

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 1, 2025
Regular Calendar

Executive Departments and Administration

SB74, relative to real property annual reporting requirements of state departments for permitting programs. **OTP Vote: 13-0**

HRA Analysis: This bill requires agencies issuing permits (primarily DES) that affect real property to report on how many are issued and the actual timing of such permits. We have statutory time limits, but anecdotally they take too long - we need the data.

Principle: Constitution: "Art. 8. 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."

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

Judiciary

SB146, relative to medical examiner's certificates and medical certification of the death record. **Maj. OTP; Min. ITL Vote: 10-6**

HRA Analysis: Currently, before a body can be cremated, the medical examiner has to view the body and issue a certificate. This bill allows for the medical examiner to issue the cremation certificate without viewing the body. It also removes the requirement for a physician or advanced medical practitioner to view the body before issuing a death certificate.

Principle: No platform or Constitutional issue

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation

Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services

SB67, relative to workers' compensation and resolution of payment disputes. **ITL Vote: 18-0**

HRA Analysis: As passed by the Senate, the bill sets a 45 day window after which a payment to a workers' comp provider cannot be disputed. The bill is intended as a cost controlling measure for workers' comp rates but, as passed by the Senate, still has details to be resolved.

Principle: No platform or Constitutional issue

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation

SB169, requiring employers to provide certain information regarding cost sharing to employees receiving workers' compensation benefits. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 10-9**

HRA Analysis: Adds notification requirements to employers who supplement workers' comp payments and therefore may require return of overpaid money.

Principle: Platform: Minimize business... paperwork

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

SB171, relative to required pay for remote work. **Maj. OTP/A 1520h; Min. ITL Vote: 10-9**

HRA Analysis: Current law requires that any employee who reports to work at an employer's request must be paid not less than 2 hours regular pay. The original bill, passed by the Senate, exempts employees who work remotely. That bill left in place special exemptions for employees of counties or municipalities (due to 28-A), and ski instructors (?due to having a good lobbyist?). Those special cases were inconsistent with Art. 10 of the NH Constitution. The House amendment treats everyone the same by repealing the section of law for everyone.

Principle: Platform: Minimize business regulations

Constitution: Art. 10. Government being instituted for the common benefit ... of the whole community, and not for the private interest or emolument of any one ... class of men ...

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A; OTP if amendment fails, it still improves the status quo.

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Resources, Recreation and Development

SB241, relative to construction of a public pier on Hampton Beach and making an appropriation therefor. **Maj. OTP; Min. ITL**
Vote: 9-7

HRA Analysis: Establishes a separate fund in the state treasury for the purpose of obtaining engineering services, siting, permitting, final design, construction, and ongoing maintenance of an accessible pier at Hampton Beach State Park. The fund is initially funded with \$1 by the state and is permitted to accept appropriations, gifts, grants, and bequests from individuals, corporations, foundations, government agencies, and public and private organizations and institutions for deposit into the fund.

Principle: No Platform or Constitutional issue

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation

Science, Technology and Energy

SB228, relative to the limitations on community customer generators. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 10-8**

HRA Analysis: This bill expands net metering for customer-generators from 100 Kw to 500 Kw, which will significantly increase net metering costs, shifting them to ratepayers. It expands municipal host net metering eligibility to include educational institutions and public housing authorities for more cost-shifting.

Principle: Platform: "Work to reduce energy costs..."; "Justify expenditures against measurable benefits".

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Ways and Means

SB60, relative to advanced deposit account wagering. **OTP Vote: 19-0**

HRA Analysis: This bill allows advanced deposit wagering on pari-mutual betting on horse racing, which currently already takes place in New Hampshire and is not subject to current regulation in this state. The Lottery Commission states this bill establishes a revenue sharing agreement where licensed advanced deposit wagering will pay the state 1.25% of handle on advanced deposit wagers from New Hampshire residents. This bill would increase state lottery revenue by \$212,500 per year.

Principle: No Platform or Constitutional issue

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation

SB63, relative to funding for the division of travel and tourism. **OTP Vote: 19-0**

HRA Analysis: In recent years, the definition of "net income" was changed to exclude the transfer to the Municipal Revenue Fund before the 3.15% of the net income from the Meals and Rooms (M&R) Tax is calculated. This change has unintentionally reduced the division's funding, impacting its ability to effectively promote New Hampshire as a tourism destination. This bill restores the original intent of the law by recalculating the 3.15% allocation before the transfer to the Municipal Revenue Fund.

Principle: No Platform or Constitutional issue

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation

SB73, relative to the operation of bingo games. **OTP/A 1470h Vote: 19-0**

HRA Analysis: Inflation adjustment bill for bingo games.

Principle: No Platform or Constitutional issue

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation

SB107, enabling the state treasurer to invest certain fish and game funds. **OTP Vote: 15-0**

HRA Analysis: Allows investments of funds with dividends and/or to be retained in the fund.

Principle: No Platform or Constitutional issue

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation

SB160, relative to the administration of raffles. **OTP Vote: 19-0**

HRA Analysis: Inflation adjustment bill for raffle tickets.

Principle: No Platform or Constitutional issue

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation

Removed from Consent Calendar

Children and Family Law

SB23, expanding the crime of endangering the welfare of a child. **OTP Vote: 15-0**

HRA Analysis: The unintended consequences of this bill could be dangerous. This bill, as written could be interpreted to make allowing a child to participate in recreational activities such as skiing or to the trampoline park, child endangerment, a class B felony.

Principle: Constitution: "Art. 18. All penalties ought to be proportioned to the nature of the offense" Platform: "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."

HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP

Housing

SB284, relative to the required maximum number of residential parking spaces. **OTP/A 1556h Vote: 14-1**

HRA Analysis: The bill leaves it up to property owners and residents to decide if they need more than one parking space per unit, rather than letting a town require 1.5 spaces. The Senate bill allowed towns to require 1.5 spaces for some kinds of property. The House amendment, mirroring the previously passed HB382, sets the allowed limit at one space for all residential properties.

Principle: Constitution: "Art. 2. All men have certain natural, essential, and inherent rights among which are, the enjoying and defending life and liberty; acquiring, possessing, and protecting, property." Platform: Work with municipalities to streamline planning and zoning barriers to business.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A