

# House Republican Alliance Recommendation Sheet

“TRUST BUT VERIFY”

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.



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4

## SPECIAL ORDERS - REGULAR CALENDAR

### JUDICIARY

**HB 437-FN-L**, permitting same gender couples to enter spousal unions and have the same rights, responsibilities, and obligations as married couples. **OTP W/ AMENDMENT. Vote 15-5.**

The NHGOP Platform “oppos(es) recognition by the State of New Hampshire all other forms of civil unions.” In addition, this bill gave same gender couples rights but denies the same rights to a different gender couples. Blatant discrimination in a bill the blurb describes as moving “New Hampshire closer to equality.”

**Recommendation: Oppose OTP and Support ITL**

**HB 518-FN**, relative to establishing reciprocity for liability limitations on claims against the state and against foreign jurisdictions. **ITL. Vote 16-0**

**No Recommendation**

**HB 554**, requiring that funds in the civil legal services fund be distributed to New Hampshire Legal Assistance to establish an office in Concord. **OTP. Vote 16-1**

This bill sets up a legal assistance office in Concord. It will cost 1/2 a million a year to start. The money will come from the tax increase, instituted last term to set up the Nashua office, which raised the cost to file court cases. Are the funds sufficient to sustain this additional expense, or are we looking at increasing the tax/fee or institute a new one?

**Recommendation: Oppose OTP then Support ITL**

**HB 577-FN**, establishing the number of associate justices of the superior court. **OTP. Vote 16-1**

This bill adds \$428,248. per year in additional spending for the state. Given that we have so much additional spending we should wait on this item.

**Recommendation: Oppose OTP then Support ITL**

**HB 612-FN**, relative to coercion of abortion on a minor. **MAJORITY: ITL. MINORITY: OTP. Vote 13-4**

There are several statutes which establish an additional crime if a crime is committed against certain classes of people (minorities, the elderly, etc.). Would not a pregnant minor be worthy of similar protection?

**Recommendation: Oppose ITL, then Support OTP.**

**HB 614-FN**, relative to eminent domain. **ITL. Vote 17-1.**

This bill simply codifies the recently adopted constitutional amendment. The language to which the department of transportation objected the most was the direct quote of Part 1, Article 12a.

**Recommendation: Oppose ITL then Support OTP.**

**HB 615-FN**, relative to the locations of superior courts, district courts, and the judicial branch family division. **ITL. No Recommendation**

**HB 744-FN**, relative to informed consent before abortion. **MAJORITY: ITL. MINORITY: OTP. Vote 12-5**

The information presently required is not defined in law or specific to abortion. This bill requires standardized information, established in statute, and provided by the DHHS.

**Recommendation: Oppose ITL then Support OTP.**

**HB 791-FN**, relative to religious freedom and civil marriage. **MAJORITY: OTP W/ AMENDMENT. MINORITY: ITL. Vote 15-5**

The committee chose to amend the entire bill and replace it with a commission to study the legal and social effects of permitting same gender marriage. This is an unnecessary expense and a waste of time. We just had a commission to study this issue. The sponsors are just looking for a different result.

**Recommendation: Vote YES on the committee amendment, then Oppose OTP/A then support ITL**

**HB 849**, relative to rent payments by voucher issued by a state or municipal agency. **MAJORITY: OTP. MINORITY: ITL. Vote 11-6.**

This is anti-business legislation. It gives the many agencies providing a voucher undefined and broad authority to demand information from the landlord that may be an invasion of the property owner's privacy. The bill should limit or define the tenancy information the landlord must provide.

**Recommendation: Oppose OTP then Support ITL.**

**HB 866**, relative to the right-to-know law application to board of tax and land appeals and public utilities commission matters. **MAJORITY: OTP W/AMENDMENT. MINORITY: ITL. Vote 18-1.**

This bill weakens the right-to-know law by allowing secret deliberations. The NHGOP Platform "promot(es) a limited government that is open, responsive and fully accountable to and in touch with its citizens." Actions done in secret breeds mistrust and voter cynicism. Protect the Right to Know law.

**Recommendation: Oppose OTP/A then support ITL.**

**HB 882-FN**, relative to limitations on tort liability of government units. **MAJORITY: OTP W/ AMENDMENT. MINORITY: ITL. Vote: 12-7.**

There are 2 compelling arguments. One is that this bill increases the liability limits for our towns six fold, increases the cost of insurance for our towns and is a 28-a issue. The other argument is that the State, by its power to legislate, should not be able to afford itself protections from the legal process unavailable to its citizens, and, by inference, confer upon itself immunity from responsibility for the actions of its agents. Vote your conscience.

**No Recommendation**

**HB 905**, establishing civil unions as legally recognized relationships. **ITL. Vote 19-1.**  
Concepts folded into another bill. Housekeeping. (Why not consent calendar?)

**Recommendation: Support ITL**

**HCR 1**, declaring the directives of the judicial branch in the Claremont cases that the legislative and executive branches define an "adequate education," adopt "standards of accountability," and "guarantee adequate funding" of a public education are not binding on the legislative and executive branches. **MAJORITY: ITL. MINORITY: OTP. Vote: 15-5.**

This resolution is identical to that which, as HCR 14, passed the House 213-142 in 2003, but was tabled in the Senate. It declared that the Claremont school funding decisions were not impartial adjudications, but were in fact result-driven policy choices by the Supreme Court that usurped the authority of the Legislature. The adoption of this resolution would go a long way towards restoring the proper balance of power between the Legislative and Judicial branches.

**Recommendation: Oppose ITL and Support OTP**

**HR 8**, requesting an opinion from the New Hampshire supreme court on certain questions regarding education funding. **MAJORITY: ITL. MINORITY: OTP. Vote 13-7.**

By this resolution, the House would invoke Article 74 of Part II of the New Hampshire Constitution to require the Supreme Court to answer specific questions concerning the constitutional, historical and factual basis of the conclusion in the Claremont school funding decision that the word "cherish" in Article 83 of Part II creates an individual right to an "adequate" education at state expense. Scholarly articles published since the original Claremont decision was issued in 1993 strongly suggest that the founding generation plainly intended to continue the colonial-era practice of funding public schools 100 percent by means of locally raised properly taxes. This is not to say that this is the best way to fund public education, but only that it is not unconstitutional. The Supreme Court, however, has consistently refused not only to revise its prior rulings in light of this scholarship; it has refused even to address pleadings filed in subsequent Claremont cases that have directed its attention to it. This refusal leaves begging the fundamental issue of the very legitimacy of the Claremont decision, and invites the fundamental question of whether the Court can defend the intrusive role it has carved out for itself in education funding policy. The authority of the Court must not be permitted to control the discretion of the Legislature any further than the force of its reasoning may deserve.

**Recommendation: Oppose ITL, then Support OTP.**

### **LABOR, INDUSTRIAL AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES**

**HB 81**, relative to required pay for employees called into work. **MAJORITY: OTP W/AMENDMENT.**

**MINORITY: ITL. Vote 10-7** The Republican Party Platform states that we should "[work] to prevent over-regulation of business, particularly with respect to small businesses." This is yet another regulation that, while seemingly inconsequential, leads to "death by a thousands cuts" for businesses. **Recommendation: Oppose OTP/A then Support ITL**

**HB 203**, relative to protections for temporary workers. **OTP W/ AMENDMENT. Vote 12-4.**

While containing some meritorious provisions, this bill also has serious flaws. It would force employers of "temporary workers" (i.e. "day laborers") to provide what is essentially a free ATM for their workers or no ATM at all. Employers are therefore likely to provide no ATM at all. This would be a burden on the very people that this bill purports to help. The Republican Party Platform recognizes that " New Hampshire's highly motivated work force is essential to our economic prosperity" and states that we must "[work] to prevent over-regulation of business, particularly with respect to small businesses."

**Recommendation: Oppose OTP/A then support ITL**

**HB 254**, relative to mandatory employer meetings about political and religious beliefs, including beliefs about joining a union. **MAJORITY: OTP W/ AMENDMENT. MINORITY: ITL. Vote 11-5.**

**MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. 11-5**

This bill is preempted by the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA) and would be invalid if enacted because of the Supremacy Clause of the Constitution. The bill would prohibit employers from holding mandatory meetings in which religious matters, political matters, or unions are discussed. Since the formation of a union is, in essence, a business matter, this bill would interfere in the operation of business. The Republican Party Platform states that we should "[work] to prevent over-regulation of business, particularly with respect to small businesses."

**Recommendation: Oppose OTP/A then Support ITL**

**HB 514-FN-L**, relative to the applicable minimum wage for hourly employees. **OTP. Vote 15-2.**

Minimum wage increases have a proven effect of raising unemployment. The Republican Party Platform states that we support "working to provide an environment favorable to increasing the creation of private sector jobs" and that we favor "working to prevent over-regulation of business, particularly with respect to small businesses." Also, this bill would do more than raise the minimum wage; it also raises the base wage for tipped employees meaning that this bill gives a raise to people who are already making an average of \$10-\$12 an hour.

**Recommendation: Oppose OTP then Support ITL**

**HB 797**, regulating mandatory overtime for nurses and assistants. **OTP. Vote: 11-2**

This bill would prohibit mandatory overtime for nurses beyond 12 hours of work. The interest of preventing over-regulation must be weighed against interest of safety. Opponents of the bill worry about situations where a choice must be made between a tired nurse and no nurse.

**No Recommendation**

**HB 819**, establishing a right to work act which provides for freedom of choice on whether to join a labor union.

**MAJORITY: ITL, MINORITY: OTP. Vote: 15-3.**

The Republican Party Platform says that we must "affirm the right of all citizens to join labor organizations freely, whether they choose to bargain collectively or individually, without coercion and intimidation" and that we must work to "support the 'right to work' by adopting legislation necessary to ensure this principle for all workers."

**Recommendation: Oppose ITL then Support OTP**

**HB 848**, relative to a private right of action to recover workers' compensation coverage payments. **MAJORITY: OTP. MINORITY: ITL. Vote 11-5.**

This bill would create yet another right to sue. These cases are more appropriately handled by the Department of Labor. The Republican Party Platform states that we "[recognize] that frivolous lawsuits are burdensome to our legal system, a detriment to the New Hampshire economy, and an abuse of the judicial process."

**Recommendation: Oppose OTP, then support ITL**

### **MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

**HB 293**, allowing municipalities to establish agricultural commissions. **OTP W/ AMENDMENT. Vote: 15-1**

The NHGOP Platform "promote(s) preserving open space, scenic vistas and historic and cultural landscapes." The commissions

can work with other town committees to make their town more farmer-friendly which helps achieve the platform goal.

**Recommendation: Support OTP/A**

**HB 390**, relative to review of developments of regional impact. **ITL. Vote: 13-3.**

Additional layer of bureaucracy.

**Recommendation: Support ITL**

**HB 457**, allowing municipalities to restrict lawn watering during declared droughts. **MAJORITY: OTP W/ AMENDMENT. MINORITY: ITL. Vote: 9-5.**

This bill would enable municipalities to establish restrictions on watering lawns from public water systems AND PRIVATE wells. A basic tenet of the Republican Platform is ‘protecting the fundamental rights of the people and enhancing their freedom.’ Property rights are a fundamental right and riparian water rights from private wells are property rights.

**Recommendation: Oppose OTP/A and Support ITL**

**HB 479**, relative to the default budget in official ballot towns. **ITL. Vote: 11-3.**

**No Recommendation**

**HB 662-FN-A-L**, exempting vehicles adapted for use by persons with disabilities from motor vehicle registration fees. **MAJORITY: ITL. MINORITY: OTP. Vote: 9-5.**

The waiving of a fee transfers the cost to all others using the service. There are other ways to achieve the desired results without violating the equal protections afforded all citizens.

**Recommendation: Support ITL**

**HB 838-FN-L**, allowing municipalities to recover certain costs related to right-to-know requests. **MAJORITY: ITL. MINORITY: OTP. Vote 11-3.**

The citizens right to know must be respected and protected. Conversely, taxpayers need to be protected from those who abuse the system. Vote you conscience.

**No Recommendation**

**HB 863**, relative to the assessment of property subject to a housing subsidy restriction. **ITL. Vote 13-1.**

The property already benefits from federal subsidies or tax credits and low interest loans.

**Recommendation: Support ITL**

#### **PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS**

**HB 739**, relative to contractor accountability and disclosure in the public works construction procurement process. **ITL. Vote 9-7.**

Bill would result in unnecessary paperwork for both the DOT and contractors with no beneficial result.

**Recommendation: Support ITL**

**HB 753-FN-A**, relative to the electronic toll collection transponder inventory fund. **OTP. Vote 14-0**

**No Recommendation**

**HB 754-FN**, repealing the law relative to the Maine-New Hampshire Interstate Bridge Authority. **OTP W/AMENDMENT. Vote 12-1.**

The bill eliminates a piece of government bureaucracy. Hard to believe.

**Recommendation: Support OTP/A**

#### **RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

**HB 898**, relative to the use of sled dogs and the training of sled dogs on state trails. **MAJORITY: OTP W/ AMENDMENT. MINORITY: ITL . Vote 13-5.**

**No Recommendation**

#### **SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY**

**HB 165**, establishing a committee to study the feasibility of carbon reduction incentives. **ITL. Vote 15-2.**

**No Recommendation**

**HB 467**, requiring the department of environmental services to develop a climate action plan and to report on global warming issues. **OTP W/AMENDMENT. Vote 11-3**

The bill makes it a goal of the state of New Hampshire to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2010 and 10% below 1990 levels by 2020. According to the United Nations, the largest cause of greenhouse gasses in the

world today are burping and flatulent livestock. Thus even if we meet the goal, at great expense, it will be meaningless.

**Recommendation: Oppose OTP/A then Support ITL**

**HB 689**, establishing a commission to study production and distribution of biodiesel fuel in New Hampshire. **OTP W/ AMENDMENT. Vote 15-1.**

The NHGOP Platform “encourage(s) the use and development of renewable energies.

**Recommendation: Support OTP/A**

**HB 768**, relative to voluntary registration with the Eastern Climate Registry. **OTP W/ AMENDMENT. Vote 12-5.**  
**No Recommendation**

**HB 873-FN-L**, establishing minimum renewable standards for energy portfolios. **OTP W/ AMENDMENT.**

The NHGOP Platform “encourage(s) the use and development of renewable energies.” Republican principals also adhere to the free market where economic forces are allowed to achieve the maximum benefit for the public. Use your best judgement.

**No Recommendation**

#### **STATE FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**HR 7**, urging increased consideration and preservation of local authority in international trade and investment agreements. **OTP. Vote 7-5.**

**No Recommendation**

**HR 9**, supporting the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. **OTP. Vote 7-5.** The NHGOP Platform “encourage(s) the use and development of renewable energies.” However, we recognize this must occur as part of a free, market-driven economy and not part of a meaningless, feel-good political agenda.

**Recommendation: Oppose OTP, then Support ITL.**

#### **TRANSPORTATION**

**HB 296**, prohibiting the use of flatbed trailers with outrigger wheels in parades. **MAJORITY: OTP. MINORITY: ITL. Vote 13-4.**

**No Recommendation**

**HB 685**, prohibiting New Hampshire from participating in a national identification card system. **OTP W/ AMENDMENT. Vote: 16-0.**

Proponents of the Real ID insist that it is an absolute necessity in order to defend our borders from terrorists and stop the flow of illegal aliens into this country. Opponents insist that it is a national identification card that violates our right to privacy. Opponents also feel it is an unfunded mandate. Vote your conscience.

**No Recommendation**

**HB 755-FN**, relative to transfers of motor vehicle registration. **OTP W/ AMENDMENT. Vote 10-5.**

Returns money to citizens.

**Recommendation: Support OTP/A**

**HB 802**, relative to passenger restraints. **MAJORITY: OTP. MINORITY: ITL. Vote 8-7**

The NHGOP Platform believes in “promoting a limited government that is open, responsive and fully accountable to and in touch with its citizens without interfering in their personal, daily lives.” In other words we believe in personal responsibility and reject the nanny state attitude promulgated by this bill. Furthermore, this provides an additional instance where private citizens can be stopped and confronted by the authority of the state.

**Recommendation: Oppose OTP, then Support ITL.**

#### **WAYS AND MEANS**

**HB 494-FN-A**, relative to keno in New Hampshire. **ITL. Vote 13-6.**

The NHGOP Platform “Oppose(s) casino and video-lottery gambling as means of raising government revenue.” Keno machines arguably fit in this category.

**Recommendation: Support ITL.**

**HB 619-FN-A**, establishing an additional exemption from the interest and dividends tax for individuals who are 70 years of age or older. **ITL. Vote 17-2.**

A cornerstone of Republican policy has been opposition to an income tax. The NHGOP Platform is “committed to respecting our senior citizens by improving their financial security.” Yet interest and dividends, a primary source of income for many of our seniors, is taxed. This is one of many bills, all voted down, that would have lightened this burden only they are forced to carry.

**Recommendation: Oppose ITL, then Support OTP.**

## **BILLS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR ON MARCH 27**

### **COMMERCE**

**HB 606-FN**, relative to the minimum age for purchasing, possessing, or using tobacco products. **ITL. Vote 15-1.** The NHGOP platform states that "New Hampshire's government and its elected officials must, above all else, preserve and protect individual liberty." This bill is more government bureaucracy and intrusion on individual liberties and an increased burden on business.

**Recommendation: Support ITL**

**HB 745**, relative to the use of secret databases. **ITL. Vote 16-0.**

**No Recommendation**

**HB 762-FN**, prohibiting smoking in restaurants, cocktail lounges, and certain enclosed places. **ITL. Vote 15-1.** This bill is being ITL'd as a housekeeping measure in favor of the Senate bill that prohibits smoking in just public restaurants. This action highlights the hypocrisy of those proposing the Senate legislation as this bill more fully addresses the issue. That being said, the NHGOP platform states that "New Hampshire's government and its elected officials must, above all else, preserve and protect individual liberty." This bill is an intrusion on individual liberties and an increased burden on business.

**Recommendation: Support ITL**

### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

**HB 92**, decriminalizing marijuana. **ITL. Vote 13-3.**

This is an issue with good arguments on both sides.

**No Recommendation**

**HB 340**, restricting sex offenders from residing within a certain distance from schools and child-oriented organizations. **ITL. Vote 15-1.** It is a fundamental duty of society to protect its children

**Recommendation: Oppose ITL and Support Refer to Committee**

**HB 591-FN**, relative to an affirmative defense to certain felonious sexual assault offenses. **ITL. Vote 14-4.**

**No Recommendation**

**HB 655-FN**, relative to unborn victims of violence. **ITL. Vote 10-6.**

The NH GOP Platform states that we: "Believe the unborn child has a fundamental right to life which cannot be infringed upon" and "The New Hampshire Advantage cannot survive without safety and security for individual citizens." This legislation works to promote and strengthen both of those principles. **Recommendation: Oppose ITL, then Support OTP**

**HB 902**, establishing a committee to study the costs and benefits of the drug prohibition policy on the people of New Hampshire. **ITL. Vote 14-2.**

New Hampshire is spending millions of dollars a year on a drug policy that even the Criminal Justice committee admits isn't working. After forty years of failure, despite an exploding prison population, it is time for an accounting. It is the responsibility of the legislature to do a formal review of the costs and benefits with a view to making serious adjustments.

**Recommendation: Oppose ITL, then Support OTP**

### **EDUCATION**

**HB 314**, authorizing the Pelham school board to transfer funds for the purpose of renting portable classrooms. **ITL. Vote 11-1.**

**No Recommendation**

### **ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE**

**HB 424-FN-A**, relative to industrial hemp and establishing an industrial hemp special program fund. **OTP. Vote 14-3.**

For a similar bill the 3/23/05 pink sheet stated "The platform states 'Working to prevent over-regulation of business, particularly with respect to small businesses.' This bill would give farmers another tool to make farming profitable. Our state should be in the business of growing business."

**Recommendation- Support OTP.**

## **EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION**

**HB 363**, relative to certain notification for emergency contraception. **ITL. Vote 17-0.**

**No Recommendation**

## **FINANCE**

**CACR 17**, relating to funding for education. Providing that revenue from lotteries and games of chance may only be used for educational purposes. **ITL. Vote 19-1.**

**No Recommendation**

## **JUDICIARY**

**HB 567-FN**, relative to lowering the legal drinking age. **ITL. Vote 17-0.**

Reasoned arguments could be made on both sides of the issue. Vote your conscience.

**No Recommendation.**

**HB 670**, relative to repealing the incorporation of the New Hampshire Bar Association. **ITL. Vote 16-0.**

**No Recommendation**

**HB 906**, relative to an informed jury. **ITL. Vote 15-1.**

Jury nullification has long been part of our heritage and a basic freedom. It allows the jury to go beyond the letter of the law and dispense justice. It really does speak truth to power. As Thomas Jefferson said, "I consider trial by jury as the only anchor yet imagined by man by which a government can be held to the principles of its constitution." Power to the People.

**Recommendation: Oppose ITL, then Support OTP**

## **MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

**HB 310**, allowing municipalities to regulate small wind energy systems. **OTP. Vote 10-2.**

The NHGOP Platform "Encourage(s) the use and development of renewable energies."

**Recommendation: Support OTP.**

**HB 474**, excluding septic and sewage treatment facilities from the tax exemption for water and air pollution control facilities. **OTP. Vote 15-0.**

**No Recommendation.**

**HB 674**, extending the veterans' property tax credit to all honorably discharged veterans. **ITL. Vote 15-0.**

The NHGOP Platform states it "Respects New Hampshire's honored veterans by ensuring that they receive the benefits that they have rightfully earned and deserve."

**Recommendation: Oppose ITL, then Support OTP.**

## **RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

**HB 318**, relative to large groundwater withdrawals. **OTP W/ AMENDMENT. Vote 16-0.**

**No Recommendation**

**HB 710**, establishing a commission to study issues relative to the practice of leasing state-owned real estate on the shores of public waters. **OTP W/AMENDMENT. Vote 14-0.**

**No Recommendation.**

**HB 777-FN-A**, imposing a fee and a fine for certain changes to terrain alteration permits. **OTP W/ AMENDMENT. Vote 16-2.**

While the intent of this bill, to assess a fine for the misuse of the agricultural exemption, is appropriate, it also creates another dedicated revenue source rather than giving the funds to the General Fund to reduce the overall tax burden. This is inefficient government.

**Recommendation: Oppose OTP/A, then Support ITL.**

## **TRANSPORTATION**

**HB 559**, relative to seat belts on school buses. **ITL. Vote 17-0.**

**No Recommendation**

**HB 795**, relative to restricting usage of cellular phones while driving. **ITL. Vote 17-0.**

The NHGOP Platform believes in "promoting a limited government that is open, responsive and fully accountable to and in touch

with its citizens without interfering in their personal, daily lives.” In other words we believe in personal responsibility and reject the nanny state attitude promulgated by this bill.

**Recommendation: Support ITL.**

### **WAYS AND MEANS**

**CACR 16**, relating to an income and a sales tax. Providing that there shall be a state referendum prior to the legislature's adoption of an income tax or sales tax. **ITL. Vote 18-0.**

The NHGOP Platform espouses “Freedom from broad based sales and income taxes.” This CACR places in the hands of the people an additional check on the power of government and preserves the NH advantage.

**Recommendation: Oppose ITL, then Support OTP.**

**HB 622-FN-A-L**, establishing an income tax and repealing all state and local taxes, with the exception of the tobacco tax, beginning in 2012. **ITL. Vote 18-0.**

The NHGOP Platform espouses “Freedom from broad based sales and income taxes.”

**Recommendation: Support ITL**

**HB 757-FN-A**, relative to the beer tax. **ITL. Vote 18-1.**

The next thing you know they’ll tax tea and you know what happened then!

**Recommendation: Support ITL**

**HB 793-FN-A**, establishing an exemption from the interest and dividends tax for individuals who are 62 years of age or older. **ITL. Vote 18-1.**

A cornerstone of Republican policy has been opposition to an income tax. Yet interest and dividends, a primary source of income for many of our seniors, is taxed. The NHGOP Platform is “committed to respecting our senior citizens by improving their financial security.” This is one of many bills, all voted down, that would have lightened this burden only this class is forced to carry.

**Recommendation: Oppose ITL, then Support OTP.**

**HB 820-FN-A**, establishing tax on candy. **ITL. Vote 19-0.**

Is there anything left not to tax? Why did the bill’s sponsor also write the blurb to ITL?

**Recommendation: Support ITL** (It’s for the children)

**HB 891-FN-A**, establishing a beverage fee to be paid by beverage manufacturers and distributors. **ITL. Vote 19-0.**

The NHGOP Platform states: “taxes unfairly erode earnings, contribute to the growth of government and provide disincentives for economic growth.”

**Recommendation: Support ITL**

**HB 913-FN-A**, establishing a senior citizen property tax postponement program. **ITL. Vote 19-0.**

**No Recommendation.**