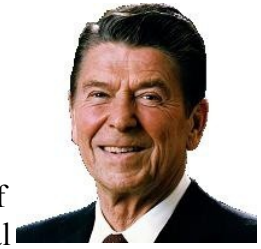


# HOUSE REPUBLICAN ALLIANCE RECOMMENDATION SHEET



“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.

Bill Number	Committee	Committee Vote	HRA recommends
SB 11	Municipal & County	OTP 18-0	Oppose OTP
SB 20	Transportation	OTP/A 15-1	Oppose OTP/A
SB 31	Science	OTP 18-1	Support OTP.
SB 47	Transportation	OTP 13-4	Oppose OTP
SB 67	Transportation	OTP 12-4	No Recommendation
SB 89	Fish & Game	OTP/A 9-6	Oppose OTP/A
SB 96	Judiciary	OTP/A 11-6	Oppose OTP/A
SB 100	Labor	ITL 13-7	Oppose ITL
SB 102 (from consent)	Municipal & County	ITL 14-0	Oppose ITL
SB 122	Fish & Game	OTP 12-1	Oppose OTP
SB 126	Commerce	OTP/A 15-2	Support OTP/A
SB 143	Labor	OTP 11-9	Oppose OTP
SB 152	Finance & Ways & Means	ITL 23-22	Support ITL
SB 153	Labor	ITL 11-9	Oppose ITL
SB 165	Transportation	OTP 13-3	No Recommendation
SB 179	Science	OTP/A 14-4	Oppose OTP/A

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 22 REGULAR CALENDAR

### COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

**SB 126**, business between motor vehicle manufacturers, distributors, and dealers. **MAJ: OTP/A. MIN: OTP/A. Vote 15-2.**

**HRA Analysis:** This bill updates the existing Auto Dealer Bill of Rights. It incorporates equipment dealers under the same RSA as automotive dealers. It eliminates the monopoly structure that requires franchises between manufacturers and consumers by allowing a manufacturer to sell directly to a consumer if there is no franchise in the state. The Constitution, Part 2, Article 83, “Free and fair competition in the trades and industries is an inherent and essential right of the people and should be protected against all monopolies and conspiracies which tend to hinder or destroy it.”

**HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A.**

### FISH AND GAME AND MARINE RESOURCES

**SB 89**, relative to the definition of lead fishing sinkers and jigs and the penalties for prohibited sales of lead fishing sinkers and jigs. **MAJ: OTP/A. MIN: ITL. Vote 9-6.**

**HRA Analysis:** This bill bans even more lead fishing gear, on the justification that lead is bad for loons, over

objections by Fish & Game that the banned tackle is not the lead that loons ingest. Fishing tourism is an important business in the state, as well as a pleasure for many citizens. The Platform, Part I, states we should “minimize business regulations.”

**HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP, support ITL.**

**SB 122-FN**, establishing a commercial shrimp license. **OTP. Vote 12-1.**

**HRA Analysis:** This bill creates a new fishing license, with new fees. The Platform, Part II, states we “strongly oppose new taxes and fees.”

**HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP.**

## **JOINT COMMITTEE OF FINANCE AND WAYS AND MEANS**

**SB 152-FN-A-L**, relative to video lottery and table gaming. **MAJ: ITL. MIN: OTP/A. Vote 23-22.**

**HRA Analysis:** This bill attempts to authorize “one, high-end, highly regulated casino” to allow the governor to increase spending without creating new broad based taxes. As written, it fails. The Platform, Part II, reminds us to “reject expanded casino and video lottery gambling as a means to balance the budget or increase spending.” The Constitution, Part 1, Article 10, warns against government actions “for one man, family or class of men” and a law for one casino is for the benefit of one business and one town.

**HRA Recommendation: Support ITL.**

## **JUDICIARY**

**SB 96**, relative to vexatious litigants. **MAJ: OTP/A. MIN: ITL. Vote 11-6.**

**HRA Analysis:** This bill would require a “vexatious litigant” to post a bond or hire an attorney. The Constitution, part 1, article 14, states “Every subject of this state is entitled ... to obtain right and justice freely, without being obliged to purchase it.”

**HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP/A, support ITL.**

## **LABOR, INDUSTRIAL AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES**

**SB 100**, authorizing electronic payment of payroll. **MAJ: ITL. MIN: OTP. Vote 13-7.**

**HRA Analysis:** This bill enables employers to pay via electronic payroll cards instead of issuing paper checks, resulting in cost savings for the business. The payroll card offers the employee all the benefits offered by a paper check, and more. The platform states, “We believe that economies flourish when individuals and business owners retain as much of their hard earned income as possible, to spend and invest as they see fit.”

**HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL, support OTP.**

**SB 143-FN**, benefits for unemployed persons establishing a business. **MAJ: OTP. MIN: ITL. Vote 11-9.**

**HRA Analysis:** This bill allows unemployed workers to continue to collect unemployment benefits even though they can make unlimited money while collecting unemployment. It also grows government even though services are already available at no cost. The platform states 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.”

**HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP, support ITL**

**SB 153**, approval of collective bargaining agreements with the state. **MAJ: ITL. MIN: OTP. Vote 11-9.**

**HRA Analysis:** Currently there is no check and balance at the state level for legislative approval of collective bargaining agreements. All other levels of government (county, city, town, and schools) require legislative approval. The state should use the same approach to maintain the integrity of the process. Our platform states that we will lead with integrity. To uphold that integrity, we should require the state to follow the same legislative process as counties and local municipalities in regard to ratifying collective bargaining agreements.

**HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL, support OTP**

## **MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

**SB 11-L**, relative to water and sewer utility districts and water or sewer utility districts. **OTP. Vote 18-0.**

**HRA Analysis:** While this is enabling legislation, it authorizes charges to landowners in these districts based on

the “benefit” received, not how much water is used. The Constitution, part 1, Article 2, recognizes that the rights to own and enjoy property are fundamental to our freedom.

**HRA Recommendation: Support a motion to recommit, and oppose OTP.**

## **SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY**

**SB 31**, ban on incidental combustion of untreated wood at municipal transfer stations. **OTP. Vote 18-1.**

**HRA Analysis:** This bill repeals a prospective ban on this incidental combustion of some construction debris, since the municipal transfer stations have been able to do it while meeting environmental goals. The Platform, Part II, reiterates our support of local control.

**HRA Recommendation: Support OTP.**

**SB 179**, clarifying “renewable generation facility” for payments in lieu of property tax. **MAJ: OTP/A. MIN: ITL. Vote 14-4.**

**HRA Analysis:** This bill attempts to exempt trash to energy plants from normal property tax payments by defining them as “renewable.” The Platform, part II, requires “local control of taxes.”

**HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP/A, support ITL.**

## **TRANSPORTATION**

**SB 20**, making modifications to the DWI ignition interlock program. **MAJ: OTP/A. MIN: ITL. Vote 15-1.**

**HRA Analysis:** This bill makes a number of modifications to the ignition interlock program, including keeping all data for 3 years after the end of the sentence, not one, and authorizing the Commissioner of Safety to require an “enhanced” (photo-taking and GPS recording) device on his own authority. No data privacy protections exist in statute or are included in the bill. The Platform, Part II, urges us to “protect the privacy of individuals from government snooping”, and friends and family members, as well as individuals in this program, would be subjected to this snooping.

**HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP/A, support ITL.**

**SB 47**, relative to a surviving spouse’s right to retain a Purple Heart plate. **OTP. Vote 13-4.**

**HRA Analysis:** The Purple Heart is an *individual* award for those injured in combat and allowing a surviving spouse to use a plate diminishes the honor of the veterans. The Platform, Part III, urges us to “respect New Hampshire's honored veterans.”

**HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP.**

**SB 67**, establishing a committee to examine the issue of statutory authority for all terrain vehicles, off highway recreational vehicles, and low speed utility vehicles to access public highways for food, fuel, and lodging. **OTP. Vote 12-4.**

**HRA Analysis:** No Platform or Constitutional issues identified.

**HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation.**

**SB 165**, repealing a prohibition relative to auxiliary state troopers. **OTP. Vote 13-3.**

**HRA Analysis:** No Platform or Constitutional issues identified.

**HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation.**

## **FROM CONSENT**

**SB 102**, relative to the selection of members of the conservation commission. **ITL. Vote 14-0.**

**HRA Analysis:** This bill allows towns to elect members of the conservation commission. The Platform affirms that it is through the ballot box that we, the people, hold government accountable.

**HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL.**