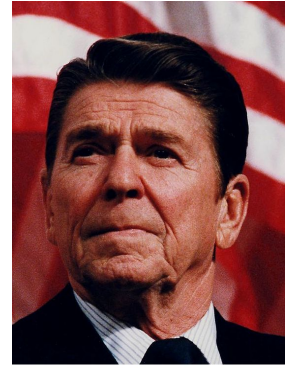


House Republican Alliance Recommendation Sheet



"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.

Thursday, February 1, 2024
Regular Calendar

Children and Family Law

HB1199, relative to services of the office of the child advocate for youth experiencing homelessness and making an appropriation therefor. **OTP Vote: 12-0**

HRA Analysis: HB1199 places under the supervision of the Office of Child Advocate persons under the age of 25 whose parents are unable to provide shelter, who live in a trailer park, or who share housing. This is written so as to include adults who are well employed and renting a mobile home with friends, inflating the costs. Those who are over the age of 18 are adults, and should be treated, and expected to perform as such. HB1199 is contrary to the NHGOP platform: Prioritize programs to ensure effective spending

HRA Recommendation: Support Table

HB1588, relative to court jurisdiction over persons receiving special education. **OTP Vote: 12-0**

HRA Analysis: HB1588 extends juvenile delinquency to cover the actions of Special Education students over the entire period of Special Education. This may require the State to seek reclassification a 21 or 22 year old accused of statutory rape or assault of a minor. This is contrary to N.H. Constitution Part 1, Article 14 ensuring the victim prompt justice; Part 1, Article 18 ensuring punishment fits the crime; NHGOP Platform Establish strict laws against sexual predators including life incarceration as appropriate.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP

HB1598, relative to the department of health and human services management of social security payments and veterans benefits for children in foster care. **Maj. OTP; Min. ITL Vote: 12-1**

HRA Analysis: HB1598 requires State management of State or federally mandated support of minors in the care of the State to ensure that the money fulfills its intended support of the minor. No constitutional or platform issues.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

HB1237, relative to the use of unmarked or stealth police vehicles for traffic enforcement. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 12-8**

HRA Analysis: Bill requires that police cars be marked on the outside. Accountability of government is important: Part 1, Article 8 - Accountability of magistrates and officers, public's right to know

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL - Support OTP

HB1372, relative to prohibiting torture. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 17-3**

HRA Analysis: This bill seeks to make illegal torture methods which are already illegal. This is referenced in federal statute.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs

HB1068, relative to establishing a blood lead level testing requirement for children entering day care and public schools.
without recommendation Vote: 10-10

HRA Analysis: Requires schools and daycares to keep records on lead testing, and require these overburdened operations to serve as an education source to parents regarding the need for lead testing. Constitution: Unfunded mandate on public schools, requiring private entities to serve as agents of the state. Platform: right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, unimpeded by intrusive government regulation and control & Oppose “downshifting” of costs and regulatory enforcement from state to local government

HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP - Support ITL

HB1520, establishing a family assistance car ownership pilot program in the department of health and human services.
without recommendation Vote: 10-10

HRA Analysis: The goal of this bill can be better achieved through private charity. Platform: Privatize programs and functions that can be handled more effectively by the private sector

HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP - Support ITL

Judiciary

CACR23, relating to the right to abortion. Providing that all persons shall have the right to abortion prior to 24 weeks.
without recommendation Vote: 10-10

HRA Analysis: PLATFORM: "Support the pre-born child's fundamental right to life and personhood under the Fourteenth Amendment, and implement all Constitutional and legal protections. "After 24 weeks, the state may not prohibit an abortion that, in the professional judgment of an attending physician, is necessary." It is entirely unspecified as to what "necessary" means and would enshrine a vague standard in our state constitution. "Necessary" could allow an abortion to be performed right up until birth simply because a woman desired one and a doctor felt it was necessary to honor that.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP - Support ITL

HB1002, relative to fees for records under the right-to-know law. **Maj. OTP/A; Min. ITL Vote: 12-8**

HRA Analysis: 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”. NH Constitution provides in Part First, Art. 8 "All power residing originally in, and being derived from, the people, all the magistrates and officers of government are their substitutes and agents, and at all times accountable to them. Government, therefore, should be open, accessible, accountable and responsive. To that end, the public's right of access to governmental proceedings and records shall not be unreasonably restricted...."
The sponsors of this bill believe that the current RTK requests are being abused and therefore charging a fee makes sense to limit this bad behavior, however, this fee could easily be seen as an 'unreasonable restriction' to someone of limited means from getting information that they need from government, and therefore the HRA opposes the bill.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP - Support ITL

HB1005, relative to judicial training. **OTP/A Vote: 18-1**

HRA Analysis: PLATFORM: "Implement reasonable and periodic oversight of judicial officers" and "Ensure due process rights of those accused of child abuse or neglect". This bill implements a training requirement for newly appointed judges, and continuing ed for all judges. The impetus for this bill was the Special Family Court Committee which identified concerns from people whose court experience was not uniform between judges due to differences in the application of law. It is believed these differences were due in part to a lack of training.

HRA Recommendation: Yes on OTP/A

HB1248, relative to restrictions on access to abortion. **ITL Vote: 19-1**

HRA Analysis: PLATFORMs: Support the pre-born child's fundamental right to life. & Require parental consent for minors seeking abortions. This bill amounts to outlawing abortion in NH, by implementing a 15 day ban, which is around the time of ovulation. It is in alignment with the first platform, but the second one, it would be in opposition to, since you could no longer get an abortion at all. Section one of the bill requires that the doctor perform an ultrasound to determine the age if the baby is 15 days old. Modern technology does not yet have this capability to determine gestational age at this stage of development and therefore the bill requires something that cannot yet be done medically to determine gestational age.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Science, Technology and Energy

HB1230, relative to establishing a committee to examine weatherization initiatives for homes in New Hampshire. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 14-6**

HRA Analysis: Bill creates a commission to examine more weather related initiatives. Platform: "Justify expenditures against measurable benefits"

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1398, relative to utility recovery of costs associated with net energy metering. **Int. study Vote: 20-0**

HRA Analysis: Examine where and how net metering costs should be on the utility bill.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB1499, establishing a committee to study the civilian clean energy, community resilience, and conservation corps **OTP/A Vote: 18-2**

HRA Analysis: Establishes a committee to study a civilian clean energy. Amendment requires additional cost/benefit analysis. Platform: "Justify expenditures against measurable benefits"

HRA Recommendation: Support amendment 2024-0102h
No Recommendation

State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs

CACR13, relating to slavery and involuntary servitude. Providing that slavery and involuntary servitude shall be prohibited in the state of New Hampshire. **OTP Vote: 20-0**

HRA Analysis: PLATFORM: "Our party was founded in the fight to end the despicable practice of slavery."

Committee concerns as to whether prohibitions against "Involuntary servitude" could negatively impact Corrections/Prison processes were satisfactorily addressed by DOC Commissioner Helen Hanks. This is already covered by the Federal Constitution. Does "Involuntary servitude" include working for the prison, being drafted into the armed services, keeping a pregnancy to term? Amendment 2024-0385h replaces entire measure with 13th Amendment from US Constitution. AT THE PRESENT TIME, the New Hampshire constitution does not explicitly prohibit slavery or involuntary servitude.

IF THE AMENDMENT IS ADOPTED, the New Hampshire constitution will prohibit slavery and involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted.

HRA Recommendation: Support FLAM 2024-0385h. If Amendment Fails - Support ITL

HB1179, relative to state park system fees for retired members of the armed forces. **OTP/A Vote: 20-0**

HRA Analysis: The bill allows any retired member of the armed forces to visit the parks to not be charged a fee. Platform "Respect New Hampshire's honored veterans by ensuring that they receive the benefits they have rightfully earned and deserve"

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

HB1338, relative to New Hampshire's enforcement of the Military Selective Service Act. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 14-6**

HRA Analysis: The Supreme court ruled in *Printz v. United States*, 521 U.S. 898 (1997) that the states are not required to enforce federal government laws.

Part First, Art. 7 "The people of this State have the sole and exclusive right of governing themselves as a free, sovereign, and independent State;"

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL - Support OTP

HR21, affirming the New Hampshire militia. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 13-7**

HRA Analysis: This measure sought to raise awareness and support local militia options, as opposed to the National Guard. No clear platform or constitutional issues here. There are concerns about potential vigilantism. Part First Art 24. "A well regulated militia is the proper, natural, and sure defense, of a State."

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL - Support OTP

Transportation

HB1391, allowing new vehicles purchased in the model year or before to be inspected in the second year after purchase. **Maj. OTP; Min. ITL Vote: 12-5**

HRA Analysis: No constitutional issue. For the platform, a slight reduction in regulatory intrusion only for those buying or leasing a new personal vehicle. Platform "Sunset programs and regulations to force periodic reevaluation"

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP