



NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBERTY ALLIANCE

GOLD STANDARD



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HOUSE SESSION - WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 2025

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HB 96 YEA ITL	HB 226 NAY ITL	HB 402 YEA ITL	HB 509 YEA OTP	HB 600 YEA ITL
HB 132 YEA OTP/A	HB 274 YEA OTP	HB 413 YEA OTP	HB 548 YEA OTP/A	HB 614 NAY ITL
HB 137 YEA ITL	HB 284 YEA OTP/A	HB 428 YEA OTP/A	HB 549 YEA ITL	HB 620 Support
HB 138 YEA OTP	HB 347 YEA ITL	HB 446 YEA OTP/A	HB 553 NAY OTP/A	HB 641 YEA ITL
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HB 200 YEA OTP/A				

Regular Calendar — Part One

HB 467, defining "social districts" and enabling municipalities to create social districts.
Commerce and Consumer Affairs: OTP/A 14-2

HB 467

**YEA
OTP/A**

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill allows a town to create a "social district". This would be a zone where one can buy alcohol and then leave the place of purchase to drink in a designated public space. The bill requires that towns have a vote on a warrant article to authorize the districts.

- The idea of a social district is pro-liberty, as it allows more choices in land use.
- We believe it is unnecessarily burdensome for the town to vote on a ballot to authorize the districts. These are the exact type of legislative decisions that we elect selectmen to make. This legislation would be better if it allowed the establishment of these districts without all of the extra burden of newspaper notices, public hearings, town meetings, and local elections.

HB 198, relative to legalizing certain quantities of cannabis and establishing penalties for the smoking or vaping of cannabis in public.

HB 198

**YEA
OTP**

Criminal Justice and Public Safety: OTP 9-7

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill increases the cannabis possession limit to 2 ounces and decriminalizes activities associated with a person 21 years or older who possesses cannabis under the limit. Additionally, violations of several cannabis laws have their severity reduced and remove incarceration requirements.

- This bill reduces the risk for non-violent offenders of cannabis laws to have lifelong detrimental impacts to their lives.
- This bill will reduce the consumption of police resources for inconsequential violations, allowing police to focus on more impactful criminals who threaten lives and property.
- This bill will reduce cost on the taxpayer, as fewer judicial and incarceration resources are consumed for meaningless law violations.
- The bill would be improved by simply removing *any* limits with respect to cannabis for persons 21 years of age or older.

HB 226, relative to the use of drug checking equipment.

Criminal Justice and Public Safety: ITL 9-7

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill excludes drug checking equipment from being considered as drug paraphernalia.

- This bill prioritizes reducing the adverse consequences of substance use through education and tools like drug checking, rather than relying solely on punitive measures.
- By potentially reducing criminal prosecutions (as noted in the fiscal note), the bill could decrease the burden on the judicial and correctional systems, allowing resources to be redirected away from penalizing non-violent behavior.
- Drug checking equipment is not only used by drug sellers and drug users. With this bill, friends, families, and charitable organization who have an interest in helping addicts can possess and distribute drug checking equipment without fear of seizure or legal repercussions, reinforcing the right to use property for personal or community benefit.

HB 226

NAY ITL

HB 466, relative to refusal of consent to testing to determine alcohol concentration and penalties for aggravated driving while intoxicated.

Criminal Justice and Public Safety: OTP 10-5

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill increases the penalty for refusing to consent to a test of blood, urine, or breath by a law enforcement officer.

- Extending license suspensions for refusal presumes guilt before a conviction, undermining the principle of "innocent until proven guilty." Refusal to test is not proof of intoxication, yet the state imposes severe consequences, effectively punishing individuals for not participating in their own incrimination.
- This bill directly threatens the livelihoods of working people who rely on driving to get to their jobs. For many, losing a license means losing employment, especially in a rural state like New Hampshire where public transportation is limited. This pushes otherwise self-sufficient individuals onto state unemployment or welfare, turning productive citizens into dependents of an overburdened system.

HB 466

NAY OTP

HB 137, relative to allocating excess statewide education property tax funds for local school and municipal purposes.

Education Funding : ITL 15-3

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill allocates excess statewide education property tax funds to the local municipality for other school and municipal purposes.

- This bill further wastes taxpayer dollars by encouraging school districts to spend without constraint if they are awarded more money than they could spend.
- Public education spending in New Hampshire is excessive. Any money not spent by schools should be returned to taxpayers.

HB 137

YEA ITL

HB 90, relative to the definition of part-time teachers.

Education Policy and Administration : OTP/A 10-8

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill, with the proposed committee amendment, allows a part-time teacher who works up to 20 hours per week to teach without a Board of Education certificate if they are a full-time or adjunct faculty member at the University of NH or at a NH community college.

- By allowing part-time teachers to bypass traditional credentialing requirements, this bill fosters educational innovation and choice, aligning with the principle that families should control their educational options.
- This legislation reduces the regulatory burden on schools, enabling them to hire based on expertise rather than bureaucratic credentials, which is a step toward more market-driven educational solutions.
- The requirement for criminal history checks and adherence to a code of conduct ensures accountability while still promoting liberty by expanding opportunities for qualified individuals to teach.

HB 90

YEA OTP/A

HB 175, relative to defined coordinated expenditures.

Election Law: ITL 11-7

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill expands the definitions of coordinated and independent expenditures.

It also imposes a spending cap on political advocacy committees.

- Restrictions on the spending of money in elections is a restriction of free speech, protected by Art. 22 of the New Hampshire Constitution and the First Amendment of the United States Constitution.
- PACs are entities formed for the purpose of spending money for political purposes. Political speech is the speech that requires the most protection.
- This bill makes it impossible for a PAC to agree with the platform of a political party without the appearance of a violation of the law for coordinating communications.

HB 175

YEA ITL

HB 600, enabling ranked-choice voting for municipal elections.

Election Law: ITL 10-8

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill allows for ranked-choice voting for municipal elections and for parties voting in caucus. The local legislative body or the party would determine whether to adopt a ranked-choice system for voting.

- Ranked-choice voting adds unnecessary complexity to voting.
- It creates the scenario where a "dark horse" candidate who was nobody's preferred candidate could win an election.
- 11 states have banned the use of ranked-choice voting:
– [ballotpedia.org/Ranked-choice_voting_\(RCV\)](http://ballotpedia.org/Ranked-choice_voting_(RCV))

HB 600

YEA ITL

HB 152, prohibiting the sale and use of adhesive-based rodent traps.

Environment and Agriculture: ITL 9-5

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill bans the sale, distribution, and use of adhesive-based rodent traps in New Hampshire. It introduces penalties for violations reaching up to \$500 per day.

- This bill infringes on the rights of individuals and businesses to choose their preferred methods of pest control, which is a clear overreach by the government into personal and commercial decision-making.
- By banning adhesive-based rodent traps, the state is limiting the tools available to property owners for managing their own property, which is a direct assault on property rights.
- The introduction of penalties for using a previously legal method of pest control is an example of government overreach, punishing individuals for exercising their personal responsibility in managing pests.

HB 152

YEA ITL

HB 96, requiring New Hampshire builders to use the 2021 Energy Building codes or a similar code that achieves equivalent or greater energy savings.

Executive Departments and Administration: ITL 12-4

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill mandates the use of the 2021 energy code, which increases the cost of construction significantly while claiming to promise long-run energy savings. This is a trade off individuals should make for themselves.

- Individuals can choose to use this code now, if it's worth it to them.
- The state building code should be a floor, not a stretch code.
- This bill's sponsor admits this bill will increase the cost to build a home in New Hampshire. In a time where much effort is going into lowering the cost to own a home, this bill aims to do the opposite and will allow only the wealthy to own a new home.

HB 96

YEA ITL

HB 145, relative to background checks for licensed dietitians and adopting the dietitian licensure compact.

HB 145

Executive Departments and Administration: OTP/A 9-6

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill requires background checks, including fingerprinting, for licensure of dietitians. It further requires New Hampshire to join the Dietitian Licensing Compact. This compact is an interstate licensing authority with the power to set its own taxes and whose rules have the force of law.

**NAY
OTP/A**

- There are privacy concerns associated with the background check that would be required for dietitians. They would be required to submit their fingerprints to the State Police, even if they do not have a criminal background.
- The Dietitian Licensing Compact is an interstate agency that New Hampshire would be compelled to comply with. The Commerce Clause in the Bill of Rights has time and again been determined to provide the federal government the authority to regulate interstate commerce. It would be more appropriate for the Dietitian Licensing Compact to be formed by an act of Congress, not by the states.

HB 428, prohibiting municipal amendments to the state building code.

HB 428

Executive Departments and Administration: OTP/A 10-6

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill, with the proposed committee amendment, prevents all amendments to the state building code, except for local codes that are less stringent than the state building code. Administrative issues, like where to pay fees, are still allowed to be amended locally.

**YEA
OTP/A**

- This bill creates consistency and certainty for builders across the state. They will no longer have to learn a new set of building codes for each new town in which they do business.
- This streamlining of building codes statewide should lead to faster and cheaper construction projects through a reduction in compliance efforts.

HB 132, repealing liability for familial support under chapter 165, aid to assisted persons.

HB 132

Judiciary: OTP/A 13-5

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill removes the crime of refusing to help an indigent relative. Current law makes it a crime punishable by 60-90 days of imprisonment to not help an indigent relative.

**YEA
OTP/A**

- While it would be the best case scenario, all else being equal, that relatives would be willing to help one of their own who had fallen on hard times, viewing this issue on a purely financial basis is short-sighted. Families and financial situations are complicated, and relatives might have bonafide reasons to refuse to help their relative. Furthermore, being blood- or legally-related to someone doesn't mean they even have a relationship with that person.
- This bill, with the proposed committee amendment, allows local municipalities to provide assistance to indigent persons, and then collect a reimbursement for the cost of the aid from the relative.

HB 509, relative to the contents of the attorney general's annual report detailing state forfeiture information for the preceding fiscal year.

HB 509

Judiciary: OTP 11-7

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill requires the Attorney General to collect more specific information about asset forfeitures in their annual report.

**YEA
OTP**

- More disclosure of asset forfeitures is pro-liberty, as asset forfeiture is a way that governments often take the property of a person without that person being convicted of a crime. This is a violation of the "innocent until proven guilty" tenet of our legal system and a government overreach.

HB 587, allowing admission of one-party audio and video recordings in certain circumstances.

HB 587

Judiciary: OTP/A 13-5

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill allows for the recording of private conversations when the recorder has reason to believe that the other party is committing a crime.

**NAY
OTP/A**

- The language of this bill is overly broad. It allows any private party to make a 1-party recording without consent as long as they "reasonably anticipate or believe" a crime is being committed. That standard opens the door to pretty much any 1-party recording.

HB 614, relative to litigation alleging constitutional rights violations.

HB 614

Judiciary: ITL 14-4

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill declares that a New Hampshire resident who wins a judgment finding that their rights in the New Hampshire Constitution were violated is entitled to monetary or nonmonetary relief.

NAY ITL

- Existing law and court precedent provides no relief of any kind for an individual whose rights were violated under the New Hampshire Constitution.
- The alternative is to seek relief in the federal court system, which would be more difficult and expensive without a reasonable expectation of a favorable judgment.

HB 641, establishing a private right of action for civil rights violations.

HB 641

Judiciary: ITL 10-8

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill allows private people to sue each other or the government, if their civil rights were violated.

YEA ITL

- Civil rights violations are currently prosecuted by the Attorney General's office, and that is the appropriate place for this type of action.
- Private lawsuits for what should be enforcement actions unnecessarily clog the court system and mostly benefit the attorneys who represent the plaintiffs, rather than the plaintiffs themselves.

HB 487, relative to providing employees with advance notice of the work schedule.

HB 487

Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services: ITL 11-9

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill requires that employers with 15 or more employees post the work schedules for employees at least 7 days in advance of any pay period.

YEA ITL

- Businesses have a right to conduct business as they see fit. This bill is a "one-size-fits-all" mandate upon all businesses in the state, who all have very different priorities, needs, and ways of operating.
- This bill acts almost like a collective bargaining agreement provision, but instead it is imposed by the state upon all businesses with at least 15 employees.
- If working hours and notice become an issue in a particular workplace, they should be negotiated and agreed upon between employees and management within that workplace.

HB 347, relative to protection of employment for members of the general court.

HB 347

Legislative Administration: ITL 8-3

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill requires employers to provide time off to members of the the General Court.

YEA ITL

- While we appreciate the voluntary efforts of the members of the General Court who choose to run for office and sacrifice their time, employers have made no such voluntary decision. This bill places a burden on employers by mandating that they allow an employee who is a member of the General Court to leave work to attend up to 168 hours of General Court voting.
- The bill may have unintended consequences of employers making decisions on the margins not to hire an individual who they believe is politically active.
- Even a single individual in a modestly-sized organization can have a significant impact on the ability of the business to operate. While many employers may have a flexible business that can support allowing for flexible work schedules and/or time off, this bill's approach of a broad mandate fails to consider the unique circumstances of each business

HB 456, relative to testimony of agency employees in general court hearings.

Legislative Administration: OTP/A 7-4

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill, with the proposed committee amendment, prevents the use of taxpayer funds by local governments to pay for lobbying the state government or to participate in political activity.

- The use of public funds should be non-political and non-partisan.
- The government has the obligation to avoid even the appearance of a bias toward candidates for public office.

HB 456

**YEA
OTP/A**

HB 138, relative to tax impact notation on warrant articles with multi-year tax impacts.

Municipal and County Government: OTP 10-8

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill requires all special warrant articles with a multi-year tax impact to disclose that tax impact. This would only apply to towns that have voted to require the tax impact of warrant articles to be disclosed.

- This bill promotes transparency for special warrant articles.
- Such warrant articles will no longer be able to omit hidden costs or lease agreements which will carry over to subsequent years.
- Anticipated tax increases will be disclosed to the public prior to adopting the articles. This prevents tax increase surprises in subsequent years.

HB 138

**YEA
OTP**

HB 582, relative to safety requirements for operation of personal water crafts.

Resources, Recreation and Development: ITL 9-7

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill creates a new type of aquatic craft called a personal water craft and creates rules specific to their operation.

- Personal water crafts are not so different from boats that they require their own rules regarding personal floatation devices, operating restrictions, and criminal penalties.

HB 582

YEA ITL

HB 760, relative to utility default service.

Science, Technology and Energy: ITL 10-8

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill safeguards consumers by removing the mandate to financially support companies they do not engage with.

- This bill strengthens free market competition and increases fairness to energy markets.
- Public Utility Companies (PUC) should be responsible for their own risky behaviors rather than passing the cost of their bad decisions onto the customers of other energy suppliers.

HB 760

NAY ITL

HB 553, relative to the definition of abuse and neglect and conditions triggering a rebuttable presumption of harm in abuse and neglect cases.**HB 553****Children and Family Law: OTP/A 10-4****ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill dramatically expands the conditions under which a child can be removed from a household.**

- Family law is always a complicated area that requires careful wording in order to protect children from egregious harms while also protecting a child's ability to remain with the caregivers that presumably have their best interest at heart. This bill fails on the careful wording test on multiple levels and increases the risk of needlessly removing children and placing them in state-directed care which itself comes with great risk of harm.
- By moving the goalposts from physical safety to emotional and mental well being, the seemingly well-intentioned language dramatically increases the risk of the already-present conditions that have lead to attempts to remove children from parents for political reasons. Refusal to use the pronouns demanded by a 10-year-old child would clearly be emotional harm as defined by the American Psychiatric Association:
 - psychiatry.org/psychiatrists/diversity/education/transgender-and-gender-nonconforming-patients/gender-affirming-therapy
- Proposed "169-C:12-f Rebuttable Presumption of Harm" in paragraph I states: "Evidence of a parent's, guardian's, or custodian's substance misuse or *sale, manufacturing, or trafficking of legal or illegal substances*, shall create a rebuttable presumption that the child's physical, emotional, or psychological well-being has suffered or is very likely to suffer serious impairment. The presumption may be rebutted by evidence of the parent's compliance with treatment for such use or dependence." — under this language, a grower under the existing NH Therapeutic Cannabis Program would be at constant risk for removal of their children.

**NAY
OTP/A****HB 380, relative to penalties for criminal violations of the therapeutic use of cannabis.****HB 380****Criminal Justice and Public Safety: ITL 9-6****PRO-LIBERTY: This bill removes the enhancement in the law for those who illegally sell therapeutic cannabis.**

- The private, personal use of cannabis should be legal for all adults.
- This bill fixes a problem in the law, whereby a user of therapeutic cannabis who sells their cannabis to another person who is not a qualifying patient or caregiver is subject to additional penalties beyond the illegal sale of cannabis. All people who illegally sell cannabis should be subject to the same penalties, whether or not they sell black market cannabis or regulated therapeutic cannabis.

NAY ITL**HB 549, relative to the use of education freedom account funds in religious schools and institutions of higher education.****HB 549****Education Funding : ITL 10-8****ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill prohibits the use of Education Freedom Account funds at religious schools or for religious education or training, and repeals provisions relating to independence of and legal proceedings concerning Education Freedom Account providers.**

- The funds for Education Freedom Accounts are directed by the parents of the students, not the government. This bill prohibits some parents from choosing the school of their choice.
- EFAs should be open to all schools: schools of any religion, or no religion at all. To deny that is to limit education freedom, and is a violation of Art. 5 of the New Hampshire Constitution and of the First Amendment.
- This bill also adds a state accreditation requirement, adding an additional state regulatory burden to all EFA eligible schools, not just the religious ones.

YEA ITL

HB 361, prohibiting mandatory mask policies in schools.

Education Policy and Administration : OTP 9-8

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill prohibits school boards and other public education agencies from having a mask mandate.

- This bill puts the power of choice back into the hands of the parents, where it belongs.
- It prevents government schools from instituting tyrannical mask measures on students and faculty that do not consent.
- This only applies to public schools, and does not apply to private schools.

HB 361

YEA OTP

HB 446, relative to parental notice for non-academic surveys in public schools.

Education Policy and Administration : OTP/A 10-8

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill requires school districts to email parents copies of non-academic surveys in public schools. They must be emailed at least 10 days before the school conducts the survey.

- This bill provides fair notice to parents of what the schools are requesting, and gives parents the opportunity to question, comment, or opt out of the survey.
- This prevents schools from collecting a student's (and perhaps their family's) private information in secret.
- Under this bill, parents' rights to care for and protect their children are enhanced.

HB 446

YEA OTP/A

HB 557, relative to the information that appears on the school budget ballot.

Education Policy and Administration : OTP/A 10-8

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill requires that school district election ballots include specific information about the school district's financial and academic status, specifically, the cost per pupil and proficiency in English, math, and science.

- The intent of this bill is to help voters make an informed decision.
- School budget expenditures have continued to rise as enrollment has gone down and student performance has leveled off.
- It is unclear if voters know that they are wasting their money on schools that spend more than they ever have, on fewer students, achieving lackluster results.

HB 557

YEA OTP/A

HB 741, allowing parents to send their children to any school district they choose.

Education Policy and Administration : OTP/A 10-8

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill allows parents to send their children to public schools outside of their resident district.

- This bill is a commonsense school choice bill. Parents should be able to send their student to the school of their choice.
- When parents have school choice, schools are in competition with each other to retain and attract students. Competition leads to a higher quality product for the consumer.

HB 741

YEA OTP/A

HB 217, relative to absentee ballots.

Election Law: OTP 10-8

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill requires absentee ballot voters to submit information demonstrating citizenship, age, domicile, and identity in order to qualify to vote.

- This bill improves election integrity by requiring proof of citizenship and residence to vote in New Hampshire state and local elections by absentee ballot.
- This bill provides a responsible and objective means of protecting the quality of an election by requiring additional verification from the applicant for the privilege of voting in absentia.

HB 217

YEA OTP

HB 274, relative to the verification of voter rolls annually.

Election Law: OTP 10-8

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill requires annual verification of voter rolls. It purges voters who have not participated in an election in more than 5 years, have moved away, or died.

- Ensuring that an accurate list of eligible voters is maintained is an important safeguard for the integrity of elections.
- Verifying the voter rolls allows for greater government transparency for those who have concerns about how the government is handling local elections.

HB 274

YEA OTP

HB 363, establishing redistricting criteria.

Election Law: ITL 10-8

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill removes the consideration of political groups from the redistricting process and instead encourages the maintenance of "communities of interest". It is identity politics applied to redistricting.

- Creating districts for the purpose of preserving "communities of interest", defined by their racial, ethnic, economic, social, cultural, geographic, or historic identities is a form of identity politics.
- This type of redistricting makes the invalid assumption that voters select their candidate based upon the color of their skin, instead of the candidate's position on the issues most important to those voters.

HB 363

YEA ITL

HB 385, reestablishing voter identification exceptions.

Election Law: ITL 10-8

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill reopens a loophole that allows people to vote without proving they are a qualified voter. This loophole was just closed in 2024.

- Reestablishing exceptions to legitimate identification requirements for voters widens the window for unqualified voters to be able to vote in the state.
- Without valid, standard identification, people could vote when they are not qualified.
- Voter fraud negates the votes of legal New Hampshire residents and undermines the integrity of elections.

HB 385

YEA ITL

HB 357, relative to the department of health and human services' rulemaking authority regarding immunization requirements.

Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs: OTP 10-8

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill removes the authority of the Department of Health and Human Services to write rules requiring certain vaccines for children. The statute lists the specific vaccinations that are required: diphtheria, mumps, pertussis, poliomyelitis, rubella, rubeola, and tetanus.

- Parents are ultimately responsible for the healthcare decisions affecting their children. The government should not be mandating any form of treatment without parental consent.
- Education about healthcare options, not mandates, is the proper way to encourage childhood vaccination.

HB 357

YEA OTP

HB 548, relative to licensing requirements for health care facilities that operate on a membership-based business model.

Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs: OTP/A 10-8

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill creates an exception to the licensing requirements for healthcare facilities that operate on a member-based direct pay model.

- "Direct Pay Healthcare is an alternative healthcare system and an umbrella term for all healthcare professionals that offer direct pay services. Some desired benefits that direct pay healthcare practices offer include the removal of surprise billing, full price transparency, and improved quality of care." – directpayhealthcare.org/about-direct-pay-healthcare
- The whole point of direct pay care is to allow patients to pay cash for services that are cheaper and more transparent. By not taking any forms of insurance, the service provider has none of the overhead associated with insurance billing or compliance and they can pass the savings on to their patients.

HB 548

YEA OTP/A

HB 559, relative to staffing requirements in emergency medical transport vehicles.

Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs: OTP 10-8

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill removes the power of the commissioner to dictate that more than one EMT is required on an ambulance.

- One emergency medical technician (EMT) and a qualified non-EMT driver who is capable of rendering basic logistical and first-aid assistance is quite sufficient.
- It is appropriately a policy decision for the ambulance service provider as to how they choose to specify their minimum staffing levels.

HB 559

YEA OTP

HB 679, relative to immunization requirements.

Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs: OTP 10-8

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill provides that no childhood immunization requirement shall require a vaccine that has not been shown in clinical trials to prevent transmission of any disease.

- Nothing in the language of this bill prevents parents who want to vaccinate their children from doing so.
- What it does do is make sure there is evidence to substantiate creating a mandate that a particular vaccine be required for all children.

HB 679

YEA OTP

HB 712, limiting breast surgeries for minors.

Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs: OTP/A 10-8

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill places limitations on permissible breast surgeries on people under the age of 18 to only those procedures needed to treat malignancy, injury, infection, or malformation and those needed to reconstruct the breasts after such procedures.

- Consenting adults should have the right to do whatever they want to their bodies, including elective breast surgery.
- This bill addresses minors, who are not fully capable of understanding the full impact of big decisions they might make. It is an appropriate safeguard to require that they are a legal adult for allowing this type of elective procedure.

HB 712

YEA OTP/A

HB 620, relative to the exercise of the freedom of religion.

Judiciary: Without Recommendation

PRO-LIBERTY: This act adopts the compelling interest test from the federal Religious Freedom Restoration Act, applying it to state and local government actions. It prohibits the government from substantially burdening a person's exercise of religion unless it can demonstrate that the burden is in furtherance of a compelling governmental interest and is the least restrictive means of furthering that interest.

- This bill enhances the freedom of individuals to practice their religion without undue government interference, which aligns with the principle that the primary role of government is to protect rights, not to restrict them.
- By adopting the compelling interest test, the bill ensures that any government action that burdens religious practices must be justified, promoting a higher standard of government accountability.
- The Religious Freedom Restoration Act respects the NH Liberty Alliance's view that government should not interfere with personal choices, including those related to religious exercise.

HB 620

Support

HB 200, relative to the procedure for overriding a local tax cap.

Municipal and County Government: OTP/A 10-8

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill requires either a supermajority vote or a 3/5 vote on a local ballot, depending on the type of charter the town holds. This makes the vote threshold the same for the implementation of tax cap and the override of the tax cap.

- Current law requires a 3/5 vote in order to establish a tax cap, but only a simple majority to override the cap. This bill will fix this disparity by requiring the same voter threshold to create the cap and to override the cap.

HB 200

YEA OTP/A

HB 284, requiring tax impact statements on municipal warrant articles.

Municipal and County Government: OTP/A 10-8

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill requires that municipalities require tax impact statements on budgets and warrant articles and a total tax summary statement.

- Disclosing the financial impact on the ballot as warrant articles are considered will provide voters with important information that is relevant to their decision.

HB 284

YEA OTP/A

HB 413, relative to subdivision regulations on the completion of improvements and the regulation of building permits.

HB 413

Municipal and County Government: OTP 11-7

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill extends the amount of time a developer has to build a project once it is approved from 5 to 7 years. After 7 years, they will need to take into account zoning changes and local amendments to the building code. They also have up to 3 years to achieve active and substantial development.

**YEA
OTP**

- This bill gives more flexibility to developers, which is pro-liberty.
- Government does not build houses, developers do. By creating rules that make it easier for developers to build, New Hampshire will see more housing faster and at a better price.

HB 568, allowing subdivision regulations concerning water supply.

HB 568

Resources, Recreation and Development: ITL 9-7

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill allows the adoption of subdivision regulations that require water supply studies, determination of adequate water quantity for reasonably anticipated future water uses, and minimum on-lot private well testing requirements. This bill also clarifies the applicant's duty to pay associated costs.

YEA ITL

- Adding additional subdivision regulations relating to water supply only increases the cost in time and funds to develop property in New Hampshire.
- Our state is in a housing crisis. Lawmakers should be looking for ways to streamline the development process, not to find ways to make it more difficult.

HB 402, relative to liability as taxable income of education freedom account payments.

HB 402

Ways and Means: ITL 11-8

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill makes payments for Education Freedom Accounts taxable income.

YEA ITL

- This bill introduces a stealth income tax on EFA recipients in New Hampshire, which has no income tax provisions.
- EFA funds are products of taxation; therefore, making families pay taxes for receiving already-taxed state money is double-taxation.
- This tax targets families using state EFA funds to take advantage of alternative education options.
- Forcing the EFA scholarship entity to report grants as income places these families in the crosshairs of the IRS for no good reason.
- This is the latest effort to discourage families' participation in the EFA program and to attempt to ensure all education is provided via tightly-controlled public schools.

HB 483, relative to the definition of a scholarship organization for purposes of the education tax credit.

HB 483

Ways and Means: ITL 11-8

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill requires that for purposes of the education tax credit, a qualifying scholarship organization shall be incorporated in this state.

YEA ITL

- This bill would result in substantial disruption to the existing education scholarship tax credit program by disqualifying the only organization that is currently qualified to administer the program. The Children's Scholarship Fund - NH (nh.scholarshipfund.org) administered 1,224 scholarships in the 2023/2024 school year, and this bill would risk substantial disruption to these students — potentially increasing local expenditures as children return to failing public schools.