



GOLD STANDARD



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SENATE SESSION - THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 2015

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HB 122, relative to advertising of liquor or beverages.

HB 122

Commerce Committee Recommendation: OTP/A, 5-0

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill repeals the prohibition on alcohol container labels referencing minors.

- HB 122 as amended repeals RSA 179:31, VII(a) which violates freedom of speech.
- This bill improves the current law on beer labels, which forbids any depiction of a minor no matter how innocent. The liquor commission would still be able to ban subject matter or illustrations that they determine is reasonably likely to induce minors to drink.
- The NHLA supports this bill, but is cautious about giving more discretion to regulators. Giving the commission the discretion to allow some artwork on labels also allows them to ban other artwork. How we exercise of our First Amendment rights shouldn't be decided by the liquor commission.

YEA OTP/A

HB 216-FN, relative to recovery of certain investigatory costs by regulatory boards and commissions.

HB 216

Executive Departments and Administration Committee Recommendation: OTP, 3-0

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill incentivizes more numerous and expensive investigations by licensing and regulatory boards.

- Charging targets of investigations for the costs of the investigation could encourage numerous and expensive investigations of minor infractions.
- Passage of this provision would increase the likelihood of a board or commission to continue an investigation until they found some act of misconduct so that the licensee would have to pay the costs of the investigation.
- Charges for expensive investigations may be vastly exceed what is reasonable for the severity of the misconduct, in violation of part one article 18 of the NH constitution.
- NH licensing and regulatory requirements are already far too arduous. In order to improve the NH economy, and encourage innovation of entrepreneurship, legislators should be working to lessen licensing requirements and regulatory burdens.

NAY OTP

HB 534, relative to the duties of the housing finance authority.

HB 534

Finance Committee Recommendation: OTP, 5-0

PRO-LIBERTY: This bill increases government transparency.

- Fiscal responsibility requires representatives to have accurate and timely knowledge about spending by government entities, including the Housing Finance Authority.
- Requiring the disclosure of terms and conditions of loans or grants to municipalities helps prevent misunderstanding, and helps ensure local authorities are fully informed.

YEA OTP