

House Republican Alliance Recommendation Sheet

The purpose of the House Republican Alliance is to preserve and strengthen the traditional principles and values of the Republican Party through the NH House of Representatives and throughout the state of NH, including fiscal restraint, personal freedom and responsibility, small government, free enterprise and strong families. We offer the following recommendations based on those principles, the Republican Party Platform and the NH and Federal Constitutions.



JANUARY 4, 2006 REGULAR CALENDAR

COMMERCE

HB 37-FN, relative to health insurance coverage for full-time students on medical leaves of absence.

OTP W/Amendment Vote 18-0

No Recommendation

HB 515, relative to group health insurance coverage for certain entities. **Maj.: OTP W/ Amendment. MIN.:Refer For Interim Study. Vote 15-2.** The NHHRA considers HB515 business friendly irrespective of competing arguments as to benefit. There is a chance to reduce business cost. Section 6 of the NH GOP Platform asserts that Republicans support a favorable business climate.**Recommendation: Support OTP W/Amendment**

HB 703-FN, relative to advertisement of prescription drugs and establishing the pharmaceutical marketing disclosure law. **Maj.:ITL. Vote 15-4.** The blurb argues that this bill will violate the First Amendment of the US Constitution. We agree **Recommendation: Support ITL**

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

HB 627-FN, relative to raising the age of minority for juvenile delinquency proceedings from 17 to 18 years of age. **MAJ.: OTP W/Amendment. Vote 10-5.** The minority blurb brings out the fact that passage of this bill would add approximately \$7.3 million dollars to the budget without taking into account additional monies needed to be raised locally, guaranteeing tax increases in the future. The GOP platform advocates responsible spending.

Recommendation: Oppose OTP W/Amendment then Support ITL

EDUCATION

HB 100-FN-A-LOCAL, establishing an education equity index to provide state education assistance to municipalities. **OTP W/Amendment Vote 20-0.**

This bill is a technical correction that eliminates donor towns. This further advances the NHHRA position of eliminating the statewide property tax. **Recommendation: Support OTP W/Amendment**

HB 356, relative to the presentation of a budget in a joint maintenance agreement. **Maj.:ITL Vote 14-4.** The NH GOP Platform states that Republicans support local control of education. **Recommendation: Support ITL**

HB 646-FN-LOCAL, proposing a definition of an adequate education. **MAJ: OTP W/Amendment. MIN: ITL. Vote 14-3.** As in the previous bill, the NH GOP Platform states that Republicans support local control of education. This bill as amended mandates to administration that a teacher cannot be fired solely for not being a certified Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT). Additionally, since the bill was passed by the committee, the Dept of Education has developed a federally accepted plan for HQT certification. This bill as amended is not needed.

Recommendation: Oppose OTP W/Amendment then Support ITL or a Motion To Table

ELECTION LAW

CACR 21, relating to the term of office for governor. Providing that beginning with the 2010 general election, there shall be a 4-year term of office for governor. **MAJ.:ITL Vote 13-5**. Several sections of the constitution guarantee a government accountable to the people. The best way to ensure this is by continuing election of all state offices every two years. **Recommendation: Support ITL**

HB 184, eliminating straight ticket voting. **MAJ.: ITL. MIN.: OTP Vote 12-6**. Voters have found straight ticket voting helpful and expedient. **Recommendation: Support ITL**

HB 380, relative to absentee voting. **OTP W/Amendment Vote 18-0**. **No Recommendation**

HB 501, relative to proving qualifications to vote, requiring identification to obtain a ballot, and relative to citizenship on New Hampshire identifications. **OTP W/Amendment Vote 11-3**. The constitution supports qualified voters. This bill as amended offers the best assurance that every voter is qualified.

Recommendation: Support OTPW/Amendment

SB 206-FN, relative to the state code of ethics and establishing an executive ethics commission. **MAJ.: OTPW/Amendment. MIN.: OTP W/Amendment. Vote 11-6**. Republicans advocate for clean and ethical government. The present Governor has opposed this legislation for its failure to permit him to appoint a satisfactory number of his own choices of those who would judge his behavior in office. The Majority version presents a reasonable compromise. **Recommendation: Support Majority Version OTPW/Amendment**

ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

HB 634-FN-A, establishing a state recycling program to provide technical services to municipalities and establishing a fee on disposable and recyclable goods sold at retail. **OTP W/Amendment Vote 15-0**. A tax by any other name is still a tax!! **Recommendation: Oppose OTP W/Amendment then support ITL**

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

HB 624-FN, relative to penalties in certain health and health-related professions. **MAJ:OTP W/Amendment Vote 16-4**. NH has a long standing practice of supporting free enterprise by avoiding licensure . The bill aggravates the injustice of licensure which, on the frail premise of protecting the public good, is inherently designed to limit competition in trades and professions. Studies have shown that professional licensing is more in the private interest of the professions than that of the consuming public and that licensing deters entry into professions and limits competition by artificially raising thresholds for certification(s). This, in turn, enables licensed practitioners to raise prices for services on account of the absence of competition. Republicans advocate competition and free trade. Protection of the public interest must be achieved without limiting competition for goods and services.

Recommendation Oppose OTP W/Amendment then support ITL

HB 685-FN-A, permitting casino gambling. **MAJ.: ITL. MIN.: OTP. Vote 18-2**. The GOP Platform strongly opposes casino gambling as means of raising government revenue. **Recommendation: Support ITL**

FINANCE

HB 116, relative to changes in eligibility for state programs. **ITL Vote 16-4**. **No Recommendation**

HB 191-FN, relative to using school building aid for leased classrooms. **ITL Vote 19-1**. **No Recommendation**

HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS

SB 110-FN-A, establishing the New Hampshire Rx plus program for prescription drugs. **MAJ: OTPW/Amendment. MIN.: ITL. Vote 17-4**. We agree with the minority blurb and support less government bureaucracy and costs associated with them. **Recommendation Oppose OTPW/Amendment then support ITL**

“There’s the problem of leaks. Before we even announced the giveaway of surplus cheese, the warehouse mice had hired a lobbyist.”

Ronald Reagan 1982 Speech To Annual CPAC

JUDICIARY

HB 656-FN, relative to medical decision making for those adults without capacity to make health care decisions for themselves and establishing procedures for Do Not Resuscitate Orders. **MAJ.:OTP W/Amendment. MIN.:ITL. Vote 15-5.** The NHHRA has serious questions about this bill which is a life and death bill. We will be looking for support of a motion to special order so that these questions may be answered. If the special order fails, then an amendment will be offered to clarify the state presumption in favor of life. If that fails then support ITL.

MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT

HB 653-FN-LOCAL, relative to bonds for construction, development, improvement, and acquisition of broadband facilities. **MAJ.: OTPW/Amendment. MIN.: ITL. Vote 12-3.** A bond is long term. All bonded items are supposed to last the life of the bond. Technology changes too quickly to be funded by long term bonds. It is better to allow the market place to develop the availability of broadband technologies. Private businesses offering either wireless or facilities based broadband connectivity will develop a sustainable strategy to stay current without stranding costs or saddling municipalities with those stranded costs. Consumers will have more and better choices with private businesses establishing connectivity.

Recommendation Oppose OTPW/Amendment then Support ITL

HB 695-FN, requiring the university system of New Hampshire to make payments in lieu of taxes for purchased property. **MAJ.: ITL. MIN.:OTPW/Amendment. Vote 10-5.** **No Recommendation**

RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT

HB 317-FN, relative to mooring permits and fees. **OTP W/Amendment Vote 20-1.**
The bill proposes a 100% "fee" increase - or, in other words, a 100% TAX increase on moorings.
"When is a tax not called a Tax? When it's called a 'Fee'." Ronald Reagan.

Recommendation: Oppose OTP W/Amendment then support ITL

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY

SB 128-FN, relative to the establishment of emissions reduction standards as required by the Clean Power Act. **ITL Vote 9-5.** This bill produces minimal benefit with substantial cost to businesses which will be passed on to customers. **Recommendation Support ITL**

TRANSPORTATION

HB 298, relative to consolidating statutes relating to driving while intoxicated. **OTP W/ Amendment Vote 9-0.** **No Recommendation**

WAYS AND MEANS

HB 645-FN, relative to fire-safe cigarettes. **OTP W/ Amendment Vote 17-2.**
Where so-called 'fire safe' cigarettes have been put into use, there's been no evidence of any decrease in cigarette related deaths. This effort constitutes no more than 'feel good' legislation requiring a production process which has not been evaluated with respect to whether or not it will make smoking even more chemically dangerous to the user. **Recommendation: Oppose OTPW/Amendment then support ITL**

"It is proper to take alarm at the first experiment upon our liberties. We hold this prudent jealousy to be the first duty of citizens and one of the noblest characteristics of the late Revolution. The freemen of America did not wait till usurped power had strengthened itself by exercise and entangled the question in precedents. They saw all the consequences in the principle, and they avoided the consequences by denying the principle. We revere this lesson too much ...to forget it." James Madison

"Those rights, then, which God and nature have established, and are therefore called natural rights, such as life and liberty, need not the aid of human laws to be more effectually invested in every man than they are; neither do they receive any additional strength when declared by the municipal laws to be inviolate. On the contrary, no human legislature has power to abridge or destroy them, unless the owner shall himself commit some act that amounts to a forfeiture." Sir William Blackstone

NHHRA LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES for 2006 House Session

The New Hampshire House Republican Alliance has elected to encourage and support the following initiatives consistent with the principles and ideals of New Hampshire's Republican Party Platform and has introduced Bills as the first step towards make those initiatives a reality.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

- 1. Interdicting employment of illegal aliens.***
- 2. Resolving Illegal Alien Trespass in New Hampshire statutes.***
- 3. Establishing a study of New Hampshire laws and procedures having to do with enhancing prosecution and removal from society of those who would sexually prey on minors.***

TAXATION:

- 1. Amending the New Hampshire Constitution to permanently prohibit taxing of personal income.***
- 2. Returning all state surplus back to New Hampshire taxpayers.***

PROPERTY RIGHTS:

- 1. Clarifying State statutes to prohibit the taking of private property for any purpose other than public use.***
- 2. Preparing Resolution to New Hampshire's Congressional Delegation in support of amending the United States Constitution to prohibit the taking of private property for any purpose but public use - and including the amending language.***
- 3. Amending the New Hampshire Constitution to permanently prohibit the taking of private property for any purpose but public use.***

EFFICIENCY AND SPENDING:

- 1. Providing for the review and sun setting of state agencies.***
- 2. Requiring Zero Based Budgeting for all state agencies.***
- 3. Requiring that the burden of funding and the management of qualifications for Special Education be removed from the purview of local school districts and assumed by the State of New Hampshire.***

EDUCATION:

- 1. Enhancing the opportunity for school choice and for school vouchers in New Hampshire.***
- 2. Teaching Firearms safety in schools.***

LIABILITY AND TORTS:

- 1. Providing immunity for employers from consequences having to do with employees bringing firearms on the site of their employment.***

ELECTION REFORM:

- 1. Requiring 3 year appointment terms in lieu of 5 year appointment terms of appointments for state department heads etc.***

From a Speech by Carl Rove

In 1981, President Reagan said this:

"It's not my intention to do away with government. It is rather to make it work — work with us, not over us; to stand by us, not ride on our back. Government can and must provide opportunity, not smother it; foster productivity, not stifle it. "If we look to the answer as to why for so many years we have achieved so much, prospered as no other people on Earth, it was because here in this land we unleashed the energy and individual genius of man to a greater extent than has ever been done before."

You see, President Reagan viewed citizens not as passive wards of the state; he saw them as energetic and independent, self-sufficient and talented, upright and hard working. These underlying assumptions informed his economic policies.

These were not his views alone. In the words of Ludwig von Mises, whose work greatly influenced this president:

"Several generations of economic policy . . . have . . . increased the wealth of the world. Capitalism has raised the standard of living among the masses to a level which our ancestors could not have imagined. . . . If (society or government) does not load the individual with quite unbreakable chains, if it does not surround the prison in which it encloses him with quite unsurmountable walls, it has done all that can be expected of it. Genius will soon find a way to win its own freedom."

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