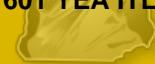




# GOLD STANDARD

CACR 12 YEA OTP  
 HB 186 NAY ITL  
 SB 430 YEA OTP/A  
 SB 434 YEA OTP/A  
 SB 467 NAY OTP  
 SB 479 NAY ITL  
 SB 488 NAY OTP  
 SB 532 YEA ITL  
 SB 554 YEA ITL  
 SB 576 YEA ITL  
 SB 601 YEA ITL



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SENATE SESSION - THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2026

**SB 430, relative to mandatory disclosure by school district employees to parents.****SB 430****YEA  
OTP/A****SB 434****YEA  
OTP/A****SB 532****YEA ITL****SB 576****YEA ITL****Education: OTP/A 3-1****PRO-LIBERTY:** This bill requires that schools shall not keep secrets from parents unless there is a warranted safety-based need to do so.

- The government should not be an instrument of keeping secrets from the legal parents or guardians of minor children unless there is a direct threat to the safety and well-being of the child.
- Those contingencies exist in this bill and are well-defined with a process to do so. Outside of those extenuating circumstances, the parent or guardian should have full knowledge and disclosure from the school about any circumstances pertaining to their child.

**SB 434, relative to regulation of public school materials.****Education: OTP/A 3-1****PRO-LIBERTY:** This bill requires school districts to publicly post what materials they intend to use with students. It also creates a process to appeal if a parent thinks materials are not age-appropriate.

- This bill requires a response to parent complaints within 25 days.
- Justice delayed is justice denied. A common ridicule of government is how slow it can be to respond to the needs of its constituents.
- Whether or not a parent receives the desired outcome, they can at least count on the school superintendent to give them a timely answer.

**SB 532, increasing the requirements of the education freedom savings account oversight committee and modifying the purpose of the committee.****Education: ITL 3-1****ANTI-LIBERTY:** This bill changes the role of the Education Freedom Savings Account Oversight Committee to give it oversight over EFA student data, eligibility requirements, and expenditures.

- This is a thinly-veiled attempt to add new regulation to the Education Freedom Accounts program.
- The EFA program is both very popular and widely considered a success. Additional regulation is not needed.
- The state spends significantly more money per student on traditional public schools. Those schools themselves are in more need of additional oversight and regulation than the EFA program.

**SB 576, adds definitions and reporting requirements relative to education freedom accounts.****Education: ITL 3-1****ANTI-LIBERTY:** This bill adds new reporting requirements for the Education Freedom Account Program.

- The EFA program is both very popular and widely considered a success. Additional regulation is not needed.
- The state spends significantly more money per student on traditional public schools. Those schools themselves are in more need of additional oversight and regulation than the EFA program.

CACR 12, relating to voting on broad-based taxes. Providing that a supermajority vote of the general court shall be required to enact any broad-bases taxes.

Finance: OTP 5-2

**PRO-LIBERTY:** This bill amends the NH Constitution to increase the vote threshold to raise taxes from a simple majority to two-thirds.

- In recent years, the State has been regularly lowering state taxes. Most recently, the Interest & Dividends Tax was eliminated.
- New Hampshire ranked #3 on the 2026 State Tax Competitiveness Index:  
– [taxfoundation.org/statetaxindex](http://taxfoundation.org/statetaxindex)
- The New Hampshire Advantage is a direct result of efforts by elected officials to lower taxes.
- This bill ensures that New Hampshire will not easily slide backward into mediocrity and erode our economic advantage.

YEA  
OTP

**SB 488**

**SB 488, enabling the governor to declare a state of emergency due to the failure of the legislature to pass a budget or continuing resolution to fund the New Hampshire state government by July 1 of the first year of a biennium.**

Finance: OTP 5-2

**ANTI-LIBERTY:** This bill allows the governor to continue funding the government if a budget is not passed on time.

- One reason that the various parties involved in the most recent biennial budget came to a compromise was the threat of a default state budget that was 10 percent lower than the current budget.
- This bill takes the teeth out of the July 1st deadline. All negotiating parties know that this deadline can be extended. It kicks the can down the road and encourages parties to dig their heels in rather than compromise.

NAY  
OTP

**SB 601**

**SB 601, relative to the allocation and disbursement of state contributions for non-state employer pension costs under the New Hampshire retirement system.**

Finance: ITL 5-2

**ANTI-LIBERTY:** This bill requires the state to pay 7.5 percent of the pension costs for employees who do not work for the state.

- This bill is the state sending more money to counties and towns to pay for pensions.
- Counties and towns are currently paying 100% of these pensions, as they should.
- All this bill will do is make a direct payment from the state to counties and towns with no strings attached, as money currently used to pay pensions would become unallocated funds.
- Prior state budgets have shown that when the state provides additional funds to towns, they still raise property taxes, so local taxpayers see no benefit from these direct payments.

YEA ITL

**SB 467**

**SB 467, relative to the penalty for certain fentanyl-related offenses and establishing a mandatory minimum sentence for the crime of distribution of a controlled drug with death resulting.**

Judiciary: OTP 3-2

**ANTI-LIBERTY:** This bill creates a minimum sentence of 3.5 years for possession of 20 grams or more of fentanyl. It makes the minimum sentence 7 years for 50 grams of fentanyl.

- The War on Drugs has been an abject failure. It has been a tremendous waste of resources, costing trillions of dollars, and has severely eroded the civil liberties of everyone, including non-drug users/dealers.
- Mandatory minimums are destructive because they do not permit judges to have flexible sentencing when the circumstances necessitate it.
- Every case is different, and legislating a one-size-fits-all on an issue as complex as drug use is a recipe for disaster, as the last 50 years have demonstrated.

NAY  
OTP

**SB 479, allowing alternative treatment centers to operate for profit.**

**SB 479**

**Judiciary: ITL 3-2**

**PRO-LIBERTY: This bill allows nonprofit medical cannabis centers to convert to for-profit businesses.**

- Capitalism is a good thing. It has allowed the United States economy to become the envy of the world. Capitalism creates competition, which encourages companies to provide higher-quality products at better prices. The consumers win when there is a competitive marketplace.
- This bill allows alternative treatment centers to operate either as nonprofits or as for-profit businesses. No one is forced to make any change if they like their current operation.

**NAY ITL**

**SB 554, repealing the limitation of liability for certain design features of firearms.**

**SB 554**

**Judiciary: ITL 3-2**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill repeals current law that protects firearm manufacturers from lawsuits related to the inclusion or noninclusion of certain features in guns.**

- Firearm safety is the responsibility of the owner and operator.
- This bill is a thinly-veiled pathway to allowing litigation against manufacturers when a firearm is treated improperly.

**YEA ITL**

**HB 186, relative to the legalization and regulation of cannabis and making appropriations therefor.**

**HB 186**

**Judiciary: ITL 2-1**

**PRO-LIBERTY: This bill legalizes cannabis and regulates it similarly to alcohol.**

- The private personal use of cannabis should be legal.
- This legalization would not only prevent innocent people from having their lives significantly impacted by minor possession arrests, but would also reduce the expense of the criminal justice system, allowing police and prosecutors to focus on serious crimes where innocent people have been victimized.
- NH is currently a backwater island regarding cannabis. All of the other New England states have legalized cannabis, with nearly all positive results.
- Cannabis is already legal in 24 states.
- President Trump just signed an executive order to reassign cannabis from a Schedule I to Schedule III controlled substance.

**NAY ITL**