



NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBERTY ALLIANCE

GOLD STANDARD

HB 135	YEA	OTP/A
HB 250	YEA	IS
HB 572	NAY	OTP
SB 133	YEA	IS
SB 137	YEA	OTP/A
SB 194	NAY	ITL
SB 196	NAY	OTP
SB 214	YEA	IS
SB 217	NAY	OTP
SB 219	YEA	ITL



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SENATE SESSION - WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2024

SB 137, relative to nano brewery licenses and beverage manufacturers licenses.

Commerce: OTP/A 4-0

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill improves brewery licensing by creating cheaper tiers for lower volume brewers.

- This bill changes the price of a beverage manufacturer's licence from \$1200 for under 15,000 barrels of domestic sales or less to a more graduated, multi-tiered system that is significantly less costly to the brewer.
- Reducing the cost of doing business in New Hampshire improves liberty and increases the likelihood for successful businesses.

SB 137

**YEA
OTP/A**

SB 194, allowing students under age 21 to taste wine in educational settings.

Commerce: ITL 3-1

PRO-LIBERTY: Allowing students under age 21 to taste wine for instructional purposes at accredited educational institutions.

- This bill allows students studying enology or brewing, who may be under 21, to fully participate in the class.
- This bill increases access to education by creating a small and reasonable exception to the alcohol age limit.

SB 194

NAY ITL

SB 196, establishing a minimum amount of uninsured motorist coverage required for vehicles operating as part of transportation network companies in New Hampshire.

Commerce: OTP 4-0

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill establishes a set minimum amount of coverage required for vehicles operating as part of a transportation network company in New Hampshire.

- This bill will increase the cost of doing business by companies such as Uber and Lyft within New Hampshire, as they will likely pass the cost of their insurance premium increase onto the customer.
- There is no benefit to a citizen operating a vehicle to be required to maintain insurance against the possibility that another motorist is underinsured or unable to financially cover their responsibility in the event of an accident.
- This is a nanny-state bill ostensibly presuming that the responsible, capable citizens of New Hampshire can't freely manage on their own while commuting in their state.

SB 196

**NAY
OTP**

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

Education: IS 5-0

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 child care 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.
- While NAY OTP is preferable, IS is acceptable.

SB 214

YEA IS

SB 217, establishing a rural and underserved area educator incentive program for higher education and making an appropriation therefor.

SB 217

Education: OTP 4-0

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill establishes the rural and underserved area educator incentive program and makes an appropriation therefor.

**NAY
OTP**

- This bill is unnecessary, as no part of New Hampshire is educationally underserved due to the universal access of the Education Freedom Accounts.
- Increasing the unnecessary bloat of the already overfunded public education department creates an unjust burden on everyone forced to pay taxes.
- There is very limited actual incentive created by this bill as the federal government is already forgiving billions in college education loans.

SB 219, relative to a salary floor for public school teachers.

SB 219

Education: ITL 4-0

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill creates a floor to teacher pay in districts where there is more than one assistant superintendent or one or more diversity professionals.

YEA ITL

- This bill at once seeks to decry the bloat of the inflated number and salaries of administrators while also claiming teacher compensation should have a floor based on said bloat.
- The ratio of teacher pay to cost per pupil this bill seeks would be effectively and responsibly achieved by simply reducing the number of administrators and eliminating all diversity positions.
- The cost per pupil of Education Freedom Accounts is \$4,700, compared to \$21,534 for those children trapped in the public education system. If we closed the public education department and doubled the allowance of the EFAs the citizens of New Hampshire would still save over half the cost to educate their children.

HB 572, relative to eligibility for free school meals.

HB 572

Education: OTP 4-0

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill increases the eligibility for free school meals to household incomes up to 300% of federal poverty guidelines.

**NAY
OTP**

- The median income in 2023 in New Hampshire is \$88,235, while in the United States it is \$67,521. The poverty index for a family of four increased by 300% is \$90,000. This bill would charge taxpayers for low-quality food to be provided to middle-class families.
- The free school lunch program's intent was to make sure children from impoverished homes could have the energy to pay attention, learn, and perform in their education. This bill turns this into an entitlement for families who are doing well enough to feed their children.

SB 133, relative to changing the date of the state primary election and creates runoff election for federal primary election.

SB 133

Election Law and Municipal Affairs: IS 4-0

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill changes the date of the state primary election to the second Tuesday in May (from September).

YEA IS

- This bill will substantially restrict the ability of third parties to secure enough petitions in time to qualify. It further expands the use of taxpayer resources to enable entrenched private political parties to make use of election apparatus for free while reducing the time and thus increasing the costs for third party candidates to qualify to be on the ballot.
- This bill can be made at least neutral if it is amended to include a change to RSA 655:41 to untether the dates of independent filing from the primary to prevent inadvertently dramatically raising the bar for ballot access for these candidates.

YEA IS

YEA OTP/A

HB 250, (Second New Title) relative to the accidental death benefit payable for a retirement system member.

Executive Departments and Administration: IS 5-0

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill increases the amount of the state retirement annuity payable upon the accidental death of a group II member to 100% of earnable compensation (up from 50%) at the member's death.

- Under current law, government employees who are eligible for the current benefit receive a value equal to 50% of earnable compensation at the date of the member's death. As a result, the existing benefit already rises as wages rise. This bill would increase the benefit to 100% of earnable compensation.
- Employees eligible for this increased benefit are generally covered by collective bargaining agreement. There is little evidence that expanding the total compensation/benefit package outside of the bargaining process does anything other than setting a new baseline expectation prior to the start of negotiations. If these employees would find this expanded benefit to be valuable, it should be sought through their collective bargaining process.
- Per the fiscal note, this bill would require increased expenditures by local governments without full funding from the state and as such is a violation of Article 28-a of the New Hampshire Constitution.
- While ITL is the preferred motion, IS is acceptable.

HB 135, prohibiting no-knock warrants.

Judiciary: OTP/A 4-1

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill raises the bar for the execution of no-knock warrants.

- "No-knock" warrants allow law enforcement to use force to gain entry into a residence without giving any prior notice or announcing their entry. This is dangerous both for the police and the potentially-innocent occupants of the household, as the resulting confusion dramatically increases the probability of inadvertent injury or death.
- Originally conceived as a means to prevent the destruction of evidence, no-knock raids have been misused by law enforcement, executed at incorrect addresses, and resulted in fatalities, both to law enforcement personnel and to civilians. Between 2010 and 2016, 81 civilians and 13 officers have died during no-knock raids (www.nytimes.com/interactive/2017/03/18/us/forced-entry-warrant-drug-raid.html).
- Per the New Hampshire Law Enforcement Manual (www.doj.nh.gov/criminal/documents/law-enforcement-manual.pdf) the purpose of 'knock and announce' is to protect people's rights to privacy in their homes and to prevent unnecessary violence that could result from unannounced entries.
- While rare, there are instances across the country of no-knock warrants being executed at the wrong address due to typographical or other errors that have at times lead to disastrous consequences. As such, a complete prohibition on the ability to execute a no-knock warrant would be preferable. However, this bill is a small step in the right direction.
- When individuals are not aware of who is trying to break down their door, they can, will, and should use deadly force to defend their property. This bill is a small step to reduce the risks to the public and police of no-knock raids.