



GOLD STANDARD

SB 44 NAY OTP
SB 73 YEA ITL
SB 114 NAY OTP/A
SB 115 YEA ITL
SB 150 NAY OTP/A



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SB 114, relative to the enjoyment of publicly-accessible and publicly-funded recreation areas.

SB 114

Energy and Natural Resources: OTP/A 3-2

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill codifies the concept of "verbal violence" into New Hampshire law without defining it, undermining freedom of speech.

- In 1993, author Jonathan Rauch wrote in a New York Times opinion piece "Until the concept of "verbal violence" is discredited, it will keep inspiring activists to hunt for legal ways to restrict speech. It will eat at the moral foundation of the liberal intellectual system, a system that sorts sound beliefs from frivolous ones by means of robust and, yes, often hurtful criticism" (www.nytimes.com/1993/06/26/opinion/words-aren-t-violence.html). This opinion is as valid today as it was then.
- The bill is vague as to what "verbal violence" entails, as it does not define it. If it is intended to mean "(verbal) threat of physical violence" then that is already a crime, and we don't need the new term "verbal violence", which is completely subject to interpretation.
- The New Hampshire Constitution Part 1 (Bill of Rights) states: *[Art.] 22. [Free Speech; Liberty of the Press.] Free speech and Liberty of the press are essential to the security of Freedom in a State: They ought, therefore, to be inviolably preserved.* (www.nh.gov/glance/bill-of-rights.htm)

NAY OTP/A

SB 115, establishing greenhouse gas emission reduction goals for the state and establishing a climate action plan.

SB 115

Energy and Natural Resources: ITL 3-2

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill claims that human interaction with the environment is the driving force for global climate change.

- This bill will impact all manner of commerce and may be used as an excuse to destroy liberty on multiple fronts. Examples: Rolling blackouts during summer to limit electricity consumption, increasing barriers and costs to starting a business, outlawing or prohibiting lead ammunition for firearms, decreasing the farming of livestock and thereby inflating the cost of food.
- The goals in this bill will insidiously drive up taxation in New Hampshire through fee increases and tax increases on items such as gasoline and utilities.
- If "because the science" works for COVID, then the science clearly shows that the sun is the driving force of climate change. Nothing else matters as much. With respect to New Hampshire, it is 84% forested. We are where CO2 goes to get converted to oxygen. No exportation of gaseous plant fertilizer here.

YEA ITL

SB 44, establishing the New Hampshire workforce pathway program and commission.

SB 44

Finance: OTP 4-3

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill grows the scope of the existing government-sponsored jobs training program and will result in additional demand for taxpayer funds for centrally-planned job training.

- 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).
- The state should not have a role in determining the training that businesses will require.
- While the bill does not appropriate any new funds, it grows the constituency and argument for additional spending on the fund.

NAY OTP

SB 73, establishing a green building standards initiative as part of the low or moderate income housing loan program and making an appropriation therefor; and establishing a commission to study green housing and utility source options.

Finance: ITL 5-2

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill lays the groundwork for future increases in taxpayer spending and seeks to establish a foothold for prevailing wage laws in taxpayer-funded projects.

- This bill contains a study commission provision to determine the appropriate way to institute a state prevailing wage law.
- Similar federal legislation (Davis Bacon Act) was passed with the deliberate intent to prevent non-unionized, less established, minority laborers from competing with established, unionized, white workers during the depression. The effect of this will still be to dramatically increase the risk and/or cost of employing workers with potential for growth but with lower demonstrated skill level.
- If instituted, small firms may not have the personnel to absorb compliance overhead costs. This bill would have the effect of biasing state contracts towards larger/established firms.

YEA ITL

SB 150, establishing a dental benefit under the state Medicaid program.

SB 150

Health and Human Services: OTP/A 5-0

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill will increase state spending by providing adults in the Medicaid program with dental coverage.

- This program provides able-bodied adults in New Hampshire with taxpayer-funded dental coverage at taxpayer expense.
- This bill would cost state taxpayers between \$6 million and \$11 million in state taxpayer funds and more than \$28 million of taxpayer funding overall when state and federal spending are considered. These costs would be a 'starting point' as the bill provides no cap on annual per-patient expenses.

NAY OTP/A