



# GOLD STANDARD



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HOUSE SESSION - THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 2025

HB 54 YEA OTP	HB 305 YEA ITL	HB 515 YEA ITL	HB 596 YEA ITL	HB 751 NAY OTP/A
HB 94 YEA OTP	HB 378 YEA ITL	HB 524 YEA OTP	HB 649 Support	HB 756 Oppose
HB 208 YEA OTP/A	HB 419 YEA ITL	HB 542 YEA ITL	HB 723 YEA OTP	HB 770 YEA ITL
HB 224 YEA OTP/A	HB 484 YEA OTP/A	HB 583 YEA ITL	HB 724 YEA ITL	HB 771 YEA OTP
HB 245 YEA ITL	HB 503 YEA ITL	HB 591 YEA OTP	HB 744 YEA ITL	

## HB 503, amending how revenues from taxes are allocated to the education trust fund.

Ways and Means: ITL 16-3

# HB 503

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill increases several taxes to increase funding for public education.**

- Between 2001-2019, public schools in New Hampshire increased their total expenditures per student on an inflation-adjusted basis by 66.8 percent, from \$11,336 in 2001 to \$18,905 in 2019. This means that New Hampshire public school students had 66.8 percent more in inflation-adjusted taxpayer funding devoted to their education in 2019 than in 2001 ([jbartlett.org/2025/01/higher-spending-lower-results-why-more-money-doesnt-equal-better-schools](http://jbartlett.org/2025/01/higher-spending-lower-results-why-more-money-doesnt-equal-better-schools)).
- Despite massive increases to the amount of funding for public education, some lawmakers continue to advocate for throwing more money at the problem.
- Rather than increasing taxes, lawmakers and state agencies should be finding ways to live within their means.

# YEA ITL

## HB 591, expanding hours for keno gaming on weekends.

Ways and Means: OTP 16-4

# HB 591

**PRO-LIBERTY: This bill allows Keno to be played in the morning on weekends.**

- Adults should be allowed to gamble.
- Assuming there is demand for Keno in the mornings, expansion of the hours of play is pro-liberty.

# YEA OTP

## HB 596, relative to reporting requirements for entities that collect meals and rooms taxes.

Ways and Means: ITL 16-4

# HB 596

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill requires businesses to report their collections of Meals and Rooms Tax on a per town basis.**

- This bill creates an unnecessary new compliance requirement for businesses, towns, and the Department of Revenue Administration.

# YEA ITL

## HB 245, establishing the speed enforcement and awareness fund and providing for grants to municipal law enforcement for speed enforcement and speed awareness traffic equipment.

Criminal Justice and Public Safety: ITL 10-5

# HB 245

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill creates a dedicated fund for the purchase of speed enforcement equipment, funded by speeding tickets.**

- Nothing prevents the Department of Safety from making investments today from the General Fund to increase speeding enforcement.
- The creation of a new fund and the associated bureaucracy increase the size and scope of government. We should instead be working on reducing government bureaucracy.

# YEA ITL

**HB 484, relative to reallocation or repurposing of career and technical education classroom space by local school districts.**

**HB 484**

**Education Funding : OTP/A 16-2**

**PRO-LIBERTY: This bill allows for reallocation or repurposing of career and technical education classroom space by local school districts.**

**YEA  
OTP/A**

- Making better use of existing resources is a preferable alternative to requesting new resources.
- Spending on education has already increased significantly in the last decade. As the state looks for areas to do more with less, this is a great example of how to do that.

**HB 515, repealing the chartered public school eligibility for state school building aid.**

**HB 515**

**Education Funding : ITL 10-8**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill removes charter schools from eligibility for state school building aid funding.**

**YEA ITL**

- This bill is a clear attack on charter schools, which have the exact same need for building aid funding as district schools.
- Charter schools are public schools and should not be treated differently than district schools.

**HB 583, relative to state participation in the Medicaid direct certification program for free and reduced price school meals.**

**HB 583**

**Education Funding : ITL 10-8**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill allows school administrators to sign up families for free or reduced meals instead of the family doing it themselves.**

**YEA ITL**

- The bill expands government intervention, increases reliance on state assistance, and raises privacy concerns due to increased data-sharing between agencies.
- It is extremely hubristic and entirely inappropriate for school administrators to sign up families without permission.
- Schools should not even be providing lunches for students at all. That is the job of their parents.

**HB 770, relative to establishing a program to earn tuition credits for state of New Hampshire higher education institutions through community service.**

**HB 770**

**Education Funding : ITL 10-8**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill establishes a new program to allow students to earn college credits for volunteering while in high school.**

**YEA ITL**

- It's unclear how volunteering in high school contributes to completing a college degree.
- The program will create new recurring costs at a time when agencies should be looking to do more with less, not create new expenses.

**HB 771, relative to funding for open enrollment schools.**

**HB 771**

**Education Funding : OTP 10-8**

**PRO-LIBERTY: This bill requires school districts that lose students to an open enrollment school to have a line item in their budget to pay the open enrollment school for that student's tuition.**

**YEA  
OTP**

- If a student chooses to go to a different school than the one they are assigned, their education dollars should follow them to that school.

## HB 208, relative to certification requirements for school nurses.

Education Policy and Administration : OTP/A 10-8

**PRO-LIBERTY:** This bill, with the proposed committee amendment, refines the requirements for school nurses, allowing superintendents and school boards to select candidates from a broader pool of qualified candidates.

- With the proposed committee amendment, the only state mandate remaining to allow a school board to consider a nurse is that they are a registered professional nurse currently licensed by the Board of Nursing in New Hampshire. While this is also a requirement under current law, the existing RSA places significant additional hurdles that must be cleared, creating an artificial scarcity in the pool of qualified candidates.
- There is no evidence that the existing additional barriers to entry increase the safety of students; further, with these barriers being currently in place, we may be excluding candidates who ultimately are more qualified in areas that matter, such as ability to demonstrate healthy life choices.

# HB 208

## YEA OTP/A

## HB 54, allowing alternative treatment centers to operate for-profit.

Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs: OTP 18-0

**PRO-LIBERTY:** This bill allows alternative medical cannabis centers to operate as for-profit entities.

- This bill creates more opportunity for the private, personal use of medical cannabis.

# HB 54

## YEA OTP

## HB 94, relative to coverage of circumcision under the state Medicaid plan.

Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs: OTP 10-8

**PRO-LIBERTY:** This bill removes coverage under Medicaid for circumcision unless it's medically necessary.

- Tax dollars should not be spent on procedures that are elective. Circumcision is almost never medically necessary, and would still be covered in the rare cases that it happens to be.

# HB 94

## YEA OTP

## HB 524, repealing the New Hampshire vaccine association.

Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs: OTP 10-8

**PRO-LIBERTY:** This bill eliminates the state program that requires health insurance companies to prepay for vaccines for children.

- There is no reason for the state to be involved in vaccine distribution.
- The present statute exacts taxes from businesses to fund the non-state portion of the vaccine purchasing program; this bill would eliminate those taxes.
- While the state would lose \$24 million in revenue by canceling this program, the bill would reduce a large bureaucracy. The loss of the \$24 million is offset by not having to expend the same amount managing a drug purchasing program for private clinics and hospitals.
- Vaccines are already covered in full by every insurance provider, and children without insurance have free vaccines available from the CDC. The Vaccine Association does nothing to increase the availability of vaccines.

# HB 524

## YEA OTP

## HB 724, relative to lead paint poisoning prevention and remediation.

Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs: ITL 10-7

**ANTI-LIBERTY:** This bill creates new, costly regulations for lead abatement in older homes.

- Even the best lead mitigations cannot guarantee that future lead exposure will not happen.
- Homeowners will be required to incur large expenses for lead mitigation without necessarily fixing the problem of lead exposure.

# HB 724

## YEA ITL

**HB 751, relative to certification of alcohol and other substance misuse treatment facilities.**

**HB 751**

**Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs: OTP/A 12-6**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill creates a new certification program for alcohol and substance abuse treatment facilities. It comes with new fees for operators.**

**NAY  
OTP/A**

- This is an expansion of government to provide oversight over a previously independent industry. More government is not the solution.
- In order to fund this new bureaucracy, the facilities will be charged a fee to pay for the administration that certifies them.

**HB 756, relative to establishing a blood lead level testing requirement for children entering daycare and public schools.**

**HB 756**

**Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs:**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill requires that children entering daycare and public school be tested for lead exposure. It also requires that schools keep records about the tests.**

**Oppose**

- Lead paint has been banned since 1978 and has not been used in residential construction since then.
- Children are already required to be tested at age 1 and age 2 for lead exposure. This legislation is unnecessary.

**HB 378, relative to an employee's unused earned time.**

**HB 378**

**Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services: ITL 11-9**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill requires employers to compensate employees who are involuntarily terminated for their unused vacation time.**

**YEA ITL**

- This bill is government injecting itself into the private contract between an employer and their employee.
- Vacation time is not a wage. It is the opportunity to collect one's normal wage while not working and on vacation. It should not be required to have any cash value.

**HB 542, relative to weekly benefit amounts for unemployment compensation.**

**HB 542**

**Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services: ITL 11-9**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill increases the amount paid in unemployment benefits.**

**YEA ITL**

- Unemployment benefits are a type of insurance paid by employers. If more money is being drawn from the fund, then the rate charged to employers will go up.
- Unemployment disincentivizes individuals from working. Increasing the benefit worsens the problem.

**HB 744, relative to workers' compensation indemnity benefits percentage.**

**HB 744**

**Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services: ITL 11-9**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill increases the payout for workers' compensation benefits.**

**YEA ITL**

- The increase in cost for workers' compensation will be at least \$29 million, and will be paid for in higher premiums for employers.

**HB 224, relative to rebates to ratepayers from the renewable energy fund.**

**HB 224**

**Science, Technology and Energy: OTP/A 10-7**

**PRO-LIBERTY: This bill rebates excess funds from the renewable energy fund back to ratepayers.**

**YEA  
OTP/A**

- If the fund is not using all of the money allocated to it, then the remainder should be refunded.

**HB 723, repealing the multi-use energy data platform.**

**HB 723**

**Science, Technology and Energy: OTP 10-8**

**PRO-LIBERTY: This bill repeals a 2019 law requiring the creation of the state energy data platform.**

**YEA  
OTP**

- The law to create this platform was passed in 2019. In the past 6 years, the Public Utilities Commission has not built it.
- Most, if not all energy providers already offer some or all of this information to their customers.

## HB 305, relative to speed and red-light cameras for traffic enforcement.

Transportation: ITL 13-3

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill allows for the installation of speed and traffic monitoring cameras.**

- Drivers of New Hampshire should be able to use public roads without being recorded.
- In some cases, like traveling to one's employment or home, there may be only one route to get there. Installing a camera on that route gives people the uncomfortable choice of giving up their privacy or quitting their job and moving. No one should be required to make that choice.

# HB 305

## YEA ITL

## HB 419, requiring vehicle headlights to be on when windshield wipers are also on.

Transportation: ITL 10-6

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill requires that a driver's headlights must be on when their windshield wipers are on.**

- The use of headlights and the use of wipers are required for different reasons. Headlights are needed to see in the dark and windshield wipers are needed to clean your windshield. One does not necessarily require the other.
- This is just another reason for a police officer to pull someone over.

# HB 419

## YEA ITL

## HB 649, removing the requirement for physical safety inspections and on-board diagnostic tests for passenger vehicles and eliminating funding for the motor vehicle air pollution abatement fund.

Transportation: Without Recommendation

**PRO-LIBERTY: This bill removes the requirement for annual state inspections for passenger vehicles.**

- Vehicle safety inspections are unnecessary and do not lead to safer roads. What they do create is the opportunity for auto mechanics to generate revenue by recommending repairs that may or may not be needed.
- At least 34 states have no requirement for periodic safety inspections, including states with harsh winters including Alaska, Montana, North Dakota, Illinois, and California. ([www.kbb.com/car-advice/vehicle-inspections-by-state](http://www.kbb.com/car-advice/vehicle-inspections-by-state))
- Concerns about loss of federal funding are baseless as there is no federal requirement for safety inspections, and emissions inspection guidance is limited to metropolitan areas that do not exist in New Hampshire. Even California does not require annual emissions testings in all parts of the state and limits it only to regions that have systemic issues meeting National Ambient Air Quality Standards.
- Others have raised concerns that garages and mechanics may go out of business as a result of this; however, it is not the role of the state to mandate that people buy services they don't otherwise need simply to act as a jobs program.

# HB 649

## Support