



New Hampshire Liberty Alliance

# Gold Standard

NHLiberty.org

March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011

HB 292 NAY/OTPa  
HB 518 YEA/OTP  
HB 635 YEA/OTP  
HB 651 NAY/OTPa  
HB 648 YEA/OTPa  
HB 580 YEA/OTPa  
HB 83 YEA/ITL

## HB 292-FN, relative to securities regulation.

Committee report: Criminal Justice and Public Safety : OTP/A 10-6

This bill, increasing penalties for certain misdemeanors to felonies, is **anti-liberty**:

- [Art.] 18 - All penalties ought to be proportioned to the nature of the offense.
- Declares securities violations as "public welfare" offenses i.e. crimes that seriously threaten the community's health or safety, thus classifying them in the same category as murder, rape, arson.
- This bill would create an unfriendly business environment in NH; in particular, small businesses without large legal or compliance staffs will bear the brunt of new restrictions.
- Would allow government employees in the securities bureau—at several levels—to override others' decisions, inhibiting timely resolution of claims.
- The bill allows the secretary of state to completely ignore the findings of the presiding officer of a hearing, which has the potential to increase politically motivated investigations and prosecutions. An investigation, even without prosecution, can ruin a business.

**HB 292  
NAY  
on  
OTPa**

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

Committee report: Finance : OTP 17-6

This bill, which ends our participation in RGGI, is **pro-liberty**:

- Repeals a program that stealthily taxes all electricity consumers.
- Money raised was originally slated to support energy efficiency programs, but millions of dollars collected from the program were misappropriated into the general fund in 2010, far from the original intent of RGGI.
- Remaining funds from the program will go to existing energy efficiency projects.

**HB 519  
YEA  
on  
OTP**

## HB 635-FN-A, requiring the governor to consolidate certain agency functions and making an appropriation therefor.

Committee report: Finance : OTP 17-0

This bill, which requires the governor to consolidate various service centers, is **pro-liberty**:

- Consolidating back-office services improves efficiency, thereby reducing government spending.

**HB 635  
YEA  
on  
OTP**

## HB 651, allowing the sale and possession of monk parakeets.

Committee report: Fish and Game and Marine Resources : OTP/A 12-1

This bill, which attempts to regulate property that harms no one, is **anti-liberty**:



- The NHLA **opposes** the committee amendment and **supports** the original bill.
- Monk parakeets are a non-invasive species and do not pose a threat to crops or native species.
- Monk parakeets would become the only animal species to be banned via NH statute.

**HB 651**  
**NAY**  
on  
**OTP/A**  
**YEA on OTP**

## HB 648, relative to eminent domain petitions by public utilities.

Committee report: Science, Technology and Energy : OTP/A 11-4

This bill, which restricts eminent domain by utilities, is **pro-liberty**:

- [Art.] 12-a. [Power to Take Property Limited.] No part of a person's property shall be taken by eminent domain and transferred, directly or indirectly, to another person if the taking is for the purpose of private development or other private use of the property.
- The committee amendment improves the bill by broadening it from a prohibition aimed directly at the Northern Pass project to aligning the bill to our current statutes and state constitution.

**HB 648**  
**YEA**  
on  
**OTP/A**

## HB 580-FN-L, relative to the New Hampshire retirement system

Committee report: Special Committee on Public Employee Pensions Reform OTP/A 10-4

This bill, restructuring the retirement system so as to reduce taxpayer costs and better align the state system with private sector benefits, is **pro-liberty**:

- Begins to rectify the gross underfunding and unsustainability of this system.
- Increases age and years of service thresholds by 5 years, excludes various non-base pay compensation from formulas.
- Eliminates prolonged double dipping.

**HB 580**  
**YEA**  
on  
**OTP/A**

## HB 83, relative to vessel registration.

Committee report: Ways and Means : ITL 14-7

This bill, which requires all motorized vessels to be registered in NH waters, is **anti-liberty**:

- This would penalize people who just want to see if the boat leaks.
- A boat tethered to a private dock or mooring shouldn't require registration just because a motor could be affixed to it.

**HB 83**  
**YEA**  
on  
**ITL**