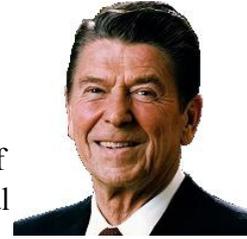


HOUSE REPUBLICAN ALLIANCE RECOMMENDATION SHEET

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



"TRUST BUT VERIFY"

We

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2 REGULAR CALENDAR

EDUCATION

HB 103, relative to school district policies regarding objectionable course material. MAJ: OTP. MIN: ITL .

Vote: 12-7

HRA Analysis: HB103 increases parental involvement in this subject matter and strengthens existing law that empowers parents to direct the education of their children. Platform issue: "We believe in local educational control, beginning with parents, teachers and principals." and "Do not interfere with parents' right to control the education of their children".

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

HB 129-FN, repealing education tax credit; MAJ: ITL. MIN: OTP. Vote 12-7.

HRA Analysis: This bill would repeal the education tax credit for businesses that funds the successful education scholarship program. Platform: "Expand education tax credits and education savings accounts"

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB 148, relative to chartered public school teacher qualifications. MAJ: ITL. MIN: OTP. Vote: 12-7

HRA Analysis: This bill requires 100% of charter school teachers to be certified by the Department of Education – currently 50% is required. Parents choose charter schools because they will be the best education opportunity for their children. There is no need to impose additional requirements on charter schools. The platform states "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

HB 216, relative to procedure for expulsion of certain pupils; MAJ: OTP. MIN: ITL. Vote 11-8.

HRA Analysis: This bill states that no student in k through grade 2 can be expelled but can be suspended for possession of a firearm, drugs, or violent behavior. This ties the hands of local districts. Platform issue: "Promote local control of education policy". There will likely be a motion to recommit the bill back to the committee.

HRA Recommendation: Support Recommit.

HB 270, establishing committee to study suspensions and expulsions in middle and high schools. MAJ: ITL.

MIN: OTP. Vote 11-8.

HRA Analysis: This bill establishes a study committee to look at suspends and expulsions in middle & high school and clarify coding of reasons for expulsions and suspensions. No Constitution/platform issue.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB 276, student exemption from the statewide assessment; MAJ: OTP. MIN: ITL. Vote 12-7.

HRA Analysis: This bill would allow parents to sign a local district form to exempt their child from any statewide assessment and the district could not be penalized for a low participation rate. This bill was passed in the House last year but ITL'd in the Senate. Platform issue: "Promote education freedom and parental rights to control the education of their

children”.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP.

HB 297-FN, repealing education tax credit; MAJ: ITL. MIN: OTP. Vote 12-7.

HRA Analysis: This bill is basically the same as HB129 and repeals the education tax credit for businesses that funds the successful education scholarship program. Platform: “Expand education tax credits and education savings accounts”

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

HB 125, relative to chartered public school boards of trustees. MAJ: ITL. MIN: OTP. Vote: 13-4

HRA Analysis: HB 125 seeks to have the Governor and Executive Council appoint members of the board of trustees of charter schools. No other non profits within the state have board of trustee members appointed by the governor and council and charter schools should be no different. The platform states that we should privatize programs and functions that can be handled more effectively by the private sector. The people involved with charter schools are the most qualified to shape the future of their schools by determining the make up of their board of trustees.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB 209, relative to the adoption of Atlantic standard time. MAJ: OTP. Vote: 14-4

HRA Analysis: This bill would modify RSA 21:36 by eliminating our observance of daylight savings time by putting NH in the Atlantic Standard Zone. This would only occur if Massachusetts adopts the same standard. Testimony was heard that changing the clocks twice a year creates tardiness and attention problems at work and school. No platform issues identified.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

FINANCE

HB 119-FN-A-LOCAL, making appropriations to the department of environmental services for the purpose of funding eligible drinking water and wastewater projects under the state aid grant program. MAJ: ITL Vote 18-4

HRA Analysis: HB 119 was voted ITL as a matter of procedure because funding for this purpose has already been included in the agency request by DES and will be considered in the normal budget process. Based upon the reason for the committee's recommendation, there is no platform or constitutional consideration at issue.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY

HB 146, relative to the definition of energy cost saving measure and relative to energy performance contracting. MAJ: ITL. MIN: OTP. Vote: 16-5.

HRA Analysis: This bill related to performance contracts of the state or a municipality for energy performance improvements is poorly defined but raises no Constitution or platform issues.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB 191-LOCAL, relative to the authority of towns to issue bonds for the expansion of Internet service.

MAJ: ITL. MIN: OTP. Vote: 14-7

HRA Analysis: This bill would open the door for municipalities to issue bonds to expand broadband but also compete with private firms. Platform states “Privatize programs and functions that can be handled more effectively by the private sector” – not compete with the private sector.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL