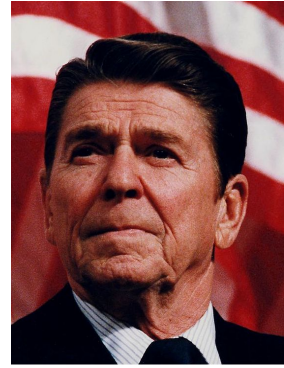


House Republican Alliance Recommendation Sheet



"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 3, 2024
Regular Calendar

Children and Family Law

HB185, relative to the determination of parental rights and responsibilities based on shared parenting and shared access to the child's records. **Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 9-7**

HRA Analysis: Bill establishes approximately equal parenting time between each child and both parents. Platform: fundamental role and responsibility of both parents in the care of children.

HRA Recommendation: Support amendment 2023-2378h and OTP/A

HB475, establishing a right to submit evidence and testimony in family court proceedings. **OTP/A Vote: 16-0**

HRA Analysis: Bill gives judges discretion as to whether or not to accept evidence with the provision that a reason is provided. This will help supervising judges to administer corrective actions. Platform: Ensure due process rights of those accused of child abuse or neglect. Support the people's oversight of the judiciary through their elected Legislature.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

HB535, requiring an attorney for a child who is the subject of a proceeding in a family court case. **OTP/A Vote: 15-1**

HRA Analysis: This measure is designed to help to meet the needs of the child as a subject of a court proceeding; up to assigning an attorney. Platform: Maintain the fundamental role and responsibility of both parents in the care, upbringing and discipline of their children.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP or Support OTP/A

Commerce and Consumer Affairs

HB225, relative to prohibiting the use of currency that could be detrimental to privacy rights. **Int. study Vote: 14-5**

HRA Analysis: This measure prohibits the use of CBDC (Central Bank Digital Currency) in New Hampshire. Bill could enable govt surveillance or transactions, purchase restrictions and potential phasing out of cash. Unprecedented government visibility & control over finances of NH Citizens. NH Constitution, Part 1, Article 2b - Right to Privacy

HRA Recommendation: Support IS

HB227, relative to fair access to financial services. **Maj. Int. study; Min. ITL Vote: 10-9**

HRA Analysis: This bill prohibits banks and financial institutions from engaging in discriminatory practices when providing financial services. Needs further study and analysis. Part 1, Article 1 - Equality of men, origin and object of government.

HRA Recommendation: Support IS

HB645, relative to the establishment of decentralized autonomous organizations as legal entities within the state. **Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 17-2**

HRA Analysis: This bill instructs the Secretary of State to implement procedures for a DAO (Decentralized Autonomous Organizations) registry to allow for use with public blockchain networks. Platform: Remove barriers to business formation and encourage small businesses.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

HB113, relative to the physical fitness performance requirements for law enforcement officers. **without recommendation Vote: 10-10**

HRA Analysis: This bill repeals the police standards & training 3 year requirement in effort to help recruiting and return control of the local department. All ages and skill level can be used in police work. Platform: We believe, above all else in the founding principles that all people are created equal, endowed by our Creator with the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, unimpeded by intrusive government regulation and control.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

HB470, relative to fentanyl test strips and other drug checking equipment. **Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 12-8**

HRA Analysis: This bill creates a definition for harm reduction which could make the state responsible for paying for every reason why a person may feel the need to do drugs. This is a gross expansion of government spending and power. Platform: Justify expenditures against measurable benefits.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

SB249, relative to the release of a defendant pending trial. **OTP/A Vote: 20-0**

HRA Analysis: The bill provides that an arrested individual will appear before a magistrate for a bill hearing within 24 hours. Part 1, Article 15 - No subject shall be held to answer for any crime, or offense until ...

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

Education

HB147, relative to membership of the advisory committee on the education of students with disabilities. **without recommendation Vote: 10-10**

HRA Analysis: This bill is an attempt to bring the State Advisory Committee on the Education of Students with Disabilities(SAC) to a membership level that would be manageable but no agreement could be reached. Platform issue: dedication to limited government.

HRA Recommendation: Support TABLE. If fails, Support OTPA

HB267, relative to criminal records checks in school employment. **Maj. Int. study; Min. OTP/A Vote: 13-7**

HRA Analysis: HB267 enables districts to negotiate with unions for more frequent background checks but questions if that already can be done. No platform issue.

HRA Recommendation: support TABLE. If fails, no recommendation.

HB354, relative to chartered public school eligibility for state school building aid. **without recommendation Vote: 10-10**

HRA Analysis: This bill enables public charter schools to apply for school building aid through the same process used by public schools. It brings contradictory statute into compliance. Platform - support expanded education choices

HRA Recommendation: support OTP-A

HB437, relative to a reading assessment and intervention program. **Maj. Int. study; Min. OTP Vote: 12-8**

HRA Analysis: NH reading proficiency levels indicate half of students are not proficient. This bill would revise reading instruction but amendments were ruled non-germane. New legislation coming. Platform issue: Emphasize knowledge attainment and academic achievement

HRA Recommendation: support TABLE. If fails, support OTP

HB439, relative to the duty to provide an education and contracts with private schools. **without recommendation Vote: 10-10**

HRA Analysis: This bill updates a section of law that was missed changing the language of those receiving special ed services to "21 inclusive." Also repeals missed statute that allows school districts to contract with public or any private school for grades not offered including religious schools (town tuitioning) No current issues however . Part 2, Art 83, Platform - we support expanded education choices

HRA Recommendation: support TABLE. If fails, support OTP

HB505, relative to comprehensive mental health education in schools. **without recommendation Vote: 10-10**

HRA Analysis: This bill would add the requirement of teaching comprehensive mental health and takes responsibility for children's healthcare away from parents. Platform - that the liberty of parents to direct the upbringing, healthcare, education and well-being of their children is a fundamental right. Happiness and success are the result of individual effort, hard work and dedication to a purpose.

HRA Recommendation: Support TABLE. If fails, support Interim Study

HB553, relative to school district information on personnel salaries. **without recommendation Vote: 10-10**

HRA Analysis: This bill requires school districts to post on their website a list of all position titles and the annual or hourly salary. It also requires the listing of central office staff. DOE has agreed to post SAU staffing as reported by the districts. Platform issue: Expand openness and transparency

HRA Recommendation: Support TABLE. If fails, support OTPA

HB577, relative to state aid for special education pupils. **without recommendation Vote: 10-10**

HRA Analysis: Although there is a need to address the funding of special education, the DOE found that the fiscal impact of this bill was indeterminable. More study is needed for the cost and expansion of eligibility. Platform issue: Justify expenditures against measurable benefits

HRA Recommendation: Support TABLE. If fails, support Interim Study

HB628, requiring certain non-public schools or education service providers that accept public funds to perform background checks on all employees and volunteers. **without recommendation Vote: 10-10**

HRA Analysis: This bill requires background checks for employees and volunteers of any non-public school, education service provider or home education program that accepts students receiving EFAs. This includes parents homeschooling their children while utilizing EFAs. Platform - Decisions in regard to the upbringing, healthcare, education and well-being of children should be the free choice of parents, acting on the children's behalf, unimpeded by intrusive government regulation and control. Const. Art 28-a

HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP or OTPA Support ITL

HB651, authorizing the department of education and local school districts to contract with transportation network companies to provide school transportation services. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP/A Vote: 11-9**

HRA Analysis: Allows for alternative, safe and cost-effective, method of school transportation and a new Senate bill is coming.. Platform - limit spending

HRA Recommendation: support TABLE. If fails, support OTPA

SB151, relative to mental health education. **without recommendation Vote: 10-10**

HRA Analysis: Adds mental health to adequate education section of law and thus to costs which would be raised in current court cases. Platform: Remove mandates, particularly unfunded mandates. Happiness and success are the result of individual effort, hard work and dedication to a purpose.

HRA Recommendation: Support TABLE. If fails, support ITL

SB218, establishing an early educator professional development grant. **without recommendation Vote: 10-10**

HRA Analysis: New grant program for teachers of at least half a million dollars plus new staff. Platform: Justify expenditures against measurable benefits; Prioritize programs to ensure affecting spending.

HRA Recommendation: Support TABLE. If fails, support ITL

Election Law

HB115, relative to changing the date of the state primary election. **Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 13-7**

HRA Analysis: No Constitution or Platform issues

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB116, relative to fees and primary petitions required for primary ballot election access. **OTP/A Vote: 16-4**

HRA Analysis: Amends the cost to run for State Representative Platform; Minimize business regulations, permits, licenses and paperwork

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

HB345, enabling ranked-choice voting for state party primary elections and municipal elections. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 12-8**

HRA Analysis: No Constitution or Platform issues

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB350, relative to ranked-choice voting. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 14-6**

HRA Analysis: No Constitution or Platform issues

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB447, relative to the purchase of election equipment. **OTP/A Vote: 19-1**

HRA Analysis: RSA 656:43 says it best: "Any town or city authorizing the use of an electronic ballot counting device for the counting of ballots shall pay the cost of lease or purchase" This bill should be ITL. Platform says: Maintain local control of spending and taxes designed to support local services. In this case, this is not downshifting costs because it is totally voluntary for towns/cities use or not to use ballot counting devices.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP/A
Support ITL

HB463, relative to the establishment of an election information portal. **Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 16-4**

HRA Analysis: This entire bill opens election security and privacy information going forward and will be easier to manipulate, corrupt and breach. Constitution - Part 1st, Article 2 B Right to Privacy

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Environment and Agriculture

HB369, establishing a task force to provide energy relief on farms. **Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 10-9**

HRA Analysis: This bill \$100,000 to set up a program (unh ext?) to help farmers find grant money to find solutions for assistance with energy efficiency needs. This cost funds a FTE position. Platform: Justify expenditures against measurable benefits; Prioritize programs to ensure effective spending.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP/A

HB602, relative to landfill siting. **Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 13-6**

HRA Analysis: Bill was rewritten to create a pre-application process that DES can easily assess to determine landfill suitability - Platform: Require that all energy and infrastructure projects, constructed within NH, be constructed in a manner which does not negatively affect NH's natural beauty and personal property values.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP/A

Executive Departments and Administration

HB559, establishing a state retirement plan group for new state employee members of the retirement system. **without recommendation Vote: 10-10**

HRA Analysis: Creates a defined contribution retirement plan with 5% employer contribution for new hires allowing a system that is portable, greater return potential, flexible and transferable to beneficiaries. Platform: government employees have benefits similar to private sector. Part 1, Article 38

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

HB644, relative to regulating barbers, cosmetologists, and estheticians. **Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 12-7**

HRA Analysis: Allows certain low risk procedures (hair styling, makeup application & threading) commercially without a licenses. Platform: reduce regulations and licenses.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

Finance

HB91, relative to privacy obligations of the department of health and human services. **Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 18-2**

HRA Analysis:

HRA Recommendation:

HB212, appropriating funding for investigations, testing, and monitoring relative to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances. **OTP Vote: 20-0**

HRA Analysis:

HRA Recommendation:

HB230, directing the department of agriculture, markets, and food to employ an electronic data processing system for all registrations under its purview. **OTP Vote: 18-0**

HRA Analysis:

HRA Recommendation:

HB272, increasing chartered public school per pupil funding. **OTP/A Vote: 19-1**

HRA Analysis:

HRA Recommendation:

HB276, (New Title) establishing the cyanobacteria mitigation loan and grant fund. **OTP/A Vote: 17-3**

HRA Analysis:

HRA Recommendation:

HB282, relative to including certain children and pregnant women in Medicaid and the children's health insurance program. **Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 12-8**

HRA Analysis: This bill would appear to waive the 5 year waiting period for health insurance. Others that would be allowed to participate immediately: green card holders, Temporary Protected Status, Asylum seekers, and domestic violence victims. Constitution violation: Part 1, Article 10 Government being instituted for the common benefit, protection and security of the whole community and not for the private interest or emolument of any one man, family or class of men.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP; Support ITL

HB300, prohibiting the disposal of certain food waste. **OTP/A Vote: 20-0**

HRA Analysis:

HRA Recommendation:

HB347, establishing a superior court land use review docket. **Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 16-4**

HRA Analysis:

HRA Recommendation:

HB420, relative to the availability and funding for the dual and concurrent enrollment program by the community college system and making an appropriation therefor. **Maj. OTP; Min. ITL Vote: 19-1**

HRA Analysis:

HRA Recommendation:

HB436, relative to group II retirement under transition provisions in the retirement system. **OTP/A Vote: 17-8**

HRA Analysis: As amended, this bill simply puts \$50 million from the surplus into the retirement system, paying off some of the unfunded liability. No platform or constitutional issue identified.

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation

HB462, making an appropriation to the solid waste management fund and targeting food waste reduction and diversion. **OTP/A Vote: 20-0**

HRA Analysis:

HRA Recommendation:

HB468, making an appropriation to the department of education for an attorney to recodify education laws. **OTP/A Vote: 25-0**

HRA Analysis: Because of duplication of sections in statutes in Education RSA's, this bill will correct mistakes. Will allow changes to be analyzed for 28a issues. Platform: justify expenditures against measurable benefits.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

HB529, relative to additional aid grants for schools based on free and reduced price meals and fiscal capacity disparity. **OTP/A Vote: 20-0**

HRA Analysis:

HRA Recommendation:

HB540, relative to adequate education grant amounts for pupils receiving special education services. **OTP Vote: 20-0**

HRA Analysis:

HRA Recommendation:

HB546, relative to the school building aid program. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 13-12**

HRA Analysis: The current program encourages new buildings for a declining school enrollment. Platform "Justify expenditures against measurable benefits"

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB560, establishing a contact person notification program to assist law enforcement personnel who have contact with a person with mental or physical disabilities and making an appropriation therefor. **OTP Vote: 19-0**

HRA Analysis:

HRA Recommendation:

HB565, relative to expanding Medicaid to include certain postpartum health care services. **without recommendation**
Vote: 25-0

HRA Analysis:

HRA Recommendation:

HB571, relative to the cost of living adjustments for certain group II retirees in the New Hampshire retirement system.
without recommendation **Vote: 25-0**

HRA Analysis:

HRA Recommendation:

HB601, relative to state participation in the Medicaid direct certification program for free and reduced price school meals. **Maj. OTP; Min. OTP; Min. OTP/A** **Vote: 13-7**

HRA Analysis: The bill is a directive for DHHS and DOE to seek participation in a federal program to use Medicaid enrollment to register students in the free and reduced meals programs. It would eliminate the local family application process and probably increase local funding based on higher number of students receiving free and reduced differentiated aid. This is already done for SNAP and TANF recipients. An issue is that none of these programs are in state law or rules. They are only department agreements with federal agencies that require data matching using confidential student information. We are told that the processes do (and will for Medicaid) provide an opt-out ability for parents but there was DHHS testimony that the SNAP and TANF opt-outs had been terminated and working to restore. The floor amendment will put this Medicaid program in statute, require parental opt in rather than just opt-out and also require DHHS and DOE to certify the programs complies with all federal and state laws. Constitution Part first Active 2b. Right of privacy

HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP and OTPA

HB614, (New Title) making an appropriation to the department of health and human services to fund the Merrimack, New Hampshire Kidney Cancer Incidence Phase 3 Feasibility study. **OTP/A** **Vote: 19-1**

HRA Analysis:

HRA Recommendation:

HB620, (New Title) establishing a division of early learning in the department of education and relative to a pre-kindergarten pilot program. **without recommendation** **Vote: 13-12**

HRA Analysis: The original bill would have stood up an entire department for a pre-k pilot program. This would have likely increased pressure to continue it after the pilot. The amendment would, instead of a department, put the pilot under DOE. In either case there is evidence that putting children that young into school can be harmful and little evidence that it helps. In some ways it's a government funded day care. Platform: Maintain the fundamental role and responsibility of both parents in the care, upbringing and discipline of their children.; Platform: limited government

HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP & OTP/A; Support ITL

HB638, relative to the extraordinary need grants to schools. **Maj. OTP; Min. ITL** **Vote: 19-1**

HRA Analysis:

HRA Recommendation:

SB128, relative to payment for legal services for persons involuntarily admitted for mental health services. **Maj. OTP/A; Min. OTP** **Vote: 17-3**

HRA Analysis:

HRA Recommendation:

SB239, (New Title) relative to the use of harm reduction services to treat alcohol and other substance misuse. **without recommendation** **Vote: 13-12**

HRA Analysis: Harm reduction bill - we need to be fiscally responsible and this bill does not define the term of harm reduction appropriately to the level it should be. Platform Privatize programs and functions that can be handled more effectively by the private sector.

The bill's supporters say it won't support safe injection sites, but the bill doesn't say that. What else might they use this \$ \$ for?)

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

SB263, extending the New Hampshire granite advantage health care program and reestablishing the commission to evaluate the effectiveness and future of the New Hampshire granite advantage health care program. **without recommendation Vote: 13-12**

HRA Analysis: Bill continues a social medicine program to those that are not working or only working part time. NHGOP platform: Support the repeal of Obamacare and oppose its implementation in New Hampshire NHGOP Platform: Sunset programs and regulations to force periodic reevaluation.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

SB267, (New Title) requiring the commissioner of the department of environmental services to consider "cumulative impacts analysis" in rules and statutes. **OTP/A Vote: 19-0**

HRA Analysis: Bill creates one new classified position in government to oversee 'Cumulative Impacts' are to programs within the Department of Environmental Services; Platform "Privatize programs and functions that can be handled more effectively by the private sector" Platform: justify expenditures against measurable benefits.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs

HB264, relative to amendments and corrections to birth records. **without recommendation Vote: 10-10**

HRA Analysis: This bill allows for the gender designation on the birth certificate to be changed upon receipt of a notarized statement from a licensed and qualified health care provider state the gender of the individual going forward. Platform: Prioritize programs to ensure effective spending. Minimize business regulations, permits, licenses and paperwork.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB368, relative to protections related to receiving gender-affirming health care or gender-affirming mental health care. **without recommendation Vote: 10-10**

HRA Analysis: This bill protects medical professionals from civil or criminal suits in other states. It also protects medical records from subpoena. Many of these issues have serious legal and health complications that can not be known at this time. Platform: Maintain the fundamental role and responsibility of both parents in the care, upbringing and discipline of their children. US Constitution: Article 4, Section 2 A Person charged in any State with Treason, Felony, or other Crime, who shall flee from Justice, and be found in another State, shall on Demand of the executive Authority of the State from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the State having Jurisdiction of the Crime.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB619, prohibiting gender transition procedures for minors, relative to sex and gender in public schools, and relative to the definition of conversion therapy. **without recommendation Vote: 10-10**

HRA Analysis: Bill would require a person considering genital gender reassignment surgery (unless injured, diseased or malignant) to reach the age of majority (18). Providers claim safety and efficacy but are unable to provide supporting data. Platform: Support the moral and ethical right of informed consent with regard to all medical treatment and intervention.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

Judiciary

HB283, to limit application fees charged to prospective residential tenants. **OTP/A Vote: 16-4**

HRA Analysis: Bill as amended was agreed upon by NH Apartment Association and NH Rental Property Owners Association. It seeks to stop deceptive practice of listing units and collecting fees without intention of renting unit. Initial bill sought to control the fee for all landlords and is against this. Platform: economies flourish when all people retain as much of their hard earned income as possible. Part 2 Art 83- protected against conspiracies.

HRA Recommendation: Support amendment and opt/a. If amendment fails, support ITL.

HB314, relative to the expectation of privacy in the collection and use of personal information. **OTP/A Vote: 17-1**

HRA Analysis: Bill as amended provides that individuals have a reasonable expectation of privacy with their personal information. Platform: Protect the privacy of individuals from government agencies. Part 1 Art. 2-b: Right of privacy.

HRA Recommendation: Support Amendment and OTP/A

HB396, relative to state recognition of biological sex. **without recommendation Vote: 10-10**

HRA Analysis: Bill as amended allows for biological sex to be utilized in 3 circumstances: 1. Multi use bathrooms; 2. Athletic/sporting competitions; 3. Facilities of involuntary commitment. Platform in support: traditional families are the foundation of strong communities. Part 1 Art. 3- ensure protection of others. *Support the bill, even if the amendment fails.*

HRA Recommendation: Support K. Perez amendment and OTP/A. If amendment fails, support OTP.

HB652, relative to nonpublic sessions under the right to know law. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP/A Vote: 16-4**

HRA Analysis: Bill as amended was last minute and did not have a hearing nor vetting, and due to the nature of it, it could have many unintended consequences. It requires 48 hours notice and the right to be present for a person who may be discussed at a meeting. Concern if there was wrongdoing by an employee, such as one stealing money, that alerting them may allow them to steal more in the meantime. While Part 1 Art. 8 supports transparency, the measure is 'reasonableness' and as written, there was bipartisan concern if it was 'reasonable'.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL

SB255, relative to the expectation of privacy. **OTP/A Vote: 17-3**

HRA Analysis: Bill as amended establishes consumer privacy and rights. Advances privacy protections as supported by Part 1 Art. 2-b.

HRA Recommendation: Support Amendment and OTP/A

Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services

HB190, relative to the duration of unemployment benefits. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 19-1**

HRA Analysis: This bill was recommended ITL with the agreement of the sponsor. The intent was to lower taxes by reducing the payment of unemployment benefits. It follows the model successfully employed by Florida where duration of benefits is tied to the prior year's unemployment rate. With Florida and NH already enjoying similarly low rates of unemployment tax, it is not clear that this would further reduce rates without unintended and unwanted side effects. The platform requires that we "cut spending and cost of government at every possible turn" but more scrutiny is necessary to determine whether this bill could be crafted to do so.

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation

HB232, adopting section 1910 OSHA standards for public sector employees in New Hampshire. **without recommendation Vote: 10-10**

HRA Analysis: Worker safety for State, municipal, and county workers in NH is regulated by NH's Department of Labor. Concern has been expressed whether they are adequately fulfilling their role in this respect. This bill, a result of years of advocacy, would require the Department to adopt rules so as to provide "protection at least as effective" as the OSHA sections applicable to government work. Republicans on the committee objected to the potential unfunded mandate resulting from a requirement that additional and more stringent safety regulations be placed upon the State's subdivisions. It would also potentially increase cost in all State departments seeing extra regulation as well as divert funds normally returned to the General Fund as a result of the NHDOL budget surplus. NH Constitution article 28-A prohibits us from expanding or modifying programs or responsibilities to any political subdivision in such a way as to necessitate additional local expenditures, which this would almost certainly do. The GOP platform also opposes "downshifting" of costs as well as requires us to justify expenditures against measurable benefits. This bill entrusts the DOL with that function without any assurance that they would prioritize these important principles.

HRA Recommendation: Either amendment is better than the original bill language and the amendment 2023-2409h removes the unfunded mandate. Whichever version passes, vote ITL

Legislative Administration

HB301, relative to recusal by members of the general court for conflicts of interest. **OTP/A Vote: 13-0**

HRA Analysis: This bill was amended to simplify the language and description of conflict of interest in relation to a legislator's vote on a particular measure. Part 2, Article 7 of the NH Constitution states "no member of the general court shall take fees, be of counsel or act as an advocate in any cause before either branch of the Legislature"

HRA Recommendation: Support Table

Municipal and County Government

HB313, relative to the reductions from the default budget for official ballot town meetings. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP/A Vote: 11-9**

HRA Analysis: This bill as amended requires that salary and benefit reductions resulting from position turnover occurring prior the public budget hearing be included in the definition of "default budget" in an official ballot (SB2) town or district. The amended bill also clarifies that the default budget includes "obligations previously incurred by law" but not "obligations previously incurred". Republican Platform: We believe that low taxes are the result of low spending; 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 ITL & Support OTP/A

Resources, Recreation and Development

HB194, requiring the director of the division of archives and records management to compile and maintain a list of public monuments. **Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 13-7**

HRA Analysis: Expands government. Director can take on this task without a new law. Platform: Prioritize programs to ensure effective spending; Justify expenditures against measurable benefits.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP/A Support ITL

HB434, relative to flying drones in state parks. **ITL Vote: 17-3**

HRA Analysis: Rules exist for flying drones in state parks, it is allowed. Expanding use of drones could lead to expanded government. Platform: Prefer incentives to penalties and issue warnings before fines.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Science, Technology and Energy

HB166, relative to the elimination of useful thermal energy from renewable energy classes. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 19-1**

HRA Analysis: All Renewable energy Credits (RECs) are for production sources that generate electricity except for the thermal energy credit (for wood heat boilers). No Constitutional issues, Platform: Minimize business regulations, permits, licenses and paperwork; Support cost-efficient means to protect, develop and market agricultural, forest and high value natural resource products; Work to reduce energy costs...

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB381, relative to the system benefits charge. **ITL Vote: 19-1**

HRA Analysis: This bill ends the annual adjustment of the electric rate system benefit charge now based on a 3-year average of the CPI to an adjustment by legislation or by the Fiscal Committee of the Gen Court. Constitution Part 1, Art 12 - only the General Court may authorize taxation

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB458, relative to participation in net energy metering by small hydroelectric generators. **OTP/A Vote: 20-0**

HRA Analysis: A non-germane amendment vacated the original bill and established a commission on assessing of Power Generators; re establishes the commission to recommend a uniform approach to the taxation by state and municipal authorities of the 59 power generation facilities in the state.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB609, relative to energy facility siting. **OTP/A Vote: 20-0**

HRA Analysis: As amended, the bill revises the membership of the Site evaluation Committee for energy facility siting, intending to improve meeting and process efficiency. No Constitutional issues: Platform: remove barriers to business formation; Minimize business regulations, permits, licenses and paperwork ; Foster an attitude of assistance and cooperation with business & increase responsiveness

HRA Recommendation: OTP/A

HB631, relative to electric utility smart meter gateway devices. **ITL Vote: 11-9**

HRA Analysis: The bill requires utilities to provide customers with the option to purchase smart meter gateway devices. Note: a smart meter gateway device has no value if the utilities does not provide time of day service costs. Platform: Justify expenditures against measurable benefits; Prioritize programs to ensure effective spending.

HRA Recommendation: ITL

State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs

HB229, relative to requiring an official declaration of war for the activation of the New Hampshire national guard. **without recommendation Vote: 8-11**

HRA Analysis: Bill as written prohibits National Guard state Partnership program. Bill as written prohibits humanitarian and civic assistance. Article 10 outlines the President of the US can call on the National Guard at any time for various purposes. Title 32 is state controlled but Federally funded enacts National Guard for National Disasters, pandemics, drill activities, and trainings etc. Floor Amendment addresses these key issues with the bill. NH Constitution - Part 1st Article 7 - State Sovereignty - The People of this state have the sole and exclusive right of governing themselves as a free, sovereign, and Independent state... Amendment addresses use of National Guard for non wartime uses, ie natural disasters.

HRA Recommendation: Support FLAM - 2023-0325 Support OTP/A

Transportation

HB375, relative to the licensure of nonresident aliens temporarily residing in New Hampshire. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 11-8**

HRA Analysis: Drivers licenses should only be issued to NH citizens. Platform: Prosecute violations of election law and ensure voting is done by New Hampshire resident citizens only, to prevent voter fraud. Support the requirement to produce positive identification upon both registering and voting.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB570, relative to Real ID compliant New Hampshire driver's licenses. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 11-8**

HRA Analysis: Drivers licenses should only be issued to NH citizens. The original reason for having "Real ID" was to prevent any non-citizens from getting a license in this country. People legally in this country maybe should use their license issued in the country that they come from. Constitution Part 1, Article 2b; Right to Privacy

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Ways and Means

HB121, relative to worldwide combined reporting for unitary businesses under the business profits tax. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP/A Vote: 10-9**

HRA Analysis: Once in law, this measure could prove to tax and manipulate NH businesses. Platform: Minimize business regulations, permits, licenses and paperwork. Justify expenditures against measurable benefits; Protect the Privacy of individuals from government agencies and employees who abuse their power and position,

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB450, relative to removing the net operating loss deduction limit on taxable income under the business profits tax. **OTP/A Vote: 19-0**

HRA Analysis: Removing the Net Operating Loss deduction for NH businesses is good for them and NH.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

HB494, relative to fees collected under the New Hampshire fertilizer law. **OTP/A Vote: 19-0**

HRA Analysis: currently fees collected under this law go to the general fund, this bill would put those fees into a fund for fertilizer testing which is not being done on a consistent basis. This testing is crucial to food security in the state. No platform or constitutional issues identified.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

SB112, relative to pari-mutuel pools and historic horse racing. **OTP/A Vote: 18-1**

HRA Analysis: This measure limits the number of licenses for gambling, repeals outdated requirements established in 2006 when charitable gaming and historic horse racing was established. Conflicting Platform issues: we believe in free people, free markets, free enterprise. verse: Minimize business regulations, permits licenses and paperwork.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

SB190, relative to advanced deposit account wagering. **Maj. ITL; Min. Int. study Vote: 15-4**

HRA Analysis:

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation