



GOLD STANDARD



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HOUSE SESSION - THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 2024

CACR 12 NAY ITL	HB 1156 YEA OTP/A	HB 1244 YEA ITL	HB 1332 NAY OTP	HB 1412 Support
CACR 14 YEA ITL	HB 1208 YEA ITL	HB 1254 Oppose	HB 1359 YEA OTP	HB 1536 YEA OTP
CACR 15 Support	HB 1213 YEA OTP/A	HB 1266 YEA OTP	HB 1391 YEA OTP	HB 1660 Support
HB 1029 NAY ITL	HB 1220 YEA OTP/A	HB 1308 NAY ITL	HB 1403 YEA OTP/A	HB 1695 YEA OTP/A
HB 1037 Oppose	HB 1240 NAY ITL			

HB 1266, relative to permitting recordings of open family court proceedings by parties.

Children and Family Law: OTP 8-6

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill authorizes parties to make their own audio and/or visual recording of proceedings in the family division of the circuit court under certain circumstances.

- This bill makes it legal for people to make their own audio-visual recordings in public family court proceedings.
- This is an excellent bill for improving government transparency that will provide an opportunity for greater trust of the family court system.

HB 1266

YEA OTP

HB 1308, relative to parent access to children's library records.

Children and Family Law: ITL 13-2

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill provides a parent or legal guardian with access to their minor child's library records.

- If a library has records of a minor's borrowing history, this bill requires the library to provide those records to the minor's legal parent or guardian when asked.
- Parents are the primary protector of and hold the responsibility for their children. This bill prevents libraries from interfering with that, by requiring them to provide access to their children's records.

HB 1308

NAY ITL

HB 1695, relative to the release of student personally identifiable information.

Education: Without Recommendation

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill prohibits the transfer of students' personally identifiable information to third parties without written consent of the parents of the student.

- This bill, with the proposed amendment, prohibits releasing personally identifiable student information to third parties without written consent of the student's parents.
- This bill strengthens the ability of parents to protect their children's privacy.

HB 1695

YEA OTP/A

CACR 14, relating to the environment and natural resources. Providing that the state shall maintain and improve a clean and healthful environment for present and future generations.

Environment and Agriculture: ITL 13-7

ANTI-LIBERTY: This proposed constitutional amendment requires the state to fund ambiguous environmental interests without constraint.

- This ambiguous CACR prioritizes an 'improvement of a clean and healthful environment' without actually specifying what that is or how to get there.
- The opportunity to destroy human liberty with this CACR is bounded only by the imagination of those state agents who can interpret this bill to do literally anything.
- The NH Department of Environmental Services' mission statement already clearly specifies that: 'The protection and wise management of the state's environment are the main goals of the agency.'

CACR 14

YEA ITL

HB 1029, relative to exempting certain persons from requiring a New Hampshire landing license if such persons are not landing for the purpose of the sale of the lobster or crab they have caught.

HB 1029

Fish and Game and Marine Resources: ITL 10-9

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill exempts certain persons from being required to have a New Hampshire landing license if such persons are not landing for the purpose of the sale of the lobster or crab they have caught.

NAY ITL

- This bill exempts New Hampshire residents from being required to have a landing license if they are not landing for the purpose of selling lobster or crab.
- This bill improves liberty by reducing regulation and simplifying access to the state by its residents.
- We recommend this bill be passed as amended by 2024-0519h.

HB 1213, relative to immunization requirements for private schools and child care agencies.

HB 1213

Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs: OTP/A 10-9

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill, with the proposed committee amendment, removes the immunization requirements for child care agencies.

**YEA
OTP/A**

- This bill removes requirements for child care agencies to require and maintain records of immunizations.
- This bill strengthens liberty by freeing these private institutions from arduous and unnecessary records maintenance, which provides opportunity to reduce child care costs.
- With this bill, parents are free to choose whether or not to use child care facilities that choose not to impose immunization requirements. Parents are also free to immunize their children as they see fit.

HB 1240, relative to eating disorders as a qualifying condition for the therapeutic cannabis program.

HB 1240

Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs: ITL 14-5

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill adds eating disorders as a qualifying medical condition for the use of therapeutic cannabis.

- This bill enhances New Hampshire citizens' access to potentially life-saving medicine to treat eating disorders.
- This bill strengthens the right to personal bodily autonomy by allowing those suffering from eating disorders to work with their doctors to consider medical cannabis in their treatment regimen.

NAY ITL

HB 1660, relative to coverage of certain procedures for minor children under the state's Medicaid program.

HB 1660

Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs: Without Recommendation

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill provides that the state Medicaid plan shall not include gender reassignment treatment for minors.

Support

- This bill prevents gender reassignment treatments from being covered by Medicaid.
- This bill improves liberty by reducing potential costs to taxpayers for a safety-net entitlement by eliminating an elective treatment.

CACR 12, relating to the definition of the word "cherish." Providing that the 1784 word "cherish" shall be replaced by the 2024 word "cherish."

**CACR
12**

Judiciary: ITL 16-4

PRO-LIBERTY: This proposed constitutional amendment updates the definition of the word 'cherish' in the New Hampshire Constitution with the 2024 definition of the word 'cherish'.

NAY ITL

- This bill is intended to address an error made by the New Hampshire Supreme Court that discovered a requirement for education to be funded by state-level taxes instead of local taxes or parents.
- For more than 200 years, ordinary people and the state did not interpret the NH Constitution as requiring state-level funding for public schools. Then in the first Claremont decision, the NH Supreme Court "found" a requirement that none had ever previously seen — including the public that originally adopted the Constitution.

HB 1037, relative to repealing limited liability for manufacturers, distributors, dealers, or importers of firearms or ammunition.

HB 1037

Judiciary: Without Recommendation

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill repeals the statute that provides limited liability to manufacturers, distributors, dealers, or importers of firearms or ammunition.

- This bill is a backdoor tactic to chip away at a citizen's rights to protect themselves by providing a mechanism to financially destroy the firearms industry at every level by allowing them to be subject to lawsuits from individuals and government agencies alike.
- This would unjustly make public and private businesses liable for the actions of individuals who commit crimes with firearms or unlawfully acquire firearms, ammunition, or related accessories.
- This will ultimately destroy competition in the firearm industry, as it will disproportionately negatively impact small and mid-sized businesses, as they will not have the financial means to fight the onslaught of litigation.
- This could drive more firearm and related businesses to move out of the state, costing the state jobs and tax revenue.
- The cost of defending against frivolous lawsuits will ultimately be passed on to consumers, which will negatively impact the ability of those of lower socioeconomic groups to exercise their constitutional right to bear arms.

Oppose

HB 1220, relative to abolishing the collection of racial and ancestral data for use in a marital application worksheet.

HB 1220

Judiciary: OTP/A 17-2

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill, with the proposed committee amendment, abolishes the collection of data regarding race, ancestry, and education for use in a marital application worksheet.

- This bill abolishes the collection of unnecessary data when a couple is applying for a marriage license in New Hampshire.
- This bill helps to protect the privacy of citizens by ending the needless practice of collecting race, ancestry, and education information when getting married in the state.

**YEA
OTP/A**

HB 1412, relative to court reporters.

HB 1412

Judiciary: Without Recommendation

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill repeals the requirements for licensure and regulation of court reporters.

- This bill repeals the requirements for licensure and regulation of court reporters first instituted in 2007.
- The bill repeals the voluminous, detailed, burdensome, and costly statutes and regulations relating to court reporters.
- It is believed there are under 200 court reporters in New Hampshire (active reporters may be fewer).
- Court reporters must currently pay \$300 for an initial license application, and \$200 for renewals.
- Court reporters are already certified at different levels of competency by the National Court Reporters Association.
- Court reporters should be free to advance their profession without government restrictions. The free market will weed out incompetent or unethical reporters, who will not be hired by attorneys or courts.

Support

HB 1359, relative to appeals of certain zoning decisions by abutters.

HB 1359

Municipal and County Government: OTP 10-8

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill adds to the definition of "abutter" and includes abutters in appeals to the Board of Adjustment.

- This bill correctly expands who can appeal to the Board of Adjustment with respect to zoning considerations.
- This bill improves liberty by giving access to the mechanism for seeking redress of grievance from appropriate stakeholders before a zoning change is made by the Board of Adjustment.

**YEA
OTP**

HB 1208, relative to permitting requirements before timber harvesting operations in a wetland.

HB 1208

Resources, Recreation and Development: ITL 12-8

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill requires that persons or entities conducting timber harvesting operations in wetlands verify compliance with and maintain in their records all permitting documents required for the work being done.

YEA ITL

- This bill assigns liability to a contractor instead of simply a landowner for getting appropriate permits and keeping records before harvesting timber.
- This bill creates confusion around enforcement and does not define which organization would be responsible for that enforcement.
- This bill is an unnecessary complication of law. The landowner is presently responsible for getting the permits and keeping records as such.

HB 1156, relative to public health, safety, and state sovereignty.

HB 1156

State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs: Without Recommendation

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill provides that the World Health Organization shall have no jurisdiction in New Hampshire.

**YEA
OTP/A**

- This bill, with the proposed amendment, removes any presumed authority by the World Health Organization within the State of New Hampshire.
- Whereas the WHO is an international organization and not part of New Hampshire, it should have no authority assumed or recognized.

HB 1244, prohibiting smoking and e-cigarettes in motor vehicles when a passenger is under 16 years of age.

HB 1244

Transportation: ITL 11-8

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill prohibits smoking and e-cigarettes in motor vehicles when a passenger under the age of 16 is in the vehicle.

YEA ITL

- This bill prohibits a person from smoking within their own private property if a child under 16 is present.
- This bill is an invasive interference in the personal lives of New Hampshire citizens by a nanny state. People should be free to decide when and where they choose to consume tobacco products with respect to their own vehicles.

HB 1332, relative to prohibiting electric vehicles from parking in parking garages.

HB 1332

Transportation: OTP 10-9

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill prohibits the parking of electric vehicles in parking garages.

**NAY
OTP**

- Electric vehicles are not shown to be any more likely to catch on fire than internal combustion vehicles.
- This bill would be responsible for impinging upon over 12,000 electric vehicle owners in New Hampshire who would have their liberty constricted by the unfounded fears of a few.

HB 1403, relative to temporary vehicle emission control equipment.

HB 1403

Transportation: OTP/A 12-7

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill, with the proposed committee amendment, extends the repair period for vehicles that fail the OBD II test to 120 days.

**YEA
OTP/A**

- This bill enhances liberty by giving people whose vehicles fail to pass their On-Board Diagnostics II emissions test an extension to 120 days to make repairs.
- This bill gives people a better opportunity to shop for the most economical and efficient services, repairs, or even a new vehicle if they believe it's warranted.

CACR 15

CACR 15, relating to taxation. Providing that a 2/3 vote is required to pass legislation imposing new or increased taxes or license fees, or to authorize the issuance of state bonds and providing that the general court shall appropriate funds for payment of interest and installments of principle of all state bonds.

Ways and Means: Without Recommendation

PRO-LIBERTY: This proposed constitutional amendment provides that a 2/3 vote of the House of Representatives and the Senate shall be required to pass a new tax or license fee or to increase any tax or license fee that has been levied, or to authorize the issuance of state bonds.

- This CACR is highly pro-liberty by increasing the threshold to tax or indebt the citizens of New Hampshire to a two-thirds vote of the House and Senate.
- Preserving the New Hampshire advantage of no income tax and low government spending is fundamental to protecting the future growth and liberty of the state.

Support

HB 1254, relative to an optional local public safety assessment on certain room occupancies.

HB 1254

Ways and Means: Without Recommendation

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill enables a municipality to collect an additional tax on hotel occupancies for the purpose of subsidizing town infrastructure costs associated with the increase in tourism and transient traffic.

- Local property taxes are already based on the value of the property, and in assessing the value it is already standard practice to take into account highest and best use of the site, and typically the present use is assumed to be the highest and best use (www.revenue.nh.gov/mun-prop/property/documents/asb-manual.pdf).
- Properties that are used as hotels are already assessed at the highest value for the site and therefore are already deriving the maximum revenue for the municipality.
- New Hampshire also already has a Rooms and Meals tax, which is shared with municipalities and which provides a direct benefit to the the state.

Oppose

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

HB 1391

Ways and Means: OTP 11-8

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

- This 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.

**YEA
OTP**

HB 1536, relative to increasing the amount of the expense deduction allowed against the business profits tax.

HB 1536

Ways and Means: OTP 16-4

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill increases the amount of the section 179 expense deduction permitted against the business profits tax starting in 2025.

- The 2023 IRS limit for section 179 expenses is \$1,160,000. While this bill would fall short of setting New Hampshire's deduction to the same level offered by the federal government, it would substantially close the gap and reduce one area in which New Hampshire business taxes are less competitive than other states.
- Every state with a corporate income tax allows for some form of section 179 expense deduction but only 14 states (inclusive of NH) and the District of Columbia utilize more restrictive limits than the IRS, ranging from \$25,000 to \$1,040,000 (us-kb.sage.com/portal/app/portlets/results/viewsolution.jsp?solutionid=225924450086997).

**YEA
OTP**