



NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBERTY ALLIANCE

GOLD STANDARD

SB 84 YEA OTP/A
SB 122 NAY OTP
SB 128 NAY OTP
SB 163 YEA OTP
SB 174 YEA OTP
SB 274 NAY OTP
SB 276 YEA OTP
SB 284 YEA OTP
SB 286 NAY OTP



NHLIBERTY.ORG

SENATE SESSION - THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2025

SB 84, relative to zoning procedures concerning residential housing.

Commerce: OTP/A 5-1

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill prevents towns from requiring large lot size minimums for single family homes.

- Property owners should be able to build homes at whatever density they believe the housing market will support.
- This bill moves existing law in a pro-liberty direction by allowing a builder to construct more homes on their land.

SB 84

**YEA
OTP/A**

SB 163, prohibiting local moratoria and limitations on building permits.

Commerce: OTP 4-2

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill prevents local governments from banning new building permits.

- Local opposition is a common roadblock to the construction of new homes. With New Hampshire in a housing shortage, municipal governments should be looking for ways to streamline the development process, rather than ways to impede it.
- Local governments can still plan their communities through zoning, master plans, and capital improvement plans. They just cannot say no to all new development.

SB 163

**YEA
OTP**

SB 174, prohibiting planning boards from considering the number of bedrooms a given unit or development has during the hearing and approval process.

Commerce: OTP 4-2

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill prevents local planning boards from denying a housing development based upon the number of bedrooms per unit.

- Developers should be able to construct the homes they think are most likely to sell. It should not be up to the local government to specifically dictate the design of the homes, so long as they are built to code.
- Local governments already have the ability to influence development through zoning decisions, master plans, and capital improvement plans.

SB 174

**YEA
OTP**

SB 284, relative to the required maximum number of residential parking spaces.

Commerce: OTP 5-1

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill prevents a local legislative body from requiring more than 1 parking space per unit, or 1.5 spaces per unit for multifamily developments of at least 10 units and for workforce housing.

- Excessive parking requirements are often a challenge in the development of housing, especially workforce housing.
- Lowering this requirement makes starter homes more economical to build.

SB 284

**YEA
OTP**

SB 122, relative to financial eligibility for the Medicare savings program.

Finance: OTP 6-0

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill removes the resource eligibility requirements and increases the income requirements to qualify for the Medicare Savings Program. No resources would be considered at all. Income for a qualified Medicare beneficiary (QMB) would increase from 100% to 185% of the Federal Poverty Guideline (FPG). Income to qualify as a qualified individual increases from a maximum of 135% to 250% of FPG for partial Medicare benefits.

- This bill completely removes the consideration of "resources" (cash savings accounts, investment accounts, second homes) from consideration when qualifying for the Medicare Savings Program. Even if someone has no income, these resources could provide financial support to a retired person and should be considered. This is true even if the person does not, or cannot work any longer.

SB 122

**NAY
OTP**

SB 128, relative to children's mental health services for persons 18 years of age and younger.

Finance: OTP 6-0

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill creates a new agency, called the New Hampshire Children's Behavioral Health Association, and requires all health insurance companies to become assessed members and pay an assessment to the association to pay for in-home and out-of home behavioral health services.

- The methodology in the bill describes this as a replacement for funds that are already being spent on behavioral health services through Medicaid. In essence, this shifts the financial burden from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to insurance companies to provide these services. There is no such thing as a free lunch. Insurance companies will be forced to pay for this mandate with higher insurance premiums for their ratepayers.

SB 128

**NAY
OTP**

SB 274, (New Title) establishing a 4-year pilot program to improve rail trails in New Hampshire, including the establishment of 2 funds, the rail trails program fund and the emergency trail repair fund, and making appropriations therefor.

Finance: OTP 6-0

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill transfers ownership of 4 trails from the Department of Transportation to the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources. It also issues 20-year state general obligation bonds for \$7.2 million to pay for upgrades to the trails.

- Our main objection to this bill is the funding mechanism, borrowing money via a 20-year bond. Rather than take on debt, if the State wishes to prioritize this project, they should fully fund the \$7.2 million from the General Fund. If lawmakers are unwilling to allocate the funds through the budget, then they should not move forward with the trail improvements.
- Funding aside, we have no issue with the transfer of the land.

SB 274

**NAY
OTP**

SB 276, relative to raising the research and development tax credit.

Finance: OTP 6-0

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill increases the cap on the Research and Development Tax Credit from \$7 million to \$10 million each year. The maximum any taxpayer may receive will increase from \$50,000 to \$100,000 per year.

- Increasing this tax credit will increase new investment in research and development in New Hampshire.

SB 276

**YEA
OTP**

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill increases bureaucracy by creating a new Office of Film and Creative Media and three full-time positions that will increase state expenditures by at least \$1 million.

- The state government should not be in the business of solitciting the movie industry. By creating an attractive tax environment and maintaining the natural scenery, businesses of all industries, including film and creative media, will be attracted to New Hampshire.
- Government subsidies and incentives for specific industries distort the market and undermine the efficiency of the free market, which should be the primary mechanism for economic growth.
- The appropriation of public funds to promote a particular industry goes against the principles that government should not provide resources that should be handled by the private sector, nor pick sides and use taxpayer dollars to benefit particular industries, in spite of any (unproven) claims that the program "will benefit everyone".
- At least 13 states have similar programs that do not bring in enough revenue to offset the cost to administer the program. NY brings in 31 cents for every dollar spent, Georgia brings in 19 cents per dollar spent, and Maryland only brings in 10 cents for every dollar spent:
 - tax.ny.gov/pdf/research/economic-impact-of-tax-incentive-programs.pdf
 - audits2.ga.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Film-Tax-Credit-Summary.pdf
 - dls.maryland.gov/pubs/prod/TaxFiscalPlan/Evaluation-of-the-Maryland-Film-Production-Activity-Tax-Credit.pdf

**NAY
OTP**