



NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBERTY ALLIANCE

GOLD STANDARD

SB 219 YEA OTP/A
SB 302 YEA OTP
SB 308 YEA ITL
SB 335 YEA IS
SB 357 YEA OTP/A
SB 366 NAY OTP
SB 372 YEA OTP
SB 384 YEA IS
SB 423 NAY OTP/A
SB 456 NAY OTP
SB 522 NAY OTP/A
SB 525 YEA ITL
SB 569 YEA ITL

NHLIBERTY.ORG

SENATE SESSION - THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2024

SB 308, relative to the state minimum hourly rate.

Commerce: ITL 3-2

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill sets a state minimum wage higher than the federal minimum wage.

- Minimum wage laws decrease the number of entry-level jobs and make it harder for people of low skill to get their start in the workforce.
- Securing higher wages for everyone is better accomplished through job creation — having more jobs available means more competition among businesses to hire workers, thereby driving up wages.
- Employers and employees should be free to negotiate the terms of employment without interference.
- Economic conditions and cost of living vary dramatically across the state. A "one-size-fits-all" approach to a minimum wage will put unreasonable pressure on areas of the state with limited employment opportunities and lower costs of living.
- The very idea of a minimum wage is patronizing and demeaning as it implies that individuals don't know how much they're worth and are incapable of negotiating with an employer.

SB 308

YEA ITL

SB 335, relative to alcohol packaging.

Commerce: IS 5-0

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill restricts the use of certain images and phrasing in alcohol packaging that are subjectively assigned to be attractive to minors.

- While the preferred motion for this bill is ITL, a motion of IS is acceptable.
- This bill creates an ill-defined and highly subjective bar that alcohol manufacturers will need to work closely with government officials to satisfy. This will increase the costs of these products to New Hampshire residents.
- Children and others under the age of 21 are already prohibited from purchasing or consuming alcohol regardless of how attractive the person finds the package.
- Alcohol manufacturers should be free to focus on the quality and palatability of their products without additional overhead foisted upon them by an engorged state only seeking a reason to grow even larger.

SB 335

YEA IS

SB 366, relative to restricting the purchase of real property on or around military installations.

Commerce: OTP 5-0

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill requires businesses with a principal place of business located within China to create U.S.-based shell corporations prior to purchasing real property within 10 miles of automated teller machines, car insurance agents, or cell phone towers.

- This bill infringes upon private property rights by limiting the individuals to whom a property owner may sell their property.
- While the intent is to reduce the risk of a communist-controlled entity owning property that would put critical infrastructure at risk, ultimately restrictions like this are easier to work around than they are to enforce and will have negative impacts on individuals who were never intended to be impacted by the restrictions. Further, nearly all urban property would be considered within 10 miles of critical infrastructure given the broad definitions in the bill.

SB 366

**NAY
OTP**

SB 522, relative to establishing an early childhood education scholarship account and making an appropriation therefor.

SB 522

Education: OTP/A 3-2

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill creates a new tax burden on New Hampshire residents to fund preschool services.

**NAY
OTP/A**

- This bill creates another massive cost to the state budget of an estimated \$23.5 million growing from fiscal year 2025 and beyond.
- Parents are the primary caregivers and responsible parties for their children. Parents should be allowed to make individual choices about how and where their children are cared for without being taxed into submitting to another failed public school system.
- This bill expands DHHS authority into early childhood education, not just childcare.

SB 525, relative to administration of the education freedom accounts program.

SB 525

Education: ITL 3-1

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill creates perverse incentives for families to limit their income to prevent their child from being forced back into a specific government school after having acclimated to a learning environment that better suits their needs.

YEA ITL

- Under this bill a family is required to have their finances re-evaluated each year to see if the taxpayer dollars that are allocated for their children's education are allowed to be used to continue to support attendance at the school of their choice. On the margin, this will force families to choose between increased economic output that benefits themselves and the community and the educational options available to the child.
- Parents often seek alternate education environments after bullying or other adverse encounters with staff or students in a particular school, and this may force a child back into an environment where they do not feel safe.
- Public schools require no income verification for being educated. The purpose of the Education Freedom Accounts program is for taxpayer money to follow the student, ensuring they have the best possible educational choices available to them for their individual needs. This should not be impacted by arbitrary income requirements, as every taxpayer and business pays into the system whether they have children or not.

SB 384, relative to a municipal loan and grant program for rental housing and making an appropriation therefor.

SB 384

Election Law and Municipal Affairs: IS 3-2

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill creates a recurring \$10 million hole in the state budget, creating an entitlement to establish a median income rental housing program.

YEA IS

- While the preferred motion for this bill is ITL, a motion of IS is acceptable.
- This bill appropriates \$10 million in a nonlapsing fashion annually to an undefined entitlement program.
- This bill takes money and doesn't define regular, measurable, and reportable outcomes, which would help protect the taxpayer from fraud, waste, and abuse.
- This bill is a vain attempt to address the impact on the local housing market of inflation caused by federal overspending and overregulation.

SB 219, (New Title) requiring mandatory reporting by school districts of school expenses.

SB 219

Finance: OTP/A 4-2

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill requires school districts to post mandatory reports of school expenses, including average cost per pupil, average teacher salaries, and top administrator salaries. It also creates a civil remedy for the enforcement of this requirement.

**YEA
OTP/A**

- This bill, with the proposed committee amendment, enhances public awareness of the cost incurred by public school administrators through requiring the posting of administrator salaries before any meeting in a school district where a budget is under consideration.
- Enhanced transparency in government increases public trust and awareness.

SB 372, relative to plumbing apprenticeships.

Finance: OTP 5-2

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill requires rules to allow a licensed plumber to employ two apprentices. Under current law, administrative rules may limit the number of apprentices per licensee to only one apprentice.

- While it would be best to allow a master artisan to decide how many apprentices they can mentor, an increase from one to two is an improvement.
- This bill increases the opportunity for more licensed plumbers in the future, which will increase competition and potentially lower prices.

SB 372

YEA OTP

SB 456, (New Title) relative to the state loan repayment program for qualified nursing professionals, and making an appropriation therefor.

Finance: OTP 6-1

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill creates a loan forgiveness plan for nurses that is estimated to create a recurring budget cost of \$17,890,064 annually.

- This bill unjustly steals money from working people who did not choose to get an overpriced education in order to support the choices of those who did.
- Nurses are more than capable of meeting their obligation to pay off their loans. Presently, nurses with only a few years of experience can earn \$100,000 or more annually.
- The motivation to pay off the loans nurses incurred to enter their profession is an ethical motivator for them to work more and provide a greater quantity of nursing services.

SB 456

NAY OTP

SB 302, adding an additional exemption from the regulation of physicians and surgeons.

Health and Human Services: OTP 5-0

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill provides for physicians and surgeons from out-of-state to perform medical examinations in New Hampshire under certain circumstances.

- This bill allows for a physician from out-of-state who has an established relationship with a patient to continue to treat and examine that patient in New Hampshire without limitation of operation.
- This is a common sense bill to allow for ease of access to the wealth of highly qualified medical doctors throughout the country that allows them to operate unimpeded by law on patients with whom they have an established relationship.

SB 302

YEA OTP

SB 357, relative to expanding the definition of providers who can certify patients of the therapeutic cannabis program.

Judiciary: OTP/A 4-1

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill expands the definition of provider under the therapeutic cannabis program to include a provider licensed to prescribe medication and who is primarily responsible for the patient's care related to his or her qualifying medical condition. The bill also requires, for issuance of a registry identification card to a minor, certification from two providers, one of whom shall provide pediatric care.

- This bill, with the proposed committee amendment, is a commonsense expansion to reduce the restriction on the qualified medical staff who are trained to dispense medications as licensed by the Drug Enforcement Administration.
- This bill provides that any medical professional who is licensed to dispense prescription medications can prescribe cannabis to their patient so long as their patient suffers from one of the allowed ailments for such treatment.

SB 357

YEA OTP/A

SB 423, relative to mandatory disclosure of insurance policy limits.

Judiciary: OTP/A 3-2

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill requires insurers to disclose the liability coverage limits of an insurance policy upon request by a claimant or the claimant's attorney.

- This bill forces an insurer to reveal to a claimant the maximum they intend to cover for the claim on the insured. This allows for and incentivizes exorbitant claims to be pursued by those with far more modest real damages.
- This bill may facilitate an increase in insurance costs for all, as insurers will potentially be commonly exposed to maximum coverage settlements and will naturally amortize the increased costs.

SB 423

**NAY
OTP/A**

SB 569, relative to the powers and duties of the attorney general as the state's attorney.

Judiciary: ITL 3-2

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill grants the attorney general expanded subpoena powers, allowing for pre-suit investigations and enables abuse of power under the guise of regulatory enforcement.

- The expanded subpoena power granted to the attorney general in this bill may lead to potential overreach and abuse of power, infringing on individual rights and privacy. During the hearing, the senior assistant attorney general testified that searches could be performed without probable cause, which would then require a defendant to challenge introduction of the evidence in a future criminal proceeding.
- The bill may result in increased bureaucracy and administrative costs, as it adds a new layer of regulation and enforcement to civil rights laws.
- The potential for increased litigation and legal costs may disproportionately affect individuals and smaller businesses, limiting their ability to defend themselves against civil rights complaints.
- The bill may create a chilling effect on free speech and expression, as individuals and organizations may self-censor out of fear of facing lawfare from an executive branch that is seeking to punish its political enemies.

SB 569

YEA ITL