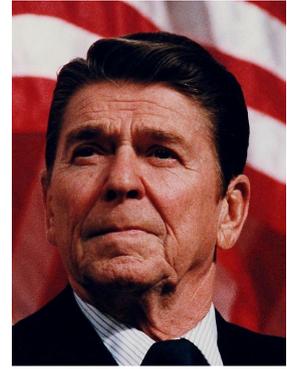


House Republican Alliance Recommendation Sheet



"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, March 22, 2023
Regular Calendar

Children and Family Law

HB10, establishing the parental bill of rights. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: The bill, along with the amendment establishes that parents have the right to bring up their children as they see fit without government involvement. The amendment correct several issues found after the committee voted OTP/A Platform: Maintain the fundamental role and responsibility of both parents in the care, upbringing and discipline of their children.

HRA Recommendation: Support Amendment 2023-1146h - Support OTP/A

HB548, relative to the definition of compliance with a legal support order for child support payments. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 9-7**

HRA Analysis: As amended this bill would set a definition of what it means to be in compliance with child support, and set the amount at \$25.00. Currently the division of child support services MUST report any arrearage resulting in non-compliance with an order for child support to the Federal government under the RSAs, but the RSAs do not define any amount that signifies non-compliance. Thus, simple rounding errors that put a person under the required payments by as little as one penny result in reporting to the Federal government and denial of services (such as passports). This bill will ensure that only a true delinquency will qualify, and simple rounding errors are not reported. Republicans on the committee supported the bill 7-1. Platform: We believe that individual liberty is guaranteed under the Constitutions of the United States and New Hampshire, that the liberty of the people must be protected above the power of the government; Prioritize programs to ensure effective spending; Protect the privacy of individuals from government agencies and employees who abuse their power and position.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL

Commerce and Consumer Affairs

HB584, relative to the Uniform Commercial Code's article on controllable electronic records. **Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 19-1**

HRA Analysis: Article 12 of Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) is a set of rules (controllable electronic records) {CERs}, like crypto currencies, digital assets, or non-fungible tokens, and how they can be legally controlled and transferred. The rule defines what it means to have control of an electronic record and who can get the right to them. The rules also explain how debts can be paid using electronic records and which laws apply to them. These rules are designed to work with new technologies that may be created in the future. A near-complete draft of the UCC Article 12 was adopted in 2022 with the passage of HB1503. HB584, as amended, would update our statutes to include some of the changes the Uniform Law Commission has developed since the passage of HB1503. Having a standardized set of rules around digital assets helps to facilitate interstate commerce. Platform: Support development of a robust technology infrastructure through out New Hampshire.

HRA Recommendation: Support Amendment, Support OTP/A

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

HB135, prohibiting no-knock warrants. **Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL**

HRA Analysis: Bans no-knock warrants. The amendment leaves loopholes in the prohibition. Prior authorization is requested by the DA or Atty Gnl. No knock warrant presume the person to be guilty. NH Constitution, Part 1st, Art 19. Every subject hath a right to be secure from all unreasonable searches and seizures of his person, his houses.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose Amendment 2023-0684h
Support OTP or OTP/A

HB351, relative to the negligent storage of firearms and relative to firearm safety devices. **Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL**
Vote: 10-9

HRA Analysis: This bill would punish someone who had their firearms stolen as a potential felony violates 2 New Hampshire Constitutional provisions: Part 1, Article 18 All penalties ought to be proportioned to the nature of the offense.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB397, relative to the prohibition of the possession of hypodermic needles by minors. **OTP/A Vote: 20-0**

HRA Analysis: This bill allows minors to possess hypodermic needles for the purpose of assisting another if there is a valid prescription. No Platform or Constitution positions identified.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

Education

CACR7, relating to use of money raised by taxation for education. Providing that money raised by taxation may be applied for the use of religious educational institutions. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: The Blaine amendment in our Constitution says that no public funds shall go to a religious school. The US Supreme Court has ruled twice in the past 3 years that if public funds go to any private school it would be discrimination and unconstitutional to exclude religious schools. Platform: "Promote education freedom and parental rights to control the education of their children" and "Repeal the Blaine Amendment to end discrimination against religious schools"

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

HB61, relative to teaching on discrimination in the public schools and discrimination in public workplaces. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: Two years ago, we added language to our anti-discrimination statutes including that 1) no people of a sex, race, religion etc are inherently superior or inferior to those on another races or sex etc. 2) no individual by virtue of sex, race, religion etc is inherently racist or oppressive. Also included in the prohibition of teaching discrimination but specifically states that nothing limits discussion of our history and contemporary effects. This bill would remove all these related provisions. NH Constitution: "All men are born equally free and independent", Platform: "We believe, above all else, in the founding principle that all people are created equal".

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB204, relative to non-academic surveys in schools. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: Our statutes currently require the advance written consent of parents for their child to take part in a non-academic survey that asks about a student's social behavior, religion, family life, politics etc. HB204 simply adds "emotional response" to the list. These types of survey questions cross the line into student psychological areas that parents should need to be aware of in advance. Platform: "We believe in local educational control, beginning with parents"

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

HB275, relative to schools approved for a school tuition program by a school board. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: This bill addresses the current confusion between districts concerning town tuitioning. Some districts allow parents to pay the difference in tuition if higher to a school that is above the district tuition maximum, others do not. HB275 clarifies the situation by stating that as long as there is one district approved school option that does not require any parent tuition payment. This is also likely to occur if the student switches schools in mid-year after tuition payments have already been made between schools. Platform: "Promote education freedom and parental rights to control the education of their children"

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

HB331, relative to the income threshold for the education freedom account program. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: The bill removes the income threshold for access to EFAs. NH Constitution: art.83 to cherish the interest of literature and the sciences, and all seminaries and public schools, to encourage private and public institutions,

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

HB371, establishing a commission to evaluate and recommend standards for public schools. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: Another commission. This one to recommend public school standards. There is already a Legislative Oversight Committee to make recommendations on academic standards. In addition the State Board of Education is reviewing the standards and the Legislative Oversight Committee will review those standards. Platform: "Keep state government lean"

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB427, relative to public comment and inquiry during school board meetings. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: This bill as amended redefines school board public comment periods to require public comment before the board takes action and also allow comment on non-agenda items. This currently is not allowed in many districts. Platform: "Support freedom of speech" and "We believe in local educational control, beginning with parents"

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

HB432, relative to participation in the education freedom accounts program. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: This bill would require the families in the Education Freedom Accounts program to have their income checked annually. Current law only requires an initial income validation. For those families whose income might fluctuate year to year, it could be a hardship on their children to be bounced in and out of the program and back to education situations that were not meeting their needs. Platform: "Expand ... education savings accounts" (EFAs)"

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB451, relative to the state board of education prohibition on discrimination. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: This is another attack on the EFA program. It would require any entity receiving state funds (read as EFAs) to not discriminate based upon student disability or gender identity. Entities would include private schools, online schools and "education vendors". Private schools that might not have the funds or facilities to accommodate students with some disabilities could be guilty of discrimination. Would private music teachers be education vendors? How would online programs discriminate? Platform: "Expand ... education savings accounts" (EFAs)" and "Promote education freedom and parental rights to control the education of their children"

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB515, relative to education freedom accounts. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: This bill clarifies and tweaks provisions of the EFA statute to match original intent. Included are the requirement to refer cases of suspected fraud if there is determination of intentional and substantial misuse of funds, and that EFA funds are to be used to pay for school curricular programs and not state funds. Platform: "Expand openness and transparency"

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

HB516, relative to freedom of speech and association at public institutions of higher education. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: Our public universities and colleges have improved policies regarding campus freedom of speech but it's time to put those speech protections in statute. This bill does that for peaceful assembly and speeches. It forbids "free speech zones". It also forbids denial of religious or political organization any benefit available to other campus organizations. Platform: "Support freedom of speech at all education levels"

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

HB538, establishing a local education freedom account program. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: Our current Education Freedom Account program is based upon use of state funds. This is enabling legislation to allow for a town vote (3/5 required) to establish a locally funded EFA program. The local funds for the EFA would be twice the state base adequacy amount plus differentiated aid or approximately \$9,600 per student. The remaining local funds would remain with the district. The basic operation of the program would be similar to our current program in terms of management by the scholarship organization and allowable expenses. It would not be allowed for students to be in this program plus the current program. This would be the first locally funded program in the nation. Platform: "Promote education freedom" and "Expand ... education savings accounts" (EFAs)"

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

HB539, relative to vaccination clinics at schools. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: HB539 would prohibit public schools and charter schools from conducting vaccination clinics during school hours. We heard testimony of instances where children were vaccinated without the required parental permission and even a case where the mom signed a consent form and wrote NO on it. One such incident was a 7 year old child. We heard one justification for these school clinics being emergency preparedness training required to get grant funding. The grants do not justify the risks for children. Platform: "Support the moral and ethical right of informed consent with regard to all medical treatment"

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP or OTP/A

HB552, relative to making incentive grants for school districts that improve in certain assessment scores. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: We hear about accountability for public schools but know that failing schools get more federal funding. This program would incentivize achievement and improvement. The amended bill would annually make \$500,000 for incentive grants to the 20 schools with the greatest improvement in mathematics test scores. It is time to reward achievement. Platform: "Emphasize knowledge attainment and academic achievement"

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

HB572, relative to eligibility for free school meals. **Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 12-8**

HRA Analysis: Currently free and reduced price meals to children with family income to 185% of federal poverty. This bill would require local districts to make at least one free meal to children with a family income under 300% of federal poverty. There would be indeterminable costs to local school districts plus state costs to administer the program.

Constitution: Part 1 Art. 28-a Unfunded mandate

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB573, limiting education freedom account funding to budgeted amounts. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: Education Freedom Accounts are funded from the Education Trust Fund which has a \$100 million surplus. This bill would require the program funding to be limited to a budgeted amount. What would happen to eligible EFA students when the budget might be reached? Would they be kicked out of the program? Supporters had no answer. Platform: "Expand ... education savings accounts" (EFAs)

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB603, relative to education service providers under the education freedom accounts program. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: HB603 would require EFA service providers to have been in operation for at least one year and have a record of measurable academic success. It would restrict new service providers to the program, and restrict innovation. It would also require anyone providing instruction to be an approved nonpublic school. How would this apply to music teachers, therapists, etc? Another indirect attack on the program. Platform "Expand ... education savings accounts" (EFAs)

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB621, relative to funds of the education freedom accounts program after termination of a student's participation and responsibilities of the scholarship organization. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: Immediate termination of an EFA account would be required in this bill if the EFA student enrolls in their resident school district. The issue is with the immediate return of funds to the Trust Fund. What happens to any outstanding invoices to service providers awaiting payment? Another program attack. Platform "Expand ... education savings accounts" (EFAs)

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB629, establishing a student bill of rights. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: Minors would be granted rights under this bill. Rights of autonomy and personal privacy for minors? Minors would have the right to have schools free from religious influence? Minors would have due process rights when it comes to discipline? Platform: "Maintain the fundamental role and responsibility of both parents in the care, upbringing and discipline of their children"

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Election Law

HB40, relative to domicile residency, voter registration, and investigation of voter verification letters, and relative to the terms "resident," "inhabitant," "residence," and "residency." **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: This bill seeks to rollback safeguards in NH election law and erode the definitions of domicile and resident. Platform: We believe that we the people are strongest when we stand together, that it is our responsibility to hold government accountable and that it is through the integrity of the ballot box that we do so. NH Constitution: Part 1st Article 11 - Every person shall be considered an inhabitant for the purposes of voting in the town, ward or unincorporated place where he has his domicile.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB209, relative to the form required to request an absentee ballot. **ITL Vote: 20-0**

HRA Analysis: This bill attempts to open up absentee voting beyond what is allowed in NH Constitution. Article 11 - Every person shall be considered an inhabitant for the purposes of voting in the town, ward or unincorporated place where he has his domicile.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB255, relative to campaign contributions by limited liability companies. **Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 10-9**

HRA Analysis: This bill closes the "LLC Loophole" in which LLC corporations can continually set up LLCs and donate as much as they wish to candidates. Republicans on the committee feel this is a violation of free speech. NH Constitution Part 1, Article 22 - Free speech, liberty of the press.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB316, relative to meetings of supervisors of the checklist. **Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 12-7**

HRA Analysis: This bill is supported by the NH City and Town Clerks Assn requires supervisor of the checklist to meet every 90 days. for periodic checklist maintenance and requires notice of these meetings. Amendment changes the original bills 45 day requirement. Open meetings provides transparency which is good for democracy. Platform: We believe that we the people are strongest when we stand together, that it is our responsibility to hold government accountable and that it is through the integrity of the ballot box that we do so.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

HB363, relative to deadlines for candidates filing by nomination papers for state general elections. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: This bill seeks to make the filing period more equitable for candidates of other parties. Republican members of the committee supported. No platform or NH Constitution

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB460, relative to eliminating voter identification exceptions. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: This bill removes exceptions for providing voter identification, removes voter affidavits as proof of id and repeals the procedure for affidavit ballots. Platform: We believe that we the people are strongest when we stand together, that it is our responsibility to hold government accountable and that it is through the integrity of the ballot box that we do so. NH Constitution:Part 1st, Article 11 - Every person shall be considered an inhabitant for the purposes of voting in the town, ward or unincorporated place where he has his domicile.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

HB586, relative to absentee voting due to absence. **Maj. OTP; Min. ITL Vote: 10-9**

HRA Analysis: This bill seeks to allow people who have a fear of becoming ill or are unsure they will have convenient transportation to get to the polls on election day, access to an absentee ballot. This would erode our current process and change New Hampshire's election process. Platform: We believe that we the people are strongest when we stand together, that it is our responsibility to hold government accountable and that it is through the integrity of the ballot box that we do so.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Environment and Agriculture

HB56, relative to permits for the siting of new landfills. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: With this bill, they want to use the speed at which leachate will travel underground before it reaches a lake or stream and put a 5 year travel time restriction on it based on hydrogeologic samples.. the problem with that is if they take 10 samples from the site and 1 is over the limit then the whole site is deemed unsuitable. This can eliminate many good site possibilities for landfills and could end up being costly for municipalities to transport trash to. This is a copy of the bill the governor vetoed last year adding in statutory restrictions that Maine has. We're not Maine.

In testimony it was said that current landfills we have would have passed the test if this bill were in law, so that demonstrates that the current DES rules have worked well. The thing people are most upset about is the current 200 ft minimum setback from a body of water that we have in statute. That does need to be changed. DES would like to study the hydrogeologic sample methodology further to see what works best for NH and make changes to our law based on that future study.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Executive Departments and Administration

HB96, recognizing May 3rd as Old Man of the Mountain Day. **ITL Vote: 16-3**

HRA Analysis: No platform or constitutional issues identified.

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation.

HB127, relative to the declaration of a state of emergency. **Maj. OTP; Min. ITL Vote: 11-7**

HRA Analysis: This bill terminates a state of emergency called by the governor after 30 days and modifies the procedure for renewal. Any orders issued during the period of a renewal of the state of emergency shall be subject to prior approval by the legislature. This bill also requires executive council approval in the acceptance of services, equipment, supplies, materials, or funds from the federal government. Constitution: Article 1. [Equality of Men; Origin and Object of Government.] All men are born equally free and independent; therefore, all government of right originates from the people, is founded in consent, and instituted for the general good.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

HB228, relative to repealing the commission on demographic trends. **OTP Vote: 14-2**

HRA Analysis: No platform or constitutional issues identified.

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation.

HB339, prohibiting the investment of state funds in any company participating in a boycott of Israel. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 15-5**

HRA Analysis: This would restrict the options of the pension fund when investing to those companies that don't boycott Israel. Constitution, Part 1, 36-a: All of the assets and proceeds, and income therefrom, of the New Hampshire retirement system... shall be held, invested or disbursed as in trust for the exclusive purpose of providing for such benefits and shall not be encumbered for, or diverted to, any other purposes.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL - ok to Table

HB390, revising the membership and structure of the New Hampshire commission on Native American affairs. **ITL Vote: 16-3**

HRA Analysis: No platform or constitutional issues identified.

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation.

HB461, relative to elimination by political subdivision employers of a group II retirement position. **OTP/A Vote: 20-0**

HRA Analysis: This bill would eliminate a loophole that allows some towns, etc, to retire their police chief or school superintendent, and bring him back to the same position "part time." the retiree collects his pension plus whatever stipend the town pays for the "part time" position, the town avoids paying into the retirement system, and the unfunded liability for that position is now paid by other towns (and their property taxpayers.) Platform: Oppose "downshifting" of costs and regulatory enforcement from state to local government (and from one town to the next.)

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

HB507, relative to unauthorized practice in occupational and professional licensing and certification. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: This bill deletes all penalties for practicing without a license as long as full disclosure is made. Platform: Minimize business regulations, permits, licenses and paperwork

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

HB532, relative to the licensure and regulation of music therapists. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: This bill creates a new license and board for the 30 odd music therapists in the state. Platform: Minimize business regulations, permits, licenses and paperwork

HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP/A, Support ITL

HCR2, relative to condemning recent vandalism and intolerance, as recently levied against places of worship and public spaces, elected officials and against the general citizens of New Hampshire. **ITL Vote: 13-7**

HRA Analysis: No platform or constitutional issues identified.

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation.

HR11, relative to welcoming communities. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 10-9**

HRA Analysis: No platform or constitutional issues identified.

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation.

Finance

HB49, relative to postponing the closure of the Sununu Youth Services Center. **OTP/A Vote: 23-2**

HRA Analysis: The bill is a continuation of SB1 relative to the plan for the new Sununu Center. The committee amendment changes the laws on what children could be committed and drives the cost down. NH Constitution: Part 1, Article 18 All penalties ought to be proportioned to the nature of the offense.

HRA Recommendation: Support Committee Amendment Support OTP/A

HB50, relative to payment by the state of a portion of retirement system contributions of political subdivision employers. **OTP/A Vote: 25-0**

HRA Analysis: The original bill would have the state paying 7.5% of the retirement costs of political subdivisions. The amendment replaces the original bill with a payment toward the unfunded liability of the Retirement System. NH Constitution Part 1st, Article 36 - Economy being a most essential virtue in all States, especially in a young one, no pension shall be granted but in consideration of actual services and pensions ought to be granted with great caution, by the Legislature, and never for more than one year at a time.

HRA Recommendation: OTP/A or if amendment fails - ITL - OK to Table

HB384, relative to building a new legislative parking garage and making an appropriation therefor. **OTP/A Vote: 22-3**

HRA Analysis: This bill seeks another \$22 M for the legislative parking garage. No platform or constitutional issues

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB506, relative to the construction of a rail trail box tunnel on Exit 4-A in Derry and making an appropriation therefor. **ITL Vote: 22-3**

HRA Analysis: General funds to construct a rail trail box. Platform: Justify expenditures against measurable benefits

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Fish and Game and Marine Resources

HB442, preventing state resources from being used to enforce lobstering regulations in federal waters and establishing a scuba diver recreational lobster license. **Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 13-7**

HRA Analysis: The title is erroneous. As amended this bill allows access to collect the NH resource of lobsters by those who dive for them, and do not necessarily have the ability to own a boat and traps. The second part of this bill begins a process to identify and remove derelict lobster traps, creating a partnership between divers and lobstermen, and also allows divers who encounter animals trapped in an irretrievable derelict trap to free them, rather than force their slow starvation and death. Platform: Promote conservation of open space, sensitive ecosystems, wildlife, scenic vistas, historic and cultural landscapes, and especially New Hampshire's state historic sites; Provide public access to all public lands and great ponds, subject to adequate protection for indigenous plants and animals.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A - OPPOSE ANY TABLE MOTION

Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs

HB69, relative to direct payment and membership-based health care facilities. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: This bill removes one of the remaining regulations of Certificate of Need for medical facilities that accept direct payment. Currently all medical facilities under the section are required to accept all forms of payment, including Medicare, Medicaid, and all insurances, and this bill would exempt direct payment facilities or facilities that operate on a membership-based business model. The medical system in NH is propped up by protectionist regulations that keep competition out, limiting options for healthcare. This bill would allow an alternative to the existing model and would provide for price transparency, competition within the market that would drive down prices and improve performance, as well as allow a medical system not subject to onerous insurance and Medicaid regulations, including mandates, to exist. Platform: Allow free market driven health care plans and a la carte insurance plans free from government mandates.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

HB114, relative to the age at which a minor may receive mental health treatment without parental consent. **Maj. OTP; Min. ITL Vote: 11-9**

HRA Analysis: This bill permits minors aged 16 and 17 to consent to mental health treatment without parental consent. This drives a wedge between parents and their children, and interferes with the right of parents to know what is going on with their children. Platform: We believe that the children's best interest is to have a substantial relationship with each parent

HRA Recommendation: ITL

HB238, relative to the role of quality control and the developmental disability service system. **Maj. OTP/A; Min. OTP/A Vote: 18-2**

HRA Analysis: This bill requires the Department of Developmental Services to receive input from and respond to input from the Developmental Services Quality Council regarding changes to service provisions. It allows the consumers, families, and service providers to have meaningful participation in the processes of policy change regarding developmental services. However, the bill exempts the council meetings from the physical quorum requirements under RSA 91-A, allowing for members to attend meetings remotely, counting remote participants toward quorum, and permitting remote voting by members. The minority amendment 2023-0909h removes this section that creates this exception to the physical quorum requirement. Platform: Improve access to information necessary to make good health care decisions, including information about the quality and cost of services provided by physicians, hospitals and insurers.

HRA Recommendation: Pass Cushman Amendment - Support OTP/A

HB299, prohibiting discrimination in medical care. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 12-8**

HRA Analysis: This bill removes non-medical reasons for rationing of care. It prohibits prioritizing medical treatment based on immutable characteristics and adds a private cause of action for such discrimination. NH Constitution Part 1, Article 1 - Equality of men, origin and object of government

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL. Support OTP.

HB342, relative to lead testing in children. **Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 11-9**

HRA Analysis: This bill as introduced and as amended establishes a blood level testing requirement for children entering day care and public schools. This bill is another example of how good intentions can also bring unintended consequences. If this bill passes, more children may be tested for lead levels in their blood which on the surface is good because it will identify children with elevated lead levels in their blood and treatment may be started to reduce the ill effects lead has on the body. However, positive tests will also send notices to the landlords and to the schools these children attend resulting in inspections to identify the places of lead contamination. This could result in the child and their family being removed from their home while the lead is being remediated. This could even shut down an entire preschool or child care facility while remediation takes place. The law already requires these tests and provides parental opt-out. NH Constitution - Part 1, Article 2 B - Right to Privacy

HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP/A. Support ITL.

HB557, relative to the department of health and human services' rulemaking authority regarding immunization requirements. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: This bill removes the ability of the commissioner of DHHS to unilaterally add vaccines to the state requirements for children through rulemaking and restores that authority to the legislature through the bill process. The legislature is the best representation of the people of this state, and can become informed through testimony on any bills seeking to add vaccines to the requirements. Bureaucrats should not have this broad authority to apply vaccine mandates to every child in the state through the rulemaking process. A matter of such gravity should be handled by the elected representatives of the people. Platform: Sunset programs and regulations to force periodic re evaluation.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

HB575, relative to vaccine and pharmaceutical products purchased, promoted, or distributed by the state and its political subdivisions. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 11-9**

HRA Analysis: This bill prohibits the state of NH from purchasing, promoting, or distributing vaccines that have not had human clinical trials conducted. The state of NH has no business advertising for pharmaceutical companies, especially for products that have only been tested on animals and therefore have not had rigorous safety and efficacy studies in humans against a control. The state should not experiment on its people with untested vaccines. Platform: Justify expenditures against measurable benefits

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL
Support OTP

HB582, requiring the division of vital records to collect induced termination of pregnancy statistics. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP/A Vote: 11-9**

HRA Analysis: This bill requires abortion providers to send certain information on abortions performed to the Division of Vital Records. The aggregate data is then sent to DHHS for analysis and reporting. The data collected is in line with the CDC's abortion surveillance system data. 47 other states report abortion statistics. This bill would permit policymakers to understand how many abortions are taking place in NH and to assess what social, political, economic, and other factors influence abortion rates, informing future policy. Platform: Support the preborn child's fundamental rights to life and personhood under the 14th amendment and implement all Constitutional and legal protections.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL

HB615, requiring independent audits of reproductive health care facilities. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 13-7**

HRA Analysis: This bill would require reproductive health care facilities that have any financial or geographical connection to facilities that provide abortion services to undergo independent audits by certified public accountants in order to confirm that they are not using state funds to support abortion services in order to apply for state funding. It provides for accountability over public funds to these facilities. Platform: Support the preborn child's fundamental rights to life and personhood under the 14th amendment and implement all Constitutional and legal protections.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

Judiciary

CACR2, relating to reproductive freedom. Providing that all persons have the right to make their own reproductive decisions. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: Trying to codify Roe v. Wade but leaving it to the state to decide its position. Platform. Support the preborn child's fundamental right to life and personhood under the Fourteenth Amendment, and implement all Constitutional and legal protections

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB68, adopting the uniform real property transfer on death act. **Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 17-3**

HRA Analysis: Provides a way to transfer property upon death. 17 other states have this. Enabling Platform: Less burden paperwork, removes barriers.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

HB88, relative to reproductive rights. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: Codifies abortion into law. Unnecessary as current law allows for 24 weeks. Platform. Support the pre-born child's fundamental right to life and personhood under the Fourteenth Amendment, and implement all Constitutional and legal protections

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB224, repealing the criminal and civil penalties from the fetal life protection act. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: Repeals criminal penalties for abortion. This is consistent with other decisions that knowingly affect "life" in other areas of our community; ie; police. In the case of a pregnancy, if the fetus is viable, this would violate that sentiment. Platform: Support the preborn child's fundamental right to life and personhood under the 14th amendment and implement all Constitutional and legal protections.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB261, authorizing residential tenants to terminate their lease in instances of domestic violence or following a disabling illness or accident. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: Creates a new means for a tenant to get out of a lease. Platform: Minimize business regulations, permits, licenses and paperwork

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB271, repealing the fetal life protection act. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: Makes abortion legal through birth. Platform: Support the preborn child's fundamental right to life and personhood under 14th amendment and implement all Constitutional and legal protections.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB562, requiring informed consent prior to receiving an abortion procedure. **ITL Vote: 17-3**

HRA Analysis: Informed consent is already happening in New Hampshire. Requiring 24 hour waiting period for abortion. This bill would place additional stress on the woman, potential impairment or irreversible damage to a major body function, chemically induced abortions and their associated perils, the risk of infections. Legislation had drafting issues with regards to medication.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB591, prohibiting abortions after detection of fetal heartbeat. **ITL Vote: 16-4**

HRA Analysis: Seeks to prohibit abortion after the detection of a fetal heartbeat. Platform: Support the preborn child's fundamental right to life and personhood under 14th amendment and implement all Constitutional and legal protections.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services

HB150, relative to the certification of a collective bargaining unit. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: Public sector unions have a minimum contract size of 10 employees to form a bargaining unit. This bill would lower the threshold to 5. To the extent that maintaining a collective bargaining unit increases local costs, this would increase taxpayer burden especially for smaller communities. Platform "Always limit spending and growth of government."

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB561, establishing a committee to examine workforce and school accommodations for those with long-term COVID and ME/CFS. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 12-8**

HRA Analysis: This bill establishes a committee to study how workplaces and schools could be made to accommodate three long-term ailments where diagnosis and treatment proves difficult. Addressing this as an employer issue rather than a medical issue may be the wrong focus but it is just a study committee. No platform or constitutional issues.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

Legislative Administration

CACR4, relating to compensation for legislators. Providing that legislators' biennial salary compensation shall be increased. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 10-5**

HRA Analysis: We are a part time citizen legislature. To pay our legislature would be cost prohibitive and additionally increase costs to run for this office. The amount of effort and time would not be equitable from a compensation standpoint. Platform: Justify expenditures against measurable benefits

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Municipal and County Government

HB423, relative to accessory dwelling unit uses allowed by right. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 14-6**

HRA Analysis: Bill increases the number of ADUs allowed by right to 2 units & maximum size to 1K sq. ft. Bill constitutes statewide land use mandate & overrides local control/land use ordinances. Republican Platform: Taxes & Spending- Maintain local control of taxes & spending designed to support local services; Gov't Structure- Support concept of people's veto.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Public Works and Highways

HB189, renaming a portion of route 140 in Gilmanton in honor of Private First Class Nicholas Cournoyer. **OTP Vote: 13-0**

HRA Analysis: Renames a portion of Route 140. No platform or Constitution positions identified.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB480, relative to the intersection between route 302 and East Conway Road in Conway. **ITL Vote: 15-0**

HRA Analysis: This bill seeks to increase the size of the proposed road. Platform: Justify expenditures against measurable benefits

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB511, relative to requiring the department of transportation to do road maintenance and repairs according to its complete streets program **ITL Vote: 15-0**

HRA Analysis: This bill seeks to require planning board approval all road work. Platform: Minimize business regulations, permits, licenses and paperwork.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Resources, Recreation and Development

HB205, relative to testing private wells. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: This bill requires that installers of new well pumps test the water for 20 common contaminants/compounds, the amendment makes it opt-in. Violates the Constitution - Part 1st Article 2b Right to privacy Platform: Recognize that Private Property owners are the most effective land stewards and have a fundamental right to freely use and enjoy their property. Violates Part 1st Article 28 A - Unfunded mandate.

HRA Recommendation: Support Amendment 2023-1026h OK to Table

Science, Technology and Energy

HB139, relative to the definition of "municipal host" for purposes of limited electrical energy producers. **without recommendation**

HRA Analysis: This bill expands "municipal host to permit service of "political subdivisions" in more than one municipality. It also adds housing authorities, quasi-public entities and Pease Development Authority to the list of municipal customers eligible for service, therefore expanding the amount of net metering possible. Net Metering shifts costs to ratepayers not eligible for net metering benefits. Platform: Work to reduce energy costs. Oppose all laws, programs and mandates from local, national and international organizations and governments contrary to our principles including but not limited to educational standards, UN programs, Int'l treaties, sustainable development initiatives and wealth redistribution plans, and punitive environmental controls.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB142, relative to the operation of the Burgess Biopower plant. **Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 18-2**

HRA Analysis: This bill forgives the \$48M accrued during the grace period granted during the General Court's interference with the PPA and returns Burgess and Eversource to the remaining terms of the PPA. Platform: Free people, free markets and free enterprise vs. Platform: Support cost efficient means to protect, develop and market forest products.

HRA Recommendation: Vote Your Conscience

Ways and Means

HB486, relative to vehicle registrations and reciprocal toll collection enforcement agreements. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 18-2**

HRA Analysis: This bill removes the power of Maine & Massachusetts to prevent you from selling your vehicle or even registering it until all tolls and fines are paid. This is a State Sovereignty issue, excessive fines for the penalty, the future problem is that no one will have a choice on how to pay tolls, get an EZ Pass or pay extra fees to receive a bill and make sure it is paid in full. This is akin to allowing the EZ Pass system to have access to your banking information or you can prepay and let them use your money until you go through the tolls - For those that cannot afford to do this, they are penalized with additional costs for going through the tolls. Part 1st, Article 18 - Penalties to be proportioned to offenses. Platform: Prefer incentives to penalties and issue warning before fines.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL Support OTP

HB510, relative to removing the exemption for premium cigars from the tobacco tax. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 15-5**

HRA Analysis: Increases taxes on Cigars, Platform: Strongly oppose new taxes and fees

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB607, relative to the regulation of games of chance. **Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 12-7**

HRA Analysis: These changes will help to keep NH charitable gaming facilities competitive with surrounding states and bill makes permanent the current restriction on the number of facilities that can offer historic horse racing; that restriction is currently scheduled to expire on July 1, 2024. Platform: Reject expanded casino and video lottery gambling as a means to balance the budget or increase spending

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL