

NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBERTY ALLIANCE

GOLD STANDARD



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House SESSION - Thursday, May 8, 2025

SB 295, (New Title) relative to education freedom accounts.

Education Funding: OTP/A 10-8

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill removes the income eligibility requirements for Education Freedom Accounts; however, the amendment caps the number of EFA recipents to 10,000 children in 2025-2026.

- Education Freedom Accounts allow parents to have a say in how their children are educated by directing tax dollars to the education of the parents' choosing.
- NHLA supports universal Education Freedom Accounts. However, we will consider any vote to expand EFAs, including supporting SB 295, to be pro-liberty.

SB 141, extending the time to petition for a new trial in certain cases.

Judiciary: OTP/A 10-8

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill allows for new exceptions to the time limit for new trials. The amendment also allows extensions, but places additional restrictions to qualify for an extension.

- The proposed amendment adds significant restrictions upon the intent of the original bill.
- NHLA prefers the original bill without any amendment, but we will consider both OTP and OTP/A
 to be pro-liberty votes.
- If new evidence exists or an error occurred during the administration of justice in a civil or criminal matter, a citizen should have the right to a new trial.

SB 105, enabling towns to adopt budget caps.

Municipal and County Government: OTP/A 10-8

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill allows towns to enact a budget cap by a 3/5 vote at a town's annual meeting. The cap is equivalent to the previous year's per capita spending adjusted for inflation.

- Spending by local governments and schools has exploded in recent years.
- Such reckless budget increases also compel increases in local property taxes.
- Lower property taxes are the result of lower spending by local governments.

SB 153, (New Title) relative to expedited driveway permitting of major entrances for residential use of 20 units or greater.

Public Works and Highways: OTP 14-2

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill, with proposed amendment 2025-1876h, requires that permits for entrances to developments with 20 or more units be approved or denied within 60 days from the acceptance of a completed application.

- This bill, with the proposed amendment, should be a model for future housing bills. Development applications should be deemed approved unless expressly denied by a permit issuer within a set timeframe.
- One of the biggest challenges facing property developers is the time to takes to get a decision on an application for a development permit.
- This bill, with the proposed amendment, will provide certainty to permit applicants for major developments. Whether their permit application for a major entrance driveway is approved or denied, they will have an answer within 60 days and can plan from there.
- NHLA recommends OTP/A when amended by amendment 2025-1876h. OTP will also be considered a pro-liberty vote.

SB 295

YEA OTP/A

SB 141

YEA OTP

SB 105

YEA OTP/A

SB 153

YEA OTP/A