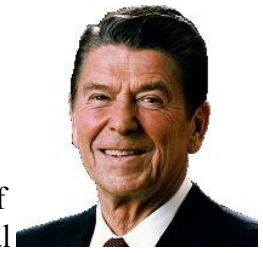


# HOUSE REPUBLICAN ALLIANCE RECOMMENDATION SHEET



**“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
HB 124	ED&A	No Recommendation	Oppose OTP
HB 135	Criminal Justice	OTP/A 12-6	Oppose OTP/A
HB 141	ED&A	ITL 13-4	No Recommendation
HB 189 (from consent)	Resources	OTP/A 19-0	No Recommendation
HB 215	Muni & County	ITL 9-5	Oppose ITL
HB 242	Transportation	OTP/A 12-3	Oppose OTP/A
HB 264	Criminal Justice	ITL 16-4	Oppose ITL
HB 271	HHS	ITL 13-6	Oppose ITL
HB 286	Science Tech & Energy	OTP/A 11-8	Oppose OTP/A
HB 287	Election	ITL 12-6	Support ITL
HB 290	Criminal Justice	ITL 14-4	Support ITL
HB 297	Muni & County	ITL 14-1	No Recommendation
HB 305	Muni & County	OTP/A 12-4	No Recommendation
HB 306	Science Tech & Energy	OTP/A 13-3	Oppose OTP/A
HB 346	Commerce	OTP/A	No Recommendation
HB 357	Labor	No Recommendation	Oppose OTP
HB 364	ED&A	OTP/A 12-7	No Recommendation
HB 365	Muni & County	ITL 10-5	Support ITL
HB 381	Criminal Justice	ITL 15-5	No Recommendation
HB 389	Criminal Justice	ITL 20-0	
HB 390	Commerce	OTP/A 15-3	Support OTP/A
HB 398	ED&A	ITL 11-9	Oppose ITL
HB 420	ED&A	OTP 12-6	No Recommendation
HB 443	Criminal Justice	OTP/A 13-5	Oppose OTP/A
HB 451	Criminal Justice	ITL 14-4	Oppose ITL
HB 454	Science Tech & Energy	ITL 15-3	No Recommendation
HB 455	ED&A	ITL 10-8	Oppose ITL
HB 465	Science Tech & Energy	OTP 13-3	No Recommendation
HB 467	Commerce	ITL 18-1	Oppose ITL
HB 468	Commerce	ITL 16-2	No Recommendation

HB 477	Labor	OTP 11-7	Oppose OTP
HB 508	Science Tech & Energy	OTP/A 12-7	Oppose OTP/A
HB 527 (from consent)	Resources	ITL 19-0	No Recommendation
HB 530	Commerce	ITL 15-3	Oppose ITL
HB 532	Muni & County	No Recommendation	Oppose OTP
HB 536	Children & Family	ITL 14-4	No Recommendation
HB 538	Children & Family	ITL 14-4	No Recommendation
HB 542	Science Tech & Energy	OTP/A 19-0	No Recommendation
HB 549 (from consent)	Ways & Means	ITL 17-1	Support ITL
HB 573	HHS	OTP/A 14-1	No Recommendation
HB 575	Commerce	OTP/A 11-8	Support OTP/A
HB 578	Children & Family	ITL 12-4	No Recommendation
HB 584	HHS	OTP/A 14-0	No Recommendation
HB 588	Resources	OTP 11-7	Oppose OTP
HB 595	Election	OTP 11-7	Oppose OTP
HB 603	Education	ITL 13-7	No Recommendation
HB 606	Commerce	ITL 15-4	No Recommendation
HB 621	Criminal Justice	ITL 12-6	No Recommendation
HB 624	Education	OTP/A 17-3	Support OTP/A
HB 630	Science Tech & Energy	OTP/A 16-3	Oppose amendment
HB 638	State Federal	ITL 10-5	No Recommendation
HB 647	Labor	OTP 12-6	Oppose OTP
HB 648	Judiciary	OTP/A 11-5	Oppose OTP/A
HB 659	Ways & Means	OTP/A 11-7	Oppose OTP/A
HB 661	Criminal Justice	ITL 14-6	Support ITL
HB 665	Ways & Means	ITL 12-6	Support ITL
HB 678	Ways & Means	ITL 12-6	Support ITL
HB 679 (from consent)	Education	ITL 20-0	Support ITL
HB 683	ED&A	OTP 13-5	No Recommendation
HCR 2	State Federal	OTP 9-8	Oppose OTP
HCR 3	State Federal	No Recommendation	Support OTP
HR 6	HHS	No Recommendation	Oppose OTP

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

### REGULAR CALENDAR – PART I

#### HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS

**HB 584, relative to covered prescription drugs. OTP/A. Vote 14-0.**

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

**HRA Recommendation:** No recommendation.

#### MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT

**HB 297, relative to the management of trust funds and capital reserve funds. MAJ: ITL. MIN: OTP/A. Vote 14-1.**

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

**HRA Recommendation:** No recommendation.

**HB 532, relative to energy efficiency and clean energy districts. WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION.**

**HRA Analysis:** This bill authorizes towns with energy efficiency districts to make these loans to commercial properties. The Constitution, Part 2, article 5 states “the general court shall not authorize any town to loan or give its money or credit directly or indirectly for the benefit of any corporation having for its object a dividend of profits.”

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

**SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY**

**HB 465, repealing New Hampshire’s atomic energy policy. OTP. Vote 13-3.**

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

**HRA Recommendation:** No recommendation.

**HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS**

**HB 271, stating that New Hampshire will not accept expanded Medicaid. ITL. Vote 13-6.**

**HRA Analysis:** This bill simply prevents the expansion of Medicaid as a part of Obamacare. The Platform, Part III, says we should “Oppose the implementation of Obamacare in New Hampshire.”

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

**MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

**HB 305, a committee to study the apportionment formula for cooperative school districts for towns with electric generation facilities. OTP/A. Vote 12-4.**

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

**HRA Recommendation:** No recommendation.

**SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY**

**HB 454, requiring consent prior to the installation of smart meters. MAJ: ITL. MIN: OTP. Vote 15-3.**

**HRA Analysis:** This bill goes further than last year's ban of “smart meter gateway devices”, banning even smart meters that simply send meter readings to the utility, without permission. No Platform or Constitutional issues identified.

**HRA Recommendation:** No recommendation.

**HB 630-FN, repealing the New Hampshire regional greenhouse gas initiative program. OTP/A. Vote 16-3.**

**HRA Analysis:** This bill, as introduced, ended RGGI, a multi-state contraption to tax ratepayers to buy carbon allowances and then use the money for energy efficiency projects at politically connected organizations like Dartmouth and Stoneyfield Yogurt. As amended, it simply ensures the proceeds of the carbon allowances are used for low income weatherization. The platform, Part II, says we should “work to reduce energy costs and remove New Hampshire from RGGI.”

**HRA Recommendation:** Oppose the committee amendment, support OTP or OTP/A.

**TRANSPORTATION**

**HB 242, relative to child passenger restraint requirements. OTP/A. Vote 12-3.**

**HRA Analysis:** This bill expands the scope of child restraints to children up to eight years of age. The Platform, Part V, states we should “maintain the fundamental role and responsibility of both parents in the care ... of their children.”

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

**WAYS AND MEANS**

**HB 659-FN-A, increasing the tobacco tax. MAJ: OTP/A. MIN: ITL. Vote 11-7.**

**HRA Analysis:** This bill increases the cigarette tax. The Platform, part II, says we “strongly oppose new taxes and fees.”

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

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20  
REGULAR CALENDAR – PART II**

**HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS**

**HB 573-FN, relative to the use of marijuana for medicinal purposes. OTP/A. Vote 14-1.**

**HRA Analysis:** On the one hand, the Platform, Part III, states we “support the moral and ethical right of informed consent”; on the other, Part I states “keep government lean.” This bill creates a new bureaucracy to regulate medical marijuana.

**HRA Recommendation:** No recommendation.

**HR 6**, commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Roe v Wade Supreme Court decision and affirming support for its holding and principles. **WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION.**

**HRA Analysis:** The Platform, Part V, affirms we “support the unborn child's fundamental right to life.”

**HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP, support ITL. Support a motion to table.**

## **JUDICIARY**

**HB 648-FN**, permitting current marital masters to remain in office until retirement, resignation, disability, or nonrenewal of appointment. **MAJ: OTP/A . MIN: ITL. Vote 11-5.**

**HRA Analysis:** The Platform, Part VII, “support the people's oversight of the judiciary through their elected legislature.”

Marital masters are not judges, are not properly supervised by judges, and oversee the family courts that have caused so much turmoil in the last decade or so. Why should we continue to use them?

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

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

**HB 357**, prohibiting an employer from using credit history in employment decisions. **WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION.**

**HRA Analysis:** The Platform, Part I, states we must “minimize business regulations.” Employers who find a credit report necessary or useful should be able to use one without a government ban.

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

**HB 477-FN**, relative to differential pay for certain state employees. **MAJ: OTP. MIN: ITL. Vote 11-7.**

**HRA Analysis:** Inaccurately painted as discrimination, this bill takes from the legislature its right to set pay differentials for hazardous duty, direct care, overtime premium, and salary increases for nurses and make them items in collective bargaining. Costs are more openly and tightly controlled by the legislature, and cause less budgetary concern than the indeterminable impact on state expenditures as specified in the fiscal note. The Platform, Part II, encourages “transparency in employment.”

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

**HB 647-FN**, relative to appeals from the compensation appeals board. **OTP. Vote 12-6.**

**HRA Analysis:** This bill allows parties aggrieved by an order or decision of the compensation appeals board to further appeal issues of law to the Superior Court as an alternative to the Supreme Court. Adding another court to the appeal process means potential additional payments from the trust fund, additional costs to businesses, while waiting for decisions. The Platform, Part I, supports increasing responsiveness to business concerns.

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

## **MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

**HB 215-FN-L**, relative to workforce housing and the definition of community. **MAJ: ITL. MIN: OTP. Vote 9-5.**

**HRA Analysis:** The Platform, Part I, states we should “work with municipalities to streamline planning and zoning.” HB215 is an improvement over the current “workforce housing” mandate on towns, and would allow for more local control.

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

**HB 365**, membership of village districts in regional planning commissions. **MAJ: ITL. MIN: OTP. Vote 10-6.**

**HRA Analysis:** This bill explicitly lets village districts with planning boards join regional planning commissions. The Platform, Part I, says we will “Work with municipalities to streamline planning and zoning barriers to business.” Since regional planning creates such barriers, and is inherently anti-property rights, there is no reason to try to grow their influence.

**HRA Recommendation: Support ITL**

## **RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

**HB 588**, extending the instream flow pilot program for 2 years. **MAJ: OTP. MIN: ITL. Vote 11-7.**

**HRA Analysis:** The Platform, Part II, states we should “sunset programs ... to force periodic reevaluation.” The instream flow program has already missed its deadlines and appears to be wandering off into a state-sponsored research grant.

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

## **SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY**

**HB 286**, relative to broadband infrastructure. **MAJ: OTP/A. MIN: ITL. Vote 11-8.**

**HRA Analysis:** The Platform, Part II, states we should “privatize programs and functions that can be handled more effectively by the private sector.” The broadband process that this bill enables would compete with the private sector.

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

**HB 306**, establishing a commission to develop an energy policy for the state. **MAJ: OTP/A . MIN: ITL. Vote 13-3.**

**HRA Analysis:** This bill, as amended, changes the RGGI program to reduce the CO2 cap by 45%, with corresponding increases in 'allowances' which are paid by electric consumers. Based on the 2012 review of this program, RGGI has succeeded in reducing CO2 by 37%, well above the planned 10% by 2018. This should imply that the limits could be relaxed, not tightened! The Platform, Part II, states we should "work to reduce energy costs."

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

**HB 508**, relative to idling by diesel locomotives. **MAJ: OTP/A. MIN: ITL. Vote 12-7.**

**HRA Analysis:** This bill would create an unenforceable anti-idling restriction on Mass commuter trains. The US constitution prohibits one state regulating the operation of another state's agencies.

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

**HB 542**, relative to electric renewable portfolio standards. **OTP/A. Vote 19-0.**

**HRA Analysis:** This bill, as amended, increases the expected price (or fine in lieu of available power) for renewable energy by up to **212%**, instead of by the CPI as current law requires. The Platform, Part II, states we "work to reduce energy costs."

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

## **STATE FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**HB 638**, recognizing the original 13th Amendment to the US Constitution. **MAJ: ITL. MIN: OTP. Vote 10-5.**

**HRA Analysis:** This bill declares the original proposed 13th amendment to have been ratified in 1812. The amendment expands on article 1, section 9 of the US constitution which prohibits officials from accepting titles or gifts from foreigners. Clearly 12 states, including New Hampshire, ratified the amendment. The controversy surrounds the question of whether Virginia and South Carolina did so. Record keeping was poor, but it is thought that only one body of their legislatures ratified the amendment, not both. Since Louisiana became the 18th state before New Hampshire's ratification, the required number of states was 14, thus requiring both Virginia and South Carolina.

**HRA Recommendation: No recommendation**

**HCR 2**, requesting Congress to begin the process for a constitutional amendment establishing that human beings, not corporations, are entitled to constitutional rights. **MAJ: OTP. MIN: ITL. Vote 9-8.**

**HRA Analysis:** The resolution declares that only individuals and the press, not other corporations, have a first amendment right to free speech and to spend money on campaigns, and urges Congress to create a constitutional amendment to this effect. This is a transparent attempt by the Democrats to further cement their popular media advantage by silencing business interests. Corporations are voluntary associations of individuals, and as such can take actions that those individuals could take independently. While one individual would likely have difficulty paying for a political TV ad, a group of like-minded individuals can pool their resources to do so. HCR 2 is a direct assault on our freedoms of speech, the press and association.

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

**HCR 3**, affirming States' powers based on the Constitution for the United States and the Constitution of New Hampshire. **WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION.**

**HRA Analysis:** This resolution asserts the sovereignty of New Hampshire and supports the tenth amendment to the US Constitution which states that powers not expressly delegated to the United States are reserved for the states and the people. The platform states that we "Oppose federal programs that contradict the ninth or tenth amendment to the US Constitution".

**HRA Analysis: Support OTP.**

## **WAYS AND MEANS**

**HB 665-FN-A-L**, relative to video lottery and table gaming. **ITL. Vote 12-6.**

**HRA Analysis:** This is a two-casino gambling bill. The platform says we "Reject expanded casino and video lottery gambling as a means to balance the budget or increase spending." The bill explicitly would increase spending by adding funds to various accounts.

**HRA Recommendation: Support ITL**

**HB 678-FN-A-L**, on games of chance, establishing a gaming oversight authority and video lottery gaming. **ITL. Vote 12-6.**

**HRA Analysis:** This is a six-casino gambling bill. It only has machine gambling, not table games. The platform says we "Reject expanded casino and video lottery gambling as a means to balance the budget or increase spending."

**HRA Recommendation: Support ITL**

## **CHILDREN AND FAMILY LAW**

**HB 536**, revising the child support guidelines based on foster care reimbursement rates. **MAJ: ITL. MIN: OTP. Vote 14-4.**

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

**HRA Recommendation: No recommendation.**

**HB 538**, relative to the calculation of child support based on residential responsibility. **MAJ: ITL. MIN: OTP. Vote 14-4.**  
**HRA Analysis:** No Platform or Constitutional issues identified.  
**HRA Recommendation: No recommendation.**

**HB 578**, on the determination of parental rights based on the best interest of the child. **MAJ: ITL. MIN: OTP. Vote 12-4.**  
**HRA Analysis:** No Platform or Constitutional issues identified.  
**HRA Recommendation: No recommendation.**

## **COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

**HB 346**, establishing a committee to study low-profit limited liability companies. **OTP/A. Vote 14-4.**  
**HRA Analysis:** No Platform or Constitutional issues identified.  
**HRA Recommendation: No recommendation.**

**HB 390**, allowing companion dogs in the outdoor areas of restaurants. **OTP/A. Vote 15-3.**  
**HRA Analysis:** This enabling legislation lets restaurant owners allow customers to bring their dogs onto an outdoor patio, as long as service dogs have priority. The Platform, Part I, states we should "minimize business regulations."  
**HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A.**

**HB 467**, relative to purchasing alliances. **MAJ: ITL. MIN: OTP. Vote 18-1.**  
**HRA Analysis:** This bill allows businesses that are mid-to-large-size obtain better value in purchasing health insurance by consolidating purchasing responsibilities and resources. The Platform, Part III, states we should "increase the use of market forces to improve health care and lower costs."  
**HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL, support OTP.**

**HB 468**, establishing a committee to study wine purchasing and pricing. **MAJ: ITL. MIN: OTP. Vote 16-2.**  
**HRA Analysis:** No Platform or Constitutional issues identified.  
**HRA Recommendation: No recommendation.**

**HB 530-FN**, relative to annual reporting requirements for business entities. **MAJ: ITL. MIN: OTP. Vote 15-3.**  
**HRA Analysis:** This bill reduces the reporting requirement for corporations, LLCs, and consumer co-ops to the secretary of state, from annually to once every three years. The Platform, Part I, states we should "minimize business... paperwork."  
**HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL, support OTP.**

**HB 575**, relative to hours of sales of on-premises liquor licensees. **MAJ: OTP/A. MIN: ITL. Vote 11-8.**  
**HRA Analysis:** This bill aligns the closing hours of New Hampshire on-premises licensees with the 2 am. closing hours in surrounding states. The amendment allows cities and towns local control to decide if they wish to allow the extra hour of operation. The Platform, Part I, states we should "minimize business regulations."  
**HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A.**

**HB 606-FN**, relative to community rating. **MAJ: ITL. MIN: OTP. Vote 15-4.**  
**HRA Analysis:** This bill increases underwriting flexibility in the small group health insurance market. However, such changes would be preempted by the new market rules taking effect as of January 1, 2014 under Obamacare and HB668.  
**HRA Recommendation: No recommendation.**

## **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

**HB 135**, on physical force in defense of a person and relative to non-deadly force. **MAJ: OTP/A. MIN: ITL. Vote 12-6.**  
**HRA Analysis:** This bill repeals "stand your ground", eliminates the caveat that just showing a weapon is not "brandishing", and repeals the liability exemption for the use of force. The committee amendment leaves the "brandishing" statute as it is. The Platform, Part VI, states we "support the universal right of self defense wherever one has a legal right to be."  
**HRA Recommendation: Oppose the amendment, oppose OTP or OTP/A.**

**HB 264-FN**, relative to simple assault. **MAJ: ITL. MIN: OTP. Vote 16-4.**  
**HRA Analysis:** part 1, Article 18 states "All penalties ought to be proportioned to the nature of the offense." Making non-injury contact a violation rather than a felony seems appropriate.  
**HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL, support OTP.**

**HB 290-FN**, prohibiting unlicensed persons from openly carrying a pistol or revolver in a public building. **ITL. Vote 14-4.**  
**HRA Analysis:** The Platform, Part VI, confirms "the universal right of self defense wherever one has a legal right to be."  
**HRA Recommendation: Support ITL.**

**HB 381**, relative to citizen complaints against a police officer. **ITL. Vote 15-5.**

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

**HRA Recommendation:** **No recommendation.**

**HB 443-FN**, prohibiting prison privatization. **MAJ: OTP/A. MIN: ITL. Vote 13-5.**

**HRA Analysis:** The Platform, Part II, declares we should "privatize programs and functions that can be handled more effectively by the private sector." While private prisons may not be appropriate for the entire prison population, closing the door to even considering them, before the department's study is complete, is short-sighted and judgmental.

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

**HB 451-FN**, repealing the license requirement for carrying a concealed pistol or revolver. **ITL. Vote 14-4.**

**HRA Analysis:** The Platform, Part VI, states we "oppose the requirement to obtain a license to carry a concealed firearm."

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

**HB 621-FN**, decriminalizing possession of less than one ounce of marijuana. **MAJ: ITL. MIN: OTP. Vote 12-6.**

**HRA Analysis:** On one hand, marijuana remains on the federal list of controlled drugs; on the other, decriminalizing simple possession would save the state a great deal of money, and as the Platform insists, "Low taxes are the result of low spending."

**HRA Recommendation:** **Vote your conscience.**

**HB 661-FN**, allocating a portion of proceeds from forfeiture of items used in connection with a drug offense to the cold case homicide unit. **MAJ: ITL. MIN: OTP/A. Vote 14-6.**

**HRA Analysis:** The Platform, Part II, states we "prioritize programs to ensure effective spending." With its accounting gimmicks and dedicated funds, this bill attempts to assume priority for the cold case unit.

**HRA Recommendation:** **Support ITL.**

## **EDUCATION**

**HB 603-FN**, relative to the administration of the university system of New Hampshire. **ITL. Vote 13-7.**

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

**HRA Recommendation:** **No recommendation.**

**HB 624-FN**, waiving the residency requirement for in-state tuition rates for veterans attending the university system of New Hampshire. **OTP/A. Vote 17-3.**

**HRA Analysis:** The Platform Principles state "the utmost honor must be bestowed on those willing to serve."

**HRA Recommendation:** **Vote your conscience.**

## **ELECTION LAW**

**HB 287-FN**, eliminating voter identification requirements. **ITL. Vote 12-6.**

**HRA Analysis:** The Platform, Part VI, states "we support the requirement to produce positive identification upon both registering and voting."

**HRA Recommendation:** **Support ITL.**

**HB 595-FN**, relative to photo identification of voters. **MAJ: OTP. MIN: OTP/A. Vote 11-7.**

**HRA Analysis:** The Platform, Part VI, states "we support the requirement to produce positive identification upon both registering and voting." The minority amendment restores the photo of voters without ID, merely taking it at registration rather than when requesting a ballot.

**HRA Recommendation:** **Support the minority amendment, support OTP/A, oppose OTP.**

## **EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION**

**HB 124-FN**, relative to the determination of gainful occupation for a group II member receiving an accidental disability retirement allowance from the retirement system. **WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION.**

**HRA Analysis:** The Platform, Part II, calls for us to "ensure public employee benefits are similar to and do not exceed those of the private sector." The current disability pension is better than most private sector offerings, providing 2/3 of pay, with cost of living increases, and not ending if the pensioner can work in a different job. Blindly allowing any amount of outside earnings after reaching minimum retirement age (45!) is even more generous.

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

**HB 141**, relative to training for new executive branch commissioners. **ITL. Vote 13-4.**

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

**HRA Recommendation:** **No recommendation.**

**HB 364**, requiring New Hampshire retirement system employers to notify prospective part-time employees who are retired members of the limitations on part-time employment. **MAJ: OTP/A. MIN: ITL. Vote 12-7.**

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

**HRA Recommendation: No recommendation.**

**HB 398-FN**, relative to leave time for certain state employees. **MAJ: ITL. MIN: OTP/A. Vote 11-9.**

**HRA Analysis:** The Platform, Part II, calls for us to “ensure public employee benefits are similar to and do not exceed those of the private sector.” Leave banking when taking a promotion is a benefit unheard of in the private sector.

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

**HB 420**, establishing orange, red, and yellow as the state colors. **OTP. Vote 12-6.**

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

**HRA Recommendation: No recommendation.**

**HB 455**, a committee to study a cash balance retirement plan for new state employees. **MAJ: ITL. MIN: OTP. Vote 10-8.**

**HRA Analysis:** The Platform, Part II, calls for us to “ensure public employee benefits are similar to and do not exceed those of the private sector.” The current defined benefit plan vastly exceeds private sector benefits, and a “hybrid” plan might allow a more reasonable benefit without affecting the health of the legacy system.

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

**HB 683-FN**, relative to the retirement system status of the director and assistant director of the division of homeland security and emergency management. **OTP. Vote 13-5.**

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

**HRA Recommendation: No recommendation.**

## **BILLS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR – MARCH 13**

### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

**HB 389**, relative to discovery in misdemeanor and violation cases. **ITL. Vote 20-0.**

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

**HRA Recommendation: No recommendation.**

### **EDUCATION**

**HB 679**, relative to renovations to the vocational technical center at Alvirne high school. **ITL. Vote 20-0.**

**HRA Analysis:** This bill attempts to move one high school 9 years up on the funding plan. The Constitution, Part 1, Article 10. states “Government being instituted for the common benefit . . . of the whole community, and not for the private interest or emolument of any one man, family, or class of men ..” warns against special interest bills such as this.

**HRA Recommendation: Support ITL.**

### **RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

**HB 189**, repealing the commission to study water infrastructure sustainability funding. **OTP/A Vote 19-0.**

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

**HRA Recommendation: No recommendation.**

**HB 527**, repealing the exotic aquatic weeds and species committee. **ITL. Vote 19-0.**

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

**HRA Recommendation: No recommendation.**

### **WAYS AND MEANS**

**HB 549**, establishing a committee to study a constitutional amendment to prevent dedicated funding for a specific purpose from being diverted from that purpose. **ITL. Vote 17-1.**

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

**HRA Recommendation: No recommendation.**