



GOLD STANDARD



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SENATE SESSION - WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2026

SB 88, prohibiting state government entities from including specified terms related to labor organization agreements in construction related contracts and grants.

SB 88

Commerce: OTP/A 4-2

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill prohibits government entities from requiring contractors to use, or not to use, union labor, or discriminating against or in favor of them on that basis.

- This bill may reduce government spending because it prohibits government entities from discriminating in favor of contractors on the basis that they use union labor.
- It also prohibits them from discriminating against contractors on that basis, making the legislation even-handed.

**YEA
OTP/A**

HB 340, relative to electioneering by public employees.

HB 340

Election Law and Municipal Affairs: OTP/A 3-2

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill forbids electioneering by public employees and adds an additional clarification about what is and is not electioneering.

- This bill protects voters from improper influence by public employees.
- It also prohibits the usage of public time, facilities, and equipment to promote particular candidates and issues.
- The bill does not prohibit personal and private behavior or expressions of free speech when not acting in a public capacity.

**YEA
OTP/A**

HB 723, repealing the multi-use energy data platform.

HB 723

Energy and Natural Resources: OTP 3-2

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill repeals a 2019 law requiring the creation of the state energy data platform.

- The law to create this platform was passed in 2019. In the past 6 years, the Public Utilities Commission has not built it.
- Most, if not all energy providers already offer some or all of this information to their customers.

**YEA
OTP**

HB 451, establishing the paint product stewardship program.

HB 451

Ways and Means: OTP 3-2

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill establishes a new program that requires paint manufacturers to accept paint for recycling purposes. It adds a fee on the cost of paint to pay for recycling.

- This bill is the government legislating "good behavior". If manufacturers and retailers wanted to be in the paint recycling business, they already would be. Some of them are.
- The cost of recycling paint should already be included in the overall cost of the paint or charged when the paint is recycled. This fee is basically a new sales tax on paint.
- This bill also requires plans for paint recycling to be submitted to the state. This is unnecessary oversight.

**NAY
OTP**