

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, April 23, 2026
Regular Calendar

Commerce and Consumer Affairs

SB482, establishing consumer protections for digital access transaction kiosks. **Maj. OTP/A 1526h; Min. OTP Vote: 10-8**

HRA Analysis: This bill as amended establishes consumer protections for digital self-service terminals (kiosks), including identity verification and a 72 hour hold time.

Principle: Conflicting Platform Issues:

Support the development of a robust ...technology infrastructure throughout NH/

Minimize business regulations, permits, licenses and paperwork

HRA Recommendation: Vote Your Conscience

SB528, prohibiting receiving compensation for lobbying on behalf of a foreign adversary. **Int. study Vote: 12-6**

HRA Analysis: This bill prohibits receiving compensation for lobbying on behalf of a foreign adversary (Russia, China, Iran, N Korea, Cuba). It includes monies coming from companies with >20% ownership by a foreign adversary. Defining the 20% threshold is problematic, hence Interim Study.

Principle: Platform: Oppose all laws from international organizations and governments contrary to our principles.

HRA Recommendation: Support IS

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

CACR11, (New Title) relating to sheriffs. Providing that there shall be no age limitation for a person to hold the office of county sheriff. **Maj. OTP; Min. ITL Vote: 7-5**

HRA Analysis: Removes Constitutional retirement age for county sheriffs

Principle: No platform or constitutional issues identified

HRA Recommendation: The HRA does not take a position on CACRs

SB460, relative to the offense of loitering or prowling. **Maj. OTP/A 1286h; Min. OTP/A 1337h Vote: 9-4**

HRA Analysis: As amended, this bill makes it a class B felony for tier III sex offenders to be within 500 feet of a school, daycare, park, playgroup, pool or bus stop in use without legitimate purpose such as direct travel, transporting their own child, or voting.

Principle: Platform: Establish strict laws against sexual predators

HRA Recommendation: Support OTPA

Education Funding

SB586, requiring school districts to publish a school administrative unit audit report after the end of the fiscal year. **Maj. OTP/A 1500h; Min. ITL Vote: 9-8**

HRA Analysis: This bill as amended requires chartered public schools, school administrative units, and cities or school districts not audited under RSA 671:5 to be audited by an independent public accountant after the end of the fiscal year and for the results of such audits to be made available to the public. It adds additional content to the audits and enforces timeliness with penalties.

Principle: Platform: Promote accountability and transparency in education.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTPA

Education Policy and Administration

SB101, (New Title) authorizing parents to enroll their children in any public school in the state and creating a limited exemption from parental consent required for certain recordings under the parental bill of rights. **Maj. OTP/A 1451h; Min. OTP/A 1455h Vote: 10-8**

HRA Analysis: This bill directs the governing body of each school district to establish an open enrollment policy to allow pupils to transfer among any school within the state. Each school would be required to provide notice of its capacity to accept open enrollment pupils and would require selection by lottery in the event applications exceed capacity. The bill also establishes a funding formula for payments by the DoE from the education trust fund for open enrollment pupils.

Principle: Platform: Encourage education freedom to allow all parents to choose the best public, private, charter or home school program for their children

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A

SB429, relative to the placement of trauma kits in public schools and making an appropriation therefor. **OTP/A 1351h Vote: 18-0**

HRA Analysis: This bill as amended requires the placement of trauma kits in public schools and adds additional exemptions to the parental bill of rights in education concerning parental written consent prior to the creation of student audio or visual recordings.

Principle: Platform: Promote Education freedom and Parental rights & Promote personal responsibility

HRA Recommendation: Support OTPA

Election Law

SB534, relative to foreign funding and influence in constitutional amendment and local ballot question campaigns. **OTP/A 1406h Vote: 18-0**

HRA Analysis: As amended, this bill expands the prohibition on foreign funding of election matters to both the state and local level. The amendment strengthens and clarifies that prohibition by making clear that it applies to both expenditures and contributions and extends the prohibition to local elections and meetings. The amendment further expands the penalty provisions contained in the original bill. These penalties apply not only to political committees, but also to foreign nationals acting in their individual capacity.

Principle: Platform: Oppose all laws from international organizations and governments contrary to our principles.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTPA

Environment and Agriculture

SB465, classifying xylazine as a schedule III controlled drug. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 11-5**

HRA Analysis: Xylazine is a large animal tranquilizer that is being illicitly combined with fentanyl to create a zombie drug. The problem is serious but no testimony indicated that diversion is occurring in NH or that the zombie drug is being manufactured here. A large animal vet said it would make the use and prescription to farmers more difficult.

Principle: Platform: Minimize business regulations, permits, licenses and paperwork & Justify expenditures against measurable benefits.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

SB593, (New Title) enabling the use of solid waste management funds by solid waste management districts. **OTP Vote: 16-0**

HRA Analysis: The bill closes a loophole that requires a multi-town solid waste management org to pay a state-mandated solid waste disposal fee per ton, but also makes it impossible to apply for the reimbursement they should be due because of their particular contractual arrangement entered into with the towns before the reimbursement law was passed.

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

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

Fish and Game and Marine Resources

SB505, (New Title) relative to applications for guide licenses and repealing the fee for temporary registration of nonresidents relative to OHRVs. **OTP/A 1336h Vote: 12-0**

HRA Analysis: This bill as amended requires applicants for guide licenses to apply to the chief of the law enforcement division, who conduct the background checks, and repeals the fee for temporary registration of nonresidents relative to OHRVs, aligning with ME and VT.

Principle: Platform: Cut or eliminate taxes [fees] which inhibit enterprise

HRA Recommendation: Support OTPA

Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs

SB543, relative to long-term care eligibility and making an appropriation therefor. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 10-8**

HRA Analysis: This would create a state-funded pool of money to lend (at zero interest) to nursing homes so that they can cover the cost of care for people who have not yet been approved for Medicaid. Cost to the state is the differential interest rate for money borrowed to lend out at zero interest. Fiscal impact unknown.

Principle: Platform: Low taxes are the result of low spending & Government has a moral obligation to the people to be as cost effective as possible.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

SB545, relative to financial eligibility for the Medicare savings program. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 10-8**

HRA Analysis: This bill requires DHHS make the Medicare Part D low-income subsidy available for prescription drug costs. The subsidy is federally available, but not enshrined in state law. The subsidy is administered by the federal government and is fully federally funded, provided that expenditures do not exceed the state's allocation of federal funds available. There is no current problem and therefore no demonstrated need. Subsidy expenditures have ranged from 55 percent to 67 percent of the state's federal allotment. There is no current, or known future problem, and therefore there is no demonstrated need.

Principle: Platform: Increase the use of market forces to improve health care and lower costs & Prioritize programs to ensure effective spending.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

SB549, (New Title) requiring certain syringe service program entities to provide options for disposal of used syringes and needles and creating reporting requirements for such entities. **Maj. OTP; Min. ITL Vote: 10-8**

HRA Analysis: This bill requires syringe service programs provide disposal options for used syringes and needles and creates reporting requirements.

Principle: Platform: Promote personal responsibility and consequences for one's actions.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

Housing

SB564, prohibiting certain municipal development restrictions. **OTP Vote: 15-0**

HRA Analysis: This bill prohibits arbitrary municipal restrictions on maximum road length, the number of housing lots and utility usage of open space.

Principle: No platform or constitutional issues identified

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation

Judiciary

SB464, relative to civil rights enforcement. **Maj. OTP/A 1369h; Min. ITL Vote: 10-8**

HRA Analysis: The civil rights protection language has been narrowed to help prevent the weaponization of laws meant to protect. The Lynn Amendment, 1572h, weakens the bill, but is better than current law and is believed to be less likely to be vetoed. The Berch Amendment, 1575h, guts the improvements and should be opposed.

Principle: Platform:....All laws should have the goal of benefiting or effecting all equally, and not for the benefit a few at the expense of the many....

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP/A 1369h; Support Amendment 1572h; Oppose Amendment 1575h

Public Works and Highways

SB627, (New Title) relative to toll rate adjustments and periodic inflation-based toll reviews for the New Hampshire turnpike system to support the 2027-2036 ten-year transportation plan. **OTP/A 1352h Vote: 15-0**

HRA Analysis: This bill as amended provides toll rate adjustments at specified turnpike plazas to support projects in the 2027–2036 ten year transportation plan and provides for periodic inflation based adjustments. Rate increases will primarily effect out-of-state drivers because NH transponder rates remain unchanged.

Principle: Conflicting Platform Issues: Improve highways and reduce traffic congestion / Strongly oppose new taxes and fees

HRA Recommendation: Vote Your Conscience

Resources, Recreation and Development

SB450, relative to a state parks pass pilot program for recovery centers and community mental health centers. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 12-2**

HRA Analysis: This bill requires the establishment of a 3-year pilot program for state parks passes for community mental health centers

Principle: No platform or constitutional issues identified

HRA Recommendation: No recommendation

Science, Technology and Energy

SB449, (New Title) relative to the participation of large customer-generators in net metering and relative to energy storage in connection with net metering. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP/A 1439h Vote: 10-8**

HRA Analysis: This bill expands net metering up to 5MW for "industrial hosts". It exposes all NH ratepayers to millions of dollars in cost shifting.

Principle: Platform: Work to reduce energy costs

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL

SB538, extending net metering eligibility terms for municipal energy projects. **OTP/A 1453h Vote: 18-0**

HRA Analysis: Currently, net metering is capped after 2040. This bill as amended extends the cap to 15 years to assist municipalities in obtaining financing.

Principle: Platform: Work with municipalities to streamline planning

HRA Recommendation: Support OTPA

SB540, relative to portable solar generation devices. **Maj. OTP/A 1452h; Min. ITL Vote: 16-1**

HRA Analysis: This bill as amended requires that balcony solar systems carry a recognized safety certification and that the Dept of Energy publish safety & operational standards. It attempts to address a readily available risk-laden product without recognized safety guidance.

Principle: Platform: Justify programs to ensure effective spending.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTPA

SB589, (New Title) relative to port electrification, microgrid development, and cybersecurity standards for energy and water systems. **OTP/A 1412h Vote: 18-0**

HRA Analysis: This bill as amended establishes a task force to investigate port electrification, directs investigation into microgrid development and development of cybersecurity standards/guidance for electrical, water and wastewater systems.

Principle: Platform: Work with municipalities to streamline planning

HRA Recommendation: Support OTPA

SB591, allowing utility companies to own or build generation facilities. **Maj. OTP; Min. ITL Vote: 11-7**

HRA Analysis: This bill permits utilities to invest in distributed energy power generation (<5 MW units) up to 10% of the utility's peak distribution. Investment may be any generation resource including batteries, with no limit on battery investment; all subject to a PUC assessment that benefits exceed costs to ratepayers.

Principle: Platform: Work to reduce energy costs & Support policies that encourage R&D of our energy resources, including nat gas, hydro, nuclear and new technologies.

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

SB599, relative to the renewable energy fund. **Maj. OTP; Min. ITL Vote: 10-8**

HRA Analysis: This bill restores \$7M to General Revenues from unspent monies in the Renewable Energy Fund, making the current budget balance.

Principle: Platform: Keep state government lean

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs

SB448, (New Title) modifying the definition of veteran. **OTP/A 1444h Vote: 13-0**

HRA Analysis: This bill as amended seeks to add "General Discharge under Honorable Conditions" to the existing "Honorable Discharge" designation so as to allow deserving veterans certain benefits access otherwise unavailable. Veterans discharged due to failure to take COVID vaccinations would be covered by this.

Principle: Platform: Respect NH's honored veterans by ensuring that they receive the benefits they have rightfully earned and deserve

HRA Recommendation: Support OTPA

SB492, authorizing the department of military affairs and veterans services to license and lease property in which the department holds a property interest. **OTP/A 1443h Vote: 13-0**

HRA Analysis: This bill would authorize DMAVS to lease, license, and manage certain properties in such a fashion as to expand military housing options. Any affected properties would not be exempt from local property taxes.

Principle: Platform: Respect New Hampshire's honored veterans by ensuring that they receive the benefits they have rightfully earned and deserve, particularly by combating homelessness

HRA Recommendation: Support OTP

Transportation

SB559, reducing the minimum allowable speed limit on locally controlled roads. **Maj. ITL; Min. OTP Vote: 11-4**

HRA Analysis: This bill reduces the minimum speed limits that local authorities may set in certain districts from 25 to 20 mph, based upon engineering or traffic investigations.

Principle: Platform: We believe that local governments should not be allowed to infringe on individual rights and that the state should ensure protection from such local government overreach.

HRA Recommendation: Support ITL