



*New Hampshire Liberty Alliance*

# Gold Standard

**LIBERTY WATCHLIST**

www.nhliberty.org

April 29, 2009

## **SB100 – Relative to home improvement contracts.**

Committee report: Commerce & Consumer Affairs: ITL (9–8)

Our recommendation:

**YEA on ITL**

This bill, which requires written agreements between contractors and homeowners for home improvement contracts with a total value greater than \$8,000, is **anti-liberty**:

- This bill needlessly interferes with the right of private parties to contract however they may choose—verbally, written, or in any other manner.
- This bill does nothing other than micromanage contractors, imposing excessive penalties for even minor violations—in violation of **Part I, Art. 18** of the New Hampshire Constitution.

## **CACR9 – Relating to term of office. Providing that beginning with the 2012 general election, there shall be a 4-year term of office for governor.**

Committee report: Election Law: ITL (9–8)

Our recommendation:

**YEA on ITL**

This bill, which extends the governor's term to four years beginning in 2012, is **anti-liberty**:

- Having a four-year governor when all other elected State-level positions—Representatives, Senators, and Executive Councillors—are for two years makes no sense.

## **SB145 – Relative to service on the retirement system board of trustees for certain board members.**

Committee report: Executive Departments & Administration: ITL (13–6)

Our recommendation:

**YEA on ITL**

This bill, which requires an employer to grant time off for anyone appointed to the retirement system board, is **anti-liberty**:

- This bill could be construed as an unfunded mandate, in violation of **Part I, Art. 28-a** of the New Hampshire Constitution.
- This bill is virtually a solution in search of a problem: It was crafted in response to the first time, in forty-two years, that a Group I appointee had a problem getting approval from time off from their school district.

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## SB17 – Relative to Selective Service registration upon driver’s license application or renewal.

Committee report: Transportation: Without recommendation

Our recommendation: **YEA on ITL / NAY on OTP**

This bill, which changes the Selective Service section of the drivers license application form from opt-in to opt-out, is **anti-liberty**:

- *Opt-in* forms ensure that applicants know what they’re agreeing to; *opt-out* forms allow them to easily agree to something they didn’t intend to. It should be the applicants’ sole responsibility to knowingly and willingly sign up to Selective Service when they apply for a drivers license.
- Causing someone to sign up to, and have their personal information entered into, this Federal program by accident is a potential invasion of their privacy.

## CONSENT CALENDAR

## SB127 – Making renewable energy facilities eligible for certain bonds issued by municipalities and business and industrial development authorities.

Committee report: Commerce & Consumer Affairs: OTP/A (17-0)

Our recommendation: **NAY on OTP/A**

This bill, which allows municipalities to issue bonds to renewable energy facilities, is **anti-liberty**:

- This bill is in violation of **Part II, Art. 5** of the New Hampshire Constitution. This article was amended in 1877 by the People of New Hampshire in order to prohibit municipalities from issuing bonds to private corporations, as a result of a Supreme Court opinion a year earlier that had allowed them to do so. Some portions of RSA 162-G already fly in the face of this article—we need not add further unconstitutional provisions to it.

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