



NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBERTY ALLIANCE

# GOLD STANDARD

SB 58 YEA ITL  
 SB 104 NAY OTP/A  
 SB 117 YEA ITL  
 SB 119 YEA OTP  
 SB 134 Oppose  
 SB 141 YEA ITL  
 SB 143 YEA ITL  
 SB 144 YEA ITL  
 SB 175 NAY OTP/A  
 SB 186 YEA ITL  
 SB 252 NAY OTP  
 SB 261 YEA ITL  
 SB 262 YEA ITL

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SENATE SESSION - THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2023

**SB 143, establishing a scholarship fund for certain small businesses applying for loans from the capital access program administered by the New Hampshire business finance authority.**

## SB 143

Commerce: ITL 3-2

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill assigns taxpayer money to individuals based on racial preferences.**

- This bill increases the burden on taxpayers to support a program which will allow public monies to be redistributed based on racial preference.
- The free market is the best measure of goods and services and should decide which ones get supported.

## YEA ITL

**SB 144, relative to the state minimum hourly rate.**

## SB 144

Commerce: ITL 3-2

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

- 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. The well-meaning carve out for younger employees adds a further barrier to older unskilled staff entering the workforce, potentially putting a path to employment forever out of their reach.
- 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.

## YEA ITL

**SB 141, relative to administration of the education freedom accounts program.**

## SB 141

Education: ITL 3-2

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill creates a requirement to attend government institutions in a program designed to allow parents the choice of keeping their children from those institutions.**

- The Education Freedom Accounts are quite popular and successful at providing parents and students with a higher quality education at a lower cost to the taxpayer.
- There is no logical reason as to why a child must be subjected to a lower quality, more expensive government institution at the expense of the taxpayer.
- The goal of public support for education is to support the young student, not the failing infrastructure, systems, or unions. The investment should be completely tied to the child, and the child's parents should have freedom to choose where, how, what, and by whom their child is educated.
- The purpose of this bill is to undermine this successful program which should instead be expanded.

## YEA ITL

**SB 134, relative to disability pensions for public safety employees who are victims of violence.**

**SB 134**

**Executive Departments and Administration: Rerefer 4-0**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill further expands the retirement system expense.**

- The NHRS reported an unfunded liability of \$5.69 billion as of December 2022.
- This bill would further add to that unfunded debt by no less than \$2 million per year and up to an unlimited and unreported amount.

**Oppose**

**SB 119, relative to criminal background checks for charitable games of chance license applicants.**

**SB 119**

**Finance: OTP 7-0**

**PRO-LIBERTY: This bill exempts members of charitable organizations who do not participate directly in the operation of games of chance from background and criminal records checks.**

- This bill enhances access for people to charitable organizations by reducing the barrier to entry.
- Reducing this unnecessary restriction allows for those who may not pass a background check to participate in charitable organizations, which may provide a rehabilitative opportunity.

**YEA  
OTP**

**SB 175, relative to Medicaid coverage for mothers.**

**SB 175**

**Health and Human Services: OTP/A 5-0**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill significantly expands Medicaid costs.**

- In 2019, New Hampshire spent \$2.16 billion on Medicaid for its 1.361 million residents, of which 72,901 were Medicaid recipients. New Hampshire taxpayers delivered an incredibly generous \$29,629 per Medicaid recipient (<https://www.medicaid.gov/state-overviews/scorecard/annual-medicaid-chip-expenditures/index.html> , <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt476/files/documents/2021-11/adultmedicaidenrollment100119.pdf>).
- In 2023 and going forward, this bill would vastly increase the number of Medicaid recipients, the amount of money taken from taxpayers, and the amount spent per recipient.
- The amount spent on Medicaid should be restructured to include these services without increasing the total spent.
- In addition to supporting this handout, 94.6% of all residents in New Hampshire do not get Medicaid support for their own health care costs. This expenditure is grossly unfair to those who manage their health and expenses without this state handout.

**NAY  
OTP/A**

**SB 58, relative to arrests without a warrant while in the care of a medical professional on the premises of a residential care or health care facility.**

**SB 58**

**Judiciary: ITL 3-2**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill lowers the threshold needed for a warrantless arrest in medical facilities, to "actual or threatened violence".**

- This bill would lower the threshold for a warrantless arrest without defining "threatened violence". One wonders, if a patient refuses to wear a mask or take a vaccine, could they be accused of "threatening violence"?
- The police already have the authority to arrest people if they view someone committing a crime, with no requirement for a warrant.

**YEA ITL**

**SB 117, relative to the definition of a "child" for the purpose of negligent storage of firearms.**

**SB 117**

**Judiciary: ITL 3-2**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill changes the age of a child for the purpose of negligent storage of firearms from 16 to 18.**

- In NH, it is common for parents to take their 16-year-olds hunting and to provide them with ready access to firearms for this purpose.
- This greatly infringes on the parent's right to provide their responsible 16-year-olds with access to their firearms for the purposes of hunting and self-defense.
- The parents already have an increased responsibility to ensure that their 16-year-olds act responsibly around firearms. This just denies New Hampshire's responsible 16-year-olds the ability to own and have ready access to firearms if needed.
- Historically, New Hampshire people aged 16 years have not been wreckless handlers of firearms.

**YEA ITL**

## SB 252, relative to release of a defendant pending trial.

Judiciary: OTP 4-1

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill presumes guilt of someone charged with a crime and allows the state to punish the accused before trial.**

- "No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." — 14th Amendment, Section 1 of the United States Constitution
- "That it is better 100 guilty persons should escape than that one innocent person should suffer, is a maxim that has been long and generally approved." — Benjamin Franklin
- This bill would deny persons charged with a range of specific crimes the chance to make bail. It would provide that, for those crimes, the accused would need to be held in custody for 36 hours, on the presumption that the person is dangerous to society. Due process requires the accused be presented immediately before a judge for a determination of bail.
- This change in existing law and procedure would incur large additional, although presently undetermined, costs to the judicial and corrections systems.
- This bill deprives an accused of his or her right to be released on bail pending arraignment.
- It presumes people accused of certain crimes are automatically a danger to society and should be held for 36 hours after arrest.

# SB 252

## NAY OTP

## SB 186, relative to an electric bicycle low-income transportation incentive program and making an appropriation therefor.

Transportation: ITL 3-2

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill creates an electric bicycle incentive and rebate program and fund for low-income workers and makes an appropriation to the fund.**

- This bill potentially harms good health outcomes for low-income residents as it encourages them to spurn traditional, exercise-powered bicycles for expensive electrically-powered versions.
- This introduces an artificial factor into the market that will increase costs and decrease quality of products to the consumer as electric bikes will respond accordingly to this rebate.
- Electric bikes are impractical for NH unless someone lives in Manchester, Nashua, or Portsmouth, so this legislation forces people that live outside of the cities to subsidize the lifestyles of city dwellers.
- Even for city dwellers this is impractical for almost half of the year given that it is too snowy and cold to use them during the winter.
- This is a misallocation of resources that will harm consumers that value electric bikes and Granite Staters who do not purchase electric bikes.

# SB 186

## YEA ITL

## SB 104, to regulate online gambling and direct net proceeds to a community college education scholarship fund.

Ways and Means: OTP/A 4-1

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill regulates online gambling and directs the net proceeds to a newly established community college education scholarship fund.**

- Whether or not a New Hampshire citizen chooses to gamble online or elsewhere should not be infringed through government regulation.
- This bill attempts to prey on Granite Staters who choose to gamble to pay for further expanding the state government by spending more on unnecessary gambling regulation and growing the state's community college expenditures.

# SB 104

## NAY OTP/A

## SB 261, relative to the interest and dividends tax rate and threshold.

Ways and Means: ITL 3-2

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill repeals the elimination of the New Hampshire tax on interest and dividend income.**

- Taxes on interest and dividends tend to discourage investment and savings, penalizing economic activity that would otherwise spur economic growth and improve productivity.

# SB 261

## YEA ITL

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill enables increasing taxes by creating the option for a municipal room occupancy tax.**

**YEA ITL**

- This bill increases taxes by creating an additional municipal room occupancy tax.
- This bill will erode the New Hampshire advantage by increasing taxes and disincentivizing tourism in our state.
- Tourists may choose to overnight in Maine or Vermont instead of New Hampshire as this additional tax may be the deciding factor on where they choose to patron.