



NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBERTY ALLIANCE

# GOLD STANDARD

HB 275 YEA Override  
HB 1022 YEA Override  
HB 1131 YEA Override  
HB 1625 YEA Override  
DRAFT Oppose



NHLIBERTY.ORG JOINT RECOMMENDATIONS - THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2022

## HB 275, (New Title) relative to the declaration of a state of emergency.

Governor: Vetoed

**PRO-LIBERTY:** This bill makes modest revisions to state of emergency powers requiring that the legislature act if it is to be extended beyond 84 days.

- Under current law, a state of emergency can be renewed indefinitely by the governor, with the legislature only given the option to cancel it. With the proposed committee amendment of this bill, the legislature is forced to go on record to extend the significant expansion of state power inherent in the state of emergency if it continues beyond 84 days.
- While this is only a modest change, the residents of the state deserve to have their elected officials on record, one way or another. Absent this, it is difficult for voters to hold the legislature accountable, as individual legislators can claim to have held nearly any position that voters would have liked to have seen.

# HB 275

## YEA Override

## HB 1022, (New Title) permitting pharmacists to dispense the drug Ivermectin by means of a standing order and establishing a commission to study the use of Ivermectin to treat Covid-19.

Governor: Vetoed

**PRO-LIBERTY:** This bill allows pharmacists to dispense ivermectin pursuant to a standing order entered into by licensed health care providers.

- This bill provides the option for a licensed physician or Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) to provide a standing order to a pharmacist to dispense ivermectin under the delegated prescriptive authority of the physician or APRN.
- Medications should be available to individuals to purchase over-the-counter. While there are risks with allowing individuals choice, freedom is not without risks and the current barriers increase costs and encourage patients to take a passive role in the management of their health.

# HB 1022

## YEA Override

## HB 1131, relative to facial covering policies for schools.

Governor: Vetoed

**PRO-LIBERTY:** This bill prohibits school boards and other public education agencies from adopting, enforcing, or implementing a policy that requires students or members of the public to wear a facial covering.

- This bill prevents public schools from adopting broad mandatory masking policies, leaving the choice to parents and students.
- With or without masks and with or without the current risks of COVID-19, there will always be risks of interacting in public with our own species. It is unreasonable to use the power of the state to dictate masking for normal human interaction. One person's wise cautious behavior is another person's 'germophobe', and inserting government into these personal decisions within the confines of services provided through taxation will always result in one side or the other being unhappy with the outcome.
- Expansion of school choice programs that enhance the ability of individuals to associate in the manner in which they desire is likely the only long-term solution. Until we achieve that goal, the state should leave as much choice to the individual as possible.

# HB 1131

## YEA Override

Governor: Vetoed

**PRO-LIBERTY: This bill repeals a violation of the First Amendment.**

- Whereas the NHLA has a policy of not taking positions on the issue of abortion in general, this bill's restoration of freedom of expression protected by the First Amendment merits our taking a position in support of this bill.
- This bill repeals the "buffer zone" created by SB 319 (2014) restoring the right of people to peacefully assemble, as provided by the protections of the First Amendment.
- This law has been in place for 8 years and appears to be unenforced. The governor as much as admits this in his veto message.
- Buffer zones are reminiscent of the abhorrent "free speech zones" at presidential events.

YEA  
Override

**DRAFT , making appropriations to the department of energy for a state emergency fuel assistance program and a supplemental electric assistance program, and relative to the electric low-income program fund.**

DRAFT

Special: N/A

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This draft legislation would increase spending in order to partially offset inflation brought about by government spending.**

- While specific details of this legislation remain potentially in flux, the draft legislation proposes \$42 million to offset energy inflation and predicted energy inflation brought about at least partially by government spending. This new "temporary" spending would be limited to those earning between 60 percent to 75 percent of the state median income. This would remove natural market pressures that would normally act to partially reduce demand and thus will add pressure to energy prices for those who are not the beneficiaries of this new handout.
- While the bill takes the position that this new spending can be undertaken without raising the future tax burden of the state, the new benefit will become the new baseline expectation, and future elimination of this spending will be seen as a cut. If the economic situation further deteriorates next year, resulting in lower revenue, but energy costs continue to rise, there is unlikely to be the political will to eliminate a benefit that households have become dependent upon.
- *Nothing is so permanent as a temporary government program.* — Milton Friedman, "Tyranny of the Status Quo," (1984)

Oppose