



North Carolina Spirits Association

Legislative Report
March 11 2022

After much anticipation, the North Carolina legislature adjourned the 2021 legislative session on Friday March 11, 2022. The Senate approved the adjournment resolution on Wednesday March 9 and the House approved the resolution on Thursday March 10. The Resolution does provide for two, three-day sessions to be held April 4-6, and May 4-6, 2022. Speaker Tim Moore and President Pro Tempore Phil Berger both stated they do not expect votes on any substantive bills during either of those sessions.

Speaker Tim Moore noted in his remarks to his House colleagues that this has been the longest “Long Session” in the history of the State, having begun in January 2021. This was an unusual session in that the legislature redrew congressional and legislative districts in 2021, and stayed in session to address various court challenges to the new district maps. In response to the Supreme Court’s ruling in one of the challenges, the legislature redrew congressional and legislative districts in early 2022. The legislative districts were then approved by the trial court, and the congressional maps were modified, then approved by the trial court. These modified congressional maps will be used for the 2022 election, but can be redrawn next year for use in future elections.

Various legislative study committees will meet in the interim before the legislative “short” session begins, including the NC Courts Commission, the General Statutes Commission, and various others.

The legislative “short” session will begin on May 18, the day after the primary elections. It is expected that the legislature will adjourn the short session around June 30 or shortly thereafter. Given that many legislators will be campaigning in new and/or redrawn districts, there is an interest in keeping the 2022 legislative session short – so members will have more time to get to know the voters in their new and/or redrawn districts.

BILL STATUS

Senate Bill 470, ABC Technical and Other Changes, was not considered in the Senate before the legislature wrapped up its business for the 2021 legislative session. It is anticipated that the bill will be considered during the 2022 legislative session set to begin May 18, 2022.

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

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