

HOUSE REPUBLICAN ALLIANCE RECOMMENDATION SHEET



freedom

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 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

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1
REGULAR CALENDAR**

PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

HB 25, the capital budget. OTP/A. Vote 18-0

HRA Analysis: This bill, as amended, borrows \$125,000,000 and spends it on various capital projects, including expanding the Veterans' Home, repairing a number of liquor stores, refurbishing the state house dome, and a new Merrimack County courthouse. There's enough different pieces that everyone can find something they like (or don't like.) The borrowing is not the maximum recommended by the Treasurer, which is a good thing. The Platform reminds us that “low taxes are the result of low spending,” and everyone must decide if this level is appropriate,

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation.

FINANCE

HB1, and HB2, the state budget. Maj: OTP/A. Min: ITL. Vote 14-9.

HRA Analysis: This is the state budget for the next two years, with HB1 the raw numbers and HB2 all the other changes needed to make it work. The committee amendment is a vast improvement over the governor's budget, since it removes nearly all the fee increases and cuts spending to live within our means. This is the minimum requirement for a Republican budget. The Platform reminds us that “government has a moral obligation to the people to be as cost effective as possible;” this budget could be improved in a number of ways, and probably each of us would change different items! Expect floor amendments that raise spending in various ways, some with tax or fee increases, others just moving it from one department to another. The final bill is reasonable to send to the Senate, and should be supported as long as it does not taxes or spend beyond our means.

HRA Recommendation: Support the committee amendment, oppose amendments raising taxes, fees or spending, no recommendation on amendments that just move money around, support the the final budget as long as no tax or spending increases are included.

Specific Recommendations:

Support a motion to special order HB2 before HB1

Support the Finance Committee amendment on HB2

Support a floor amendment to eliminate the COO position

Support the McGuire floor amendment eliminating Fish and Game's authority to set fees

Support the Stepanek floor amendment of a 10% reduction in school stabilization grants

Support the Ohm floor amendment authorizing Keno

Support the Sylvia floor amendment prohibiting language that limits due process (SB 124)

Vote for the final budget as long as it does not raise taxes or increase spending