



NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBERTY ALLIANCE

GOLD STANDARD

HB 135 YEA OTP/A
SB 217 NAY OTP/A
SB 347 NAY OTP
SB 352 NAY OTP/A
SB 380 NAY OTP
SB 445 YEA ITL
SB 446 NAY ITL
SB 454 NAY OTP/A



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SENATE SESSION - THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2024

SB 380, relative to moving the state primary date.

Election Law and Municipal Affairs: OTP 3-1

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

- This bill will substantially restrict the ability of third parties to secure enough petitions in time to qualify as a legitimate party. It further expends 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 can be easily made at least neutral if it is amended to include an amendment to RSA 655:43 to untether the dates of independent filing from the primary to prevent inadvertently dramatically raising the bar for ballot access for these candidates.

SB 380

**NAY
OTP**

SB 445, establishing a voter-owned elections fund for eligible candidates to executive councilor and making an appropriation to the fund.

Election Law and Municipal Affairs: ITL 3-1

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill establishes taxpayer-funded campaign financing for eligible candidates for executive council.

- Taxpayers should not be forced to pay for the campaign activities of any candidate, particularly those with whom they vigorously disagree.
- While the bill initially appropriates only \$1 to the newly created fund, this is a placeholder which will eventually be funded with taxpayer dollars.

SB 445

YEA ITL

SB 446, allowing voters to vote for multiple candidates for an office.

Election Law and Municipal Affairs: ITL 4-0

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill would allow voters to show support for multiple candidates in a given race.

- With this simple ballot change voters will be able to easily express their opinion on every candidate.
- This eliminates the "wasted vote" problem in which voters believe that votes for a less popular candidate will be wasted because the candidate has little chance of winning.
- Approval voting enabled by this bill requires no complex method for tallying votes to determine the winner(s) of a race, as vote tallying works the same as with the current system — that is to say, the vote total for a candidate is the sum of all votes cast for the candidate.

SB 446

NAY ITL

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

Finance: OTP/A 6-1

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

- This bill is unnecessary, as no part of New Hampshire is educationally underserved due to the universal geographic 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 217

**NAY
OTP/A**

SB 347, relative to infrastructure appropriations for reimbursement to the city of Laconia.

SB 347

Finance: OTP 7-0

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill makes an appropriation of \$3,000,000 to the Department of Administrative Services for reimbursement to the city of Laconia for expenditures related to the public water, sewer, and road infrastructure improvements needed for the development of the former Laconia state school campus property.

**NAY
OTP**

- The overtaxed citizens of New Hampshire do not need to absorb the cost of private development in Laconia.
- The state would be fairly served to offer an interest-free loan to Laconia to be paid off at a rate of 50% of the initial property taxes collected for the developed property.

SB 454, increasing the annual real estate transfer tax revenue contribution to the affordable housing fund.

SB 454

Finance: OTP/A 7-0

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill doubles the cost of the affordable housing fund.

**NAY
OTP/A**

- This bill doubles the cost to the general fund of New Hampshire for the Affordable Housing Fund from \$5 million to \$10 million annually.
- It is more efficient, ethical, and rational to reduce the cost of housing by reducing the high property taxes associated with housing than to incur the cost of taxing citizens and returning a small portion of that to a few select people.

SB 352, establishing an early detection cancer screening pilot program for active and retired firefighters.

SB 352

Health and Human Services: OTP/A 5-0

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill establishes an early detection cancer screening pilot program in the Department of Safety, Division of Fire Standards and Training and Emergency Medical Services, for retired and full-time active firefighters in New Hampshire.

**NAY
OTP/A**

- New Hampshire already heavily subsidizes the healthcare insurance of first responders in New Hampshire.
- This bill is the \$5 million start of a large, new program whose ongoing price tag is to be assumed by the New Hampshire taxpayer.
- First responders who believe they are at an increased cancer risk can consult with their professional medical doctors and decide on an appropriate course of action to be covered by the health insurance they currently have.

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.

YEA
OTP/A