

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.



"TRUST BUT VERIFY"

Thursday, May 4, 2017

Regular Calendar

SB9 - Vote Your Conscience	SB38 - Support OTP/A	SB65 - Support OTP
SB101 - Support OTP/A	SB103 - Support ITL	SB131 - Oppose OTP
SB190 - Oppose OTP	SB191 - Oppose OTP/A	SB201 - Support ITL
SB230 - No Recommendation	SB232 - No Recommendation	SB242 - Support ITL
SB247 - Oppose OTP/A, Support Table, Support Floor Amendment 2017-1611h if Table Fails		

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

SB 131-FN-A, (New Title) establishing a cross border drug interdiction program and making an appropriation therefor. **MAJ: OTP. MIN: ITL 15-3**

HRA Analysis: This well intended bill looks to take \$2.1 million from an already strapped operational budget. This additional expenditure is not fiscally prudent at this time. Once 5 additional state troopers, cruisers equipment, & training are authorized plus additional personnel at the crime lab the positions will likely not be eliminated adding further financial burden in future years. \$250,000 of Granite Hammer money has still gone unspent, and that program has been arguably less effective than promised in actually stopping dealers. The money could positively impact a greater number NH citizens on a treatment basis helping to eliminate the demand for the drugs in the first place. Platform: "Justify expenditures against measurable benefits"; "Prioritize programs to ensure effective spending"

HRA Recommendation Oppose OTP

EDUCATION

SB 101-FN, relative to enrollment eligibility for regional career and technical education programs. OPA 19-0

HRA Analysis: The original bill allows 10th graders to take Career & Technical Ed (CTE) courses. The committee amendment attaches HB641 which provides a dual enrollment program. It had been passed by the House (supported in pink sheet), retained in Finance and added to House HB2. Platform issues are “Emphasize marketable skills at the high school and postsecondary levels” and “Support innovative measures to reduce tuition costs.”

HRA Recommendation: Support Committee Amendment and OPA

SB 103, limiting food and beverage advertising and marketing on school property. MAJ: ITL. MIN: OPA. 12-7

HRA Analysis: The food police are at it again. This bill would restrict advertising in schools and facilities used by schools such as hockey arenas, fields, etc. Too many questions and unintended consequences. The platform says to promote local control of education policy.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

SB 191-FN, (New Title) establishing the kindergarten initiative development support grant program. MAJ: OPA. MIN: ITL. 15-4

HRA Analysis: Kindergarten is currently funded at ½ the base adequacy amount for each student thus providing state funding for half day kindergarten. This amended bill will provide full adequacy funding for each student – over \$14 million. Amendments were defeated to require local options for parents wishing half day programs. Does full day kindergarten now become a component of an adequate education in NH? Platform issue: We believe that low taxes are the result of low spending; 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. Promote education freedom and parental rights to control the education of their children.

HRA Recommendation: Support a Table Motion - Oppose OPA

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

SB 201, relative to providing pamphlets containing the asbestos regulations to persons engaging in renovation or demolition of structures. ITL. 12-6

HRA Analysis: This bill requires code enforcement officials hand out an informational pamphlet when a demolition permit is issued. NH law requires a hygienist inspect demolition sites for lead & asbestos prior to a permit being issued. This is an unnecessary mandate. It adds printing and postage costs, reporting requirements that will increase personnel costs at both the municipal and state level, creates expenses with no measurable benefit, and increases the size and cost of government. Platform says to “Prioritize programs to ensure effective spending”.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS

SB 65, relative to vaccines administered by pharmacists. **MAJ: OTP. MIN: ITL. 14-7**

HRA Analysis: This bill allows pharmacists to administer a greater number of vaccines, providing greater access to patients. It also potentially lowers costs by increasing competition and removing the requirement to pay a doctor's office co-pay. Currently 47 other states allow pharmacies to administer the entire slate of 12 vaccines. Platform: "Increase the use of market forces to improve health care and lower costs."

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

JUDICIARY

SB 9, (New Title) relative to the admissibility of proffered evidence in sexual assault cases.

MAJ: OTP. MIN: ITL. 11-4

HRA Analysis: While there are concerns that this bill may violate Article 15, Rights of the Accused, there is also evidence that this changes nothing from existing statutes. The conflicting views over Article 15 are irreconcilable.

HRA Recommendation: Vote Your Conscience

SB 230-FN, establishing the Uniform Power of Attorney Act. **MAJ: OTP/A. MIN: ITL. 12-3**

HRA Analysis: No Constitution or Platform issue identified.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

SB 232-FN-LOCAL, relative to the issuance of a summons instead of arrest. **ITL. 14-2**

HRA Analysis: This bill may be tabled to allow more work to be done on it. No Constitution or Platform issue identified.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

LABOR, INDUSTRIAL AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

SB 190-FN, repealing the sunset provision on the first responder's critical injury benefit fund.

MAJ: OTP. MIN: ITL. 17-4

HRA Analysis: SB190 would repeal the drop-dead date contained in the current RSA that delineates a special, additional Workers Compensation (WC) benefit to a "group II retirement system member". The bill would effectively end the difficult but required work that would ensure applicability to all employees covered by WC programs. Two study committees were previously formed, yet to date, no solution to address WC coverage for all has been put forth. The platform states "Ensure that public employee benefits are similar to and do not exceed those of the private sector." This bill effectively creates permanent, special classes of benefit recipients within both the public and private sectors.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP

PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

SB 38-FN, (New Title) making an appropriation to the department of transportation for local highway aid and aid for municipal bridges. **OTP/A 16-1**

HRA Analysis: This bill makes an appropriation from 2016-17 surplus funds for local highway and bridge repair. It also requires an equitable distribution of funds between the 6 state highway districts. Platform says to “Prioritize programs to ensure effective spending”.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

WAYS AND MEANS

SB 242-FN-A-LOCAL, relative to video lottery and table gaming. **ITL. 19-1**

HRA Analysis: This bill allows for two casinos to operate with slot machines and table games in our state. Since there were no casinos showing up to support this bill, it may be unnecessary to create this new and expansive government regulatory structure at this time. Our platform states “We believe in free markets, free people and free enterprise” and “Reject expanded casino ... gambling as a means to balance the budget or increase spending”. While this bill enables a new industry in our state, it also limits free market competition by only allowing two casinos.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Consent

SB 247-FN-A, preventing childhood lead poisoning from paint and water and making an appropriation to a special fund. **OTP/A. 19-1**

HRA Analysis: This bill mandates that children have blood drawn twice before school age to test for lead, or the parents file an exemption with the state, or else they will be barred from daycare and school. Lead poisoning in children is at an all-time low and decreasing. In addition, the financial repercussions of this bill are unfathomable at \$10,000.00 per apartment dwelling to inspect for and mitigate lead should a child be found to test positive for lead. Platform: “Justify expenditures against measurable benefits”; “Protect the privacy of individuals from government agencies and employees who abuse their power and position”.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP/A, Support Table, Support Amendment 2017-1611h if Table Fails