



# GOLD STANDARD

HB 554 NAY ITL  
HB 124 YEA OTP  
HB 206 YEA OTP  
HB 332 YEA OTP  
HB 577 NAY OTP/A  
HB 200 YEA OTP  
HB 336 YEA OTP  
HB 136 YEA ITL  
HB 227 NAY ITL  
HB 258 NAY OTP/A  
HB 559 NAY OTP

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SENATE SESSION - THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2015

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## HB 554-FN, relative to sales of beer in refillable containers.

# HB 554

Commerce Committee Recommendation: ITL, 4-1

## NAY ITL

**PRO-LIBERTY: This bill offers more choices to NH consumers, and helps NH retailers compete.**

- This bill would allow the sale of growlers in restaurants, beer stores, and supermarkets. Sales of growlers are currently only allowed by nano-breweries, brewpubs, and beverage manufacturers.
- Some beers are only available through keg purchases. This bill will allow NH residents access to craft beers that are not readily available.
- 35 states, including Massachusetts and Vermont, already allow growler sales under a retail license.
- This bill will allow New Hampshire businesses to offer products that their customers want.

## HB 124, relative to the implementation of new college and career readiness standards.

# HB 124

Education Committee Recommendation: ITL, 4-1

## NAY ITL

**PRO-LIBERTY: This bill increases government transparency.**

- This bill creates a more open, communicative adoption process for college readiness standards.
- Parents should have the opportunity to provide feedback regarding the adoption of policies that affect the education of their children.

## HB 206, relative to non-academic surveys or questionnaires given to students.

# HB 206

Education Committee Recommendation: OTP/A, 4-0

## YEA OTP

**PRO-LIBERTY: This bill, as passed by the House, protects a parent's right to opt-out of their children's participation in non-academic surveys.**

- **NAY on Senate amendment #2015-1180s**, which would turn this bill into a study committee.
- Children should not be subjected to surveys that pry into non-academic, non-school related matters for the purpose of data collection without parental notification.
- Parents have a right to be informed about surveys given to their children, and a right to opt out of surveys that they consider to be inappropriate.
- Requiring districts to make surveys and questionnaires available to parents prior to distribution to students is good policy and consistent with federal law.

## HB 332, relative to school district policy regarding objectionable course material.

# HB 332

Education Committee Recommendation: OTP/A, 3-2

## YEA OTP

**PRO-LIBERTY: The unamended bill ensures transparency when controversial materials are used.**

- **NAY on Senate amendment #2015-1261s**. This amendment narrowly focuses blame on teachers when the principal or superintendent could be at fault. Violation of any school policy should automatically result in a reprimand. There is no need to micro-manage districts.
- This bill ensures that parents can review controversial materials on the school website two weeks prior to their use in the classroom, allowing parents an opportunity to engage their children in conversations on sensitive issues.
- Encouraging open communication between schools and parents builds trust and cooperation.

## HB 577-FN-A-L, establishing a children's savings account program.

# HB 577

Education Committee Recommendation: OTP/A, 4-0

## NAY OTP/A

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill would lead to massive new spending and involve government in the private finances of thousands of families.**

- This type of program can and should be accomplished by private charities, either in coordination with each other or individually. It is inappropriate to use taxation and the state bureaucracy to fund or establish such a program.
- No restrictions are specified by the bill on the use of these funds. Will funds be available only for tuition? For any purpose at all? Can funds be withdrawn and spent by parents?
- This bill which would require spending \$30,000 to hire someone to disperse \$65,000 to students in its first year is a ridiculously inefficient use of taxpayer funds.
- The NHLA is not taking a position on the non-germane amendment relative to the bonding authority of the city of Dover.

**HB 200, allowing homestead food operations exempt from licensure to sell homestead food products at retail food stores.**

**HB 200**

**Energy and Natural Resources Committee Recommendation: OTP, 4-0**

**PRO-LIBERTY: This bill allows properly labeled food from local homestead farms to be sold at retail outlets.**

**YEA  
OTP**

- Easing restrictions on sale of farm goods at retail outlets makes it more possible for NH residents to partially support themselves sustainably through small-scale farming.
- This bill will allow NH consumers access to healthier and more unique options, and will result in higher availability of affordable, locally sourced food.

**HB 336, relative to seasons for hunting by crossbow.**

**HB 336**

**Energy and Natural Resources Committee Recommendation: OTP, 4-0**

**PRO-LIBERTY: This bill allows for crossbow seasons for various game animals and birds.**

**YEA  
OTP**

- Sportsmen should have the freedom to use the hunting weapons of their preference.
- Crossbow hunting is no less safe or effective than other forms of hunting.
- This bill makes current hunting law more consistent, by eliminating an arbitrary restriction on the use of crossbows for large game other than deer.

**HB 136, prohibiting tanning facilities from tanning persons under 18 years of age.**

**HB 136**

**Health and Human Services Committee Recommendation: ITL, 4-1**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill infringes on parental rights.**

**YEA  
ITL**

- It is not possible or appropriate for the state to mandate every aspect of responsible parenting.
- If this bill becomes law, a teen who needs photo-light therapy would have to use a dermatologist's office to treat seasonal affective disorder or other medical conditions - which would be much more expensive than the tanning salon.
- If this bill becomes law, a teenager who is seventeen could join the military (with parental consent) but would be banned from getting a tan.
- If this bill becomes law, a teenage woman could get an abortion *without* parental consent but would be banned from tanning.

**HB 227, relative to eminent domain on public lands.**

**HB 227**

**Public and Municipal Affairs Committee Recommendation: ITL, 4-1**

**PRO-LIBERTY: This bill recognizes the right of local residents to have a voice regarding eminent domain seizures of public land.**

**NAY  
ITL**

- Eminent domain seizures can affect the health and well being of the neighbors of the seized property. Neighboring residents should have a voice in the process.
- Public land belongs to the people of the municipality. Decisions regarding the use of public land should be made by the citizens in those municipalities.
- Lowering energy costs does not justify destroying the local environment, or taking public land without the consent of the people.

**HB 258-FN-L, relative to fees for preparing motor vehicle registration documents.**

**HB 258**

**Transportation Committee Recommendation: OTP/A, 4-1**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill doubles the clerical fee for registering a vehicle.**

**NAY  
OTP/A**

- Instead increasing fees, which are already high, towns should look to better allocate existing funds.
- This is a double tax on citizens. Town clerks are already paid for their time through other taxes.
- Towns could reduce the expense of having clerks file registration documents if the registration process was online.

**HB 559-FN, relative to vehicle registration by entities doing business in New Hampshire.**

**HB559**

**Transportation Committee Recommendation: OTP, 5-0**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill would penalize out-of-state companies with fleets of vehicles for doing business in New Hampshire.**

**NAY  
OTP**

- This will increase the cost to do business in NH and may force car and truck rental companies out of NH. Businesses routinely register their entire fleet in one state for easier accounting and to save money. Under this bill companies would be required to register their vehicles in NH instead of where it is most advantageous and economical for them to do so.
- This bill is largely unenforceable and the cost to attempt enforcement would outweigh the increase in revenue from registrations. We shouldn't have unenforceable laws on the books.
- This bill was requested by the Department of Safety to target ambulance companies. Enforcement of existing laws requiring a license to operate an ambulance would make this bill unnecessary.