



"TRUST BUT VERIFY"

NHHRA

RECOMMENDATION SHEET

The purpose of the NHHRA caucus 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.

Tuesday, March 6, 2018

Regular Calendar

CACR14 Oppose ITL Support OTP	HB1325 Oppose ITL Support OTP	HB1650 Oppose IS Support OTP
HB1418 No Rec	HB1484 No Rec	HB1668 Support ITL
HB1809 Vote Your Conscience	HB1394 No Rec	HB1445 Oppose ITL Support OTP
HB1228 Support OTP	HB1528 Support ITL	HB1552 Oppose IS Support OTP
HB1612 Support OTPA	HB1744 Support OTPA	HB1239 Support ITL
HB1345 Support ITL	HB1448 Support ITL	HB1582 Support ITL
HB1699 Support ITL	HB1242 No Rec	HB1315 Oppose OTP

HB1427 No Rec	HB1456 No Rec	HB1624 Oppose OTP
HB476 No Rec	HB559 No Rec	HB1743 No Rec
HB1286 Support OTP	HB1527 Oppose ITL Support OTP	HB1367 Vote Your Conscience
HB1476 Vote Your Conscience	HB1798 Oppose ITL Support OTP	HB1804 Oppose ITL Support OTP
CACR15 Support OTP	HB1337 Oppose ITL Support OTPA	HB1591 Support ITL
HB1717 Oppose ITL	HB1321 Support IS	HB1307 Support OTPA
HB1561 Support ITL	HB1428 No Rec	HB1706 No Rec
HB1737 Vote Your Conscience	HB1101 No Rec	HB1230 Support ITL
HB1338 Support ITL	HB1515 Support OTPA	HB1611 Support ITL
HB1779 Support ITL	HJR4 No Rec	HB1270 Oppose ITL Support OTP
HB1350 No Rec	HB1365 No Rec	HB1400 No Rec
HB1419 Oppose ITL Support OTP	HB1241 Support ITL	HB1362 Oppose IS Support OTP
HB1516 Support ITL	HB1514 Oppose ITL Support OTP	HB1752 Oppose ITL Support OTP
HB1277 Support ITL	HB1333 Support ITL	HB1354 No Rec
HB1369 Oppose ITL Support OTPA	HB1264 Support OTP	HB1368 Support ITL
HB1233 Support OTPA	HB1766 Support IS	HB1685 Oppose ITL Support OTP
HB1754 Oppose ITL Support OTP	HB1626 No Rec	HB1756 Support ITL
HB1814 Support ITL	HB1506 Support OTPA	HB1532 Support OTP
HB1560 Oppose ITL Support OTP	HB1319 Support OTPA or ITL Oppose OTP	HB1323 Support OTPA
HB1344 Support OTP	HB1443 Support OTP	HB1579 Support OTP
HB1584 Oppose ITL Support OTP	HB1672 Support OTP	HB1748 Support ITL

HB1787 Oppose ITL Support OTP	HB1788 Support OTPA	HB1789 Oppose ITL Support OTP
HB1201 Support ITL	HB1222 Support ITL	HB1246 Support ITL
HB1405 Support ITL	HB1462 Support ITL	HB1500 No Rec
CACR19 Support ITL	HB2018 No Rec	HB1358 Oppose OTPA
HB1555 Support OTPA	HB1563 Support ITL	HB1569 Support ITL
HCR11 Support OTPA	HCR12 No Rec	HB1259 Support ITL
HB1262 Support OTP	HB1442 Oppose ITL Support OTP	HB1686 Support OTPA
	Part 3	
HB1474 No Rec	HB1682 No Rec	HB1725 Support OTPA
HB1432 Support ITL	HB1694 Oppose ITL Support OTP	HB1772 Support ITL
HB1757 No Rec	HB1818 Oppose IS Support OTP	HB1707 Oppose IS Support OTP
HB1816 Support OTP W/Maj Amendment	HB1279 No Rec	HB1295 Support OTP
HB1347 Support OTPA	HB1373 Support OTPA	HB1485 Oppose ITL Support OTP
HB1627 Vote Your Conscience	HB1680 Support OTP	HB1701 No Rec
HB1721 Oppose ITL Support OTP	HB1393 No Rec	HB1397 No Rec
HB1417 No Rec	HB1711 No Rec	HB1716 No Rec
HB1762 No Rec	HB1463 No Rec	HB1652 No Rec
HB1541 No Rec	HB1313 No Rec	HB1436 Support ITL
HB1544 Support ITL	HB1550 Support OTPA	HB1647 Support ITL
HB1507 Oppose ITL Support OTP	HB1549 Support OTP	HB1718 No Rec
HB1381 Support OTPA	HB1422 Oppose ITL Support OTP	HB1609 Support ITL
HB1802 Support ITL	HB1702 (from Consent) Oppose ITL - Support OTP	

March 6, 2018

Regular Calendar Part 1

Children and Family Law

CACR14, relating to natural rights of children. Providing that children have a natural right to be protected by their parents. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 10-4

HRA Analysis: This proposed Amendment to the Constitution makes the rights already recognized by the Supreme Court of New Hampshire as contained in Part 1, Article 2 explicit so that the Legislative, Executive and Judicial branches of our government will be cognizant of them. It was recommended to pass in 2016 and tabled in 2017. Platform: Maintain the fundamental role and responsibility of both parents in the care, upbringing and discipline of their children.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL, Support OTP

HB1325, relative to venue in child protection actions. Maj. ITL; Min. Int. study Vote: 8-5

HRA Analysis: The bill supports the principles articulated under Part 1, Article 17. In the 1970s child protection was taken out of criminal statutes and put into civil statutes, and in so doing bypassed the normal constitutional protections afforded in criminal action. This begins to restore the protection of venue in child protection cases.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL - Support OTP

HB1650, removing education as required by law as a criterion for determining child neglect. Maj. Int. study; Min. OTP/A Vote: 12-2

HRA Analysis: Removes DCYF as the primary first responder to any claims of education neglect and lets the local school board, via the truant officer be the primary responder. Platform: Protect the privacy of individuals from government agencies and employees who abuse their power and position.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose IS - Support OTP

Commerce and Consumer Affairs

HB1418, relative to transparency and cost control of pharmaceutical drug prices. OTP/A Vote: 18-1

HRA Analysis: No Platform or Constitutional Issue

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB1484, relative to late fees and early payment discounts in manufactured housing parks. Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 13-5

HRA Analysis: No Platform or Constitutional Issue

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB1668, relative to children's meals served by food service establishments. ITL Vote: 14-4

HRA Analysis: Platform: Minimize business regulations, permits, licenses and paperwork

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1809, relative to balance billing under the managed care law. OTP/A Vote: 18-2

HRA Analysis: Prevents insured patients from receiving surprise bills from out-of-network providers when receiving services at an in-network hospital.

While on one hand protects consumers from unexpected charges, may create situations where consumers pay increased prices and / or get reduced access to services. Platform: Improve access to the information necessary to make informed health care decisions, including information about the quality and cost of services provided by physicians, hospitals and insurers. Platform: Minimize business regulations, permits, licenses and paperwork

HRA Recommendation: Vote Your Conscience

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

HB1394, relative to animals in motor vehicles. ITL Vote: 18-2

HRA Analysis: This would give you legal protection if you smashed a window free an animal. Just do it if you are worried. You do not need a law, just common sense. It's your fault if the dog bites you or runs into traffic and you are charged with destruction of private property. There are no platform or constitutional issues.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB1445, relative to penalties for corrupt practices. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 15-4

HRA Analysis: This bill would strengthen RSA 92:2 by making RSA 640:2 consistent with the N.H. Constitution Part II, Article 84 language, thereby removing potential misinterpretations of the statute.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL - Support OTP

Education

HB1228, removing the limitation on a chartered public school incurring long term debt. Maj. OTP; Min. ITL Vote: 11-9

HRA Analysis: Simple change to allow charter schools to gain financing flexibility.

Platform: Promote local control of education policy and funding in order to create the best-managed school systems.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

HB1528, prohibiting discrimination in the university and community college systems. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 14-6

HRA Analysis: This bill would have unintended consequences and is not needed.

Constitution: We believe that individual liberty is guaranteed under the Constitutions of the United States and New Hampshire, that the liberty of the people must be protected above the power of the government,

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1552, requiring school districts to submit an annual report concerning gifted students. Maj. Int. study; Min. OTP Vote: 16-4

HRA Analysis: Presently, NH ranks at or near the bottom nationally in terms of identifying and supporting gifted students. This bill would simply ask school districts to share with the Dept. of Ed what, if anything, they do for gifted students so DOE might maintain a "best practices" folder of useful approaches for all schools to consider emulating. The NH Constitution encourages knowledge and learning (Art. 83) and states that it is the duty of legislators to "cherish" such.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose Interim Study - Support OTP

HB1612, relative to data security in schools. OTP/A Vote: 14-5

HRA Analysis: RSAs already require data security plans and breach notification procedures. This extends those requirements to local school districts. Our Constitution says that "Government being instituted for the common benefit, protection, and security, of the whole community..." and that should apply also to personal information.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTPA

HB1744, authorizing a parent to exempt his or her child from participating in the statewide assessment program. Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 12-7

HRA Analysis: This bill puts in our statutes that parents can opt their children out of the state assessments as provided for in the new federal ESSA law. Platform states: Promote education freedom and parental rights to control the education of their children.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTPA

Election Law

HB1239, relative to nomination of political organizations. ITL Vote: 18-2

HRA Analysis: The proposed bill would conflict with other existing election laws that are not changed by the bill as it currently stands. Platform: that it is our responsibility to hold government accountable and that it is through the integrity of the ballot box that we do so.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1345, relative to election officers at additional polling places. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 15-5

HRA Analysis: The proposed bill would allow assistant clerks and assistant moderators to be appointed from voting districts in which they are not registered voters. Support ballot integrity per our platform.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1448, relative to the definition of "party" for election purposes. ITL Vote: 18-2

HRA Analysis: The bill would create arbitrary benchmarks for political organizations to obtain ballot access, has the potential to interfere with office holders who switch party affiliations mid-term, and potentially affects qualifications of candidates for US Representatives in conflict with the US Constitution. Platform indicates it is our responsibility to hold government accountable and that it is through the integrity of the ballot box.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1582, relative to the authority of the moderator to verify the device count. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 14-6

HRA Analysis: The bill puts additional burdens on the moderators in federal and statewide races, without any notional benefit because the mechanical voting devices used in the state are not connected to the Internet and have not been subject to any reports of hacking. Moderators already take appropriate steps to verify machine counts before and after elections. The proposed bill has the potential to call into question election results in our state, which already has the largest number of recounts than any other state in the US. This bill would conflict with the Platform's position of upholding the integrity of the ballot box.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1699, relative to state representative districts for Hudson and Pelham. ITL Vote: 19-1

HRA Analysis: This bill would change certain select representative districts 2 years before the decennial federal census of which districts are determined. The bill would conflict with the State Constitution and a 2004 State Supreme Court ruling that the legislature may not reapportion elective districts more than once every 10 years, and a similar bill was voted ITL in 2014. Constitution Pt II Art 9: "every ten years thereafter, the legislature shall make an apportionment of representatives according to the last general census of the inhabitants of the state taken by authority of the United States or of this state."

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Executive Departments and Administration

HB1242, establishing a committee to study redesigning the state flag. ITL. Vote: 13-1

HRA Analysis: No platform or Constitutional issues

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB1315, prohibiting the university system funds from being spent to oppose the formation of unions and collective bargaining units. OTP Vote: 12-6

HRA Analysis: Because this bill states “No university funds shall be spent for the purpose of discouraging employees from exercising their rights of association...” it could have a stifling effect on free speech by university employees. Our constitutions are clear on rights of free speech.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP, Support table or ITL

HB1427, relative to membership in the retirement system for certain officials. OTP/A Vote: 10-3

HRA Analysis: This bill was filed to correct an error made in certain employment contracts by a municipality. No Constitutional or Platform issue.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB1456, relative to state acceptance of the lowest reasonable bid contract and relative to the sale, lease, or transfer of state property. ITL Vote: 9-5

HRA Analysis: This bill replaces the well defined word “qualified” in NH contract awards with the undefined word “reasonable”.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB1624, relative to state procurement practices and criteria for acceptance of bids. OTP Vote: 8-6

HRA Analysis: When two identical project bids are received by the state from two qualified bidders, this bill would add the criteria that pay and benefits offered be considered in awarding the contract. The state would receive no benefit and every contract would need to be reviewed for the wage information. This type of statute could also be used to require that contractors share wage information. Platform: Justify expenditures against measurable benefits

HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP

Finance

HB476, relative to the duties of registers of probate. OTP/A Vote: 23-1

HRA Analysis: No Platform or Constitutional Issue

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB559, relative to expenditures from the energy efficiency fund. OTP/A Vote: 24-0
HRA Analysis: No Platform for Constitutional Issue
HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB1743, relative to the alcohol abuse prevention and treatment fund and funding for the Sununu Youth Services Center. OTP/A Vote: 21-3
HRA Analysis: No Platform or Constitutional Issue
HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

Fish and Game and Marine Resources

HB1286, relative to fish and game regulations relative to disabled veterans. Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 18-1

HRA Analysis: This bill simply provides a 50% discount on lifetime hunting and fishing licenses for NH Veterans who are between 80% and 99% disabled due to service-related activities. It is not reciprocal with VT and ME, as is the free license associated with 100% disability, so fiscal impact is negligible. Additionally, monies for lifetime licenses do not impact the Fish and Game working budget, as they are paid to and distributed from a trust fund. The Platform states "Honor our veterans".

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

HB1527, relative to the authority of fish and game officers regarding arrest and search and seizure. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 15-4

HRA Analysis: This bill was put forward to deal with the unconstitutional aspects of current statute which give the officers of Fish and Game the authority to search without a warrant. Warrantless searches should ever have been given as a power to a policing authority as it is in direct conflict with the Fourth Amendment.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL, Support OTP

Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs

HB1367, removing tetanus from the law requiring certain immunizations. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 17-5

HRA Analysis: This bill raises an academic point without any practical impact if it passes. Competing plank eliminates exist. Platform: "Promote education freedom and parental rights to control the education of their children" versus "Justify expenditures against measurable benefits" and "Prioritize programs to ensure effective spending"

HRA Recommendation: Vote Your Conscience

HB1476, permitting qualifying patients and designated caregivers to cultivate cannabis for therapeutic use. OTP Vote: 13-8

HRA Analysis: Cannabis can be a valuable component of a person's treatment plan, access and affordability should not be a roadblock to good care. Allowing cultivation addresses the access and affordability issues but there are conflicting platform planks.

HRA Recommendation: Vote Your Conscience

HB1798, relative to eligibility for food stamps/supplemental nutrition assistance. ITL Vote: 15-5

HRA Analysis: Our Platform calls for a work ethic: "We believe that happiness and success are the result of individual effort, hard work and dedication to a purpose."

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL - Support OTP

HB1804, relative to work requirements for able-bodied adults for public assistance programs. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 15-5

HRA Analysis: Our Platform calls for a work ethic: "We believe that happiness and success are the result of individual effort, hard work and dedication to a purpose."

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL - Support OTP

Judiciary

CACR15, relating to legal actions. Providing that taxpayers have standing to bring actions against the government. OTP Vote: 18-0

HRA Analysis: This CACR would restore the constitutional status quo that existed from 1863-2010 and return to taxpayers the ability to challenge illegal government expenditures. NH Constitution Part I Art 8: All power residing originally in, and being derived from, the people, all the magistrates and officers of government are their substitutes and agents, and at all times accountable to them. This CACR would add (in part): "The public also has a right to an orderly, lawful, and accountable government Therefore, any individual taxpayer eligible to vote in the State shall have standing to petition the Superior Court to declare whether the State or political subdivision in which the taxpayer resides has spent, or has approved spending, public funds in violation of a law, ordinance, or constitutional provision."

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

HB1337, relative to public bodies under the right-to-know law. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP/A Vote: 15-1

HRA Analysis: While court records are public, administration of the court system is far from transparent. Constitution: Part I, Article 8: "Government, therefore, should be open, accessible, accountable and responsive. To that end, the public's right of access to governmental proceedings and records shall not be unreasonably restricted." This bill includes courts in the definition of "public agencies" in 91-a.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL - Support OTPA

**HB1591, relative to a private right of action for toxin exposure. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP
Vote:10-5**

HRA Analysis: This bill establishes a "strict liability" standard against anyone who participated in any way, even indirectly, to any exposure to any substance that has ever "been shown" to be any risk of harm to anyone. The slightest contributor would be just as liable as the largest. NH Constitution Part I Art 18. "All penalties ought to be proportioned to the nature of the offense."

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

**HB1717, requiring a jury trial before the municipality transfers certain property. ITL
Vote: 16-1**

HRA Analysis: Bill would require a jury trial for municipal transfer over \$1500. Platform: Justify expenditures against measurable benefits, Constitution: [Art.] 20. [Jury Trial in Civil Causes.] In all controversies concerning property, and in all suits between two or more persons except those in which another practice is and has been customary and except those in which the value in controversy does not exceed \$1,500 and no title to real estate is involved, the parties have a right to a trial by jury....

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL

Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services

**HB1321, relative to the hours youth are permitted to work. Maj. Int. study; Min. ITL
Vote: 20-1**

HRA Analysis: The platform requires an attitude of assistance and cooperation between government and business. In the area of youth working hours, we found businesses and parents confused about what the regulations are. Support interim study to help determine the source of this confusion and recommend remedies.

HRA Recommendation: Support Int. Study

Municipal and County Government

HB1307, relative to the default budget in certain towns. OTP/A Vote: 14-4

HRA Analysis: Requires default budgets to be presented in the same detail as proposed operating budgets. Our platform says to Expand openness and transparency.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTPA

HB1561, relative to the use of recycled tire rubber at village, town, municipal, and school playgrounds. Maj. ITL; Min. Int. study Vote: 15-4

HRA Analysis: This bill prohibits the use of recycled tire rubber in playgrounds but evidence of risks has not been proven conclusively. Platform says to Minimize business regulations and Keep state government lean.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Public Works and Highways

HB1428, relative to removal of roadside memorials. OTP/A Vote: 18-0

HRA Analysis: This amended bill would allow DOT to remove roadside memorials within the right of way. No platform or Constitutional issue.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB1706, relative to the construction of a Lake Sunapee public boat ramp. ITL Vote: 19-2

HRA Analysis: This bill is related to a boat ramp that was the subject of a Commission that just recommended against the ramp site. However there is no Constitutional or Platform issue.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

Resources, Recreation and Development

HB1737, relative to the permissible level of methyl tertiary butyl ether in drinking water. ITL Vote: 15-0

HRA Analysis: Conflicting platform planks.

HRA Recommendation: Vote Your Conscience

Science, Technology and Energy

HB1101, regulating groundwater pollution caused by polluting emissions in the air. OTP/A Vote: 20-0

HRA Analysis: This bill as amended clarifies the basis for and requires periodic review of ambient groundwater quality standards and directs the department to evaluate the ambient groundwater quality standards. It had already passed the House. Funding is to come from the funds come from the MtBE lawsuit at the Federal level. No platform issue.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB1230, establishing a commission to study the economic impact of national carbon pricing on New Hampshire. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP/A Vote: 12-9

HRA Analysis: The intent of the proposed commission is to draft future legislation to impose a carbon tax that would make the cost of fuel so high, we will be forced to seek other means for energy and oblivate our current usage of natural gas, propane, oil, or coal. Our platform states that we should work to reduce energy costs.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1338, establishing a committee to study the changes in law necessary to allow for microgrids in electricity supply. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 12-9

HRA Analysis: This bill seeks to look into micorgrids and unfold any legal barriers that prevent their development and use. Testimony indicated that no barriers exist and the electric utilities are already conducting studies. Platform: Justify expenditures against measurable benefits

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1515, relative to an exemption from the combustion ban on construction and demolition debris. Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 15-6

HRA Analysis: The platform advises us to remove barriers to business formation and minimize business regulations. This bill removes a barrier that prevents the combustion of bio-oil and synthetic gas extracted from construction and demolition debris, and opens the door for further research and development of another source of bio-fuel.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTPA

HB1611, establishing a committee to study off-shore wind energy development. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 11-8

HRA Analysis: A study that has already been studied. The fishing, beach, and boating communities along our 17 miles of seacoast opposed the suggestion of off-shore wind four years ago. The venture is also cost prohibitive would certainly not reduce the cost of energy as our platform asks us to do. Platform: Justify expenditures against measured benefits.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1779, requiring monitoring of certain radioactive air pollutants. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 13-8

HRA Analysis: This bill would require the DHHS to develop a network of stations to monitor, in real-time, various types of radioactive pollutants and publish their findings. There are already extensive monitoring stations. The sponsor cited "cancer cluster" but limited information was available. Platform: Justify expenditures against measurable benefits

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs

HJR4, urging Congress to apply laws equally to United States citizens and members of Congress. ITL Vote: 14-4

HRA Analysis: This resolution would urge congress to ensure it laws apply equally to the general public and themselves. This was one of the fundamental principles the that James Madison articulated as inherent in our form of government as a safeguard against tyranny, Federalist 57. While we agree with the principle, there is no Constitutional or platform issue.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

Transportation

HB1270, relative to the prohibition on the use of mobile electronic devices while driving. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 13-2

HRA Analysis: The bill would allow the use of hand held cell phone while stopped at a traffic light. Platform; promote personal responsibility and consequences for one's actions.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL; Support OTP

HB1350, requiring headlight use when windshield wipers are in use. ITL Vote: 10-3

HRA Analysis: This bill does not differentiate between using wipers on intermittent speed and continuous use. Thus it is not clear when a driver would be in violation. No Platform issue.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB1365, relative to OHRV operation on public ways. OTP/A Vote: 15-4

HRA Analysis: This bill as amended, allows an underage youth who has completed the OHRV training program to legally operate on a public highway, thus cleaning up a conflict with RSA 263. No platform issue.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB1400, relative to red light equipment on vehicles owned by dispatchers. ITL

Vote: 11-2

HRA Analysis: In committee, no one testified in support other than the sponsor, who did not show a demonstrated need for this bill..

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB1419, relative to biennial motorcycle inspections. ITL Vote: 15-4

HRA Analysis: The bill would change the inspection for Motorcycles from annual to biennial inspections. Platform; minimize business regulations, permits and paperwork.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL - Support OTP

Regular Calendar - Part Two

Commerce and Consumer Affairs

HB1241, establishing a commission to assess benefits and costs of a "health care for all" program for New Hampshire. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 11-8

HRA Analysis: The Platform is clear: Allow free market driven health care plans; Allow for "portability" of health care plans; Increase the use of market forces to improve health care and lower costs.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1362, authorizing individuals and certain businesses to purchase health insurance from out-of- state companies. Maj. Int. Study; Min. OTP Vote: 12-8

HRA Analysis: Our platform states: "Allow the purchase of insurance plans across state lines".

HRA Recommendation: Oppose Interim Study - Support OTP

HB1516, establishing a commission to examine the feasibility of the New England states entering into a compact for a single payor health care program. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 11-9

HRA Analysis: Similar concept rejected in VT due to estimated costs. The Platform is clear: Allow free market driven health care plans; Allow for "portability" of health care plans; Increase the use of market forces to improve health care and lower costs.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

HB1514, relative to shelter-in-place orders. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 14-6

HRA Analysis: We are a free society and the ability to move about peacefully is a critical component of what makes America the great nation that we are. There should be no prohibitions preventing their ability and right to vacate the area or to move about freely. [Art.] 2. [Natural Rights.] All men have certain natural, essential, and inherent rights.... “

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL - Support OTP

HB1752, requiring a search warrant to obtain blood samples. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 14-5

HRA Analysis: “[Art.] 19. [Searches and Seizures Regulated.] Every subject hath a right to be secure from all unreasonable searches and seizures of his person,...”

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL - Support OTP

Education

HB1277, relative to the renomination of teachers. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote:

11-9 HRA Analysis: Renomination was changed to 5 years several years to give new teachers the opportunity to grow and learn the profession. As the HRA position has stated in prior attempts to reduce the timeframe, the Platform states “Eliminate tenure and institute merit pay.” Though not truly tenure, reducing the time requirement is a step in the wrong direction.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1333, relative to the criteria for teachers in charter schools. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 11-9

HRA Analysis: We do not need added requirements on charter schools. Platform: “we support expanded education choices, including but not limited to: education tax credits, charter schools, and homeschooling. We believe in local educational control...”

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1354, adding the speaker of the house f representatives and senate president as permanent members of the university system board of trustees. Maj. OTP; Min. ITL Vote: 10-9

HRA Analysis: No Constitutional or platform issue

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB1369, limiting educational assessments to academic skills and knowledge. Maj. ITL; Min. OTPA Vote: 12-7

HRA Analysis: We do not need our schools to be assessing our children’s attitudes, behaviors, and other non-academic areas. Platform says “Emphasize knowledge attainment and academic achievement”

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL - Support OTPA

Election Law

HB1264, relative to construction of the terms "resident," "inhabitant," "residence," and "residency." Maj. OTP; Min. ITL Vote: 11-9

HRA Analysis: This bill modifies the definition of resident or inhabitant and aligns the with domicile. Per our Constitution Art 11: "All elections are to be free, and every inhabitant of the state of 18 years of age and upwards shall have an equal right to vote in any election. Every person shall be considered an inhabitant for the purposes of voting in the town, ward, or unincorporated place where he has his domicile." Our Platform says "voting is done by New Hampshire resident citizens only."

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

HB1368, relative to political contributions made by limited liability companies. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 11-9

HRA Analysis: The proposed bill would eliminate the privacy of members of an LLC and interfere with their constitutional rights to make political contributions without fear of retribution. Our platform calls for us to Protect the privacy of individuals from government agencies.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Environment and Agriculture

HB1233, preempting local regulation of seeds and fertilizer. Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL

Vote: 7-6 HRA Analysis: The impacts of inconsistent regulations not only will hurt the NH farmer's livelihood but will unfairly limit consumer choice and pose serious legal and financial risks for local governments. This legislation simply defines that the authority to regulate seed lies with the Department of Agriculture and not with each individual municipality. This bill protects the property rights of those who are working the land. Our platform states: Remove barriers to business formation and encourage small businesses, Minimize business regulations, permits, licenses and paperwork, Support cost-efficient means to protect, develop and market agricultural, forest and high value natural resource products.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTPA

HB1766, relative to remediating the Coakley Landfill in Greenland. Maj. Int. study; Min. OTP Vote: 9-7

HRA Analysis: The Coakley Landfill is a Federal Superfund site and has received funding to mitigate documented environmental concerns. This legislation will potentially violate the consent decree that the State is a party to along with the EPA resulting in the State of NH exerting power that it does not have under the Superfund program. The EPA is currently expediting deep bedrock testing and it is anticipated that this will provide new information by the end of summer. It is premature to act before the EPA has completed its new analysis using the latest science. Platform: Prioritize programs to ensure effective spending.

HRA Recommendation: Support Interim Study

Executive Departments and Administration

HB1685, establishing a statutory commission for oversight over occupational regulation. ITL Vote: 9-8

HRA Analysis: A White house report indicated there “is ample evidence that States ... should review current licensing practices with an aim toward rationalizing these regulations and lowering barriers to employment”. Reducing licensing burdens could mean easier entry into the workforce and more growth. The possibilities need to be examined. Platform states: Minimize business regulations, permits, licenses and paperwork.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL - Support OTP

HB1754, establishing a state defined contribution retirement plan for state and political subdivision members of the retirement system. ITL Vote: 14-2

HRA Analysis: The bill would establish a defined contribution plan for new members of the retirement system, who begin service on or after July 1, 2019. Our platform states: “Ensure that public employee benefits are similar to and do not exceed those of the private sector.”

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL - Support OTP

Finance

HB1626, requiring the governor's commission on alcohol and drug abuse prevention, treatment, and recovery to report on the cost effectiveness of funded programs. Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 14-10

HRA Analysis: No Constitution or Platform issue

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB1756, relative to an additional allowance and a cost of living adjustment for retirees from the state retirement system. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 14-10

HRA Analysis: Adds a COLA to those who have completed service. Platform issue: Ensure that public employee benefits are similar to and do not exceed those of the private sector. The pension fund is under water financially. Constitution: Art.] 36. [Pensions.] Economy being a most essential virtue in all states, especially in a young one, no pension shall be granted, but in consideration of actual services; and such pensions ought to be granted with great caution, by the legislature, and never for more than one year at a time.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1814, relative to additional education grants to municipalities for the purpose of restoring reductions in stabilization grants ITL Vote: 24-0

HRA Analysis: This bill restores education adequacy stabilization cuts with the next budget. It doesn't bind the house to a position regarding the cuts to stabilization grants. Platform: government has a moral obligation to the people to be as cost effective as possible. Should be brought up with the next budget.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs

**HB1506, relative to regulation of assistant physicians. Maj. OTP/A; Min. Int. study
Vote: 12-7**

HRA Analysis: These are graduates of medical school who have received more medical training and clinical experience than either Nurse Practitioners or Physician Assistants. They would work under the supervision and malpractice insurance of a supervising licensed physician. This meets planks "Encourage apprenticeships" and "Allow free market driven health care plans".

HRA Recommendation: Support OPTA

**HB1532, prohibiting gender reassignment surgery for minors. Maj. OTP; Min. ITL
Vote: 12-8**

HRA Analysis: The House just passed a bill banning talk therapy for minors struggling with their sexuality. NH has a minimum age for the consumption and purchase of alcohol and tobacco, and even a minimum age for using tanning booths. Shouldn't minors be protected as well from the irreversible effects of body-altering surgery and puberty-blocking hormones? Platform: Support the moral and ethical right of informed consent with regard to all medical treatment and intervention

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

HB1560, prohibiting Medicaid from paying for sex reassignment drug or hormone therapy or surgery. ITL Vote: 13-7

HRA Analysis: American Psychiatric Association categorizes as a mental disorder. Given the expense and unproven effectiveness of using an intrusive medical procedure to treat a mental disorder (Gender Dysphoria) will divert scarce resources away from other needed and proven medical practices aiding the poor and other children who need services. Platform: "Justify expenditures against measurable benefits" and "Prioritize programs to ensure effective spending".

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL - Support OTP

Judiciary

**HB1319, prohibiting discrimination based on gender identity. Maj. OTP; Min. OTP/A
Vote: 10-8**

HRA Analysis: This bill has the potential to prohibit individuals from practicing or acting according to their faith. The constitutional principle set forth in Part 1, Article 5 is that no persons beliefs can infringe on another's belief or disturb the public peace. It adds "Gender Identity" to anti-discrimination law, adding one more group to those covered. The listing of groups necessarily excludes others not listed. Part 1, Article 1, "All men are born equally free and independent; therefore, all government of right originates from the people, is founded in consent, and instituted for the general good." By dividing people, do we meet the "general good"?

HRA Recommendation: Support OPTA or ITL or table - Oppose OTP

HB1323, relative to employment of chief executive officers under the right-to-know law. Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 10-8

HRA Analysis: Bill seeks to make the hiring, firing and disciplinary actions of those public servants who have significant responsibility, those on charge of departments with substantial budgets like Fire, Police, schools, etc., who report directly to a governing body, more open to public scrutiny. The amendment removed hiring to protect the size of the applicant pool. Platform: Expand openness and transparency to employment, expenditures and all recipients of taxpayers' funds

HRA Recommendation: Support OTPA

HB1344, relative to collective bargaining under the right-to-know law. Maj. OTP; Min. ITL Vote: 9-7

HRA Analysis: This bill seeks to make public bodies' negotiating meetings truly public by removing their exemption from the Right-to-Know law. The public should be able to tell what issues are actually being negotiated and the positions of the parties as the negotiations proceed. This provision would only apply to actual negotiations, not strategy sessions, where a majority of the body was present. The majority believes this bill will enhance citizen's opportunity to evaluate the performance of those representing us, from either side. NH Const. [Art.] 8: Government, therefore, should be open, accessible, accountable and responsive. To that end, the public's right of access to governmental proceedings and records shall not be unreasonably restricted.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

HB1443, relative to a jury's determination as to the applicability of a law. Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 9-8

HRA Analysis: This bill would provide the jury with clearer explanation of their authority to judge the applicability of the law in a particular case by having the judge tell them they should convict "unless your right of conscience dictates that the facts of the case reveal that a guilty verdict will yield an unjust sentence; accordingly, you shall find the defendant not guilty." Platform: Provide instructions for juries in criminal proceedings that they have the power both to judge the facts and the application of the law to those facts

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

HB1579, requiring records to be kept for certain exempt convenings under the right-to-know law. without Vote: 8-8 Without Recommendation.

HRA Analysis: This bill requires a "record" to be made of certain so-called non-meetings. Currently public bodies can meet with legal counsel or in negotiations with no record at all of those events. The bill requires them to record the names of members and other persons appearing, beginning and ending dates and times; and If the convening is for collective bargaining negotiations, the name of the bargaining unit or, if for consultation with legal counsel, the name of the counsel and to publish that information in public records within 72 hours. No details of what happened are required. NH Const. [Art.] 8: Government, therefore, should be open, accessible, accountable and responsive. To that end, the public's right of access to governmental proceedings and records shall not be unreasonably restricted.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

HB1584, relative to a landlord's ability to sell personal property of a commercial tenant. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 8-5

HRA Analysis: The bill provides a means for a landlord to sell commercial property left in a rental unit, a situation current landlord tenant law does not address. The Uniform Commercial Code makes this process quite difficult. Platform: Foster an attitude of assistance and cooperation with business and increase responsiveness.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL; Support OTP

HB1672, prohibiting release of certain information relative to users of therapeutic cannabis to federal agencies. OTP Vote: 13-5

HRA Analysis: This bill recognizes a privacy interest of people who use therapeutic marijuana and are in a state-held registry. Under this bill federal authorities would not have access to the list without a search warrant. The idea is to protect those who are registered from the Federal gov't getting their names from the list and pursuing them for violation of Federal drug law. NH Const. [Art.] 7. The people of this state have the sole and exclusive right of governing themselves as a free, sovereign, and independent state;

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

HB1748, relative to status for part-time retired judges. ITL Vote: 11-7

HRA Analysis: This bill exempts retired part-time circuit court judges or judicial referees from current state law which other retired state employees must abide and essentially allow them to retire and come back to work full time without stopping their pensions or contributing to the retirement system as everyone else must. Constitution [Art.] 10. Government being instituted for the common benefit, protection, and security, of the whole community, and not for the private interest or emolument of any one man, family, or class of men;

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1787, relative to the rights of conscience for medical professionals. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 14-1

HRA Analysis: Article 4 of our State Constitution states: Among the natural rights, some are, in their very nature unalienable, because no equivalent can be given or received for them. Of this kind are the Rights of Conscience. Our platform strongly endorses the right to life. The federal government and most states recognize the right not to be coerced to provide abortion, etc. The discrimination rights referenced is of no use in these cases as evidenced in the Hobby Lobby and the Little Nuns cases. Testimony of nurses and doctors provided in person and in writing show we do have a problem in NH. Medical personnel should NOT be compelled to participate in abortions, to any extent, for fear of losing their jobs.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL - Support OTP

HB1788, relative to costs charged under the right-to-know law. OTP/A Vote: 11-7

HRA Analysis: This bill addresses wildly varying costs charged by various public bodies for copies provided under RSA 91-A. This bill as amended sets a maximum rate of 10 cents per page for copies. Actual costs of producing copies, such as off site copying, redaction, and at least potentially the cost of electronic media, are still allowed under current law. Current copy fees range from free to over a dollar per page. Constitution Art.

8: Government, therefore, should be open, accessible, accountable and responsive. To that end, the public's right of access to governmental proceedings and records shall not be unreasonably restricted.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTPA

HB1789, relative to costs of requests which are in electronic format under the right-to-know law. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 9-8

HRA Analysis: This bill would prohibit a public body from charging for delivery of electronic governmental records under RSA 91-A. The bill would carry out the intent of the statute by prohibiting charging a fee for transmittal of the record via email, onto a thumb drive, or making the record available on the internet. The minority of the committee believes that this bill would make access to governmental records much easier to obtain in the spirit of the right to know. Constitution Art. 8: Government, therefore, should be open, accessible, accountable and responsive. To that end, the public's right of access to governmental proceedings and records shall not be unreasonably restricted.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL - Support OTP

Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services

HB1201, relative to an employee's earned but unused vacation time. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP/A Vote: 12-9

HRA Analysis: This bill would regulate how unearned vacation time is compensated. Currently, vacation time policy is entirely at the discretion of the employer. This would create new regulations and penalties, which the platform asks us to minimize, possibly without improving the employee situation. Because employers need not offer vacation in the first place, they may withhold the benefit rather than expose themselves to additional compliance issues.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1222, relative to inquiries concerning salary history by prospective employers. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 12-9

HRA Analysis: This bill would implement unnecessary, additional regulations on to businesses, with the potential for unintended consequences. This is contrary to the GOP platform which seeks to reduce or eliminate regulations to foster a better business climate.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1246, relative to the minimum hourly rate for tipped employees. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 12-9

HRA Analysis: This bill proposes to raise the minimum wage for tipped employers above the current level, which already exceeds the Federal minimum (and that of surrounding States with which we compete for employers). From the employee standpoint, the full minimum wage applies to combined tips and wages. The platform asks us to encourage the competitiveness of NH businesses, not work against them.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1405, relative to the eligibility of school district employees for family and medical leave. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 12-9

HRA Analysis: This bill would mandate that family and medical leave benefits be extended to part-time school district employees who would be eligible were the school year extended to year-round employment. While the sponsor assures us there is absolutely no cost to providing this benefit, experience suggests otherwise. Any school district is free to offer such a benefit as a matter of policy or as part of a collective bargaining agreement. To the extent that they do not suggests there are costs to doing so. As such, 28-a requires that the State provide funding for any new mandated programs.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1462, relative to health and dental benefits under the workers' compensation law. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 12-9

HRA Analysis: This bill would mandate the an employer pay up to one year of health and dental benefits for an employee out on workers' comp. This regulation would place a burden on NH businesses already discouraged by the cost of NH's workers' comp system. The platform asks us to reduce the burden on businesses.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1500, relative to workplace violence, workplace injuries and death in the workplace. Maj. Int. study; Min. OTP Vote: 11-10

HRA Analysis: This is a complex bill with several related goals relative to public employers.. It provides new definitions of workplace violence, which includes verbal harassment, intimidation, and abusive behavior toward authority. It also sets up the authority of the NH DOL to track workplace injuries and deaths, currently only done through the workers' comp system. Finally, it asks the NH DOL to take on OSHA's role in investigating injuries for public employers, currently exempt from OSHA regulation. No platform or constitutional issues dictate response, but getting such a complex subject right likely requires more study.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

Municipal and County Government

CACR19, relating to right to govern. Providing that the people of the state may enact local laws that protect health, safety and welfare. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 11-8

HRA Analysis: This proposed amendment attempts to correct the conference of natural rights upon franchises of the State (incorporated enterprises) which put the other franchises (municipalities) at a legal disadvantage. It is purports to make New Hampshire into a home rule state like Massachusetts. However, to do that it would simply strike the word "supreme" from Part 2, Article 2. This instead adds a Part 1, Article 20 which gives the municipalities the power to enact any ordinance necessary to protect the health, safety or welfare of the community and states it as a sovereign right. This in fairly mirrors the powers delegated to the Legislature in Part 2, Article 5 which gives us the power to enact orders,laws, statutes, ordinances, directions and instructions for the benefit and welfare of the State. However, being couched as a sovereign right rather than a delegated power such would take precedence over the powers of the State. Any town could prohibit gun ownership, or make it

mandatory even require the bearing of arms. Furthermore, seeing that the State does not have a militia as envisioned by the Constitution, each town could form its own militia. The permutations are virtually endless.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Public Works and Highways

**HB2018, relative to the state 10-year transportation improvement program. OTP/A
Vote: 21-2**

HRA Analysis: No Constitution or Platform issue.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

Science, Technology and Energy

**HB1358, relative to decisions by the site evaluation committee. Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL
Vote: 12-9**

HRA Analysis: This bill was drafted out of frustration of nothing coming from proposals that would bring jobs and grow the economy in areas like Franklin. The mayor of Franklin testified at length at how delay and delay in getting an answer continues the hardship his town faces. The bill itself calls for the Site Evaluation Committee (SEC) to give an answer within 365 days. The amendment (pg 100) adds an extension of up to 120 days but rewards applicants who delay the process with automatic approval.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP/A

HB1555, relative to participation by the public utilities commission in regional activities. Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 11-8

HRA Analysis: This bill instructs the Public Utilities Commission and the Consumer Advocate to keep the New Hampshire ratepayers best interest in mind when participating in regional energy policy deliberations. This is to ensure that NH ratepayers don't get stuck footing the bill for policies in other states and strengthens our state's position on regional energy negotiations. Platform issue: working to lower energy costs.

HRA Recommendation: Support OPA

HB1563, relative to taxation of solar energy systems. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 13-8

HRA Analysis: This bill addresses municipalities that currently do not authorize a tax exemption for solar energy systems. It would require them to bypass a vote of the people and offer system owners a fee of \$5 per kilowatt-hour, in lieu of paying a tax. This would likely have to made frequent modifications to rules and rates. We oppose new taxes and fees, as stated in our platform.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1569, relative to liability of energy facility companies for damage caused by restoration projects. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 11-8

HRA Analysis: This bill requires the Site Evaluation Committee to include a provision to cover what-ifs that could damage the environment. Electric Utilities already have provisions in their contracts to cover environmental damage caused by their facility. Past history does

not warrant added insurance, making this bill redundant and unnecessary. Minimizing business regulations is in the platform.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs

HCR11, urging a pardon of Gerald "Jerry" DeLemus. Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 9-8

HRA Analysis: This resolution requests the President to pardon Gerald DeLemus who is currently in jail for allegedly conspiring against the United States of America. Contrary to the principles of the 5th Amendment Mr. DeLemus was leveraged to incriminate himself in a plea bargain which was accepted despite the fact that Mr. Delemus informed the court that it was perjury.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTPA

HCR12, applying to Congress to propose a congressional term limits constitutional amendment. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 11-7

HRA Analysis: No Constitutional or Platform issue.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

Transportation

HB1259, relative to passenger restraints. Maj. ITL Min OTP; Vote: 10-9

HRA Analysis: The bill requires the use of seatbelts by all motor vehicle operators and passengers unless exempt by law. Platform: promote personal responsibility and consequences for one's actions.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1262, relative to online driver education. Maj. OTP; Min. ITL Vote: 10-9

HRA Analysis: The bill would allow online driver education classes to be substituted for the required classroom section of driver education. Platform: promote education freedom and the parental rights to control the education of their children.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

HB1442, relative to driver education. ITL :16-3

HRA Analysis: The bill would give parents the option of paying \$500-\$700 for Driver Ed or to teach their own child the classroom and driving skills. Platform: Encourage educational freedom to allow all parents to choose the best public, private, or homeschool program for their children.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL - Support OTP

Ways and Means

HB1686, relative to applications for and the use of education tax credits. OTP/A Vote: 13-10

HRA Analysis: This bill allows taxpayers to use credit computed under the education tax credit against taxes due under the I&D tax, as businesses are now allowed to do with a credit against the business profits tax and BET. Platform: Expand education tax credits and education savings accounts

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

Regular Calendar - Part Three

ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE (Special Order)

HB 1474, designating the New Hampshire Red as the official state poultry. OTP. Vote: 13-0

HRA Analysis: No Platform or Constitutional Issue

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

Commerce and Consumer Affairs

HB1682, relative to procedures for foreclosure. Maj. OTP/A; Min. OTP/A Vote: 11-8

HRA Analysis: The committee amendment creates a study committee. No Constitution of platform issue.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB1725, establishing regulations for nano wineries. OTP/A Vote: 15-2

HRA Analysis: Platform says: Remove barriers to business formation and encourage small businesses.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTPA

Education

HB1432, requiring certain schools to establish nondiscrimination and employee background check policies. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP/A Vote: 11-9

HRA Analysis: This is another attempt to attack non-public schools. There are federal non-discrimination laws in place and research has shown they already perform background checks. Our platform says to Minimize business regulations, permits, licenses and paperwork, and Encourage education freedom to allow all parents to choose the best public, private, charter or home school program for their children.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1694, requiring a civics examination as a high school graduation requirement. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 11-8

HRA Analysis: The NH Constitution encourages knowledge and learning (Art. 83) and states that it is the duty of legislators to "cherish" the "natural history of the country." Numerous indicators show a massive failure on the part of NH schools to adequately address the need for education re: civics and history. Including a requirement for civics classes to administer the 100-Question Civics/History exam that candidates for naturalization must study would provide a needed foundation in basic civics for students statewide.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL - Support OTP

Election Law

HB1772, permitting online voting registration. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP/A Vote: 11-9

HRA Analysis: The proposed bill would impose additional burdens on the Secretary of State and the Department of Motor Vehicles without appropriate funding to allow persons to register online in addition to in person. There have been many reported incidents of hacks of Internet connected, on line systems, including those of banks, credit card companies, and retail merchants. The proposed bill would expose the state's voter registration system to undue risks. The recommendation of ITL supports ballot integrity. Platform says to Protect the privacy of individuals from government agencies

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Executive Departments and Administration

HB1757, relative to the reduction in the calculation of state retirement system annuities at age 65. Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 15-4

HRA Analysis: No Platform or Constitutional Issue

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB1818, relative to penalties for certain occupational licensing violations. Maj. Int. study; Min. OTP Vote: 14-2

HRA Analysis: Part 2, Article 83 urges the Legislature "to encourage private and public institutions, rewards, and immunities for the promotion of agriculture, arts, sciences, commerce, trades, manufactures, and natural history of the country;" and "Free and fair competition in the trades and industries is an inherent and essential right of the people and should be protected against all monopolies and conspiracies which tend to hinder or destroy it." Instead the individuals have to obtain permission from the State to practice their trade, in a manner that is punishing to individuals and promotes large corporations at their expense. This is supported by the NHGOP platform Minimize business regulations, permits, licenses and paperwork.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose IS, support OTP

Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs

**HB1707, relative to information regarding abortion. Maj. Int. study; Min. ITL
Vote: 11-9**

HRA Analysis: Bill language is consistent with US Supreme Court decisions.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose Interim Study - Support OTP

HB1816, relative to Medicaid managed care. Maj. OTP/A; Min. OTP/A Vote: 13-9

HRA Analysis: This bill seeks to have the NH General Court set reimbursement rates for those in Medicaid Managed Care rather than actuaries. These comport more to Government planks rather than Health planks, "Justify expenditures against measurable benefits" and "Prioritize programs to ensure effective spending".

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP W/Majority Amendment

Judiciary

HB1279, allowing additional charges under a lease to be included in a demand for rent. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 12-6

HRA Analysis: This bill seeks to allow landlords to include late fees and utility bills in a demand for rent, the prelude to an eviction notice. This might be in conflict with existing eviction law [different eviction notice required for rent or utilities].

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB1295, relative to persons held in civil contempt. OTP/A Vote: 14-3

HRA Analysis: Over the years it has been observed that civil contempt has been used as a sort of debtors prison. The divorce proceeding can occur in such a manner that enormous arrearages can occur virtually instantaneously. Individuals are often held in jail for significant periods until the court determines that they do not in fact have the ability to pay. This Bill ensures that the court determines that they have the ability to pay first and are wilfully disobeying the order before they can be jailed.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

HB1347, relative to information to be included in the minutes under the right-to-know law. OTP/A Vote: 8-7

HRA Analysis: This bill would require all public meetings of public bodies to include in their minutes any pertinent information relating to decisions that are made by the body. The bill was driven by public bodies failing to include the cost of taking actions they just voted for. We see this as an important part of allowing citizens to know what the public body is really doing. NH Const. [Art.] 8. ... Government, therefore, should be open, accessible, accountable and responsive. To that end, the public's right of access to governmental proceedings and records shall not be unreasonably restricted.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTPA

**HB1373, relative to an individual's property right in his or her DNA. Maj. OTP/A;
Min. ITL Vote: 9-6**

HRA Analysis: This bill, as amended, recognizes that people have a privacy right in their DNA and genetic information. This would prevent anyone from obtaining it without consent

of the individual or with a warrant or probable cause. Information gathered with consent could only be used for a specific purpose and must be destroyed when that purpose is complete. NH Const. [Art.] 19. Every subject hath a right to be secure from all unreasonable searches and seizures of his person, his houses, his papers, and all his possessions.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTPA

HB1485, relative to security deposits. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 10-8

HRA Analysis: The bill would allow landlords to ask for two (2) months rent as security deposit as opposed to the current maximum of one (1) month. Platform: Minimize business regulations.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL - Support OTP

HB1627, prohibiting the transmission of images or sounds of another person who is on private property or to conduct surveillance activity. Maj. OTP; Min. ITL Vote: 9-8

HRA Analysis: This bill criminalizes violating someone's privacy by filming/recording/transmitting images of them where they have an expectation of privacy. The bill provides exceptions so that someone observable on at the ground level on a space observed by the public can be filmed and further prohibit certain surveillance for financial gain. Law enforcement and the Insurance Industry strongly oppose the bill as they believe it would criminalize much, if not all, insurance fraud investigation and seriously impair law enforcement's ability to surveil suspects from above ground level. Conflicting planks.

HRA Recommendation: Vote Your Conscience

HB1680, relative to abortions after viability. Maj. OTP; Min. ITL

Vote: 10-8

HRA Analysis: This bill prohibits abortions on babies who can live outside of the mother's womb, except when the alternative poses significant risk to the life or health of the mother. Our platform states: We believe, above all else, in the founding principle that all people are created equal, endowed by our Creator with the right to life,

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

HB1701, making the Coakley Landfill Group subject to the provisions of RSA 91-A. Maj. Int. study; Min. OTP Vote: 9-6

HRA Analysis: The Coakley Landfill is a Federal Superfund site and has received funding to mitigate documented environmental concerns, but, is not a public entity. No Constitutional or Platform issue.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB1721, relative to coercive abortions. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 15-3 HRA Analysis:

We believe in free people says our platform and that includes freedom from coercion. It also says endowed by our Creator with the right to life.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL - Support OTP

Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services

HB1393, relative to compensation for vacation time and personal time earned. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 12-9

HRA Analysis: No Platform or Constitutional Issue

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB1397, relative to the rights of temporary workers. Maj. ITL; Min. Int. study Vote: 12-9

HRA Analysis: No Platform or Constitutional Issue

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB1417, relative to failure to make workers' compensation payments. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 13-8

HRA Analysis: No Platform or Constitutional Issue

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB1711, relative to rehabilitation under the workers' compensation law. Maj. ITL; Min. Int. study Vote: 12-9

HRA Analysis: No Platform or Constitutional Issue

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB1716, establishing apprenticeship programs for unemployed workers. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 11-10

HRA Analysis: No Platform or Constitutional Issue

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB1762, relative to documentation requirements for the department of labor. Int. study Vote: 17-4

HRA Analysis: No Platform or Constitutional Issue

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

Municipal and County Government

HB1463, relative to requirements for noise ordinances in towns. Maj. OTP; Min. ITL Vote: 11-7

HRA Analysis: No Platform or Constitutional Issue

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB1652, relative to default budgets. Maj. OTP/A; Min. Int. study Vote: 10-8

HRA Analysis: No Platform or Constitutional Issue

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

Public Works and Highways

HB1541, relative to registration and road toll fees for hybrid and electric vehicles. Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 19-2

HRA Analysis: No Platform or Constitutional Issue

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

Resources, Recreation and Development

HB1313, relative to prohibitions on carrying a loaded firearm on an OHRV or snowmobile. Maj. OTP; Min. OTP/A Vote: 11-7

HRA Analysis: No Platform or Constitutional Issue

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB1436, relative to lakes with shared borders with 2 or more towns. Maj. ITL; Min. Int. study Vote: 11-7

HRA Analysis: This bill requires all septic systems within the protected shoreland to meet all rules of the department of environmental services for sewage system design.

This bill would put an undue burden on towns. Platform says to “Minimize business regulations, permits, licenses, and paperwork.”

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Science, Technology and Energy

HB1544, establishing a committee to identify the requirements needed to commit New Hampshire to a goal of 100 percent renewable energy for electricity by 2040. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 12-9

HRA Analysis: This bill seems to be nothing more than a political statement, with little or no technical advantage, by those who want to see the eradication of our current energy uses,

such as natural gas, oil, and coal. “Green” energy businesses are subsidized. We do not know what they will be 22 years in the future, but per the platform, we should work to privatize programs.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1550, requiring electric bills to include the cost of compliance with renewable energy standards. OTP/A Vote: 11-8

HRA Analysis: “Transparency” is the keyword here. As stated in previous blurbs, the Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) is Crony Capitalism. This bill requires the electric utilities to provide the cost of compliance on each ratepayer’s December bill. Consumers should know what they are paying for. The Amendment (p. 124) directs the electric utilities to provide an Internet link to the details of the programs supported by RPS. RPS is a tax that raises the cost of energy. Our platform calls us to “work to energy reduce costs”.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTPA

HB1647, relative to inclusion of energy storage in distributed energy resources for electricity transmission and distribution. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP/A Vote: 12-9

HRA Analysis: This bill defines energy storage as a taxable energy source, sticking the ratepayers with the bill, similar to the gas pipeline arrangement. It is inconsistent with the state restructuring statutes. Lowering the cost of energy is in our platform.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Transportation

HB1507, relative to state inspection of new motor vehicles. ITL Vote: 15-4

HRA Analysis: Bill provides that new motor vehicles shall not be required to be inspected during the three years following the manufacturer's model year. Platform: minimize business regulations, permits, licences, and paperwork

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL; Support OTP

HB1549, relative to the availability of vehicle accident reports. Maj. OTP; Min. ITL

Vote: 8-6 HRA Analysis:The bill would have people involved in a vehicle accident have access to the police accident reports at the same time the report is filed with the State Dept. of Safety. NH Constitution: Art 8 part 1: the public's right of access to Governmental proceedings and records shall not be unreasonably restrained.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP.

HB1718, regulating the use of license plate scanning devices by private parties.

Int. Study Vote: 14-1

HRA Analysis: The bill as written does not reference license plate scanners. As written the bill is unclear as to whether a private party who had their vehicle stolen would be legally allowed to look for his vehicle using drone/video cameras. No platform issues.

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation

Ways and Means

HB1381, relative to determining the taxable value of utility property for local property taxation. OTP/A Vote: 13-8

HRA Analysis: The bill as amended, standardizes the taxable value of utility property for local property taxation. The amended bill is a compromise with the State Assessing Board and the utility companies. Platform: Foster an attitude of assistance and cooperation with business

HRA Recommendation: Support OTPA

HB1422, relative to the applicability of certain business tax rate changes. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 12-9

HRA Analysis: This bill adds a requirement that the business tax rate reductions adopted in 2017, 156 (HB 517) shall not take effect if the combined revenue growth in general and education funds for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018 does not exceed the change in the Consumer Price Index for the period, plus 1%. This legislation is intended to prevent the reduction of the Business Enterprise/Business Profits Tax.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL - Support OTP

HB1609, establishing a local option for an additional surcharge on occupancy under the meals and rooms tax. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP/A Vote: 14-7

HRA Analysis: This bill allows cities and towns to establish a surcharge under the meals and rooms tax of up to \$2 per night. Platform: oppose new taxes and fees.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL.

HB1802, relative to the statewide education property tax. Maj. ITL; Min. OTP/A Vote:

15-6 HRA Analysis: This bill requires that excess StateWide Education Property Tax (SWEPT) be remitted to the state. Currently if SWEPT is greater than adequacy cost, it stays with the school district. Sponsors aim to return to "donor towns". Platform: maintain local control of spending and taxes; oppose downshifting of costs.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Pulled from Consent

HB 1702, relative to the management of the Gunstock Area. ITL Vote 13-0

HRA Analysis: This bill relative to the management of the Gunstock Area. The Gunstock Area in Belknap County is a body politic. The county has responsibility for the debts of the area without either equity in or control of Gunstock. The legislature set it up this way in the enabling legislation. The situation amounts to a downshift of the cost of losses to the county without control or recourse. Platform: that government has a moral obligation to the people to be as cost effective as possible, to always limit spending and growth of government, and to cut spending and cost of government at every possible turn.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL - Support OTP