

NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBERTY ALLIANCE

GOLD STANDARD

HB 323 NAY OTP/A HB 468 YEA OTP/A HB 486 NAY OTP/A

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SENATE SESSION - THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2015

HB 323, relative to the administration of the statewide assessment program.

Education Committee Recommendation: OTP/A, 4-1

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill grants legislative authority to the Department of Education commissioner to redesign the statewide assessment program.

- Legislation is not needed to designate the SATs for grade 11 as the statewide assessment. For over a decade no legislation was needed to designate the NECAPs or Smarter Balanced as statewide assessments.
- HB 323 was written to support the DOE commissioner's intention to transform the current statewide assessment program into a regional system of weekly K-12 PACE (Performance Assessment Competency Education) assessments administered by the Department of Education.
- The PACE pilot program has not demonstrated any evidence of success and has not been fully vetted by parents and teachers, including charter school parents and teachers.
- Support amendment 1752s. It is very narrowly written, specifying only the SATs as the high school
 assessment without any additional, unintended consequences. Amendment 1752s supports
 parent's rights and eliminates concerns that the commissioner will transform the statewide
 assessment program.

HB 323

NAY OTP/A

HB 468-FN, requiring a warrant to obtain electronic device location information.

Judiciary Committee Recommendation: OTP/A, 5-0

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill will prohibit government agencies from tracking the location of citizens without a warrant.

- HB468 comports with part one article 19 of the NH Constitution and the fourth amendment to the US Constitution.
- HB468 defends the privacy rights of NH residents, and clarifies that government agencies shall not track their movements without a warrant from a judge based on probable cause.
- Technology has enabled some agencies in the U.S. to intercept cell phone signals and track citizens secretly, without oversight. This bill would prevent that from happening in NH.

HB 468

YEA OTP/A

HB 486, authorizing towns and cities to establish special assessment districts.

Public and Municipal Affairs Committee Recommendation: OTP/A 3-1

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill would allow for additional taxes.

- This bill would be used to further raise taxes on people who are already struggling to pay property taxes, by allowing the majority of their neighbors to create special taxing districts for improvements.
- Could create a double tax for municipal services that are already being paid for, but not received.
- There is no requirement that all residents receive notice of a proposed district during the collection of signatures or the submission of an "improvement plan". The first residents and owners may hear of a proposed plan is when receiving notice of the hearing, putting those who would seek to oppose a plan at a significant disadvantage.

HB 486

NAY OTP/A