



NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBERTY ALLIANCE

GOLD STANDARD

SB 316	YEA	OTP/A
SB 381	NAY	ITL
SB 431	YEA	ITL
SB 509	YEA	ITL
SB 535	NAY	OTP
SB 542	YEA	ITL
SB 545	NAY	OTP
SB 554	YEA	ITL



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SENATE SESSION - THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2018

SB 316, relative to the regulation of online auctions.

Commerce: OTP/A 4-1

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill exempts auctions conducted over the Internet from the requirements of RSA 311-B.

- This bill gives NH residents an advantage over other states that attempt to regulate online auctions.
- 23 states do not require a license to buy or sell in an auction.
- NH does not have the resources to enforce the licensing requirement. This bill will help clarify when licensing is required.

SB 316

YEA OTP/A

SB 554-FN, relative to the minimum hourly rate and employer-sponsored health benefits.

Commerce: ITL 3-2

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill infringes on the freedom of workers and employers.

- Workers and employers have a right to contract for whatever wage they wish. It is wrong for government to legally prohibit voluntary employment agreements.
- Minimum wage laws lower the number of entry-level jobs and make it harder for people of low skill to gain critical experience.
- Higher wages for everyone are better accomplished through job creation enabled by a free market; more jobs means more competition to hire all workers.
- Very few businesses pay minimum wage, almost all pay \$10 or more per hour, and the marketplace has effectively raised the minimum wage already. This bill will raise the cost of living for all NH residents and will hurt low income families.

SB 554

YEA ITL

SB 431, relative to non-academic surveys required to be filed by school districts to maintain federal funding.

Education: ITL 3-2

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill dramatically erodes parental influence in a child's participation in non-academic surveys.

- Prior to SB 43, which passed in Feb. 2017, schools would routinely require students to complete non-academic surveys and questionnaires to assess their attitudes, values, decision making, and behaviors without the consent of parents — this bill undermines the important parental rights protected by current law.
- Parents should be fully informed on non-academic surveys being given to their children and should have the ability to have their children not participate. This bill undermines that ability by eliminating the existing opt-out provision for any "locally approved grants, initiatives, or contracts" which is such a broad exclusion that it seeks to eliminate the participation of the parent in the non-academic aspects of their children's lives.

SB 431

YEA ITL

SB 535-FN, relative to licensure for the practice of professional art therapy.

Executive Departments and Administration: OTP/A 5-0

SB 535

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill restricts competition and access to art therapy services by imposing arduous and excessive licensing requirements.

**NAY
OTP**

- Only 12 states currently license art therapy. Licensing often creates unintended consequences and in this case, restricts access to resources. As hiring a certified and licensed professional becomes more expensive, more individuals will seek substitutes to professional services or neglect to obtain services entirely in order to save money.
- The requirements of this bill are excessive, mandating thousands of hours of school and thousands of hours of additional experience, under specific conditions. It prohibits even those who are licensed therapists who have received training in art therapy and have years of experience, but hold a more generalized degree in psychotherapy, from serving as art therapists.
- Licensing is no replacement for references and reputation. Some licensed service providers are incompetent and many unlicensed service providers are highly competent. Licensing creates a false sense of security for consumers and reduces the overall quality of work provided by raising barriers to entry and reducing competition.
- Licensing makes it more difficult even for experienced, educated, and competent workers to start small businesses. We should be reducing the already significant regulatory load on small businesses, not increasing it.

SB 542-FN, relative to the use of funds in the revenue stabilization reserve account for public health emergencies.

SB 542

Finance: ITL 4-2

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill allows the governor to use money in the revenue stabilization fund upon making a declaration that there is a public health emergency.

YEA ITL

- The sponsor of the bill indicates that a primary (though not only) purpose of the bill is to allow the governor the power to access funds in the "rainy day" account for spending on items such as the opioid epidemic. The state has already allocated significant funds through the normal legislative process. These funds are intended to be used when there is a short-term funding shortfall that would be difficult to address in a economic downturn — not to spend additional money on failed approaches to the drug war.

SB 381, deleting immunization/vaccination requirements for Hepatitis B.

SB 381

Health and Human Services: ITL 4-1

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill declares that a parent or legal guardian shall not be required to have their child immunized against Hepatitis B or sexually transmitted diseases.

NAY ITL

- Decisions about which diseases to vaccinate against and their timing should be left to parents and guardians to make in consultation with their selected health care provider — particularly for diseases that are not easily communicable in casual contact.

SB 545-FN, increasing the age for sales and possession of tobacco products.

SB 545

Health and Human Services: OTP 3-2

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill bans the sale and possession of tobacco products by many adults in NH.

**NAY
OTP**

- This bill extends the current prohibition on tobacco products to adults between the ages of 18 and 21.
- While tobacco products are harmful, applying restrictions on their use to adults is paternalistic.

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill mandates the disclosure of sensitive data from property owners in order to provide potentially misleading data in support of appraisals.

YEA ITL

- Information collected could be used against a real estate investment business. This bill will encourage municipalities to raise taxes on efficient property owners.
- Accurate appraisals can be made without knowing the income/expense data for a property.
- This bill will penalize a property owner who decides to protect their privacy and not disclose income records, but does not penalize abuse of the collected information by government officials.
- This bill may result in higher rents if a municipality taxes on potential rent based on the income records.