



NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBERTY ALLIANCE

GOLD STANDARD

HB 197 YEA OTP
 HB 504 NAY ITL
 HB 512 YEA OTP
 HB 602 NAY OTP/A
 HB 636 YEA OTP/A
 HB 668 YEA OTP
 HB 1132 NAY ITL
 HB 1590 NAY OTP/A
 HB 1637 Reconsider



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SENATE SESSION - THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2016

HB 197-FN, relative to sales and samples provided by wine manufacturers.

Finance: OTP 5-1

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill allows wine manufacturers to establish up to 2 'off site' locations for sampling and purchase of their wines.

- Wine manufacturers should be permitted to sell their product where their potential customers are, not restricted to selling where grapes grow best.
- Allowing local businesses to showcase local products benefits NH residents and helps the NH economy.
- Additional jobs will be created to run off-site tasting rooms.

HB 197

**YEA
OTP**

HB 602-FN, relative to the use of drones.

Finance: OTP/A 5-0

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill creates arbitrary restrictions on the private use of drones while allowing government and business wide latitude. In addition, as amended it establishes a state grant program for a substance abuse enforcement program.

- Creating wide ranging restrictions on a new technology risks stifling innovation. New Hampshire residents would be better served by a legislature that narrowly addresses specific problems.
- This bill's definition of drone is too vague. Drones are available in many sizes; it is impractical for an owner to inscribe name, address, and phone number on even a small indoor toy drone or helicopter. The FAA has enacted rules regarding drones and has exempted small lightweight drones that cause no harm.
- The bill (422-D:3, IX) grants nearly full exemption from the provisions of this bill for businesses. This goes beyond mere 'corporate personhood' by exempting businesses from all aspects of the law while still applying the law to all private citizens.
- The committee amendment adds another \$1.5 million in state spending on drug enforcement activities and propaganda designed to "gain respect and approval of the public for the work of the police." (21-P:66 II(c)).

HB 602

**NAY
OTP/A**

HB 636-FN, relative to forfeiture of property.

Finance: OTP/A 5-0

PRO-LIBERTY: This important bill protects the rights of NH residents to due process.

- Civil asset forfeiture involves the taking of property from a person who has not been convicted, or often even charged, with a crime. This bill corrects several of the injustices in current law, and protects due process, by requiring a criminal conviction prior to forfeiture of assets, and clear and convincing evidence of wrong-doing.
- This bill ensures that property is returned to innocent property owners in a timely manner, and that they have recourse when it is not.
- This bill greatly reduces perverse incentives and appearances of impropriety by providing that proceeds from asset forfeiture no longer flow directly to the government agencies pursuing the forfeiture.

HB 636

**YEA
OTP/A**

HB 668-FN, relative to application of the Internal Revenue Code to provisions of the business profits tax.

HB 668

Finance: OTP 5-1

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill better aligns NH capital expense deductions with federal provisions.

**YEA
OTP**

- NH currently allows only up to \$25K in deductions for capital expenses in the first year. This bill removes the state limit and aligns the calculation with IRS rules simplifying compliance costs.
- At least 37 other states already allow deductions over \$100K, and 33 allow deductions up to \$500K (<http://taxfoundation.org/>).
- While the long term impact of this bill is largely revenue neutral, allowing business to more fully deduct capital expenses in the year they are made increases the probability of capital investment and growth in NH.
- NH legislators should work to make NH business friendly, rather than driving them away with excessive taxes.

HB 1590-FN-A-L, relative to the regulation and taxation of short-term rental businesses.

HB 1590

Finance: OTP/A 4-2

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill expands state taxes and regulations.

**NAY
OTP/A**

- There is no minimum income threshold in this bill. This bill would require a homeowner who lets out a room for even a night or two to register as a "hotel operator", and display a "rooms and meals" tax ID.
- The emerging sharing economy has been a benefit to NH residents, and should be encouraged, not crushed by the state.
- If homeowners are required to register with the government in order to simply let a room for a day or two, many will give up on the idea entirely. This is often the effect of government mandates on informal trade, and on nascent businesses.

HB 512, prohibiting confiscation of firearms, ammunition, or firearms accessories during a state of emergency.

HB 512

Judiciary: OTP 3-1

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill extends protection of the right to property ownership.

**YEA
OTP**

- This bill reinforces an existing ban on confiscation of firearms, adding teeth to penalize those who violate the rights of NH citizens.
- This bill holds individuals that infringe the rights of the people of New Hampshire personally accountable, while protecting officers who defend the rights of the people from disciplinary action.

HB 504, relative to online driver education.

HB 504

Transportation: ITL 3-1

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill allows students the freedom to learn in a more efficient setting.

NAY ITL

- Many studies have shown online learning to be as effective as in-person classes. (e.g. Russell, T. L. The No Significant Difference Phenomenon. Montgomery, AL:IDEC,1999,17 Barry, M.& Runyan, G).
- Remote learning provides much needed flexibility to students with limited transportation options, or limited means.
- Remote learning helps reduce the cost of driver education.

HB 1132, relative to carrying a loaded rifle or loaded shotgun in certain vehicles.

HB 1132

Transportation: ITL 3-1

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill allows hunters and sportsmen to have ammunition in their guns in their vehicles, so long as the safety is on, and the chamber empty.

NAY ITL

- This common sense gun law reduces this risk of a citizen being charged with a crime when transporting a weapon in a safe and secure manner.
- This bill enhances safety by reducing the number of times the weapon is unloaded and reloaded.
- This bill retains the existing restriction on hunting from a motor vehicle, OHRV, snowmobile, boat, or aircraft.
- This bill allows RV owners to have a shotgun in their mobile home when camping for self protection from wild animal or perpetrator.
- This bill allows a hunter to place his loaded rifle on his car when speaking to a fish and game officer without fear of being charged with a violation.

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill as amended and passed by floor amendment 2016-1736s mandates that private schools meet government school standards under certain conditions.

**Reconsi
der**

- The bill as passed mandates that private schools meet Common Core standards, implement Competency based instruction and administer online Smarter Balanced assessments if they choose to accept students from towns with no public schools.
- The bill is a significant overreach into private school systems that will force private schools to choose between denying access to students from towns with no public schools or accepting burdensome intrusion into their school system.
- Private schools must attract students and parents on a voluntary basis. This is a far more effective form of accountability, and far better guarantee of quality, than bureaucratic government mandates.