

House Republican Alliance Recommendation Sheet

“TRUST BUT VERIFY”

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



REGULAR CALENDAR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

SB 344-FN, relative to employment and retirement benefits of certain non-judicial court employees. **OTP. Vote 14-4.**

HRA Analysis: This bill is to allow *one* court employee to transfer her accumulated sick leave from the state employees' benefit fund to the Manchester employee retirement system, thereby boosting her pension. Fiscal prudence dictates that the legislature should not change the rules with special legislation for one person and add to the burden of a municipality in doing so.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP; Support ITL

HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS

SB 310, relative to studies of case management and sign language interpreters for the deaf and hard of hearing. **MAJORITY: ITL. MINORITY: OTP. Vote 16-4.**

HRA Analysis: SB 310 provides that the commission “shall” study the need for case management services for the deaf. If the commission finds that case management services for the deaf are needed, they will then identify possible approaches to providing such services. This bill is only adding language to an existing commission.

HRA Recommendation: No Party Platform Issue

SB 318, relative to the authority to dispense therapeutic contact lenses. **OTP. Vote 10-3.**

HRA Analysis: This bill allows ophthalmologists and Optometrists to dispense therapeutic contact lenses. Our party stands against unnecessary regulation and this bill eliminates unnecessary regulation.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

SB 331, establishing a governor's commission task force on substance use disorder treatment for Medicaid eligible individuals.

MAJORITY: ITL. MINORITY: OTP. Vote 12-8.

HRA Analysis: This bill establishes a task force on substance abuse treatment that duplicates current authority and efforts. Task forces cost the state and fiscal prudence dictates that we oppose such duplication.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

SB 343-FN, relative to Medicaid managed care. **ITL. Vote 12-4.**

HRA Analysis: This bill requires the commissioner of the department of health and human services to release a request for information soliciting information regarding the feasibility of contracting with a managed care organization for risk-based managed care for all Medicaid recipients. This information could lead to reduced costs and therefore is fiscally prudent.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL; Support OTP

PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

SB 154, naming a certain portion of route 18 in the town of Franconia in honor of Corporal Bruce McKay. **ITL. Vote 19-0.**

HRA Analysis: The town of Franconia has voted against naming a road in its town in honor of a deceased member of its police force. Our party platform supports local control, therefore, we should support their decision.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

SB 376, naming a bridge in honor of Joseph Sawtelle. **OTP. Vote 19-0.**

HRA Analysis: This bill reflects a request of the local government; again, we should support that local request.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

SB 481, relative to appropriations for certain turnpike system projects. **OTP. Vote 19-0.**

HRA Analysis: It appears that these appropriations reflect adjustments or reallocations of spending and do not add new spending. As such, they do not appear to involve any party platform issues.

HRA Recommendation: No Party Platform Issue

"In a free society, government has the responsibility of protecting us from others, but not from ourselves."

Walter E. Williams