



NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBERTY ALLIANCE

GOLD STANDARD

SB 10 NAY OTP/A
SB 23 YEA OTP
SB 30 NAY OTP/A
SB 42 YEA OTP/A
SB 57 YEA ITL
SB 131 NAY OTP



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SENATE SESSION - THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2017

SB 23, legalizing firecrackers.

Commerce: OTP 3-1

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill legalizes additional categories of fireworks.

- The choice of whether to purchase, possess, and use fireworks should be a personal one - fireworks bans are paternalistic.
- Removing the ban on firecrackers will increase economic activity in New Hampshire.

SB 23

**YEA
OTP**

SB 42, eliminating the hearing requirement for late reinstatement of corporations.

Commerce: OTP/A 4-0

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill eliminates the hearing requirement for late reinstatement of corporations.

- This reduces the burden on businesses that file for corporate reinstatement after the time period specified in 293-A:14.22.
- Streamlining of the reinstatement process will help ensure that the corporation is able to return to business more quickly, increasing economic activity.

SB 42

**YEA
OTP/A**

SB 10-FN, relative to dairy farmer relief.

Energy and Natural Resources: OTP/A 3-1

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill uses \$2 million of NH taxpayer money to bail out dairy producers.

- There's no reason to take \$2 million from struggling taxpayers, then turn around and bail out dairy farmers. It is unethical to force NH residents to fund bailouts to favored businesses.
- There are many individuals and businesses that have experienced loss in the past year, and many can and do make the case that they are "special" and deserve protection. This bill does not help all struggling industries, or even all farmers, or even all of those impacted by drought specifically.
- This bill sets a terrible precedent that when businesses have a bad year, they should look to the state for handouts. The state should not be picking winners and losers.

SB 10

**NAY
OTP/A**

SB 30, defining woodland buffers and relative to such woodland buffers for the purposes of the shoreland protection act.**Energy and Natural Resources: OTP/A 4-0****ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill places additional restrictions on private property for the stated purpose of improving shoreland protection.**

- This bill redefines the size/shape of segments that are used to score the impact of improvements landowners make to their property for the expressed purpose of protecting shorelines. Property owners already have financial incentives to maintain property and limit damage that may impact the future value of their property. Attempts to micromanage property improvements with a one-size-fits-all solution infringes on property owners' rights and is unlikely to significantly contribute to shoreland protection.
- The bill mainly serves to raise the value of existing shoreline property (landscaped under the older, less restrictive scheme) by adding restrictions to new shoreline construction, making it less desirable.
- The bill reduces the time that an applicant has to respond to information requests from 120 days to 60 days, at which time the application is denied, forcing applicants to refile and potentially incur a fee as high as \$3,750 per 483-B:5-b. The reduction in time does not take into account that landowners are private individuals for whom 60 days may be an insufficient amount of time to obtain quotes, select an expert, schedule an investigation, and respond to the state's demand for additional information. Some required information may be weather-dependant or other circumstances could delay the applicant. There is no reason to place any deadline on an applicant, as their delay just affects when their permit would be received.
- The bill increases the time for the state's paid professional full time staff to evaluate applications and make a determination from 20 days to 30 days.

**NAY
OTP/A****SB 131-FN-A, relative to the hiring of state troopers for drug interdiction work, and making an appropriation therefor.****SB 131****Executive Departments and Administration: OTP 3-1****ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill allocates funds to hire 15 state troopers to exclusively perform drug interdiction work.**

- The War on Drugs has clearly failed; heroin was first federally regulated more than 100 years ago, yet is still beyond the control of governance even today. While it is tempting to look at the lists of arrests week after week in the paper and think we are just one more arrest from a solution, it is clear that the additional spending and enforcement approach is a failure.
- As with most government programs, once the 15 new positions are created there will be significant pressure to retain the positions and the associated resulting pension costs. This will likely result in more long term spending than the fiscal note implies.

**NAY
OTP****SB 57-FN-A, making appropriations to the department of environmental services for the purposes of funding eligible drinking water and wastewater projects under the state aid grant program.****SB 57****Finance: ITL 3-2****ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill would use state taxpayer money to fund selected municipal water projects.**

- Local water projects should be funded locally. It's inappropriate to take money from NH communities which do not have central water systems in order to subsidize communities that do.

YEA ITL