



North Carolina Spirits Association

Legislative Report
July 2, 2021

We will not publish a Legislative Report on July 9, 2021 – The next Legislative Report will be published on July 16, 2021.

It was a busy Tuesday and Wednesday at the General Assembly this week as the House and Senate attempted to finish their business ahead of the holiday weekend. Wednesday's House session extended into the evening, as the House finished their business for the week so they would not have to meet on Thursday. Also, House and Senate leadership announced that the chambers will not have committee meetings or recorded votes during the week of July 5, giving members an extended Fourth of July break.

This week House Appropriations Committees met to begin reviewing the Senate version of the State Budget Bill. Committee members heard presentations from legislative staff regarding the various provisions included in the Senate budget bill, House provisions of interest that were not included, and other similar matters. These budget committee meetings are expected to resume the week of July 12.

Medical marijuana won near-unanimous approval in a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing Wednesday. The bill's sponsor, Senator Bill Rabon (R-Brunswick), is a cancer survivor and said his experience with chemotherapy is what inspired him to push for medical marijuana, even though his party has often been against it in the past. Senate Bill 711, NC Compassionate Care Act, now heads to the Senate Finance Committee for further consideration.

Last Friday, Governor Cooper signed two bills to authorize adding the East Coast Greenway, which winds through 23 counties from the southeastern corner of the state through the Triangle to the north-central Virginia border, and the Dan River State Trail in Stokes and Rockingham counties, to the North Carolina State Parks system. "It is vital to the health and well-being of our state's residents that public outdoor spaces are available to everyone, in every community," he said in a statement.

The House and Senate will reconvene for voting sessions on Monday July 12.

BILL STATUS

House Bill 619, Alcohol Bev. Manufacture Sales Tax Exemption, passed the House and was sent to the Senate to consider the changes made to the bill in the House. House Bill 619 would exempt from sales and use tax sales of machinery, parts, accessories, supplies, and ingredients to certain ABC permittees for use in the manufacturing of beer, wine, and spiritous liquor for which

the purchaser would otherwise be ineligible because the purchaser is primarily engaged in the restaurant business.

For more information about legislation described in the legislative reports, feel free to contact me at dferrell@nexsenpruet.com or (919) 573-7421. Information is also available on the General Assembly's website: www.ncleg.gov.

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