



"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.

Wednesday, February 7, 2018

Motion to Reconsider ITL vote on HB 413 FN-A-L, relative to payment by the state of a portion of retirement system contributions of political subdivision employers.

HRA Anaysis: HRA supported ITL

HRA Recommendation: Oppose Reconsideration

Motion to Reconsider ITL vote on HB 587-FN, relative to conversion therapy seeking to change a person's sexual orientation.

HRA Anaysis: HRA supported ITL

HRA Recommendation: Oppose Reconsideration

Regular Calendar

HB413 Reconsider - NO	HB587 Reconsider - NO	
HB628	HB1793	HB1730 Support ITL

HB1819 Support OTPA	HB1423	HB1773
HB636	HB1415 Oppose OTPA	HB1771 Support ITL

Commerce and Consumer Affairs

HB628, relative to a family and medical leave insurance program. Maj. ITL Vote: 11-9

HRA Analysis: The bill seeks to establish a new state bureaucracy to replace private sector activity. Even if the bill were amended by increasing costs and reducing benefits, the program is not self funding and is not financially sustainable. This program faces insurmountable insolvency. The fundamental concept is contrary to Republican principles. Party Platform: Keep state government lean; -Minimize business regulations, permits, licenses and paperwork; -Privatize programs and functions that can be handled more effectively by the private sector; -Ensure that public employee benefits are similar to and do not exceed those of the private sector

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1793, establishing a New Hampshire single payer health care system. Maj. ITL Vote: 10-8

HRA Analysis: Seeks to establish a single-payer health system for NH. Even the minority blurb says they understand NH is not ready to have such a program, but wants to start it anyway....Enough said. Party Platform: -Allow free market driven health care plans and “ala carte” insurance plans free from government mandates; -Increase the use of market forces to improve health care and lower costs; -Keep state government lean.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

HB1730, establishing a public safety enhancement revolving fund, establishing a grant program for body cameras worn by police, and creating prestige number vanity plates. ITL Vote: 12-8

HRA Analysis: This is a plan to pay for police body cameras by adding \$40 fee to vanity and low (less than four) digit license plates. Even with the fee it is insolvent. Platform states: "Strongly oppose new taxes and fees, including an income, sales and capital gains tax."

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Education

HB1819, relative to administration of the education tax credit. OTP/A Vote: 17-3

HRA Analysis: This bill provides technical corrections to definitions and some language. It also changes the program year from a calendar year to the fiscal year and allows for the carry forward of business tax credits of up to \$1 million for up to 5 years. The amendment was requested by DRA to provide for the transition to the fiscal year. Platform states: Expand education tax credits and education savings accounts

HRA Recommendation: Support OTPA

Election Law

HB1423, relative to election assistance for cities and towns. Maj. ITL Vote: 14-5

HRA Analysis: This bill creates a new program which would be funded by dollars that the Secretary of State already expends in accordance with state and federal laws for the support of elections. The committee heard that the duties which the bill would require, such as maintaining a website and providing training, are already done by the Secretary of State. The money to be used is not a recurring grant, but a fund that will need general taxpayer dollars to continue once depleted and thus make permanent this temporary spending of money. This expands government which is in opposition to the Republican platform on limited government and new taxes as it would eventually require new taxes to provide funding Platform: We, the people of the New Hampshire Republican Party, do stand united in our dedication to preserving freedom, limited government and unlimited opportunity for all; Strongly oppose new taxes and fees, including an income, sales and capital gains tax.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1773, relative to campaign contributions and expenditures. Maj. ITL Vote: 16-3

HRA Analysis: The bill establishes a new "campaign fund" and would take 'unspent contributions remaining after the general election campaign period.' and deposit them into this newly created account, allowing monies to be used against the views of the initial contributor. This would be administered by a "Clean Elections Board". This amounts to compelled speech and violates Part 1st, Article 22: "Free speech and liberty of the press are essential to the security of freedom in a state: They ought, therefore, to be inviolably preserved." In addition it provides no solid funding mechanism for the Clean Election Fund so new taxes will likely be required to fund it. This expands government which is in opposition to the Republican platform: We, the people of the New Hampshire Republican Party, do stand united

in our dedication to preserving freedom, limited government and unlimited opportunity for all, Strongly oppose new taxes and fees”.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Executive Departments and Administration

HB636, (New Title) establishing a department of military and veterans services. Int. study

Vote: 15-2

HRA Analysis: This bill will create new state agency that will serve as a contact point for veterans and their families to secure services. 2 new state positions will be created with the remaining staff drawn from other state agencies. Though we should provide better services for our veterans, Article 10 states that: 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: ?????

HB1415, establishing a death benefit for a school employee killed in the line of duty. Maj.

OTP/A Vote: 11-6

HRA Analysis: The bill creates a new state funded death benefit for one class of public employees. All employees risk death on the job, why is any one class better than another? Article 10 prohibits this: 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: Oppose OTP/A - Support Table or ITL

HB1771, relative to hiring a state toxicologist and making an appropriation therefor. Maj. ITL

Vote: 11-8

HRA Analysis: The legislation creates a new government position. All of the outlined functions of the toxicologist are met by personnel in existing agencies. NHGOP platform states: Keep state government lean to allow lower business taxes

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1817, establishing the position of state demographer and a commission on demographic trends; requiring state agencies to prepare a 10-year current services budget; and requiring demographic impact notes on legislation. OTP/A Vote: 19-0

HRA Analysis: This legislation will create a new state position with the intent of compiling demographic data allowing for better forecasting of budgeting and planning needs. In many areas, we currently only look forward one budget cycle, this position will look at trends going out as much as 10 years and allow for more in depth planning of budgets.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

Fish and Game and Marine Resources

HB1412, relative to cruelty to non-captive wildlife. Int. study Vote: 12-7

HRA Analysis:

HRA Recommendation:

Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs

HB1471, relative to telemedicine. Maj. OTP/A Vote: 17-4

HRA Analysis: This bill provides enhanced access to medical counseling and support utilizing a cost-effective model called telemedicine to assist and enhance the delivery of care. Further, the bill as amended provides reasonable cost policy relative to providers' reimbursement rates. This bill is consistent with the platform stating that the GOP should "Provide for the special needs of seniors, including opportunities for personalized home health care and less expensive alternatives to hospital stays."

HRA Recommendation: Support OTPA

HB1531, establishing a commission to study the performance of the Medicaid managed care program and making an appropriation therefor. Maj. ITL Vote: 12-9

HRA Analysis: This bill presents itself as consistent with the platform stating that we should strive to "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". However, it seeks to spend up the \$150,000 to support the commission thereby violating two planks in one, "Justify expenditures against measurable benefits" and "Prioritize programs to ensure effective spending". Ultimately the aim of the commission would be to find ways for the state to replace free market approaches and therefore conflicts with a third plank, "Allow free market driven health care plans and "ala carte" insurance plans free from government mandates."

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1783, relative to newborn screening for Krabbe Leukodystrophy. ITL Vote: 15-6

HRA Analysis: The compassionate response to those providing testimony would be to support this bill. However, there is a well-established and well-run board operating within DHHS that explicitly is set up to review the slate of diseases for which newborns should be screened. Based on their analysis, the incidence of Krabbe Leukodystrophy is sufficiently low that the screening mechanism is not justified at this time. The board will continue to review studies as they become available to continuously reassess their position. Platform: Justify expenditures against measurable results. Prioritize programs to ensure effective spending.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1811, relative to the New Hampshire health protection program. Maj. Int. Study Vote: 12-8

HRA Analysis: This bill is in competition with a Senate bill being developed. It appears the Senate version will comport to the GOP platform to a greater extent on a relative basis.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB1822, making hormonal contraceptives available directly from pharmacists by means of a standing order. Maj. ITL Vote: 13-8

HRA Analysis: HB1822 making hormonal contraceptives available directly from pharmacists by means of a standing order is the result of the work of a commission staffed with medical professionals who looked at professional medical organizations, other state laws, and New Hampshire needs. Issues of liability and safety have been considered and adequately incorporated. This bill will allow women a lower cost alternative to obtaining oral contraceptives which should mean fewer unplanned pregnancies. Platform: Allow free market driven health care plans", "Increase the use of market forces to improve health care and lower costs", and "Encourage individuals and organizations who provide alternatives to abortion."

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL and then support OTP ????????

Municipal and County Government

HB1749, relative to the state's authority to prohibit or regulate firearms and relative to the selectmen's authority to manage town property. Int. study Vote: 18-2

HRA Analysis: The bill creates penalties for public officials breaking the law in the domain of local control firearms. The issue is RSA 159:26 does not currently contain penalties in the statutes.

There is a floor amendment (page 72, 0408h) that reduces the penalties from \$5,000 to \$500 and requires the court to find merit in the case prior to any penalty phase kicking in.

Constitution States: "All persons have the right to keep and bear arms in defense of themselves, their families, their property and the state." & "The supreme legislative power, within this state, shall be vested in the senate and house of representatives, each of which shall have a negative on the other."

HRA Recommendation: *Oppose IS and Support OTP/A with floor amendment.*

Resources, Recreation and Development

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

HRA Analysis: This bill regulating groundwater pollution caused by polluting emissions in the air deals with an issue of concern in our state. This bill directs DES to adopt standards based on scientific data rather than by the legislature setting the standards by statute.

HRA Recommendation: ???????

HB1104, relative to certain regulatory permits and forms and relative to time limits under RSA 541-A. Maj. OTP Vote: 11-9

HRA Analysis: The platform states "minimize business regulations, permits, licenses and paperwork" This bill with amendment makes changes to benefit New Hampshire citizens and businesses by streamlining DES approval processes, permit applications and review times. The amendment includes only subject matter deemed germane to the bill.

HRA Recommendation: ??????

HB1592, requiring the commissioner of the department of environmental services to revise rules relative to arsenic contamination in drinking water. Maj. OTP/A Vote: 15-2

HRA Analysis: This bill as amended states that the acceptable levels of arsenic in groundwater shall be reviewed and, if needed, to be lowered by rulemaking rather than to a specific level established by statute. Allowing the level to be changed by rulemaking inserts scientific data into the decision process versus a rigid standard established by and only changed by statute.

HRA Recommendation: ??????

HB1745, making appropriations for costs involved in controlling invasive aquatic species.

OTP Vote: 16-3

HRA Analysis: The platform states:” promote conservation of...sensitive ecosystems” and “provide public access...to great ponds subject to adequate protection for indigenous plants and animals”. Platform also states “Justify expenditures against measurable benefits”. There is documented need for additional funding to control invasive species; however, funding, via boat licenses, for invasive species control already exists and neither DES nor the bill’s sponsors determined the need sufficient to request additional funding to augment the existing funding during the budget process.

HRA Recommendation: ??????

HB1797, adding a 50 percent charge to all amounts assessed to persons liable for costs of containment, cleanup, and remediation of water, air and soil pollution. Maj. ITL Vote: 15-4

HRA Analysis: Adding a 50 percent charge to cleanup and remediation of pollution is counter to platform statements of “fostering an attitude of assistance and cooperation with business and increase responsiveness “ and ” prefer incentives to penalties and issue warnings before fines”. There are already penalties associated with these environmental statutes.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Transportation

HB1328, relative to motor vehicle inspections. ITL Vote: 11-4

HRA Analysis: The bill would change vehicle inspection requirement from annual to biannual, while increasing the fee from \$3.25 to \$6.50. The committee felt that the Biannual inspection could increase safety issue failure on vehicles while simply doubling the inspection fees. No constitution/platform issues

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation

HB1778, relative to registration of commercial motor vehicles and operator's/drivers' licenses. Maj. ITL Vote: 13-1

HRA Analysis: This bill would cancel the requirement for a non-commercial drivers license. And cancel the requirement to register non-commercial vehicles, for the stated reason that requiring such action is unconstitutional. The sponsors of the bill failed to show the committee how registration or licensing prohibited people enjoying the ‘right to travel.’ No Constitutional or platform issue.

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation.

Ways and Means

HB579, relative to registration of semi-trailers. Maj. OTP/A Vote: 13-10

HRA Analysis: This bill provides an incentive for out-of-state trailer owners to register in NH. This is not a unique program as other states have similar programs. We heard testimony that there are 5.7 million semi-trailers registered in the country. This bill gives a discounted registration fee for multi-year registrations for out-of-state companies with fleets of semi-trailers and the amendment allows in-state companies with fleets to register for multi-years but only if they register for 12 years can they receive a discount. Otherwise nothing changes for NH municipal agents registering in-state semi-trailer registrations. Municipalities under current RSA would benefit from revenue sharing (at least 12%) of these new out-of-state registrations. Registrations of out-of-state semi-trailers would be handled only by nongovernmental registering trailer agents similar to the program the DMV currently operates with privately-owned marinas throughout NH processing out-of-state boat registrations. The business of these agents would be to market to companies with fleets of out of state trailers to register in NH. The Party platform states "Privatise programs and functions that can be handled more effectively by the private sector."

HRA Recommendation: Support OPA

HB1316, relative to revenue collected from concealed carry licenses. OPA Vote: 17-0

HRA Analysis: HB1316 moves the first \$400,000 of revenues from concealed carry permits to be credited to the NH Department of Safety permitting and licensing unit instead of continuing to send the funds to the general fund. The legislation does not change the current fee structure or amount and it does not change anything with respect to the concealed enacted carry laws.

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation

HB1763, establishing a road usage fee and making an appropriation therefor. OPA/A Vote: 23-0

HRA Analysis: HB 1763 comes in recognition of the fact that the traditional means of paying for transportation infrastructure, the gas tax, has begun to fall short as use fee. The bill establishes a road use fee based on the EPA fuel economy rating. Specifically impacted are vehicles with MPG ratings greater than 20 MPG. The new fee would be credited to a continuous non-lapsing fund at NHDOT less a registration agent fee and highway block grant payments to municipalities. This is a new fee. Platform states: Strongly oppose new taxes and fees.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose OPA - Support ITL

SB205, establishing the small business jobs fund and tax credit. Int. study Vote: 23-0

HRA Analysis: Bill attempts to establish a small business jobs fund and tax credit. The Platform says "Remove barriers to business formation and encourage small businesses" but concerns were raised and the bill needs more work.

HRA Recommendation: Support Interim Study

Wednesday, February 7, 2018 Regular Calendar - Part Two

Commerce and Consumer Affairs

HB427, allowing hobby distillation of liquors. ITL Vote: 12-1

HRA Analysis:

HRA Recommendation:

Election Law

SB33, relative to the definition of political advocacy organization. Int. study Vote: 18-2 HRA

Analysis: Bill drafting would require all newspapers and other organizations which spend more than \$5,000/year and even mention a candidate during the 60 days preceding the election to report all of their sources of income. Violates the first amendment of US Constitution as well as [Art.] 22. [Free Speech; Liberty of the Press.] Free speech and liberty of the press are essential to the security of freedom in a state: They ought, therefore, to be inviolably preserved.

HRA Recommendation: Support Interim Study or ITL

Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services

HB438, eliminating the automatic union dues payment for state employees. ITL Vote: 19-0

HRA Analysis: ????

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL - Support OTP ????

Science, Technology and Energy

HB114, relative to minimum electric renewable portfolio standards. Maj: OTP Vote: 11-10

HRA Analysis: The renewable portfolio standard (RPS) subsidizes renewable energy programs, such as biomass, wind, hydro, solar, etc. Residents, businesses, and industry pay for the subsidy though their electric rates. Power suppliers, including Eversource, Unitil, and other utility companies, are forced to buy renewable energy credits (RECs) based on a percentage of the total megawatt-hours of electricity that they sell. If they cannot find enough RECs to purchase, then in order to comply with the RPS, they can make alternative compliance payments (ACPs). The cost of the RECs and ACPs gets passed along to customers in the form of higher power supply rates on their bill. Renewables are sorted into a classes. HB114 caps the growth in Class 1 requirements at 6% instead of allowing the requirement to grow to 15% by 2025. The lower percentage of the Class 1 requirement will insure that RECs remain plentiful to meet obligations, which, keeps the cost of the RPS from growing too quickly. Our platform calls for us to work to reduce energy costs. This bill is one way to help curb high energy costs.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

HB141, relative to electric renewable energy classes. Maj. OTP/A Vote: 17-4

HRA Analysis: This is a good bill for a crony capitalist program. It would at least help NH RECs. As stated in the previous bill, there are different classes for renewable energy. This bill, as amended, allows the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to make a technical adjustment to the Renewable

Portfolio Standards (RPS) law, allowing them to modify Classes I and II when necessary to keep the supply and demand balanced in each class in a given year and markets are still practical. The PUC currently allows this periodic modification for Classes III and IV, which has helped reduce the costs for ratepayers, instead of having those renewable energy credits (RECs) sold into other markets. This bill would give the PUC more appropriate flexibility and should help to lower energy costs. Our platform says we should work to lower energy costs. Amendment is on page 50 of Calendar.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTPA

SB128, relative to the policy goal of electric utility restructuring. Int. Study Vote: 17-4

HRA Analysis: Part of the bill contained vague language, such as, “other measures” or “pursue measures expected to mitigate the cost of electric.” Without knowing the definition of these “measures,” it could end up giving a lot more power to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC), and could undermine the slow and steady transition to more free market energy solutions brought about by restructuring. More study is recommended to avoid inadvertently increasing central planning, thus, undermining free market solutions. In the Jobs and Economy section of our platform, we are asked to improve our state’s business climate. Giving the PUC more power is counter productive

HRA Recommendation: Support Interim Study or ITL - Oppose OTP

Transportation

HB193, relative to traffic control measures. OTP Vote: 12-0

HRA Analysis: The bill takes the State standards whether a road project requires a uniformed police or an approved private “traffic flagger” to provide for the safe flow of traffic through work areas. The hourly wage of a “traffic flagger” rather than a uniformed police is at least half the cost. Party platform states privatize programs and functions that can be handled more effectively by the private sector.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

HB388, relative to special number plates for veterans and armed forces members. OTP/A Vote: 15-0

HRA Analysis: Amendment 2456 replaces the bill. RSA 261:87-b is added to so that persons eligible for special trailer plates under this section may obtain such veteran plates for trailers. No Constitutional or platform issue

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation.

SB160, authorizing religious nonmedical personnel, consistent with Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services guidelines, to certify eligibility for walking disability plates and placards. Maj. OTP Vote: 11-3

HRA Analysis: This bill allows religious people without any medical training at all to make medical diagnosis and then certify who shall be qualified to receive disability/handicap plates. There has not

been shown a demonstrated need for this Bill. Art 10, part one of the NH Constitution states: 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: Oppose OTP

Ways and Means

HB124, repealing certain aircraft registration fees. OTP/A Vote: 22-1

HRA Analysis: The bill repeals certain aircraft registration fees. This bill was worked on extensively and the industry and stakeholders. In total the bill is essentially revenue neutral. It lowers some classes of aircraft registration for competitive reasons and increases various fuel taxes as the offset. The outcome makes NH marginally more competitive in the aircraft industry while retaining current charter businesses which might otherwise has been forced to leave the state due to the overhead costs. Platform: Cut or eliminate taxes which inhibit enterprise, earnings and savings and investment and minimize business regulations, permits, licenses and paperwork.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTPA

HB529, phasing out and repealing the interest and dividends tax. Int. Study Vote: 20-3

HRA Analysis: HB529 phases out and repeals the interest and dividend tax. In view of the major changes in the federal tax system this year, the stability of the NH tax system is in flux. Changes to the SALT will impact and raise the taxes on portions of our state population: Platform: Cut or eliminate taxes which inhibit enterprise, earnings and savings and investment, such as the Interest and Dividends Tax and the Business Enterprise/Business Profits Tax

HRA Recommendation: Oppose Interim Study - Support OTP

Wednesday, February 7, 2018 Regular Calendar - Part Three

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

HB1213, removing the exception for married minors from the definition of sexual assault. ITL Vote: 12-8

HRA Analysis: This removes the exception for married minors from the definition of sexual assault. It makes little sense to allow our young children to get married with judicial and/or parental consent and then prosecute them for consummating their marriage. Our Platform states: "Recognize marriage as the legal and sacred union between one man and one woman as ordained by God, encouraged by the State, and traditional to humankind, and the core of the Family."

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1511, relative to the death of a fetus for the purpose of certain homicide charges. Maj: Int. study Min: OTPA Vote: 13-7

HRA Analysis: The majority of Republicans found this bill, with amendment, to mirror current legislation with one difference: it lowers the age of legal protection from 20 to eight weeks, the generally accepted age for definition of fetus. The Republican Platform states; "Support a Life at

Conception Act guaranteeing the protections of Life and Personhood to the pre-born under the Fourteenth Amendment of the US Constitution.”

HRA Recommendation: Oppose Int Study - Support Minority Amendment - Support OTPA

HB1566, prohibiting open carry of a firearm in certain public places. ITL Vote: 12-8

HRA Analysis: It is against the constitution to tell private bars, doctor’s offices, and churches that open carrying of a firearm is prohibited. Those businesses and churches have the right to ban open carrying of a firearm if they wish. For many years New Hampshire citizens have had the right to carry a firearm in public unconcealed. This bill is not needed. The Platform states: “Protect the rights of law-abiding individuals to own and carry firearms to defend themselves, their families and their property; oppose any taxation, licensing restrictions, or registration of firearms; ...”

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HCR13, condemning hate crimes and any other form of racism in New Hampshire. Maj. OTP Min: ITL Vote: 13-7

HRA Analysis: The majority of the Republicans on the Criminal Justice committee find hate crimes and racism in New Hampshire unacceptable. The Republican platform states: “in the founding principle that all people are created equal, endowed by our Creator with the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, unimpeded by intrusive government regulation and control.” This resolution is “intrusive” and inappropriate.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP - Support ITL

Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services

HB1386, establishing a joint committee on employee relations. Maj. OTP Vote: 8-5

HRA Analysis:

HRA Recommendation:

Legislative Administration

HB1223, establishing a commission to study legislator compensation. ITL Vote: 8-3

HRA Analysis: This bill establishes a commission to look at compensation for the General Court and compare it to other states. We know the answers to those questions. A recommendation from the Commission might call for higher compensation, a constitutional change and higher taxes or fees. Platform issue: “...government has a moral obligation to the people to be as cost effective as possible, to always limit spending and growth of government”

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Municipal and County Government

HB1630, relative to unfunded property tax exemptions or credits. Maj. ITL Vote: 14-1

HRA Analysis: This bill would prohibit the state from establishing a new property tax exemption or credit unless the amount of local property tax revenue shifted to other taxpayers unless funded by the state. It is redundant as our Constitution already states in Art 28-a “The state shall not mandate or assign any new, expanded or modified programs or responsibilities to any political subdivision in

such a way as to necessitate additional local expenditures by the political subdivision unless such programs or responsibilities are fully funded by the state...”

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Public Works and Highways

HB1278, naming the rest area in Colebrook after Frederick W. King, Sr. OTP Vote: 19-0

HRA Analysis: No Constitutional or platform issue.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

Transportation

HB1581, relative to commencement of an administrative license suspension. OTP/A Vote: 11-4

HRA Analysis: The bill would have made it so the licence suspense would have occurred no sooner than the day after a hearing. The amendment changes the time so that the suspension after a hearing is no sooner than 11:59 pm of the day of suspension. This allows the person time to legally drive home before his license is suspended. No Constitutional or platform issue

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB1628, relative to number plates for motor vehicles. ITL Vote: 11-4

HRA Analysis: The Bill would have allowed a passenger vehicle with an active account EZ pass account to only be required to display one plate on the rear of the vehicle. The majority found there would not be any cost saving on plates since two plates would still need to be issued for all vehicles. DOS testified that a rear plate plus the front plate doubles the chances of ID'ing a stolen vehicle or a vehicle fleeing from a hit and run. No constitutional or platform issue.

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation.

Ways and Means

HB1355, establishing a commission to study adaptation of the tax structure of the state to economic and demographic change. Maj. ITL Vote: 13-10

HRA Analysis: The bill establishes a commission to study adaptation of the tax structure of the state to economic and demographic change. The commission would only be allowed to address our current taxes and there are no compelling arguments that our current taxes are impeding economic growth and demographic change. Platform says: We believe that economies flourish when all people retain as much of their hard earned income as possible, to spend and invest as they see fit. 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. The commission is not needed.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1548, relative to meals and rooms taxes applicable to room remarketers. Maj. ITL Vote:

14-9 HRA Analysis: Bill clarifies existing law with respect to fees charged by room remarketers specifying that those remarketer fees are taxable not only the amount paid to the property owner. The matter is currently in litigation in the NH Supreme Court. Additionally, the bill requires real estate agents to collect and pay the tax, a function now the responsibility of the property owner.

HRA Recommendation:

HB1679, relative to the real estate transfer tax to be paid on certain acquisitions of business entities. Maj. ITL Vote: 13-10

HRA Analysis: This legislation provides for the tax on transfers of real property to apply certain acquisitions of over 50% of the common stock of a business entity by another business entity. Neither DRA nor the PUC, the potentially affected departments, identified any determinable gain to the state. The change reduces economic freedom with no demonstrable revenue gain. Party platform: Strongly oppose new taxes and fees

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1681, establishing an early childhood development tax credit against business taxes administered by the community development finance authority. Maj. ITL Vote: 14-9

HRA Analysis: This bill establishes an early childhood development tax credit against the business taxes administered by the Community Development Finance Authority (CDFA). The bill allows businesses to contribute to CDFA for the purpose and to receive in exchange a tax credit equal to 75% of the contribution. The concern is for the source of funding to support the program. The legislation would insure funding for this potentially large spending program without it going through the budget process. Funds would be used for investing or lending for renovation or infrastructure needs of non-profit childcare centers but we should not be picking winners and losers. PLATFORM: ????

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1710, relative to the provision allowing operators to retain a portion of meals and rooms taxes collected and the appropriation of meals and rooms tax revenues to school building aid. ITL Vote: 20-3

HRA Analysis: HB1710 provides a provision allowing operators to retain a portion of meals and rentals tax collected and the appropriation of the meals and rentals tax to school building aid. A well developed system to compensate business owners for their efforts as tax collection agents of the state is in place and this bill limits that compensation. The bill penalizes the businesses for the operations they are required to undertake by law. Platform issue: Foster an attitude of assistance and cooperation with business.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1821, repealing Keno. Maj. ITL Vote: 15-8

HRA Analysis: The bill removes the source of funding from full day kindergarten. The expected cost to the state is about \$8.9 million. **Platform ??????**

HRA Recommendation:

