



NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBERTY ALLIANCE

# GOLD STANDARD

CACR 13 YEA OTP  
HB 1002 NAY OTP/A  
HB 1068 Oppose  
HB 1338 NAY ITL  
HB 1372 NAY ITL  
HB 1391 YEA OTP  
HB 1520 Oppose  
HB 1598 NAY OTP



NHLIBERTY.ORG

HOUSE SESSION - THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2024

**HB 1598, relative to the department of health and human services management of social security payments and veterans benefits for children in foster care.**

## HB 1598

**Children and Family Law: OTP 12-1**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill places the full cost of raising children in state custody on New Hampshire citizens. It also takes the money the state collects from the federal government for this purpose and holds it in trust as a payout for when the child leaves state care.**

## NAY OTP

- This bill is a misappropriation of funds. It takes money from the federal government intended for the support of children and decides to save it as a payout to the child for when he or she is released from state care. It presumes instead to charge New Hampshire citizens again for the support of children in state care.
- An unintended consequence is that impoverished parents may decide to surrender their children to state care so those children can get cash payouts on the backs of New Hampshire citizens.

**HB 1372, relative to prohibiting torture.**

## HB 1372

**Criminal Justice and Public Safety: ITL 17-3**

**PRO-LIBERTY: This bill establishes a criminal prohibition against torture at the New Hampshire state level.**

## NAY ITL

- With respect to federal torture law, this bill strengthens and specifies crimes identified as torture at the level of the state of New Hampshire.
- Cruel and unusual punishment is prohibited by the 8th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and Part I, Article 33 of the New Hampshire Constitution.
- While assault statutes exist in New Hampshire, they don't adequately cover the elevated egregiousness of actual torture by a government official operating under the color of law.
- This statute would punish actions defined as torture as a Class A felony.

**HB 1068, relative to establishing a blood lead level testing requirement for children entering day care and public schools.**

## HB 1068

**Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs: Without Recommendation**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill establishes a blood lead level testing requirement for children entering day care and public schools.**

## Oppose

- This bill adds an unnecessary expense and barrier for families trying to educate and care for their children.
- This bill intrudes on the privacy and autonomy of parents and their children.
- There is no communicable condition related to someone with high lead levels in their system; therefore there is no reason for the state to be forcing the drawing of blood from small children.

## Oppose

## NAY OTP/A

## CACR 13

## YEA OTP

**HB 1520, establishing a family assistance car ownership pilot program in the department of health and human services.**

**Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs: Without Recommendation**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill creates a taxpayer-funded program to gift vehicles to those in poverty to enable businesses to pay below-market wages and increase the cycle of poverty.**

- Government programs create dependency and perverse incentives that often do far more harm than good. Effective social assistance is based on sincere care for a person, and most often occurs in the context of a genuine personal relationship.
- This bill will come at a cost to the taxpayers and will only exacerbate the problem that it seeks to resolve. The increased spending and ultimately higher taxes will push more individuals who are living on the margins to become dependent on programs like this.
- The state could reduce the barriers to accessing affordable transportation by joining other states, including many other cold weather states, in eliminating annual vehicle inspections.

**HB 1002, relative to fees for records under the right-to-know law.**

**Judiciary: OTP/A 12-8**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill allows a public body to charge fees for records made available under RSA 91-A.**

- People have a right to know how their money is being spent and what policies are being enacted in their name. Pragmatically, transparency is required in order to keep corruption and waste in check. While it is always challenging for the public to hold officials accountable, without reliable information it is nearly impossible.
- This bill would have a chilling effect on transparency by enabling public bodies to provide high estimates for access to public data, or worse, to take explicit actions that would indeed result in actually higher labor costs to recover the data. For example, the city of Nashua delayed the processing of a 91-A request long enough that relevant emails had been purged from the system and were only available on backup tape ([www.unionleader.com/news/courts/nh-supreme-court-sides-with-nashua-resident-in-right-to-know-case/article\\_7f1f10ab-3519-52f3-b982-8366fe4b1d73.html](http://www.unionleader.com/news/courts/nh-supreme-court-sides-with-nashua-resident-in-right-to-know-case/article_7f1f10ab-3519-52f3-b982-8366fe4b1d73.html)), requiring the supreme court to take action directing the city to recover the records.
- The bill would have unintended consequences of growing the cost of government in an attempt to mitigate costs. Under current law, public bodies have some incentive to optimize data storage and retrieval systems and make data easily available to constituents. With this bill, even with the proposed amendment, public bodies are incentivized to retain antiquated and labor intensive systems.
- Public bodies currently have a very strong upper hand in denying unreasonable records requests: they can simply deny the request and force the party seeking records to sue. If a request is indeed unreasonable the court will easily affirm.

**CACR 13, relating to slavery and involuntary servitude. Providing that slavery and involuntary servitude shall be prohibited in the state of New Hampshire.**

**State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs: OTP 20-0**

**PRO-LIBERTY: This proposed constitutional amendment modifies the New Hampshire Constitution to prohibit slavery and involuntary servitude.**

- The 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution prohibits slavery and involuntary servitude in all states but not under all conditions; specifically, slavery is still allowed "as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted". This amendment would create a similar right within the New Hampshire Constitution without an explicit exclusion.
- Enumeration of this right in the NH Constitution ensures that even as a sovereign entity, New Hampshire would continue to reject the forced extraction of value from those within our boundaries.

**HB 1338, relative to New Hampshire's enforcement of the Military Selective Service Act.  
State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs: ITL 14-6**

**HB 1338**

**PRO-LIBERTY: This bill prohibits state or local enforcement of the Military Selective Service Act except in times of foreign military invasion or declared war. This bill further repeals the state penalty provisions for lack of compliance with the Military Selective Service Act, and allows for the marking of "conscientious objector" when registering with the division of motor vehicles.**

**NAY ITL**

- This bill is a strong statement for liberty as it seeks to protect New Hampshire citizens from being conscripted by the federal government as slaves by denying state resources to the federal government.
- This bill would remove selective service registration as a requirement to attend state schools.
- This bill allows for conscientious objector status to be registered alongside of selective service.
- The legislation strengthens the New Hampshire Constitution's existing Art. 13 protections: "No person, who is conscientiously scrupulous about the lawfulness of bearing arms, shall be compelled thereto."
- We recommend this bill pass in its original form without amendment by 2024-0214h.

**HB 1391, allowing new vehicles purchased in the model year or before to be inspected in the second year after purchase.**

**HB 1391**

**Transportation: OTP 12-5**

**PRO-LIBERTY: This bill allows new vehicles purchased in the model year or before to be inspected in the second year after purchase.**

**YEA  
OTP**

- This bill is a common sense bill that recognizes that a brand new car doesn't need to be inspected for safety as soon as it is purchased.
- This bill reduces unnecessary expense in time and money for New Hampshire citizens.