SB 118-FN, relative to registration for the Selective Service System.

SB 118

Transportation Committee Recommendation: ITL, 3-1

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill compels young men to register for federal selective service in order to obtain a driver's license.

- Young men are already given the opportunity to register with the selective service when they apply for a driver's license, if they choose.
- Young men may, for reasons of conscience, decline to sign up for Selective Service. To prohibit these individuals from driving, merely because they have followed their conscience and exercised their right to dissent, is both tyrannical and immoral.
- Selective service imposes a specific requirement upon men based solely on their sex, which is a violation of part one article two of the New Hampshire constitution. While the base problem is one of federal law, this bill would violate the NH constitution by inappropriately making NH departments enforcers of this unequal federal imposition.

YEA ITL

SB 1, reducing the rate of the business profits tax.
SB 2, reducing the rate of the business enterprise tax.

Ways and Means Committee Recommendation: OTP/A, 3-2

PRO-LIBERTY: These bills protect the property rights of business owners by reducing taxes.

- NH's ability to attract new businesses and retain existing businesses is vital to the health of our economy. Low unemployment benefits everyone.
- High business tax rates impede NH's ability to attract and retain businesses.
- When profits are not heavily taxed they can be re-invested to hire more staff, create more robust R&D, or invested in capital equipment.
- Enterprise taxes are a tax on compensation. Lowering these taxes directly enables businesses to increase compensation to employees.

SB 1

SB 2

YEA

OTP/A

SB 199, including prepaid communications services as taxable under the communications services tax.

Ways and Means Committee Recommendation: ITL, 3-2

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill creates a new regressive tax for prepaid cell phone users.

- NH should be seeking to reduce the tax burden on NH residents, not increase it.
- Lower income residents disproportionately use prepaid cell phones (e.g. a poll by Opinion Research Corporation showed 65 percent of those who relied on just a prepaid cell phone had household incomes less than \$35,000). This tax would be regressive, raising the costs of prepaid cell cards for the most financially vulnerable.

SB 199

YEA

ITL