

Key House Votes on 2013 House Bills

Roll Call Vote #26 - ITL on HB323

A vote of Yea indicates support to kill an effort to prohibit collective bargaining agreements that require employees to join a labor union

New Hampshire may not be what is called a “forced union state” but collective bargaining agreements can still be ratified to include a requirement that employees to join a labor union and/or pay union dues. Many Republicans believe it should be the the decision of the individual whether or not to join a union and pay dues, even if it would require them to negotiate their own contracts as individuals, without union support.

Roll Call Vote #36 - OTP on HB370

A vote of Yea indicates support to repeal the education choice scholarship program, that allows businesses to make donations deductible from their business enterprise taxes, that help provide scholarships to students to attend private and/or alternative schools.

Choice and innovation in education allows for better education outcomes for our children. This program has helped dozens of families send their children to different schools that may better fit their aptitude or interests. While a court ruling has limited scholarships to just non-religious schools, the scholarships help families who would otherwise not be able to afford private schools.

Roll Call Vote #67 - ITL on HB271

A vote of Yea indicates support for expanding Medicaid as part of Obamacare

During the previous legislative term, Republicans in House and Senate passed a bill that prohibited the state from entering into any Medicaid expansion program. HB271 sought to repeal that law, paving the way for passing an expansion program.

Roll Call Vote #71 - OTP/A on HB659

A vote of Yea indicates support for increasing the tobacco tax

Cigarettes are bad, but sales of tobacco contribute a significant amount of revenue to the state, especially in our border communities. Raising the tax on tobacco would decrease the volume of cross-border sales, thereby decreasing the revenue the state gets from those sales. Keeping New Hampshire’s tobacco tax the lowest in New England helps give us this advantage.

Roll Call Vote #95 - OTP on HB595

A vote of Yea indicates support repealing some of the meaningful voter identification laws that help deter voter fraud in New Hampshire.

This bill as passed by the House would have repealed changes to laws requiring photo identification of voters scheduled to take effect in 2013. Our voter ID law is a common sense measure that brings honesty and transparency to our elections. Eliminating parts of this law would make it harder to ensure the integrity of the ballot box and guarantee that our 'one person, one vote' principle is not diluted by dishonest votes.

Roll Call Vote #100 - OTP/A ON HB135

A vote of Yea indicates support to repeal New Hampshire's "Stand Your Ground" law, that enables citizens to defend themselves wherever they have a legal right to be.

Had HB135 passed in the Senate, New Hampshire would have had to revert to laws that required citizens being threatened to make an effort to retreat prior to protecting themselves. May Republicans (and some Democrats) agreed that the rights and protections granted by the SYG law were needed and reasonable. Thankfully, this bill to repeal those protections did not pass.

Roll Call Vote #104 - OTP/A on HB617

A vote of Yea indicates support to raise the gas tax by 12 cents per gallon

HB617 would have been the largest tax increase in New Hampshire history. While many people believe our roads and bridges need work, many Republicans believe this was a bad bill simply due to the spike in the tax rate. HB617's tax increase was almost quadruple the increase in SB367, which passed the House and Senate in 2014.

Roll Call Vote #107 - OTP on HB185

A vote of Yea indicates support to increase the fee on home heating oil

Heating costs this past winter were among the highest many people have seen. HB185 assessed a small, but burdensome fee on home heating oil that most likely was passed on to consumers in the form of higher prices.

Roll Call Vote #113 - OTP/A on HB1 (Budget), Roll Call Vote #130 - OTP/A on HB2 (Budget)

A Yea vote indicates support for the House Democrats' budget proposal that raised spending by over 10%, increased taxes by \$263 million (gas tax, tobacco tax, and business taxes), and was built precariously on inflated revenue estimates. In addition, the Democrat budget allowed the Governor to raid dedicated funds, downshifted \$7 million in nursing home costs to county governments, expanded Medicaid, placed a moratorium on new school building aid and new charter schools and repealed the education choice scholarship.