

North Carolina Legislative Update, March 31, 2017

03.31.2017

This week at the Legislature, HB2 was repealed and replaced, Senate confirmation of Cabinet secretaries continued, and Legislators filed dozens of bills ahead of filing deadlines.

HB2 "Reset" (HB142)

Thursday, the General Assembly passed, and the Governor signed, a bill that repeals HB2. The new legislation establishes that the General Assembly regulates access to multiple occupancy restrooms, showers or changing facilities, and prohibits local governments from enacting ordinances regulating private employment practices or public accommodations until December 1, 2020. The bill was the result of a compromise developed between Governor Roy Cooper and Legislative leaders.

The vote on the bill did not follow party lines. The Senate passed the bill 32 to 16 (23 Republicans and 9 Democrats voted yes; 10 Republicans and 6 Democrats voted no). In the House, the bill passed 70 to 48 (40 Republicans and 30 Democrats voted yes; 33 Republicans and 15 Democrats voted no). Governor Cooper signed the bill into law Thursday afternoon.

Confirmations

Senate committees are continuing the process of confirming Governor Cooper's Cabinet members. Dr. Mandy Cohen was unanimously recommended for approval as Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services by the Senate Health Care Committee and will now be considered by the Senate Nominations Committee. Michael Regan of the Department of Environmental Quality was scheduled to go before the Senate Agriculture, Natural, and Economic Resources Committee Thursday; due to the HB2 debate, that meeting was postponed.

Tax Cuts (SB325)

A bill entitled "Billion Dollar Middle Class Tax Cut" passed both the Senate Finance and Senate Rules Committees this week. The proposal would reduce the personal income tax rate from 5.499% to 5.35%, reduce the corporate rate from 3% to 2.5% over a two-year period, and increase the standard deduction from \$17,500 to \$20,000 for a married couple filing jointly, among other provisions. The House has a different bill (HB 356) containing a number of tax changes. We can expect more debate on the issue of further tax changes as the session continues.

UNC Board of Governors

The Senate this week voted to approve six men to serve on the UNC Board of Governors. Former Senator Bob Rucho, former Republican Party Chairman Tom Fetzler, and NC State University

Trustee Randall Ramsey will be serving their first terms on the Board, while William Kotis, Steven Long, and Harry Smith, Jr. were reelected to another term. Earlier in the month, the Senate elected Darrell Allison to fill a vacancy on the Board. The House is expected to elect their six members next week.

Bills Filed

House Bills

H482

County Comm. Role in School Bldg Acquisition.

H483

Vet. Posttraumatic Stress/Mitigating Factor.

H484

Servicemembers Civil Relief Act.

H485

UNC & CC Credit/National Gd on SAD.

H486

National Guard Tuition Assistance Program.

H487

Nat. Guard Reemployment Rights/Definitions.

H488

Early Rental Termination by Military Members.

H489

Child Abuse & Neglect/Military Affiliation.

H490

Caldwell CC/Bd. of Trustees Appointments.

H491

Henderson County Fire Tax Districts.

H492

Increase Penalties for Certain Assaults.

H493

Combine Barber & Cosmetology Licensure Boards.

H494

Sales Tax Exemption - Agricultural Fairs.

H495

Increase Textbook Funds & Spending Flex.

H496

Fair and Nonpartisan Ballot Placement.

H497

Retirement Systems 2% COLAs/Funds.

H498

Jonesville/Boonville/East Bend/Even-Yr Elec'n.

H499

Funds for Down Syndrome Programs.

H500

ABC Omnibus Legislation.

H501

DOT/Surveying Information in Plans.

H502

Define "Consumer" - Auto Renewal Contracts.

H503

Local Budgets/Public Enterprise Funds.

H504

City of Lincolnton/Even-Yr Elect'n/Mayor Term.

H505

Expand Grandparent Visitation Rights.

H506

Chemical Endangerment of a Child.

H507

Land-Use Regulatory Changes.

H508

Appointments/Bd of Elections/Certain Counties.

H509

Davidson County Zoning Procedure Changes.

H510

Wilson/Provision of Communication Services.

H511

Game Nights/Nonprofit Fund-Raiser.

H512

Monitor Implementation of TBI Waiver.

H513

Set State-County Special Assistance Rates.

H514

Permit Municipal Charter School/Certain Towns.

H515

Adaptive Equipment Tax Benefit.

H516

Results First Framework.

H517

Mandate Wheelchairs at Outpatient Facilities.

H518

SAFE Act Changes.

H519

Tri-County CC/Neighbor State In-State Tuition.

H520

Union Co. Bd. of Ed/Partisan Election.

H521

School Calendar Flex./Union County.

H522

Change the LOST Adjustment Factor.

H523

School Calendar Flex./Lincoln County.

H524

Marine Aquaculture Development Act.

H525

Amending Body-Worn Camera Procedures.

H526

DOT/Roadside Memorials.

H527

Restore/Preserve Campus Free Speech.

H528

Traffic Impact Analysis Time Frame.

H529

Amend Funeral Laws.

H530

Counties/Condemnation of Unsafe Bldgs/Liens.

H531

Dare County Local Tax Clarification.

H532

Modify UNC Laboratory Schools.

H533

Modernize Symbol of Access.

H534

Computer Coding Course Elective.

H535

Operating Funds for Linville Nursery.

H536

Increase Funding for Behavioral Health Svcs.

H537

2017 Governor's Budget.

H538

Tarheel Challenge Academy Funds.

H539

Access to Elderly Adults.

H540

Teachers & State Employees Pay Raise.

H541

Funds/Broadband in Franklin and Nash Counties.

H542

Elections/Cities in More Than One Co.

H543

Caregiver Relief Act.

H544

Healthy Families & Workplaces/Paid Sick Days.

H545

Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee Reforms.

H546

Rabies Quarantine Amendments.

H547

Cumberland 12C Superior Court Districts.

Senate Bills

S390

Pilot/Sports for Students With Disabilities.

S391

Ferry Transportation Authority.

S392

Confirmation/Secretary of DHHS.

S393

Confirmation/Secretary DEQ.

S394

Legislative Cybersecurity Committee.

S395

Hospitality Law Revisions & Game Night.

S396

Special Separation Allowance for Firefighters.

S397

Utilization Review Laws Clarification.

S398

Direct Sellers Not Employees for UI.

S399

UNC & CC Credit/National Gd on SAD.

S400

National Guard Tuition Assistance Program.

S401

Early Rental Termination by Military Members.

S402

Vet. Posttraumatic Stress/Mitigating Factor.

S403

Child Abuse & Neglect/Military Affiliation.

S404

Nat. Guard Reemployment Rights/Definitions.

S405

Servicemembers Civil Relief Act.

S406

Sweepstakes Control Act.

S407

Employee Misclassification Reform.

S408

NC Truth in Education.

S409

Increase Penalties/Organized Retail Theft.

S410

Marine Aquaculture Development Act.

S411

Various Motor Vehicle Law Revisions.

S412

Improve Process/Sale of Unclaimed Vehicles.

S413

Clarify Motor Vehicle Dealer Laws.

S414

Use of Funding Pool Grant Funds/Macon County.

S415

Clarify Def'n. of Collection Agency.

S416

Use of Tourism Funds/Watauga County.

S417

Private Parking/Immobilization Device.

S418

Dyslexia Kindergarten Screening.

S419

Planning/Development Changes.

S420

CC Bd. of Trustees/Governance.

S421

Use of Career & Technical Funds/Onslow County.

S422

Eligibility Reform/Medicaid/SNAP.

S423

Life Changing Experiences School Pilot.

S424

Increase Funding for Behavioral Health Svcs.

S425

Unborn Child Protection Fr. Dismemberment Act.

S426

Barber Apprentice Changes.

S427

Jordyn's Law/Notify Noncustodial Parent/Abuse.

S428

Chiropractor Parity & Preceptorships.

S429

Home Visits/Preg. Women & Children/Medicaid.

S430

2017 Governor's Budget.

S431

Correction Enterprise and Workers' Comp.

S432

Delay Marine Fisheries Rule Making.

S433

Limit Who May Advertise/Adoption Laws.

S434

Amend Environmental Laws 2.

S435

Internet Publication of Legal Notices.

S436

UI & WC/Newsprint Employees.

S437

Clarify Hospital Patient Discharge Rights.

S438

Allow Senior Citizens to Audit UNC/CC Courses.

S439

Funds/Eliminate NC Pre-K Waitlist Statewide.

S440

National Popular Vote Interstate Compact.

S441

No Budget, No Pay Act.

S442

Study/Expand Computer Science to All Students.

S443

TA Tuition/Teachers Pilot/Funds for Books.

S444

Permanency Innovation Initiative Funds.

S445

Expungement Process Modifications.

S446

LEO Next of Kin Notification.

S447

Turning TAs Into Teachers.

S448

Professors in the Classroom.

S449

Early Ed Articulation Agreement.

S450

Uniform Trust Decanting Act.

S451

Joint Survivorship Clarifications.

S452

Expand Allowable Medical Uses of CBD Oil.

S453

Driver Instruction/Law Enforcement Stops.

S454

LEO Personal Info and Public Records.

S455

Amend Certificate of Relief.

S456

Increase De-Escalation Training for LEOs.

S457

Amend Deferred Prosecution Statute.

S458

Increase Inmate Health Care.

S459

Senate Resolution Pertaining to Senate Rules.

S460

Agriculture and Forestry Nuisance Remedies.

S461

Modify UNC Laboratory Schools.

S462

UNC/UTEACH Program.

S463

Caregiver Relief Act.

S464

Increase Oversight of OLBs.

S465

Courthouse Concealed Carry/Elected Officials.

S466

CIHS Funds.

S467

North Carolina Retirement Reform.

S468

QZAB Use Modification.

S469

Preserve Municipal Solid Waste Capacity.

S470

Personal Injury Bankruptcy Trust Claims.

S471

LRC/Transition to Sptd Empl./IDD Population.

S472

Streamline CAP/CDSA Services Pilot.

S473

Class Size Reporting/Principal.

S474

A Common Sense Repeal of HB2.

S475

Low-Income Building Project-HFA.

S476

Tuition Grants for NCSSM Graduates.

S477

Free Handicap Placard/Certain Organizations.

S478

Strengthen Youth Tobacco Use Prevention/Funds.

S479

Amend Funeral Laws.

S480

Protection From Government Overreach Act.

S481

Waiver/Prohibit Certain Foods/SNAP.

S482

Charter Schools in the Workplace.

S483

NC Comprehensive School Accountability.

S484

PARTF Funding Conditions and Match.

S485

Livestock and Wildlife Protection Act.

S486

Uniform Voting Hours Act.

S487

Increase Energy Efficiency.

S488

Motorcycle Financing Changes.

S489

Clarify Workers' Comp. Policy Cancellation.

S490

Portability of Leave/Charter Schools.

S491

HOA/Condo Crime & Fidelity Insurance Policies.

S492

T & U Visa/Fees.

S493

C-PACE Program.

S494

Ready Mix Concrete Mill Sales Tax Exemption.

S495

Zoo State Construction Exemptions.

S496

Banking Law Amendments.

S497

Nonprofit Sales Tax Exemption.

S498

Healthy Food Small Retailer Program.

S499

Capital Funds for Residential TBI Services.

S500

Strengthen Human Trafficking Law.

S501

2017 DOL Technical Changes.

S502

DOL/Carolina Star Program.

S503

Online Paperless Pistol Permit Modernization.

S504

Educational Property Definition/Firearms.

S505

Add Member to NC Training Standards.

S506

Study NC Criminal Justice Size and Efficiency.

S507

Restore/Preserve Campus Free Speech.

S508

Impaired Driving Punishment/Use of CAM.

S509

Insurer Investment/Transaction Changes.

S510

Surplus Equipment Auctions.

S511

School Construction Flexibility.

S512

Stop the Revolving Door.

S513

Same Firearm Protections for 50C as 50B Order.

S514

State Budget/Require 5-Year Forecast.

S515

NC Skills Gap Study.

S516

State Employees/Paid Parental Leave.

S517

North Carolina New Teacher Support Act.

S518

Budget Resp./Account./Transparency in Schools.

S519

NCGRADE.

S520

Emergency Worker Protection Act.

S521

UNC/Equal Opportunity Officer.

S522

Manufactured Home Purchase Agreement Changes.

S523

EMS Use of UAS.

S524

Department of Revenue Registration Act.

S525

Study Legislative Term Limits.

S526

Nat. Guard/Adjutant General's Staff.

S527

Require Physical Education.

S528

Promote Ideological Diversity - UNC Faculty.

S529

EMS - Recommendations.

S530

Protect Government Whistleblowers.

S531

School Boards Can't Sue Counties.

S532

Landowner Encroachment and Timber Theft Act.

S533

Mitigation Services/DOT.

S534

Legal Services Rendered for Nonprofits.

S535

Service Worker Tax Reduction Action.

S536

Elections/Cities in More Than One Co.

S537

North Carolina Equal Pay Act.

S538

Sudden Cardiac Arrest Task Force.

S539

Environmental Regulatory Reform Act of 2017.

S540

Computer Coding Course Elective.

S541

Teacher Compensation/Exceed Max. Class Size.

S542

Public School Building Bond Act of 2017.

S543

Health Insurance Claims Transparency Act.

S544

Business Regulatory Reform Act of 2017.

S545

State Nature and Historic Preserve Adds/Dels.

S546

Accuracy/Medicaid Eligibility Determinations.

S547

Restitution Remission/Notice and Hearing Req.

S548

Strengthen Human Trafficking Laws/Studies.

S549

Juvenile Reinvestment Act.

S550

Modernization of Drug Court Program.

S551

Promote NC-Thinks.

S552

Modify Sales Tax Remittance: Boat/Jet Repairs.

S553

Revoke Consent for Intercourse.

S554

Fair Redistricting/Postmark&Absentee Ballots.

S555

Sanitary Districts/Impact Fees.

S556

Healthy Families & Workplaces/Paid Sick Days.

S557

Annexation of Enclaves.

S558

School Road Improvement Grant Program.

S559

Fingerprinting Upon Arrest.

S560

Citizen's Warrants.

S561

Expunction - Charges Dismissed/Not Guilty.

S562

Local Funds for Charter Schools.

S563

Business Court Changes.

S564

Juvenile Justice Reinvestment Act.

S565

People First 2017.

S566

Postpone Assumed Name Revisions.

S567

Reform/Correct/Wills and Trusts.

S568

Nonademption of Specific Devises.

S569

Uniform Power of Attorney Act.

S570

Changes to the Juvenile Code.-AB

S571

Customary and Reasonable Fees for Appraisers.

S572

Consumer Credit/Revolving Credit Charges.

S573

Appraisal Assignment Modifications.

S574

Consumer Credit/Revolving Credit Charges.

S575

Land-Use Regulatory Changes.

S576

Real Estate Appraisal Clarifications.

S577

Consumer Credit/Default Charge.

S578

Veteran-Owned Small Business/Annual Report.

S579

The Catherine A. Zanga Medical Marijuana Bill.

For more information, contact the Brooks Pierce Government Affairs Team, linked below.

PEOPLE

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SERVICES

Government Relations & Public Policy