

House Republican Alliance Recommendation Sheet

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.



"Trust but Verify"

Thursday, February 19, 2026
Regular Calendar

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

HB1641, relative to petitions for certain orders of protection where the subject of the order is either released on bail or on probation. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 12-1**

HRA Analysis: This bill deals with bail processes and timing. Some changes from last year's bail reform haven't even gone into law yet, so it's too soon to make changes.

Principle: No constitutional or platform issues

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation

Education Funding

HB1557, modifying the state average expenditure per pupil relative to students in special education. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 10-8**

HRA Analysis: This bill modifies the required state aid for special education. It removes the cap and changes the formula to increase the amount paid by the state.

Principle: Platform: "Return educational funding and policy to the people at the local level."

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1563, relative to the special education aid formula. **OTP/A 0546h Vote: 18-0**

HRA Analysis: This bill modifies the required state aid for special education. The proposed formula changes aim to place greater fiscal responsibility at the district level.

Principle: Platform: "Return educational funding and policy to the people at the local level."

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

HB1574, authorizing school districts to extend free and reduced lunch benefits for special education students. **Maj. OTP/A 0632h; Min. ITL Vote: 17-1**

HRA Analysis: Special education students can stay in school until they turn 22, but they no longer qualify for free or reduced lunch benefits from the federal USDA lunch program after turning 21. This bill requires the Department of Education reimburse school districts for that final year.

Principle: No constitutional or platform issues

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation

HB1791, directing the department of education to establish a grant program at the post-secondary educational level for individuals with developmental disabilities, and making an appropriation therefor. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP/A 0449h Vote: 10-8**

HRA Analysis: This bill creates a new college grant program for developmentally disabled students. \$100,000 is allocated. All colleges currently comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act to accommodate disabilities.

Principle: Platform: "Always limit spending and growth of government."

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1799, relative to required state funding for providing an opportunity for an adequate education. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 10-8**

HRA Analysis: Modifies the state funding for providing an adequate education to \$7,356.01 per pupil, increasing state funding by \$600 million in FY27.

Principle: Platform: "Always limit spending and growth of government" and "Return educational funding and policy to the people at the local level."

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1803, rendering a recipient of an education tax credit scholarship ineligible to receive education freedom account funds in the same program year. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 10-8**

HRA Analysis: This bill would render a recipient of an Education Tax Credit scholarship ineligible to receive Education Freedom Account funds in the same program year.

Principle: Platform: "Expand education tax credits and support universal education freedom accounts."

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1826, relative to the cost of an opportunity for an adequate education. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 11-7**

HRA Analysis: This bill increases the state grant to school districts by nearly \$1,000 for every student who receives special education services effective July 1, 2027.

Principle: Platform: "Always limit spending and growth of government" and "Return educational funding and policy to the people at the local level."

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1831, repealing the education trust fund targeted aid cap. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 10-8**

HRA Analysis: This bill would repeal RSA 198:41, I(e), from last year's FY 26-27 budget bill; it limited the targeted aid component of the annual total education grant to \$3,750 per pupil for any municipality with an average daily membership in residence of more than 5,000 students.

Principle: Platform: Return educational funding and policy to the people at the local level.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1835, relative to the formula for distribution of aid to school districts. **Maj. ITL; Min. Int. study Vote: 10-8**

HRA Analysis: This bill replaces the existing grant of \$2,100 for each pupil receiving special education services with a requirement that the state reimburse 80 percent of the cost of all special education services. This would obligate the state to pay nearly \$800 million of the near \$1 billion special ed budget.

Principle: Platform: "Always limit spending and growth of government" and "Return educational funding and policy to the people at the local level."

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Education Policy and Administration

HB1467, establishing the New Hampshire Seal of Civic Excellence and Engagement program. **OTP/A 0522h Vote: 17-0**

HRA Analysis: As amended, this would establish a seal of Civic Excellence and Engagement upon high school graduation for high-achieving students in the disciplines of civics and social studies.

Principle: [Art.] 38. A frequent recurrence to the fundamental principles of the constitution, and a constant adherence to justice, moderation, temperance, industry, frugality, and all the social virtues, are indispensably necessary to preserve the blessings of liberty and good government....

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

HB1571, requiring the department of education to review statewide academic standards and curriculum and making an appropriation therefor. **OTP/A 0412h Vote: 16-1**

HRA Analysis: As amended, this bill directs the Department of Education to revise the academic standards for math, English, and science beginning in June 2026 and then every 10 years.

Principle: Platform: "Promote accountability and transparency in education..."

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

HB1792, prohibiting school districts and personnel from the instruction of critical race theory and LGBTQ+ ideologies in schools as well as establishing a private right of action for violations. **Maj. OTP; Min. ITL Vote: 9-8**

HRA Analysis: This bill prohibits the teaching of certain pedagogies, including but not limited to critical race theory, LGBTQ+ ideologies, identity based ideologies, and Marxist analyses. The bill creates a private right of action for parents and students who are aggrieved by a school violating these provisions.

Principle: Platform: prohibit public schools and universities from maintaining or funding diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) programs

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

Election Law

HB1083, requiring the disclosure of the source of certain political donations in state elections. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 9-8**

HRA Analysis: By requiring disclosure of the "original sources" of funds for independent expenditures, the bill would create additional administrative complexity and enforcement burdens for both regulated entities and the Secretary of State. Current campaign finance laws already impose robust disclosure requirements.

Principle: [Art.] 2-b. An individual's right to live free from governmental intrusion in private or personal information is natural, essential, and inherent...

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1600, requiring the division of motor vehicles to make available the opportunity to register to vote at the time of application for or renewal of a drivers license or nondrivers identification card. **OTP/A 0626h Vote: 16-0**

HRA Analysis: This bill requires the secretary of state, and municipal clerks ensure that each polling place has electronic access to the statewide voter registration database on each election day. It allows town clerks to query a database to confirm information that a prospective voter has already provided to the DMV, such as proof of citizenship.

Principle: Platform: "Ensure voting is done by New Hampshire resident citizens only...".

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

HB1627, creating a single primary ballot. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 14-2**

HRA Analysis: This bill is a "top-two" primary such as California has. It eliminates existing party based primary system for state and congressional elections with a single primary ballot allowing a vote for any candidate, regardless of party affiliation in a single-ballot, "non-partisan" primary. It would also eliminate party nomination mechanisms that have historically operated in primary elections.

Principle: No platform or constitutional issues identified

HRA Recommendation: No Recommendation

HB1838, establishing a voter-owned elections fund and commission and raising vehicle registration fees. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 10-7**

HRA Analysis: This bill creates the Voter-Owned Elections Fund and a Voter-Owned Elections Commission to provide public financing for Executive Council candidates. The bill raises funds for this program by increasing motor vehicle registration fees. The fiscal note exceeded \$1,000,000.

Principle: Platform: "Strongly oppose new taxes and fees, including an income, sales and capital gains tax..". & "Always limit spending and growth of government...".

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Executive Departments and Administration

HB1457, relative to natural organic reduction of human remains. **Maj. OTP/A 0560h; Min. ITL Vote: 10-4**

HRA Analysis: This bill allows for the natural organic reduction of human remains and provides regulation for the practice.

Principle: No constitutional or platform issues

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation

HB1458, relative to the licensing of massage, reflexology, structural integration, and Asian bodywork facilities. **Maj. OTP/A 0638h; Min. Int. study Vote: 9-5**

HRA Analysis: As amended, the bill will require the operator of a facility offering massage or bodywork services to be licensed and to obtain a proprietor license after providing a taxpayer ID number and passing a state police background check for sexual crimes, kidnapping, and human trafficking.

Principle: No constitutional or platform issues

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation

HB1469, relative to the licensing and inspections requirements for massage therapy establishments, and making an appropriation therefor. **OTP/A 0615h Vote: 13-1**

HRA Analysis: This bill requires that massage establishments be licensed through the Office of Professional Licensure and Certification (OPLC). The advisory board and office are responsible for establishing rules for the license.

Principle: No constitutional or platform issues

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation

HB1555, relative to the administration and enforcement of the state fire code. **OTP/A 0668h Vote: 14-0**

HRA Analysis: As amended, the bill will provide greater pathways for appeals of decisions and facilitate greater code flexibility when fire codes change.

Principle: Platform: Minimize business regulations, permits, licenses and paperwork.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs

HB1811, repealing statutory immunization requirements for children. **Maj. OTP/A 0644h; Min. ITL Vote: 10-8**

HRA Analysis: This bill eliminates the mandate for children to be vaccinated against certain diseases. This moves the choice back to the parents as our party platform states.

Principle: Platform: "The liberty of parents to direct the upbringing, healthcare, education, and wellbeing of their children is a fundamental right..." & "Require informed consent, free from coercion, with regard to all medical treatment and intervention." & [Art.] 3. When men enter into a state of society, they surrender up some of their natural rights to that society, in order to ensure the protection of others; and, without such an equivalent, the surrender is void.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose amendment; Support OTP; If OTP/A - Vote your conscience

Housing

HB1499, relative to additional grounds for eviction under the landlord and tenant statute. **Maj. OTP/A 0490h; Min. ITL Vote: 10-8**

HRA Analysis: This bill adds additional statutory grounds where a landlord may initiate eviction proceedings. It clarifies and strengthens enforcement mechanisms when tenants materially violate lease terms or statutory obligations.

Principle: Platform: "Recognizing that private property owners have a fundamental right to freely use and enjoy their property."

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

HB1732, relative to housing accessibility and voucher allocation in new multi-unit developments. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP/A 0456h Vote: 10-8**

HRA Analysis: This bill requires certain new multi-unit housing developments to comply with accessibility mandates and reserve a portion of units for voucher-eligible tenants. It imposes state-directed allocation requirements on private developments.

Principle: Platform: "Recognizing that private property owners have a fundamental right to freely use and enjoy their property." & "Minimize business regulations, and protect liberty above the power of government..."

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1786, relative to creating a state assessment on non-homestead luxury second homes to fund statewide housing development programs and address housing shortages and making appropriations therefor. **without recommendation Vote: 0-0**

HRA Analysis: This bill creates a state assessment on non-homestead luxury second homes and dedicates the revenue to statewide housing development programs. It also includes appropriations to fund housing-related initiatives aimed at addressing shortages.

Principle: Platform: "Strongly oppose new taxes and fees..." & "Always limit spending and growth of government..."

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

HB1814, establishing a 10-year strategic housing and infrastructure plan. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP/A 0452h Vote: 10-8**

HRA Analysis: This bill establishes a 10-year statewide strategic housing and infrastructure plan intended to guide long-term development policy. It centralizes planning objectives and coordination at the state level for housing and related infrastructure.

Principle: Platform: "Always limit spending and growth of government."

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

Judiciary

HB1130, relative to judicial performance evaluations. **Maj. OTP/A 0410h; Min. ITL Vote: 9-7**

HRA Analysis: This bill strengthens the evaluation of judges, by adding in-court observation and statistical analysis of case processing times. It requires judicial evaluations be publicly available. The amendment provides that the commentary contained in evaluations shall not be published in order to accommodate the legitimate concern that such commentary may be slanderous.

Principle: [Art.] 8. Government, therefore, should be open, accessible, accountable and responsive. & Platform: Implement reasonable and periodic oversight of judicial officers & Support the people's oversight of the Judiciary

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

HB1322, reestablishing the judicial conduct commission. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 15-1**

HRA Analysis: This legislation restores the Judicial Conduct Commission. The Court recognized the right of the legislature to conduct oversight to determine if impeachment is warranted. The original commission was deemed unconstitutional on narrow grounds regarding where the power of the legislature ends and the power of the Judiciary ends. [Art.] 73-a. This legislature recognizes the Court's administrative authority. Reviving the independent commission will help allay citizen (and legislator's) concerns that we have a Judiciary that answers to no one.

Principle: [Art.] 17. The house of representatives shall be the grand inquest of the state; and all impeachments made by them, shall be heard and tried by the senate.

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL; Support OTP

HB1639, establishing investigatory grand juries housed under the county sheriffs' offices. **Maj. Int. study; Min. OTP/A 0542h Vote: 14-2**

HRA Analysis: The original bill would have greatly expanded the grand jury process and grand jury powers. The amendment replaces the bill in its entirety and details the powers and duties of the grand jury, including how matters may be brought to the grand jury and the rights of the grand jury. It also requires that instructions on these rights and duties be given to members of the grand jury at least 10 days prior to their term of service. Currently, the grand jury can only move forward on issues presented by prosecutors.

Principle: Platform: "The liberty of the people must be protected above the power of the government." & "Provide instructions for juries in criminal proceedings that they have the power both to judge the facts and the application of the law to those facts."

HRA Recommendation: Oppose IS; Support 2026-0542h; Support OTP/A

Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services

HB1705, establishing an employee assistance program for small town and volunteer first responders and making an appropriation therefor. **Maj. Int. study; Min. OTP/A 0531h Vote: 11-9**

HRA Analysis: This bill would direct the State Employee Assistance Program to also service small town or volunteer first responders. The intent is to provide critical support for emergency workers whose employer might be too small to provide it.

Principle: No constitutional or platform issues

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation

Municipal and County Government

HB1427, limiting the authority of a municipality, county, or school district to issue bonds. **ITL Vote: 13-5**

HRA Analysis: This bill places strict limits on the power of municipalities, county govt, or school district to issue bonds for "Essential Infrastructure". It permits warrant articles for issuing bonds if a majority of eligible voters show up to vote and requires a super-majority to pass them.

Principle: Platform: "Limit growth of spending"; "Require supermajorities to raise taxes"; "Low taxes are result of low spending..."

HRA Recommendation: Oppose ITL; Support OTP

Resources, Recreation and Development

HB1603, requiring state agencies to provide current and verifiable evidence of a species presence before imposing any land use restriction related to that species' habitat. **Maj. OTP/A 0518h; Min. Int. study Vote: 8-7**

HRA Analysis: This bill as amended requires the Department of Fish and Game to adopt rules relative to procedures for verifying accuracy of records collected relative to threatened and endangered wildlife and ensures landowner permission is granted for the gathering of such record.

Principle: [Art.] 19. Every subject hath a right to be secure from all unreasonable searches and seizures of his person, his houses, his papers, and all his possessions. & [Art.] 12. ...But no part of a man's property shall be taken from him, or applied to public uses, without his own consent...

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A (0518h)

Support OTP

HB1752, requiring the creation of a ticket to follow timber through the harvesting and production process to establish a chain of custody.

Maj. OTP/A 0484h; Min. ITL Vote: 8-7

HRA Analysis: This bill as amended requires notice and approval to allow commercial scale timber harvesting. Harvesting must be coordinated with DFL and DES.

Principle: Platform: "Minimize business regulations, permits, licenses and paperwork"; "Justify expenditures against measurable benefits"; "Prioritize programs to ensure effective spending."

HRA Recommendation: Oppose OTP/A; Support ITL

Science, Technology and Energy

HB1539, authorizing electric utilities to issue AAA-rated bonds for the purpose of storm cost recovery and infrastructure resilience.

OTP/A 0409h Vote: 18-0

HRA Analysis: Permits securitization of the costs of major storms where the PUC determines that lower cost financing and extended recovery would be a prudent reduction/smoothing of ratepayers' bills.

Principle: Platform: "Work to reduce energy costs..."

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

HB1718, relative to authorizing energy storage in connection with net metering. **OTP/A 0582h Vote: 17-0**

HRA Analysis: Permits net metering of energy from a battery when the battery was charged from a source eligible for net metering or when under the control of the utility or battery manufacturer, if in preparation for a storm.

Principle: No Platform or constitutional issues identified.

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation.

HB1741, relative to the enrollment and use of distributed energy resource aggregations by electric utilities. **Maj. ITL; Min. Int. study Vote: 9-8**

HRA Analysis: Permits utility control of "virtual power plants" where utilities aggregate private energy resources (batteries, EVs, thermostats) dispatchable for lessen peak demand. Similar program already exists as part of NH Saves.

Principle: No Platform or constitutional issues identified.

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation.

HB1748, establishing the New Hampshire energy efficiency and resource development authority. **Maj. Int. study; Min. ITL Vote: 14-3**

HRA Analysis: Creates an energy efficiency and resource development authority that would facilitate nuclear power development and various energy efficiency programs.

Principle: Platform: "Keep government lean..." & "Foster an attitude of assistance and cooperation with business..."

HRA Recommendation: Vote your conscience.

HB1775, relative to utility ownership of natural gas and nuclear power generation facilities. **Maj. OTP/A 0594h; Min. ITL Vote: 11-6**

HRA Analysis: Enabling bill that permits utility ownership of small scale (< 5 MW) nuclear and gas power production as exists for solar already. Total investment may not exceed 10% of the utilities' distribution capacity in MW. Encourages entrepreneurial investment and development.

Principle: Platform: "Work to reduce energy costs..." & "Foster and attitude of assistance and cooperation with business and increase responsiveness."

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

HB1777, relative to the enhanced 911 system fund. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 12-5**

HRA Analysis: More tightly constrains the use of extended 911 funds, prohibiting their use for generally related yet ancillary safety department expenses.

Principle: No Platform or constitutional issues identified.

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation.

Transportation

HB1415, establishing a special veterans license plate and creates a fund and administrative programs from the proceeds of the sale of such plates. **OTP/A 0602h Vote: 15-0**

HRA Analysis: This bill authorizes special veterans license plates with the “Live free or Die” logo, for a fee of \$60. This fee will be transferred to the New Hampshire First for Veterans Number Plate Fund.

Principle: Platform: "Respect New Hampshire’s honored veterans by ensuring that they receive the benefits they have rightfully earned and deserve."

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

HB1492, relative to the regulation and appeal of motor vehicle towing from public highways. **Maj. OTP/A 0662h; Min. ITL Vote: 10-6**

HRA Analysis: This bill authorizes the department of safety to oversee and set fees for towing and wrecker services on state highways. It establishes an appeals process for fee disputes. As amended, it removes the ability for the DMV to suspend an individual’s drivers license due to not paying a towing debt.

Principle: [Art.] 18. All penalties ought to be proportioned to the nature of the offense. & [Art.] 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: Support OTP/A

HB1536, establishing penalties for unauthorized parking in designated electric vehicle and motorcycle spaces. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 9-6**

HRA Analysis: This bill prohibits non-conforming vehicles from parking designated EV spaces. It uses law enforcement to police parking rules on private property.

Principle: [Art.] 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: Support ITL

HB1758, relative to school bus drivers' certificates. **Maj. OTP; Min. ITL Vote: 8-7**

HRA Analysis: This bill waives New Hampshire Certification standards for school bus drivers if currently certified as a school bus driver in the state of Vermont.

Principle: No Platform or constitutional issues identified.

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation.