



GOLD STANDARD



HOUSE SESSION - WEDNESDAY APRIL 29, 2015

SB 116-FN, repealing the license requirement for carrying a concealed pistol or revolver.

SB 116

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

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill eliminates an arbitrary legal distinction between concealed & open carry.

YEA OTP/A

- A requirement to have a license to carry a concealed firearm is an infringement on an individual's right to self-defense. This bill allows law-abiding citizens to carry protection discreetly.
- This bill eliminates unnecessary and abstruse definitions of "open" versus "concealed" carry, which are difficult to interpret, have led to several lawsuits, and unfairly criminalize law abiding citizens.
- This bill removes the ambiguity of a "suitable person", which encourages profiling, and has in the past been used for ethnic, racial, and gender discrimination.
- For many people, due to work or life circumstances, it is not practical to open carry. In these cases, current law effectively constitutes a waiting period, prohibiting a person who may be feel threatened (e.g. a woman suffering from a stalker) from carrying protection when they need it.
- Other states that have enacted constitutional carry have seen either no statistically significant change in violent crime, or a slight downward trend.

SB 113-FN-A-L, relative to video lottery and table gaming.

SB 113

Ways and Means Committee Recommendation: OTP/A, 11-10

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill creates government granted monopoly privileges.

NAY OTP/A

- Allowing one or two special interests to conduct gambling operations, while prohibiting all others from competing, is a clear example of regulatory capture and an unjust use of government power.
- This bill would violate article 83 of the NH Constitution, which states "Free and fair competition in the trades and industries is an inherent and essential right of the people and should be protected against all monopolies and conspiracies which tend to hinder or destroy it."
- This bill dramatically increases the size and scope of government. Once large bureaucracies and moneyed interests are created, they are very difficult to roll back.
- The NHLA would support a bill to more broadly legalize gambling, or allow for the creation of many independent casinos.