



NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBERTY ALLIANCE

GOLD STANDARD

SB 117 YEA ITL
 SB 141 YEA ITL
 SB 212 YEA ITL
 SB 214 YEA ITL
 SB 238 YEA OTP/A
 SB 252 NAY OTP
 SB 262 YEA ITL
 SB 263 NAY OTP/A



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SENATE SESSION - THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2023

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

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 the 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.

SB 141

YEA ITL

SB 214, establishing a department of early childhood education and relative to a pre-kindergarten pilot program.

Education: ITL 3-2

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill establishes an executive branch department of early childhood education and establishes the authority for the department to design, create, and administer a public pre-kindergarten program.

- Subsidized childcare by the government will eventually push small/individualized private childcare providers out of business. Many parents prefer home-based childcare to formal institutionalized daycare centers, and while the pilot allows for such home-based childcare, the program's reliance on subsidizing licensed childcare will result in the destruction of purely private programs.
- Taxpayers should not be forced to pay for the care of others' children while struggling to pay to raise their own children.

SB 214

YEA ITL

SB 212, relative to the regulation of massage, reflexology, structural integrator, and Asian bodywork therapy establishments.

Executive Departments and Administration: ITL 3-2

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill requires licensure and inspection of massage establishments.

- Currently, massage therapists need to be licensed to work legally in New Hampshire. This bill will now require massage establishments to also obtain a license.
- This will increase costs to small independent businesses both to obtain the new license as well as to allocate time to work with state inspectors. This will be a disproportionate burden on owner/operator establishments in that not only will they have to pay a new license fee but they also may have to cancel client appointments to work with the inspector if they accept any walk-in clients.
- This bill allows license revocation or suspension if the licensee "has engaged in illegal activity" (proposed RSA 328-B:8 VI.) which is subjective, overly broad, and may not require conviction before punishment.

SB 212

YEA ITL

SB 238, relative to the use of telemedicine to treat mental health conditions.

SB 238

Health and Human Services: OTP/A 5-0

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill permits doctors and APRNs to use telemedicine to prescribe medication to treat mental health conditions.

**YEA
OTP/A**

- This bill makes a modest improvement to New Hampshire's restrictive drug laws by allowing doctors and nurse practitioners who are working with a patient via telemedicine to prescribe controlled drugs classified in schedule II through IV for mental health conditions in addition to the existing permission granted for treating substance use disorder.
- Individuals should be free to decide on a course of treatment without interference from the state.

SB 263, extending the New Hampshire granite advantage health care program and reestablishing the commission to evaluate the effectiveness and future of the New Hampshire granite advantage health care program.

SB 263

Health and Human Services: OTP/A 5-0

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill makes the temporary Medicaid Expansion program permanent.

**NAY
OTP/A**

- This bill preserves Medicaid Expansion, which is currently set to sunset at the end of 2023. Medicaid Expansion provides able-bodied, childless adults in NH who are above the poverty line with free healthcare.
- Federal money always comes with strings attached, and it is not free. The national debt, which is more than \$31 trillion, is arguably the largest threat to national security.
- The federal government will not keep its promises. Federal money will dry up and the financial transfer mechanism will break because hospitals and insurance companies will be unable to transfer the entire cost onto paying customers. This will place the costs squarely on the state's General Fund, which will only be able to support it through a new broad-based tax, such as a sales or income tax, thereby destroying what remains of the New Hampshire Advantage. While there are protections in the existing law, one only need to look at the public hearing, where stakeholders showed up in support of this bill to recognize that the longer we run this 'temporary' program, the greater the constituency will be to keep it running even as it eventually grows to consume additional state funding.
- A free market approach to health care should be the main priority of the legislature. This is the only way to sustainably lower costs and increase access for the majority of Granite Staters.

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.

YEA ITL

- 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.

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

SB 252

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.

NAY OTP

- "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 262, allowing municipalities to collect an occupancy fee from operators of local room rentals.

SB 262

Ways and Means: ITL 4-1

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.