



NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBERTY ALLIANCE

# GOLD STANDARD

HB 71 YEA OTP  
HB 227 NAY ITL  
HB 282 YEA OTP  
HB 350 YEA OTP  
HB 388 YEA OTP  
HB 427 YEA OTP  
HB 615 NAY ITL



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SENATE SESSION - THURSDAY, MAY 13, 2021

**HB 227, relative to termination of tenancy at the expiration of the tenancy or lease term.**

**HB 227**

**Commerce: ITL 4-1**

**PRO-LIBERTY: This bill gives tenants 30 days notice that there will not be a renewal, after which the landlord has cause to start an eviction.**

**NAY ITL**

- Common sense would lead a person to believe that at the end of a lease, with proper notice, a landlord would be able to reclaim their property, and if necessary, evict the tenant; however, courts have found that given current New Hampshire law, the end of a lease that is not renewed is not sufficient grounds for eviction.
- A lease agreement is a contract between two parties to provide safe access to a property for a pre-determined period of time. Absent this bill, the time provisions of a lease are not meaningful.

**HB 71, relative to school district emergency special meetings.**

**HB 71**

**Education: OTP 3-2**

**PRO-LIBERTY: This bill prohibits the superior court from allowing special school meetings for recent items that were not approved or were rejected at the regular meeting.**

**YEA  
OTP**

- This bill prohibits the superior court from allowing special school meetings for a collective bargaining agreement that was voted down at the regular meeting.
- Courts should not override the voters on matters of shared fiscal responsibility.

**HB 282, relative to a private school that is approved as a tuition program.**

**HB 282**

**Education: OTP 3-2**

**PRO-LIBERTY: This bill deletes the requirement that a private school be nonsectarian in order to be approved as a school tuition program.**

**YEA  
OTP**

- Under current law, if there is no public school for the child's grade in the resident district, the school board may assign the child to another public school or private school; however, current law precludes private sectarian schools. This bill would remove that restriction. This increases the schools that parents can choose from, if they live in a tuitioning town and their school board contracts with such schools, giving them the ability to choose a school that fits their child's needs.

**HB 388, relative to changing a pupil's school or assignment because of a manifest educational hardship.**

**HB 388**

**Education: OTP 3-2**

**PRO-LIBERTY: This bill allows parents to request that a child with manifest educational hardship be transfer to an approved private school.**

**YEA  
OTP**

- Under current law, a parent may request that a student be moved to a public school in another district if the child is experiencing manifest educational hardship at the geographically-assigned school. This bill would expand the options to include the possibility of utilizing a private school to address the issues if the private school is approved and contracted by a local public school board. That is the same as existing law for when the student transfers to an out-of-district public school; this bill extends that provision to private schools.

**HB 350, permitting qualifying patients and designated caregivers to cultivate cannabis for therapeutic use.**

**HB 350**

**Health and Human Services: Rerefer 3-2**

**PRO-LIBERTY: This bill allows qualifying medical cannabis patients and designated caregivers to cultivate a limited number of plants for therapeutic use.**

**YEA  
OTP**

- This bill decreases medical costs for patients by allowing them to grow their own medicine.
- People should not have to choose between having access to medicine and not fearing criminal prosecution.
- This bill gives patients better access to their medicine. Many patients do not live near the few dispensaries in the state, and will benefit from this bill.
- The New Hampshire Democratic platform states "We support policies to improve access to health care in our rural communities and other medically underserved areas". What better way to help contribute to access than to allow patients to cultivate their own medicine?
- Bedford Chief of Police John Bryfonski stated that Canada is struggling to contain home cultivation and it is destroying commercial operations. Does the New Hampshire Senate really want to take the position that our culture of self-reliance is subservient to commercial interests?
- The committee recommendation of rerefer should not be supported and this bill should be passed.

**HB 427, prohibiting corporal punishment of children in state agency programs.**

**HB 427**

**Judiciary: Rerefer 5-0**

**PRO-LIBERTY: This bill requires state agencies to provide in their policies and procedures related to children that all forms of corporal punishment are prohibited.**

**YEA  
OTP**

- By watching agents of the state use physical violence as a form of punishment, children are learning that hitting is acceptable behavior and a permissible form of punishment. This reinforces the idea that it is the appropriate role of the state to initiate force to obtain a desired outcome.
- This bill requires state agencies to provide in their policies and procedures related to children that all forms of corporal punishment are prohibited.
- The committee recommendation of rerefer should not be supported and this bill should be passed.

**HB 615, reducing the penalty for certain first offense drug possession charges.**

**HB 615**

**Judiciary: ITL 3-2**

**PRO-LIBERTY: This bill makes modest improvements by reducing some of the harm of the state's failed War on Drugs.**

**NAY ITL**

- This bill is a "right on crime" adjustment to criminal penalties for drug offenses. It slightly reduces some maximum sentences for first-time offenders and eliminates some mandatory minimum sentences. Research overwhelmingly shows that sentence length does not deter crime very much. Probability of punishment is a far more effective deterrent.
- Shorter sentences make it possible for first-time offenders to rehabilitate and become productive members of society.
- By reducing the population of nonviolent offenders in prison, this bill will reduce state spending and taxation.