



# GOLD STANDARD



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SENATE SESSION - THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 2019

**SB 2-FN, relative to funding for job training programs in the department of business and economic affairs.**

**SB 2**

**Finance: OTP/A 4-2**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill doubles the administrative fee on unemployment compensation. It then spends one-third of the amount collected, less 10% for further administration, on job training programs.**

**NAY  
OTP/A**

- While government-sponsored job training programs are effective at spending taxpayer money, there is little evidence that they have any lasting impacts. Taxpayers have been funding jobs programs since the 1960s, yet federal auditors can find little evidence that they are effective: Government Accountability Office, "Multiple Employment and Training Programs," GAO-11-92, January 2011, p. 11 ([www.gao.gov/new.items/d1192.pdf](http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d1192.pdf)).
- The state should not have a role in determining the training that businesses will require.

**SB 5-FN-A, making an appropriation relative to Medicaid provider rates for mental health and substance misuse.**

**SB 5**

**Health and Human Services: OTP 5-0**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill allocates 3 million dollars of funding to expand taxpayer-funded mental health and substance misuse programs.**

**NAY  
OTP**

- Though this bill's allocation of funding is for a single year, it will likely become part of the baseline Department of Health and Human Services budget and serve as a basis for future increases.
- This funding expansion grows a program, using dollars from the general fund, that was sold to the public in 2018 as not requiring/allowing state general funds.