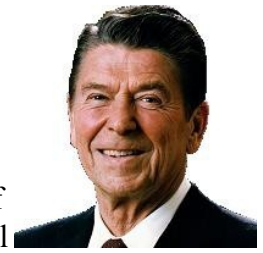


# HOUSE REPUBLICAN ALLIANCE RECOMMENDATION SHEET



“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.

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2**

## **Proposed Amendment to the Ethics Guidelines**

**HRA Analysis:** This amendment simplifies the reporting guidelines by not requiring reporting any reimbursement by the General Court, or of attorney services provided gratis when investigating a petition or a complaint. The Constitution, Article 8: “Government, therefore, should be open, accessible, accountable and responsive.”

**HRA Recommendation:** Vote your conscience.

## **PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE RULES**

### **Amendment to Rule 30.**

**HRA Analysis:** This amendment adds a standing subcommittee on Mental Health, Addiction and Recovery to the committee on Health, Human Services, and Elderly Affairs. These topics are already within the scope of HHSEA, so only the specific subcommittee is new. No Platform or Constitutional issues identified.

**HRA Recommendation:** No Recommendation.

### **Amendment to Rule 49.**

**HRA Analysis:** This amendment forbids adopting a committee of conference report that extends a study committee deadline beyond November 1 of the second year without a 2/3 vote of the House. No Platform or Constitutional issues identified.

**HRA Recommendation:** No Recommendation.

### **Amendment to Rule 43(b).**

**HRA Analysis:** This amendment forbids holding an executive session for a bill on the same day as its public hearing without a unanimous vote of the committee or prior authorization by the speaker. No Platform or Constitutional issues identified.

**HRA Recommendation:** No Recommendation.

### **Amendment to Rule 44(a).**

**HRA Analysis:** This amendment eliminates the currently possible committee recommendation of “Interim Study.” No Platform or Constitutional issues identified.

**HRA Recommendation:** No Recommendation.

### **Amendment to Rule 63.**

**HRA Analysis:** This amendment forbids anyone carrying a deadly weapon, openly or concealed, in the House chamber or gallery. The Constitution, Part 1, Article 2-a: “All persons have the right to keep and bear arms

Wednesday, January 5

in defense of themselves, their families, their property and the state.”

**HRA Recommendation:** Oppose this amendment.

**Amendment to Rule 65.**

**HRA Analysis:** This amendment adds deadlines for the biennium. The constitution gives the general court authority to meet “as they may judge necessary.”

**HRA Recommendation:** Support this amendment.

**Amendment to add Rule 67.**

**HRA Analysis:** Article 22 of the New Hampshire constitution empowers the House to "settle rules of proceedings." This new rule has nothing to do with rules of proceedings and is thus not constitutional. By the specificity of the rule making authority they granted the legislative body, the framers of the constitution limited this authority to actions having a reasonable nexus to facilitating law making activities. Using the logic of this proposed amendment we could put in mandatory rules on a myriad of subjects including religion, grooming and personal hygiene. This could become a slippery slope to tyranny of whomever holds the majority.

**HRA Recommendation:** Oppose this amendment.