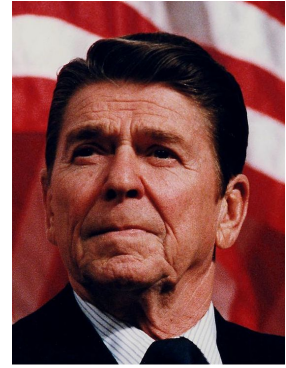


House Republican Alliance Recommendation Sheet



"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, May 9, 2024
Regular Calendar

Public Works and Highways

SB592, renaming Route 127 from Central Street in Franklin to the town line of Sanbornton as Officer Bradley Haas Memorial Highway. **OTP/A 1452h Vote: 18-0**

HRA Analysis: Names a portion of a state highway in Franklin for Officer Haas. No position taken

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

Children and Family Law

SB459, (New Title) establishing a committee to study the child protection act. **OTP/A 1688h Vote: 13-0**

HRA Analysis: Original bill establishes a committee to study the child protection act. As amended it adds in 3 bills which already passed the House and all 3 were recommended OTP by HRA.

HB475: Provides that parties in a family court proceeding shall have the right to present evidence and testimony, with judges having discretion to decline 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.

HB618: Was on Consent Calendar: Adds restrictions to the circumstances for an income assignment. Platform: "We believe that economies flourish when all people retain as much of their hard earned income as possible".

HB1263: Allows the appointment of parenting coordinators in high-conflict family court cases ONLY when both parties agree and sets qualifications and requirements for those acting as a parenting coordinator. The Special Committee on the Family Division of the Circuit Court heard testimony that having this tool available would be very beneficial to families, so they can decide their own upbringing of their children, instead of the court. Platform: "We believe that the children's best interest is to have a substantial relationship with each parent and the government should only interfere with that relationship with just cause."

HRA Recommendation: No Position on the underlying bill, study cmte. Support Amendment 2023-1759h

Election Law

SB537, allowing the processing of absentee ballots. **without recommendation Vote: 10-10**

HRA Analysis: This measure allows for the early processing of absentee ballots which encourages absentee voting which potentially allows for voting without proof of positive identification. Platform: to prevent voter fraud we support the requirement to produce positive identification upon both registering and voting.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs

SB349, relative to a voluntary home visiting program report by the wellness and primary prevention council. **without recommendation Vote: 10-10**

HRA Analysis: The bill requires an existing Wellness and Primary Prevention Council to create a new report. No platform or Constitutional issues identified

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

Thursday, May 9, 2024

Judiciary

SB185, (New Title) establishing a committee to study the various barriers to discharge for patients to be safely discharged from acute care facilities. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 11-9**

HRA Analysis: This bill establishes a study committee to determine what the barriers are to discharging patients from emergency rooms. The republicans on the committee voted ITL because the evidence made it very clear that everyone already knows what the barriers are and the Senate came up with the study committee simply to kick the can down the road because it couldn't agree on what to do. No recommendation on study committees.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

SB413, relative to civil actions for PFAS contamination. **without recommendation Vote: 10-10**

HRA Analysis: This bill creates an explicit cause of action for PFAS contamination and expands the basis of liability somewhat (a cause of action already exists under current law). There is no real debate on the bill as it came to us from the Senate. The amendment adds HB 1115, the termination of lease at end of tenancy, which passed the House earlier this year on a 194-179 vote. NH Const. "All men have certain natural, essential, and inherent rights among which are, the enjoying and defending life and liberty; acquiring, possessing, and protecting, property;"

HRA Recommendation: Support FLAM 1678h

SB422, changing several references and modifying language in parentage and birth records. **without recommendation Vote: 10-10**

HRA Analysis: This measure changes language in certain birth and parentage records to allow parents to be on the birth certificate without needing to go to court. The change potentially creates confusion with the new terms. Amendment 1697h, which passed the committee 20-0, keeps the language as it is today in regard to "mother" instead of the proposed update to "birth mother". Platform: "We believe that the liberty of parents to direct the upbringing, healthcare, education, and wellbeing of their children is a fundamental right. Decisions regarding the upbringing, healthcare, education, and wellbeing of children should be the free choice of parents, acting on the children's behalf, unimpeded by intrusive government regulation and control."

Proposed amendment 1698h, adds the text of HB 1115 (Termination at end of tenancy) and HB 1412 (the court reporter deregulation bill) to the Senate bill. HB1115, terminating a tenancy at the end of lease, passed the House earlier this year on a 194-179 vote. NH Const. "All men have certain natural, essential, and inherent rights among which are, the enjoying and defending life and liberty; acquiring, possessing, and protecting, property;"

HB1412 repeals state licensing of court reporters. Court reporters are used only privately to take and transcribe things like depositions, they are not used in court. Attorneys and others using stenographers can evaluate their qualifications on their own, when selecting whom to hire for the job; state licensing is unnecessary and serves primarily to limit free market competition. Platforms: "Minimize business regulations, permits, licenses and paperwork" and "we believe in free markets."

HRA Recommendation: Support amendment 1697h. Support FLAM 1698h. Support OTP/A if amendment passes

SB462, (New Title) relative to raising the cap on damages for wrongful death loss of consortium claims. **Maj. OTP; Min. Int. study Vote: 11-9**

HRA Analysis: This measure seeks to raise the cap on loss of consortium damages in wrongful death cases. No platform or Constitutional issues identified.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

SB507, extending the time to petition for a new trial in certain cases. **Maj. Int. study; Min. OTP Vote: 11-9**

HRA Analysis: This bill eliminates the 3 year limitation period for moving for a new trial in criminal cases where there is a claim of newly discovered evidence or new scientific understanding of evidence. US Constitution 5th Amendment: "nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law"

HRA Recommendation: Oppose IS, Support OTP

SB576, relative to reporting the death of voters. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 11-9**

HRA Analysis: This bill requires the executor or administrator of an estate to report the death of the person to the town clerk so that the supervisors of the checklist can be notified. Platform: "ensure voting is done by New Hampshire resident citizens only"

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL, Support OTP

Municipal and County Government

SB383, relative to local tax caps. **Maj. OTP/A 1520h; Min. ITL Vote: 10-8**

HRA Analysis: The bill and the amendment allow for local tax caps

Platform: Maintain local control of spending and taxes designed to support local services

HRA Recommendation: Support amendment 1520h. Support OTP and OTP/A

SB532, relative to requiring all municipalities and school governing bodies to post on their official town or school website within 30 days the amount of funds received by the state either by allocation or grant. **OTP/A 1569h Vote: 17-1**

HRA Analysis: This bill requires all municipalities and school governing bodies to post on their official town or school website within 30 days the amount of funds received by the state either by allocation or grant. Amendment 1659h requires posting of state funds for at least 90 days. FLAM 1802h corrects a one word drafting error in 1569h - "from the state instead of "by the state". Platform: "Promote accountability and transparency in education"

HRA Recommendation: Support Amendment 2024-1569. Support FLAM 2024-1802h. Support OTP/A

Resources, Recreation and Development

SB387, (New Title) relative to a state parks pass pilot program for recovery centers and community mental health centers.

Maj. Int. study; Min. OTP Vote: 11-9

HRA Analysis: This bill would require the state parks system to provide free park passes to an undetermined amount of mental health patients from select number of treatment centers using funds from an undetermined source during a 3 year pilot period with little provision for data collection on efficacy of the program. Platform: "government has a moral obligation to the people to be as cost effective as possible" Platform: "Justify expenditures against measurable benefits"

HRA Recommendation: Support Interim Study or ITL

SB589, relative to wastewater surcharges. **Maj. OTP; Min. OTP/A 1595h Vote: 19-1**

HRA Analysis: This is enabling legislation to allow local control of infrastructure resources and to permit sharing of wastewater capacity across municipal boundaries and to permit localities to charge other towns for this service, similar to sharing of water resources. It is pro-economic development, and pro-efficient use of resources. Platform: "Maintain local control of spending and taxes designed to support local services"

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

Ways and Means

SB432, (New Title) relative to advanced deposit account wagering and establishing a charitable third party financial intermediary program. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 13-6**

HRA Analysis: Technical bill to address discrepancies between federal and state law regarding simulcast horse race betting: No Platform or Constitutional issues identified.

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation.