



GOLD STANDARD



SB 105, (New Title) relative to child-resistant packaging for tobacco products and establishing a committee to study revising the indoor smoking act.

SB 105

Commerce and Consumer Affairs Committee Recommendation: ITL, 11-10

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill creates unneeded regulations for bottling of electronic cigarette liquid.

- Fluid for E-cigarettes is intended to be consumed by adults, and is not widely sold in childproof containers. This requirement would make refills for this tobacco replacement product far more difficult for NH residents to obtain, and make it more difficult for those of limited means to shift to what is a far healthier alternative to smoking tobacco.
- No childproof cap will be a replacement for responsible parenting. Parental negligence causes poisoning, not the product. The tragic situation in which one child in New York died after drinking liquid nicotine would not have been prevented by this bill. The child, who is the only confirmed infant death from exposure to liquid nicotine, was exposed to the product only after his parents left it uncapped and within his easy reach.
- One cigarette can kill a child if ingested and yet cigarettes are not sold in childproof packages. Many other products, which can be harmful if ingested by children, often lack child resistant packaging, including alcohol (isopropyl and ethanol), many household chemicals and cleaners, cosmetics, etc.

**YEA
ITL**

SB 106-FN, restricting the sale or possession of synthetic drugs.

SB 106

Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee Recommendation: OTP/A, 14-3

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill is a further continuation of failing prohibitionist drug policies.

- The legislature could more effectively address the failure the 'war on drugs' by decriminalizing marijuana, instead of adding new prohibitions to ban alternatives.
- In many cases, unregulated alternatives developed to replace illegal drugs are far more dangerous than the original drug. For example, "Spice" was invented to circumvent prohibitionist policies on marijuana. Lengthening the list of prohibited substances only encourages users to try even more dangerous alternatives.
- All manner of potentially dangerous and even lethal products are legal to sell and possess in New Hampshire. It is not practical to ban all substances which can be misused (including glues, many solvents, and aerosols, etc.).
- In a free society, individuals should not be punished for peaceful activities which harm only themselves. Individuals should take responsibility for their own choices.

**NAY
OTP/A**

Executive Departments and Administration Committee Recommendation: OTP/A, 10-4

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill infringes on the rights of homeowners and service providers.

- Licensing often creates unintended consequences, increasing the behavior it ostensibly intends to limit -- in this case amateur work. As hiring a certified and licensed professional becomes more expensive, more homeowners might attempt to do the work themselves or neglect the problem to save money.
- A test or licensing fee is no replacement for references and reputation. Some licensed service providers are incompetent & many unlicensed service providers are highly competent. Licensing creates a false sense of security for consumers, and reduces the overall quality of work provided, by raising barriers to entry, and reducing competition.
- Licensing makes it more difficult even for experienced, competent workers to start small businesses. We should be reducing the already significant regulatory load on small businesses, not increasing it.
- The government should not be imposing restrictions on homeowners regarding who they may hire to provide services for their own property.

**NAY
OTP/A**

SB 30-FN-L, (2nd New Title) permitting counties with unincorporated areas to establish tax increment financing districts.

SB 30

Finance Committee Recommendation: OTP/A, 22-0

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill allows guarantees of a bond issue of up to \$30 million for a well capitalized investor to develop the Balsams Resort.

- This bill expands the use of the Business Finance Authority, which allows government to arbitrarily subsidize some private projects over others. This is not good governance and violates Article 10 of the NH Constitution which states "Government being instituted for the common benefit, protection, and security, of the whole community, and not for the private interest or emolument of any one man, family, or class of men".
- This bill gives New Hampshire counties unprecedented taxing powers over unincorporated areas and expands the practice of using New Hampshire taxpayers as the guarantors of loans for the benefit of private interests.
- Capital for private ventures should come from voluntary investors, lenders, and donors, not from taxpayers who are forced to participate in financing private projects they may not support.

**NAY
OTP/A**