



GOLD STANDARD

HB 1388 YEA OTP
HB 1408 NAY OTP
HB 1418 YEA OTP
HB 1419 YEA OTP
HB 1696 NAY OTP



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SENATE SESSION MARCH 31, 2016

HB 1408-FN, relative to a school building inventory.

Education: OTP 3-2

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill mandates a statewide inventory of approximately 400 school buildings.

- Although the majority believes there are no costs to gather this data due to the use of existing staff, the implication is that the staff at our schools are spending a portion of their day sitting idle. The incremental work increases from individual mandates such as this contribute to an overworked staff and loss of focus on the primary mission of the schools to educate our children.
- This bill was never reviewed by Finance Committee to evaluate the burden being imposed upon districts.

HB 1408

NAY OTP

HB 1388-FN, expanding crossbow use into muzzleloader season.

Energy and Natural Resources: OTP 4-0

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill allows a person who has purchased a muzzleloader license to hunt deer with a crossbow.

- The state has no compelling interest in limiting the means of effectively and safely taking deer.
- Some NH families rely on deer season to provide high quality locally sourced protein. This bill would allow families to utilize alternate safe means for taking deer potentially saving them money.

HB 1388

YEA OTP

HB 1418-L, relative to the minutes of nonpublic sessions of public bodies.

Executive Departments and Administration: OTP 4-0

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill clarifies the required content for non-public meeting minutes.

- The NH Constitution, Part 1 Article 8: ... Government, therefore, should be open, accessible, accountable and responsive. To that end, the public's right of access to governmental proceedings and records shall not be unreasonably restricted. This bill helps to achieve this requirement.
- Provides that minutes kept in nonpublic sessions are consistent with minutes kept in public sessions while maintaining the existing protections outlined in RSA 91-A:3 (e.g. preventing the release of information that would adversely affect the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself.).

HB 1418

YEA OTP

HB 1419, relative to voting records in nonpublic sessions of public bodies.

Executive Departments and Administration: OTP 4-0

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill requires minutes of nonpublic sessions under the right-to-know law to include the vote of each member in all actions taken.

- The NH Constitution, Part 1 Article 8: ... Government, therefore, should be open, accessible, accountable and responsive. To that end, the public's right of access to governmental proceedings and records shall not be unreasonably restricted. This bill helps to achieve this requirement.
- Retains ability for public bodies to conduct nonpublic sessions while ensuring the public has a right to know the voting record of their representatives.

HB 1419

YEA OTP

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill extends and expands a massive new entitlement program.

- This bill preserves Medicaid Expansion which is currently set to sunset at the end of 2016 due to reduction in federal funding. Medicaid Expansion provides able-bodied, childless adults in NH, above the poverty line, with free health care.
- Though no general funds are used in this iteration, the bill puts in place a financial transfer mechanism via higher insurance premiums and healthcare costs charged to existing paying customers.
- The "severability clause" in the bill allows CMS to pick and choose which portions of the law will be enforced, such as the work requirement. The NH legislature, in effect, will abrogate its responsibility to this federal agency.
- Federal money always comes with strings attached, and it is not free. The national debt, which is approaching \$20 trillion, is arguably the largest threat to national security.
- The Federal government will not keep its promises. Federal money will dry up and the financial transfer mechanism will break because hospitals and insurance companies will be unable to transfer the entire cost onto paying customers. This will place the costs squarely on the State's General Fund, which will only be able to support it through a new broad based tax, such as a sales or income tax, thereby destroying what remains of the New Hampshire Advantage.
- A free market approach to health care should be the main priority of the legislature. This is the only way to sustainably lower costs and increase access for the majority of Granite Staters.

**NAY
OTP**