

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"

Wednesday, April 20, 2017 Regular Calendar

SB15 - No Recommendation	SB17 - No Recommendation	SB27 - Support OTP
SB51 - No Recommendation	SB59 - Vote Your Conscience	SB125 - No Recommendation
SB130 - No Recommendation	SB134 - No Recommendation	SB168 - Vote Your Conscience
SB171 - No Recommendation	SB204 - No Recommendation	SB222 - No Recommendation

Executive Departments and Administration

SB130, relative to classification of certain state employee positions. OTP/A Vote: 12-4
NHHRA Analysis: This bill, as amended, confirms the pay grades for a number of unclassified state employees. No platform or constitutional issues identified.
NHHRA Recommendation: No Recommendation.

Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs

SB15, relative to the law regarding therapeutic use of cannabis. OTP Vote: 17-2
NHHRA Analysis: This bill would add yet another symptom to the list of those than make someone eligible for medical marijuana. The platform states "Support the State's Constitutional right to determine legal restrictions on possession of controlled substances" but it says nothing about what ailments should be included or whether Republicans should support increasing the list of qualifying ailments.
NHHRA Recommendation: No Recommendation.

SB17, relative to treatment for hepatitis C under the law relative to use of cannabis for therapeutic purposes. OTP Vote: 13-7

NHHRA Analysis: This bill would add yet another symptom to the list of those than make someone eligible for medical marijuana. The platform states “Support the State’s Constitutional right to determine legal restrictions on possession of controlled substances” but it says nothing about what ailments should be included or whether Republicans should support increasing the list of qualifying ailments.

NHHRA Recommendation: No Recommendation.

SB59, relative to blood testing orders. Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 18-2

NHHRA Analysis: This bill would require blood testing of individuals if, during the application of their duties, a first-responder is exposed to bodily fluids from that individual. If passes, it will go the Criminal Justice. On the one-hand the platform states “Improve access to the information necessary to make informed healthcare decisions”, and knowing if they have been exposed to anything infectious is vital information for first-responders to ensure they seek proper medical attention. On the other hand, the platform states “Protect the privacy of individuals from government agencies and employees who abuse their power and position”, and requiring someone to submit to blood testing when they have done nothing more than need assistance from a first-responder is a violation of privacy.

NHHRA Recommendation: Vote Your Conscience.

SB222, (New Title) relative to the New Hampshire birth conditions program and relative to the administration of certain prescription medication for treatment of a communicable disease. Maj. OTP; Min. ITL Vote: 17-4

NHHRA Analysis: This bill simply clarifies the definition of “Birth Conditions” currently in statute, and allows for doctors to prescribe antibiotics to prevent transmission of and/or treat any present communicable diseases during birth without threat of a lawsuit. No Platform or Constitutional issues identified.

NHHRA Recommendation: No Recommendation.

Municipal and County Government

SB168, relative to increasing the maximum amount of the optional veterans tax credit.

Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 11-3

NHHRA Analysis: This bill increases the optional property tax credit for veterans from \$500 to \$1,000. Any increase requires approval by the local legislative body, allowing towns already providing \$500 credit to increase it if they so choose. Platform: “Respect New Hampshire’s honored veterans by ensuring that they receive the benefits they have rightfully earned and deserve.” But, the Constitution says not to carve out special classes of individuals.

NHHRA Recommendation: Vote Your Conscience.

SB171, (New Title) relative to the perambulation of towns. ITL Vote: 15-3

NHHRA Analysis: This bill would remove the requirement that a town's Select Board physically walk the town's boundaries to check markers once every 7 years. No Platform or Constitutional issues identified.

NHHRA Recommendation: No Recommendation.

Science, Technology and Energy

SB51, (New Title) establishing a committee to review subsidies for energy projects provided by the renewable portfolio standard. Maj. OTP; Min. ITL Vote: 9-8

NHHRA Analysis: As this is a study committee, the HRA makes no recommendation but it should be noted that establishing this committee could be the first step to reducing these subsidies which cost NH ratepayers \$30 M/yr now with the cost scheduled to keep increasing.

NHHRA Recommendation: No Recommendation.

SB125, (New Title) establishing a committee to study transmission, distribution, generation, and other costs in the state's electricity system. OTP Vote: 15-4

HRA Analysis: As this is a study committee, the HRA makes no recommendation but it should be noted that establishing this committee could be the first step to reducing the extremely inflated rates which deter businesses from relocating in NH..

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation.

Transportation

SB27, (New Title) relative to grip height of motorcycles. Maj. OTP; Min. ITL Vote: 9-8

NHHRA Analysis: This bill repeals the law stating motorcycle hand grips can't be higher than a seated rider's shoulders. There's no data proving high grips are a safety issue. Platform: "Sunset programs and regulations to force periodic reevaluation" and "Protect the privacy of individuals from government agencies and employees who abuse their power and position".

NHHRA Recommendation: Support OTP.

SB134, (New Title) relative to electronic tolling at certain tolling facilities and relative to optional anonymous transponders. OTP/A Vote: 15-3

NHHRA Analysis: This bill as amended allows the DOT to study the feasibility of installing All Electronic Tolling & report back the study findings. No Platform or Constitutional issues identified.

NHHRA Recommendation: No Recommendation.

SB204, (New Title) relative to Purple Heart and Pearl Harbor survivor number plates. OTP Vote: 16-2

NHHRA Analysis:The bill allows Purple Heart license plates & Pearl Harbor licence plates to be issued without cost to qualified service personnel. No Platform or Constitutional issues identified.

NHHRA Recommendation: No Recommendation.