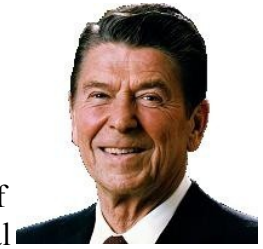


HOUSE REPUBLICAN ALLIANCE RECOMMENDATION SHEET



“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 135	Criminal Justice	OTP/A 12-6	Oppose OTP/A
HB 185	Ways & Means	OTP/A 11-7	Oppose OTP/A
HB 189 (from consent)	Resources	OTP/A 19-0	No Recommendation
HB 260	Finance	OTP/A 16-7	Oppose OTP/A
HB 295	Ways & Means	OTP/A 11-7	Oppose OTP/A
HB 389 (from consent)	Criminal Justice	ITL 20-0	No Recommendation
HB 398	ED&A	ITL 11-9	Oppose ITL
HB 411	Ways & Means	OTP/A 11-7	Oppose OTP/A
HB 420	ED&A	OTP 12-6	No Recommendation
HB 432	Finance	OTP/A 20-3	Oppose OTP/A
HB 451	Criminal Justice	ITL 14-4	Oppose ITL
HB 455	ED&A	ITL 10-8	Oppose ITL
HB 527 (from consent)	Resources	ITL 19-0	No Recommendation
HB 549 (from consent)	Ways & Means	ITL 17-1	Support ITL
HB 615	Finance	OTP/A 15-8	No Recommendation
HB 617	Ways & Means	OTP/A 11-7	Oppose OTP/A
HB 619	Criminal Justice	OTP/A 16-2	Oppose OTP/A
HB 679 (from consent)	Education	ITL 20-0	Support ITL
HB 683	ED&A	OTP 13-5	No Recommendation

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

REGULAR CALENDAR

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 OTP or OTP/A.

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 619-FN, prohibiting images of a person's residence to be taken from the air. **OTP/A. Vote 16-2.**

HRA Analysis: This bill, as amended, limits the ability of various private mapping or photography businesses to operate by using drones, balloons, or other unmanned aircraft, even with consent. The floor amendment is better than the committee amendment, but not good enough to pass. The Platform states "we believe that the NH and US Constitutions were written to limit our government, not our freedom" and that we must "protect the privacy of individuals from government snooping."

HRA Recommendation: Support Kurk floor amendment, Oppose OTP/A, support recommit or table.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

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.

FINANCE

HB 260-FN, relative to voluntary services provided to children in need under RSA 169-D. **OTP/A. Vote 16-7.**

HRA Analysis: The committee amendment makes this program more expensive, by an indeterminate amount, and allows the commissioner to suspend it whenever he has spent enough: very bad budgeting policy! The Platform, Part II, says we must "prioritize programs to ensure effective spending."

HRA Recommendation: Oppose committee amendment, oppose OTP/A.

HB 432-FN, relative to health care costs for county and state inmates. **MAJ: OTP/A. MIN: ITL. Vote 20-3.**

HRA Analysis: This bill, as amended, forces various health care providers to provide care for county prisoners at a specified, non-negotiated rate. The Platform, Part III, says we must "increase the use of market forces."

HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP/A.

HB 615-FN-A, relative to the New Hampshire national guard recruitment and retention scholarship fund and making an appropriation therefor. **MAJ: ITL. MIN: OTP/A. Vote 15-8.**

HRA Analysis: The Platform, Part III, says "respect New Hampshire's honored veterans" but respect does not mean "fund." This bill should be tabled to maintain the House position.

HRA Recommendation: Vote your conscience, support a motion to table.

WAYS AND MEANS

HB 185-FN, relative to the fuel oil discharge cleanup fund. **MAJ: OTP/A. MIN: ITL. Vote 11-7.**

HRA Analysis: This bill increases the tax on fuel oil imports from 1.0 cent per gallon to 1.25 cents per gallon to provide more funding for the cleanup of fuel oil spills and the state's Safe Tank Program. This is a 25% increase in a tax on a basic necessity. The Platform, Section II, "strongly opposes new taxes and fees."

HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP/A.

HB 295, background checks for volunteers and employees at youth skill camps. **MAJ: OTP/A. MIN: ITL. Vote 11-7.**

HRA Analysis: This bill, as amended, not only requires the \$25 fee on skill camps (over and above any costs to obtain the background checks), but also increases the regulatory fee for youth camps from \$50 to \$200, creating a new dedicated fund in the process. The Platform, part II, states we "strongly oppose new taxes and fees."

HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP/A.

HB 411-FN-A, repealing a future reduction in vessel registration fees. **MAJ: OTP. MIN: ITL. Vote 11-7.**

HRA Analysis: This bill increases boat license fees by repealing a planned future decrease. The Platform, Part I, states we “strongly oppose new taxes and fees.”

HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP.

HB 617-FN-A-L, increasing the road toll. **MAJ: OTP/A. MIN: ITL. Vote 11-7.**

HRA Analysis: This bill, as amended, “only” raises the gas tax by 12¢ per gallon over three years. The Platform, Part I, states we “strongly oppose new taxes and fees.”

HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP/A.

BILLS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR

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.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

HB 316-FN, relative to regulating alkaline hydrolysis for the disposal of human remains. **OTP/A. Vote 11-1.**

HRA Analysis: No Platform or Constitutional issues identified.

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation.

FINANCE

HB 344-FN-L, relative to aid to school districts for the cost of special education. **ITL. Vote 22-0.**

HRA Analysis: This bill, which was recommended unanimously by the Education Committee and passed on a voice vote, should be tabled to maintain the House position.

HRA Recommendation: Vote your conscience, support a motion to table.

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.