

This Week's Issue:

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House Republican Leader Comments on Outcome of Gun Background Check Bill

CONCORD - House Republican Leader Gene Chandler (R-Bartlett) offered the following comments relative to the House vote on HB 1589, a bill that would have placed excessive restrictions on the private sale and transfer of firearms. The bill was defeated 242-118.

House Republican Leader Gene Chandler (R-Bartlett)

"New Hampshire ranks among the safest states in America. The vast majority of gun owners in New Hampshire are honest, law abiding citizens. The original bill was an unnecessary attempt to solve a non-existent problem in our state and could have made criminals out of responsible gun owners."

"A bipartisan majority of the House believed this bill was not necessary. By killing the bill, we have avoided what would have been an excessive government overreach and restriction of 2nd Amendment rights."

"Nothing in the bill alleviated the concern that guns sales or loans to family members would not be subject to background checks, which is an unnecessary intrusion into the rights of law abiding citizens."

HB1589 VOTE RECAP

On Wednesday the House decisively voted 242-118 to kill HB1589, which would have placed excessive restrictions on the sale of firearms.

97% of Republicans voted against the committee amendment
The committee amendment passed 174-166

99% of Republicans voted for the amendment that put the bill into a study committee.
That amendment passed 177-175.

The vote of Ought to Pass as Amended failed 195-165.

Rep. Chandler made a motion of Inexpedient to Legislate, which passed 242-118.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT: Session Review

TRAPPING BILL PASSES HOUSE

HB1579 passed the House on a voice vote on Wednesday.

The committee amendment was first adopted that increases the fine and penalties for illegal foothold traps, while keeping the infringement a violation. The bill also establishes a study committee to address other trapping concerns.

The bill will now go on to the Senate.

NH VETERANS' HOME SMOKING BILL IN STUDY COMMITTEE

The NH House voted to put HB1396 into a study committee that would have prohibited the NH Veterans' Home from discriminating in its admission policy against veterans who smoke.

The committee recommendation of ITL was overturned in a vote of 187-151. The motion was then made for interim study, which passed on a voice vote.

CONDOMINIUM DISPUTE BOARD BILL PASSES HOUSE

A bill that sets up a condominium dispute resolutions board passed the NH House in a vote of 187-160 on Wednesday.

The bill creates another Regulatory Board that will increase the size of government at the expense of the taxpayers and interferes with the democratic process by letting a condo owner file any complaint to a state board about an action taken by an elected Board of Directors.

The bill now moves on to the House Ways and Means committee.

Important Upcoming Dates & Events

- Monday, February 17 – Legislative Offices closed in observance of Presidents' Day
- Wednesday, February 19 – Republican Caucus- 9am- LOB 305-307
- Wednesday, February 19 – House Session – 10am

February 19th Session Outlook

What's coming up next week in the NH House?

- HB1125- repealing the crime of adultery.
- HB1289- relative to interference with custody.
- HB1217- allowing wholesale distributors to purchase beverages from nano brewery licensees.
- HB1288- requiring bottled water labels to indicate the source of water.
- HB1204- relative to perjury by a law enforcement officer.
- HB1237- prohibiting residency restrictions for registered sex offenders.
- HB1301- relative to transportation of alcoholic beverages by a minor.
- HB1506- relative to student identification cards used to satisfy voter identification requirements.
- HB1251- making an appropriation for New Hampshire Public Television.
- HB1188- relative to paycheck equity.
- HB1404- relative to payroll cards.
- HB1509- including nonprofit charitable enterprises in the business enterprise tax and lowering the rate of the tax

Legislative Watch: HB1403

There was a public hearing on Tuesday in the Labor Committee for HB14903 that would raise the minimum wage in New Hampshire. This would raise it to \$8.25/hour effective on January 1, 2015. On January 1, 2016 it would increase to \$9.00/hour and then increase as the cost of living increases.

This is a bill, along with many other of the Democrats' agenda that would hurt NH jobs and the economy, reduce job opportunities, and be detrimental to our states' small businesses and other job creators.

The executive session for HB1403 is scheduled for Feb. 18th.

Notes from the Republican Leader:

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This week, Democrats brought forward an egregious and unnecessary bill that would have been an infringement on our Second Amendment rights. This would have sent NH down the wrong path of restricting those constitutional rights for law abiding citizens. I'd like to thank all those who had a hand in defeating HB1589.

We were able to defeat this bill that was part of the Democrats' legislative agenda in our state, and nationally, but this isn't the only one. There is still much work to be done, and much more legislation coming up that will require us to fight. If there are any bills coming up that you would like our assistance with, please don't hesitate to contact our office and we will do what we can to help.

Gene G. Chandler

