



**New Hampshire Liberty Alliance**

# Gold Standard

NHLiberty.org

February 23th, 2011

HB 417	NAY/OTP	HB 563	NAY/ITL
HB 365	YEA/ITL	HB 154	YEA/OTP
HB 519	YEA/OTPA	HB 187	YEA/OTP
HB 238	YEA/ITL	HB 146	NAY/ITL

## **HB 417-FN-A, making an appropriation to the milk producers emergency relief fund.**

Committee report: Environment and Agriculture : OTP (9-6)

This bill, which spends \$2.5 million of state funds to cover a budget gap in a federal price-control program, is anti-liberty:

- The Milk Producer's Emergency Relief Fund is a government welfare program paid to milk producers if the price of milk falls "too low".
- There's no reason to take \$2.5 million from struggling taxpayers then turn around and bail out dairy farmers.
- Last week the NHLA supported legislation declaring firearms produced and distributed in our state exempt from federal regulations. We would support similar legislation repealing or rejecting federal price controls on New Hampshire fresh milk.

**HB 417  
NAY  
on  
OTP**

## **HB 365-FN-A, relative to establishing a commission to encourage broadband development and making an appropriation therefore.**

Committee report: Science, Technology and Energy: ITL (12-6)

This bill, which will spend \$36 million over the next 4 years to encourage broadband development, is anti-liberty:

- Will cost \$4 million in 2012; \$7 million in 2013; \$10.5 million in 2014; and \$14 million in 2015.
- The commission's budget will also skim off the top of the "communications service tax".
- Locally granted monopolies on communications services hold up broadband development, not a lack of millions of dollars in government spending.

**HB 365  
YEA  
on  
ITL**

## **HB 519, repealing New Hampshire's regional greenhouse gas initiative cap and trade program for controlling carbon dioxide emissions**

Committee report: Science, Technology and Energy: OTP/A (13-5)

This bill, which ends our participation in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, is pro-liberty:

- Repeals a program that stealthily taxes all electricity consumers.
- Money raised is supposed to go to energy efficiency programs. But millions of dollars collected from the program were appropriated into the general fund in 2010.
- The program was supposed to help the environment, not create a new slush fund. If ended, the program's leftover funds will go to existing energy efficiency projects.

**HB 519  
YEA  
on  
OTP/A**

**HB 238-FN-A, relative to the assessment of the education tax by towns and cities.**

Committee report: Special Committee on Education Funding: ITL (10-3)

This bill, which provides that the education tax only be levied on property values over \$100,000, is anti-liberty:

- NH Const., Part II, Art. 5 states that the General Court may impose only proportional and reasonable ... taxes. . . ."
- This bill would tax people disproportionately, and is therefore unconstitutional.

**HB 238**  
**YEA**  
**ON**  
**ITL**

**HB 539-FN, repealing the state enforcement of the OBD II requirement for motor vehicles.**

Committee report: Transportation: ITL (13-1)

This bill, which gets rid of a bureaucratic "safety program", is pro-liberty:

- The OBD II requirement was originally passed as a "safety program"--but it does not inspect for safety nor are federal EPA emissions standards safety-related.
- The OBD II requirement is really just a tax on every citizen who owns a vehicle.

**HB 539**  
**NAY**  
**ON**  
**ITL**

**HB 154-FN-A, relative to increasing the threshold amounts for taxation under the business enterprise tax.**

Committee report: Ways &amp; Means: OTP (15-5)

This bill, which increases the filing threshold from \$150,000 to \$200,000 on the business enterprise tax, is pro-liberty:

- Increases the efficiency of the state's tax collections because it costs more money to collect from the filers in this \$50,000 window than these filers will owe.
- Saves business owners from wasting time and money dealing with unnecessary paperwork.

**HB 154**  
**YEA**  
**ON**  
**OTP**

**HB 187-FN-A, relative to the carry forward periods for the business enterprise tax credit against the business profits tax.**

Committee report: Ways &amp; Means: OTP (14-4)

This bill, which allows businesses to carry forward credits against the business profits tax for an extra year, is pro-liberty:

- The bill provides that certain tax credits from paying the Business Enterprise Tax will not expire for another year, offsetting losses from the recession.
- The bill makes sure that small and large businesses can continue to do business, invest, and create jobs.

**HB 187**  
**YEA**  
**ON**  
**OTP**

**HB 146, relative to the right of jury nullification.**

Committee report: Judiciary: ITL (15-0)

This bill, which requires a judge to notify jurors of their rights to judge the application of a law prior to deciding a case, is pro-liberty:

- Jurors have the right to return a not-guilty verdict if they think applying a law in a particular case is fundamentally unjust.
- Most jurors have never been in a courtroom, and jurors who do not understand their rights cannot exercise them.
- Asking our judges to briefly inform jurors of all their rights is not burdensome, time consuming, or expensive.

**HB 146**  
**NAY**  
**ON**  
**ITL**