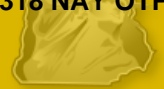




# GOLD STANDARD

SB 8 NAY OTP/A  
 SB 100 NAY OTP/A  
 SB 124 NAY OTP/A  
 SB 168 NAY OTP/A  
 SB 205 NAY OTP/A  
 SB 234 YEA ITL  
 SB 237 YEA OTP  
 SB 253 NAY OTP  
 SB 266 NAY OTP/A  
 SB 318 NAY OTP/A



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SENATE SESSION - WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2019

## SB 100, relative to discrimination in employment based on criminal background checks.

Commerce: OTP/A 4-1

**ANTI-LIBERTY:** This bill limits the speech of individuals by prohibiting employers from asking questions about prior criminal convictions on an employment application or conducting a criminal record check of an applicant prior to the initial interview unless the government has mandated such check.

- The state should not be interfering in or dictating businesses' hiring practices nor prohibiting speech.
- The state should work to reduce the number of victimless crimes in order to reduce the number of people who are negatively impacted by their prior involvement in the criminal justice system.

# SB 100

# NAY OTP/A

## SB 8, establishing an independent redistricting commission.

Election Law and Municipal Affairs: OTP/A 3-2

**ANTI-LIBERTY:** This bill creates an unaccountable redistricting commission.

- The approach for creating this 'independent' commission is unlikely to result in significant independence. Appointees would be selected from politically-connected citizens by the Secretary of State.
- The purportedly independent commission would allow the legislature to claim plausible deniability in cases of gerrymandering, preventing voters from being able to properly influence the process or hold the officials involved accountable.
- This bill would add a new and potentially unconstitutional and unenforceable requirement for candidates seeking future office, mandating that commission members waive their right to hold any state, or local elective public office (662-B:2 V.(a)).

# SB 8

# NAY OTP/A

## SB 124, relative to renewable portfolio standards after 2025.

Energy and Natural Resources: OTP/A 3-2

**ANTI-LIBERTY:** This bill increases state interference in the energy marketplace.

- The committee heard testimony that this bill will increase energy costs in the state \$240 to \$270 million dollars per year by 2040 by mandating non-competitive energy sources. Should proponents of these sources be correct that they will be cheaper than alternatives, then no state mandate would be needed.
- The bill disadvantages increases in other carbon-neutral energy sources such as nuclear.

# SB 124

# NAY OTP/A

## SB 168, relative to class 2 obligations under the electric renewable portfolio standards.

Energy and Natural Resources: OTP/A 3-2

**ANTI-LIBERTY:** This bill increases state interference in the energy marketplace.

- The committee heard testimony that this bill may increase energy costs in the state \$30 million dollars per year by 2025 by mandating increases in class 2 energy. Solar energy adoption in New Hampshire is already increasing without this new state mandate.

# SB 168

# NAY OTP/A

**SB 205, relative to energy efficiency programs funded from the systems benefits charge and adding a member to the energy efficiency and sustainable energy board.**

**SB 205**

**Energy and Natural Resources: OTP/A 3-2**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill repeals provisions of the law that require legislative approval for further increases to the system benefits charge.**

**NAY  
OTP/A**

- New Hampshire ratepayers should not be subject to further increases to the systems benefits charge without approval of elected representatives. This charge is a hidden tax on ratepayers.

**SB 234, establishing the position of director of the office of outdoor recreation industry development in the department of business and economic affairs.**

**SB 234**

**Finance: ITL 4-1**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill creates a new state government office and position of director of outdoor recreation.**

**YEA ITL**

- New Hampshire has gone 243 years without an Office of Outdoor Recreation Industry Development, but yet now in 2019, even as the legislature expresses concern about property tax rates, this bill proposes that we are in need of this new office and position. While the costs for the new office and position are initially small, each new state government office builds its own constituency that seeks to expand budgets in future years.

**SB 237, relative to the office of cost containment.**

**SB 237**

**Finance: OTP 5-0**

**PRO-LIBERTY: This bill modifies existing law that requires defendants to reimburse the costs of a public defender or assigned counsel so that repayment obligation applies only to a defendant who has been convicted or a juvenile who has been found delinquent.**

**YEA  
OTP**

- Defendants who are charged with crimes and subsequently not convicted should not have to bear the expense of defending themselves against the state.

**SB 253, relative to statewide deployment of a real-time threat notification system for schools.**

**SB 253**

**Finance: OTP 5-1**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill spends \$2 million per year to replicate the capabilities of a cell phone.**

**NAY  
OTP**

- This bill creates a new statewide system for the purpose of allowing school personnel to notify law enforcement officials directly in the event of a direct threat against a school community. While a 'batphone' may have made sense in the 1970's, this replicates capabilities that most faculty and many students already have to call 911.
- Faculty and students already know how to use their cell phones and are regularly testing them. This single-purpose system would generally be unused and as a result would have a higher risk of failure when it might be needed most.

**SB 266, relative to funding for kindergarten pupils, keno revenues, and school building aid.**

**SB 266**

**Finance: OTP/A 4-2**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill spends more than \$9 million of additional taxpayer money by funding full-day kindergarten which may harm as many children as it helps and allocates \$15 million dollars of state taxpayer funds for school building aid.**

**NAY  
OTP/A**

- Full-day kindergarten will compete with hundreds of small private businesses that are already providing these services without cost to the taxpayer.
- Research indicates that half-day kindergarten is beneficial, but concludes all-day kindergarten is too long, robs children of valuable free play, and is counterproductive ([www.washingtonpost.com/news/answer-sheet/wp/2015/08/17/why-pushing-kids-to-learn-too-much-too-soon-is-counterproductive/?noredirect=on&utm\\_term=.01b75ee7836d](http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/answer-sheet/wp/2015/08/17/why-pushing-kids-to-learn-too-much-too-soon-is-counterproductive/?noredirect=on&utm_term=.01b75ee7836d)).
- Studies have shown that accelerating education in young boys has potential long-term disadvantages, especially in the ability to focus at later ages. Delaying kindergarten for one year reduced inattention and hyperactivity by 73% for an average child at age 11, and it virtually eliminated the probability that an average child at that age would have an abnormal or higher-than-normal rating for the inattentive-hyperactive behavioral measure ([ed.stanford.edu/news/stanford-gse-research-finds-strong-evidence-mental-health-benefits-delaying-kindergarten](http://ed.stanford.edu/news/stanford-gse-research-finds-strong-evidence-mental-health-benefits-delaying-kindergarten)).

**ANTI-LIBERTY:** This bill partitions dollars reserved from the Education Tax Credit program so that 40% of the dollars are no longer available for use by students but rather are now allocated to public school projects.

- This bill debilitates the Education Tax Credit program. It would cut funding so drastically as to be available to 1,000 fewer low-income students.
- The committee heard testimony that even under the existing law, a family could use a scholarship from the Education Tax Credit program to pay for tuition at a public school.