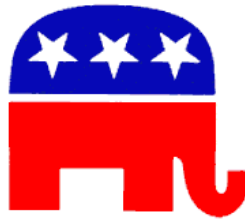


Republican Report

“This is the people’s house and it’s a shame that the people of NH won’t be given the opportunity to be heard an issue as important as guns in the State House.”

—Rep. Sherm Packard
House Republican leader



Volume 4, Issue 2

January 15, 2010

A message from the Republican Leader.....

I would like to welcome the two newest members of the House Republican Caucus, newcomer Steve Cunningham of Croydon (Sullivan, 2) and former colleague Ken Weyler of Kingston (Rockingham, 8). It is clearly evident by their overwhelming victories of better than a 2-1 margin, combined with Rep. Lynne Blankenbeker’s win in the Democratic stronghold of Concord, that our message that the majority party has spent and taxed us into a financial crisis is getting through to the voter. We need to stay on message in the coming months so that the momentum will carry through to the elections in November.

Chandler Request Denied

It should come as no surprise, but the House Rules committee refused Rep. Chandler’s request for late entry of a bill to deal with the gun ban issue in the State House. They denied Rep. Chandler, strictly along party lines, while suggesting that he could “attach the bill as an amendment to one of two other gun bills currently being heard in the House.” This despite the fact that both bills do the exact opposite of what Rep. Chandler intended to accomplish. Meanwhile, Rep. Almy presented a request to submit a bill that dealt with the oil disbursement fund. We then produced three bills that dealt with that issue and suggested that the same logic be used to deny her bill. Despite our clearly defined and well presented objections, and in a clear display of double standards, they voted to allow the Almy bill to move forward. By their actions, they have set the tone for the rest of the session.

Facilities Committee Meets

In response to a written request from the four Republicans, on Friday the Joint Facilities Committee revisited their decision to ban guns and dangerous weapons from the State House. The results of the voting were the same, but my attempt to make a follow-up motion to have the full House and Senate ratify the decision was

disallowed by the Chair, Sen. Larsen. This following a lengthy discourse from Sen. D’Allesandro on “civility and respect for one another.”

Legislation

We have already had hearings for more than 250 bills scheduled this session. Our leadership team takes a look at every single piece of legislation. When deciding whether or not to oppose a bill, we look at a number of different criteria. In most cases if the bill increases a tax or fee, we will oppose it. Does it constitute a new mandate? Will the bill have a negative impact on our next budget? Will it help us to pick up some votes in November? So when we appear at a committee hearing to support or oppose a bill, we have passed the legislation through all of this criteria. Each week on the Republican Report you will find a listing of those bills.

Facebook and Twitter

The House Republican Office has had a page on FACEBOOK for several weeks and now and we have built up a sizeable number of followers. Now we have added TWITTER to our political networking (NHHouseGOP). We invite you to visit our FACEBOOK page and become a “fan.” Also become a follower of our TWITTER page and receive up-to-the minute news from the House Republican Office and the floor of the House.

Staff

Finally I am happy to announce the addition of Shannon Shutts to our office staff. She will be joining us on January 19 to assist Jim and Paul in the office three days a week. I hope that you will stop by and make her feel welcomed.

Since there will not be a session on January 20, we will not have a caucus this week.

Thanks again for your hard work this session.



Legislative Update

Commerce

- HR 22—encouraging Bank of America to change its business practices. **(Oppose)**
HB 1248—prohibiting the state from doing business with any banking institution that requires fingerprints or bodily fluids from any person in order to complete a banking transaction. **(Oppose)**
HB 1316—requiring new construction and renovations of commercial buildings over 4000 square feet to follow the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design guidelines relative to volatile organic compounds. **(Oppose)**
HB 1191—relative to fire sprinkler systems. **(Support)**
HB 1486—prohibiting the mandating of fire sprinkler systems in certain dwellings. **(Support)**
HB 1429—establishing a committee to study the inclusion of universal design requirements in the state building code. **(Oppose)**

Criminal Justice

- HB 1484—relative to residency restrictions for sex offenders. **(Oppose)**
HB 1654,—relative to state house security. **(Oppose)**
HB 1635,—prohibiting the open carrying of a firearm in a public building. **(Oppose)**

Education

- HB 1265—requiring school boards to develop a policy to address air quality issues in schools. **(Oppose)**
HB 1289—relative to air quality in public schools. **(Oppose)**
HB 1346—FN, relative to the approval of chartered public schools. **(Support)**
HB 1397—relative to the approval of a pupil's alternative learning plan. **(Support)**

Election Law

- HB 1225-FNL—requiring a security escort for the delivery of ballots to the clerk. **(Oppose)**

Executive Departments and Administration

- HB 1296—prohibiting a state agency from establishing a fee without legislative approval. **(Support)**

Health, Human Services

- HB 1612-FN, relative to restriction of the use and sale of carisoprodol, tramadol hydrochloride, and temazepam. **(Oppose)**

Judiciary

- HB 1356,—relative to certain nonprofit corporations subject to the right-to-know law. **(Oppose)**
HB 1577-FN,—relative to court records research fees. **(Support)**
HB 1185,—relative to retired judges of 70 years of age. **(Support)**
CACR 21—relating to judges and sheriffs. Providing that judges and sheriffs may serve after the age of 70 years. **(Oppose)**
HB 1306—relative to approval or recommendations of marital masters and judicial referees. **(Support)**
HB 1307—relative to appointments and reappointments of marital masters. **(Support)**

Legislative Administration

- HB 1302-FN—relative to mileage for members of the general court. **(Oppose)**
HB 1675-FN—relative to eliminating payment of certain travel expenses for members of the general court, and imposing a 2-year moratorium on reimbursement of executive branch state employee travel. **(Support)**
HB 1210—relative to the availability of proposed amendments to bills and resolutions. **(Support)**

Local & Regulated Revenue

- HB 1571,—relative to the penalty for failure to file an annual inventory of taxable property. **(Oppose)**

Municipal & County Government

- HB 1338,—relative to scholarships for higher education for early graduating high school students. **(Support)**
HB 1687—relative to the procedure for filling a vacancy among county officers. **(Support)**

Public Works and Highways

- HB 1481—relative to the use of turnpike tolls. **(Support)**
HB 1166—relative to the procurement procedures of the director of plant and property management, and relative to approval of design build projects. **(Support)**

Ways & Means

- HB 1607-FNA—relative to the reasonable compensation deduction under the business profits tax. **(Oppose)**
HB 1611-FNAL—establishing a sales and use tax. **(Oppose)**
CACR 22—relating to taxation. Providing that taxes imposed by the state of New Hampshire or its subdivisions may be graduated. **(Oppose)**