

Principles of Liberty Worksheet

Principle		Support		Oppose	
Individual Rights	Individual Liberty <i>Does this bill...</i>	... protect or erode individual liberty by protecting or eroding the Bill of Rights?		Protects	Erodes
		... protect or erode the right of self-control and/or self-determination?		Protects	Erodes
		... reward/punish behavior that does not infringe on rights of others?		No	Yes
		... promote "mala prohibita" law - regulating behavior which does not infringe on rights of others?		No	Yes
	Personal Responsibility <i>Does this bill...</i>	... create intervention by government to remedy consequences of individual choice?		No	Yes
		... remove responsibility for self-determination or replace individual choice with government mandate?		No	Yes
		... punish "bad behavior" or individual choices that do not infringe upon rights of others?		No	Yes
		... reward "good behavior" or individual choices that are deemed "good for society"?		No	Yes
		... attempt to create new "rights", "entitlements" or otherwise increase dependency upon government?		No	Yes
		... diminish the role of personal responsibility through government intervention?		No	Yes
Free Markets	Property Rights <i>Does this bill...</i>	... protect or interfere with/fail to protect ownership of property?		Protects	Interferes
		... protect or interfere with use of property?		Protects	Interferes
		... protect or interfere with services/income provided by property?		Protects	Interferes
		... protect or interfere with disposition/transfer of property?		Protects	Interferes
	Free Markets <i>Does this bill...</i>	... create intervention/distortion in marketplace via taxes, subsidies, regulation, etc.?		No	Yes
		... assume unconstitutional roles or levels of oversight/regulation?		No	Yes
		... create government intervention/mandates on voluntary transactions, contracts or employment arrangements?		No	Yes
		... create barrier(s) to entry for competition?		No	Yes
		... use government to compete with private enterprise?		No	Yes
		... disturb the free market mechanism of price signaling?		No	Yes
		... use government regulation or intervention in the markets to further socio-political agendas?		No	Yes

Limited Government	Limited Government <i>Does this bill...</i>	... execute a clearly defined and proper role of state government?		Yes		No
		... stay within the constitutional scope of state government?		Yes		No
		... increase or decrease transparency &/or accountability?		Increase		Decrease
		... contract or expand government?		Contract		Expand
		... refrain from interfering with individual liberty, personal responsibility, property rights or free markets?		Yes		No
		... refrain from attempting to create new "rights" or "entitlements" not already recognized by the constitution?		Yes		No
	State vs. Federal Balance of Power <i>Does this bill...</i>	... defend state powers or over-reaching federal government?		State		Federal
		... defend Colorado state citizens or over-reaching federal government?		Citizens		Federal
		... assert or abdicate proper state powers?		Assert		Abdicate
		... use state powers to hold federal government in check?		Yes		No
	Fiscal Responsibility <i>Does this bill...</i>	... limit spending to that required to perform limited, constitutional role of government?		Yes		No
		... limit taxes/fees/fines/revenue to that required to perform limited, constitutional role of government?		Yes		No
		... enhance accountability for spending/revenue?		Yes		No
		... enhance transparency for spending/revenue?		Yes		No
		... exhibit fiduciary responsibility and fiscal prudence?		Yes		No
		... utilize reasonable/realistic projections?		Yes		No
		... subject the state to the strings of federal money, particularly where federal powers have been over-extended?		No		Yes
	Equal Protection / Rule of Law <i>Does this bill...</i>	... protect individual rights/liberty equally for everyone?		Yes		No
		... create special/entitled classes of people for protection or entitlement, punishment or penalties?		No		Yes
		... use the force of government to plunder one class/group for the benefit of another?		No		Yes
		... provide government agents/representatives with special treatment not afforded to citizens?		No		Yes
		... create intervention by government to promote "opportunity" or "access" for one group/class over another?		No		Yes

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