



GOLD STANDARD

SB 2 NAY OTP
SB 10 NAY OTP/A
SB 66 YEA ITL
SB 168 NAY OTP/A
SB 272 NAY OTP/A
SB 279 NAY OTP/A
SB 290 NAY OTP/A



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HOUSE SESSION - WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 2019

SB 272, relative to mental health parity under the insurance laws.

Commerce and Consumer Affairs: OTP/A 14-5

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill has a non-germane amendment that requires an insurer to reimburse an automobile repairer for all repairs if the repairer follows the original equipment manufacturer's recommended collision repair procedures.

- As amended by 2019-2139h, this bill will increase premiums for automobile insurance in New Hampshire by mandating reimbursement from insurance companies for all such recommendations made by original equipment manufacturers (OEM) that a repair shop intends to follow.
- This bill is mandating that OEM recommendations now be required repairs. There are differences between OEM recommendations versus requirements. Recommendations are not held to any standard and mostly include general indemnifying language. Required procedures are things that should or must be undertaken to ensure proper safety standards.
- This bill is classic crony capitalism that will provide an economic incentive for a repairer to complete steps that they do not believe to be necessary but that they know nevertheless they will be compensated for, without an obvious direct expense to their customer.

SB 272

NAY OTP/A

SB 279, relative to access to fertility care.

Commerce and Consumer Affairs: OTP/A 12-8

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill mandates new coverage for health insurance, driving up rates for everyone, and will require funding of expensive treatments from the state's general fund for those purchasing coverage on the ACA marketplace.

- In 2018 the average annual premium for employer-based family coverage rose 5 percent, outpacing inflation (www.ncsl.org/research/health/health-insurance-premiums.aspx). Part of the reason for the increase is continued increases in state-mandated services such as those included in this bill.

SB 279

NAY OTP/A

SB 66, relative to political contributions by candidates for certain offices.

Election Law: ITL 12-8

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill prohibits candidates for certain offices from making political contributions to certain candidates, committees, parties, and political advocacy organizations.

- Part 1 [Art.] 22. of the New Hampshire Constitution states "*[Free Speech; Liberty of the Press.] Free speech and Liberty of the press are essential to the security of Freedom in a State: They ought, therefore, to be inviolably preserved.*" — limiting all speech and particularly political speech may be a *tempting* solution to a perceived problem but it is not a *proper* solution.

SB 66

YEA ITL

SB 2, relative to funding for job training programs in the department of business and economic affairs.

Finance: OTP 11-9

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill increases the administrative fee on unemployment compensation and spends money on government-directed job training programs.

- While government-sponsored job training programs are effective at spending taxpayer money, there is little evidence that they have any lasting impacts. Taxpayers have been funding jobs programs since the 1960s, yet federal auditors can find little evidence that they are effective: Government Accountability Office, "Multiple Employment and Training Programs," GAO-11-92, January 2011, p. 11 (www.gao.gov/new.items/d1192.pdf).
- The state should not have a role in determining the training that businesses will require.

SB 2

NAY OTP

SB 290, relative to the New Hampshire granite advantage health care program.

Finance: OTP/A 13-9

SB 290

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill allows the use of general funds for expanded Medicaid in New Hampshire.

**NAY
OTP/A**

- Medicaid is a welfare program for able-bodied adults in their working years. The medical insurance provided has features such as no premiums, no co-pays, no deductibles, and non-emergency transportation that are simply not available to workers with full-time jobs. These benefits create a strong disincentive to full-time employment and career advancement. This bill expands these negative incentives by reducing work requirements and setting up a trigger to eliminate the requirement entirely when 500 beneficiaries are suspended or disenrolled as a result of noncompliance with the reduced work requirements.
- A free-market approach to health care should be the main priority of the legislature. This is the only way to have sustainably lower costs and increase access for the majority of Granite Staters.

SB 10, establishing the state minimum hourly rate based on whether an employer offers paid sick days to an employee.

SB 10

Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services: OTP/A 12-8

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill establishes a state-dictated minimum wage.

**NAY
OTP/A**

- Minimum wage laws decrease the number of entry-level jobs and make it harder for people of low skill to get their start in the workforce.
- Higher wages for everyone are better accomplished through job creation — more jobs mean more competition to hire all workers.
- Employers and employees should be free to negotiate the terms of employment without interference.
- Economic conditions and cost of living vary dramatically across the state. A "one-size-fits-all" approach to a minimum wage will put unreasonable pressure on areas of the state with limited employment opportunities and lower costs of living.
- The very idea of a minimum wage is patronizing and demeaning as it implies that individuals don't know how much they're worth and are incapable of negotiating with an employer.

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

SB 168

Science, Technology and Energy: OTP/A 12-7

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

**NAY
OTP/A**

- This bill may increase energy costs in the state by at least \$30 million 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.