



## The Daily Bulletin: 2021-04-05

### PUBLIC/HOUSE BILLS

H 489 (2021-2022) [2021 BUILDING CODE AND DEV. REG. REFORM](#). Filed Apr 1 2021, *AN ACT TO PROVIDE VARIOUS BUILDING CODE AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATORY REFORMS*.

#### Section 1

Authorizes the State Licensing Board for General Contractors (Board) to use a criminal background check in determining a general contractor's application for licensure under GS 87-10; requires compliance with the provisions of GS 93B-8.1. Requires general contractors to consent to a criminal background check as part of licensing application requirements, as required by the Board and at the applicant's expense. Provides for information obtained from criminal background checks to be privileged, confidential, and not public record. Deems records, papers, and other documentation containing personal information collected or compiled by the Board in connection with an application for examination, licensure, certification, or renewal or reinstatement, or the subsequent update of information to be not public records. Effective January 1, 2022, and applies to applications for licensure submitted on or after that date.

Modifies GS 87-10.2 to require the Board to approve providers and instructors of continuing education courses for licensees and requires providers of the mandatory course to register Board-approved instructors affiliated with the provider to attend a training program established, approved, and administered by the Board. Regarding live instruction credit hours, adds that transmission of live approved presentation by an approved instructor is included. Makes changes to refer to approved providers throughout (instead of approved sponsor in some places). Directs the Board to ensure that all continuing education requirements can be satisfied by approved internet-based e-learning courses. Extends the Board's authority regarding disciplinary action for false continuing education certification to apply to qualifiers and qualifying parties in addition to licensees. Clarifies that the Board's duty to maintain and distribute educational coursework completion applies to required educational coursework. Requires annual requests to the Board for a licensee to place the licensee's license in an inactive status. Effective January 1, 2022, and applies to continuing education hours required on or after that date.

Regarding the Board's authority to seek injunctive relief for violations of Article 1 and rules adopted thereunder, requires the court to award reasonable attorneys' fees of up to \$5,000 plus the costs associated with obtaining the relief and the investigation and prosecution of the violation when the Board is successful in its action (previously authorized the court to award costs associated with the investigation and prosecution).

Directs the Board to adopt temporary and permanent implementing rules; excludes the Board from fiscal note requirements in adopting these rules.

#### Section 2

Amends GS 143-138 to require the Building Code Council (Council) to conduct economic analysis or cost-benefit analysis of its own or that is submitted other than by the proponent of a proposed NC Building Code (Code) amendment or revision, excluding proposals for revision or amendments made upon motion of the Council or submitted by a State agency or political subdivision of the State. Updates statutory cross-references. Allows for rather than requires Council approval of local regulations approved by a local governing body which are found by the Council to be more stringent than the adopted statewide fire prevention code and regulate only activities and conditions in buildings, structures, and premises that pose dangers of fire, explosion or related hazards, and do not conflict with the Code.

#### Section 3

Amends GS 160A-306 to add to the requirements of any setback lines to require they be designed to provide that measurements for sight distances at street intersections begin within the roadway or edge of pavement of a proposed or existing street. Makes technical changes.

Amends GS 160D-922 to provide that fees charged by local governments under their erosion and sedimentation control program are governed by GS 113A-60, as amended.

#### Section 4

Enacts GS 160D-1104(d1), prohibiting charging fees for follow-up inspections to verify completion or correction of additional violations of the NC Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings or the Code discovered during a follow-up inspection conducted to verify completion or correction of Code violations noted in a previous inspection, and the additional violations are within an area of work for which a final inspection has already been conducted.

#### Section 5

Enacts two new subsections to GS 113A-54.1, which provide as follows. Deems the financial responsibility for land-disturbing activity on residential lots involving new construction owned by builders or developers to transfer to the new owner upon the builder or developer's conveyance of the lot to the new owner and deed recordation. Prohibits requiring additional erosion control measures for the development of a residential lot where an erosion control plan for the development phase in which the lot is located has received final inspection and approval.

Amends GS 113A-54.2 to deem that GS 113A-60, as amended, governs the local government authority to assess fees for the review and approval of erosion and sedimentation control plans.

Amends GS 113A-60 to authorize local governments to adopt ordinances establishing a fee for the review and approval of erosion and sedimentation control plans, inspections conducted pursuant to the plan, and related activities (was, review of the plan and related activities). Establishes fee parameters to require the fee be calculated on the basis of either the number of acres disturbed or set at up to \$100 per lot developed, with the method of calculation at the option of the person submitting the plan for review and approval. Makes conforming and organizational changes. Enacts three new subsections, providing the following. Prohibits local governments from requiring a separate erosion control plan for development of individual residential lots within a development project which contains an approved master erosion control plan. Sets forth 11 specifications local governments can require for the review and approval of erosion control measures for such lot development. Establishes that, subject to federal law, local erosion control programs must provide that no periodic self-inspections or rain gauge installation is required on individual residential lots where less than one acre is being disturbed per lot, and, for a land-disturbing activity on more than one residential lot where the total land disturbed exceeds one acre, allow the person conducting the activity to submit a single erosion plan for all of the disturbed lots or submit for review and approval the erosion control measures of each individual lot as if under an approved erosion control plan. Prohibits development regulations and local erosion and sedimentation control plans from requiring a silt fence or other measure to be placed, or a wire-backed reinforced silt fence, which would not substantially and materially retain the sediment generated by the land-disturbing activity within the boundaries of the tract during construction upon and development of the tract, due to the natural contour and topography of the site. Effective July 1, 2021, and applies to erosion control plans submitted for review and approval on or after that date.

Enacts GS 113A-61.1(d) to establish that the damage or destruction of a silt fence occurring during development or construction on a development project is not a violation of Article 4 so long as the silt fence is repaired or replaced within five working days of the inspection revealing the damage or destruction.

#### Section 6

Requires the Council to implement Section D107 of the 2018 NC Fire Code and other provisions related to fire apparatus access roads for one- and two-family dwelling residential developments as follows. Directs the Council and Code enforcement official to not require an automatic sprinkler system in one- or two-family dwellings where there are fewer than 100 dwelling units on a single public or private fire apparatus access road with access from one direction. Requires the Council to adopt amendments consistent with this directive, as specified.

**Intro. by Brody, Riddell, D. Hall, Hunter.**

[GS 87](#), [GS 113A](#), [GS 143](#), [GS 160A](#), [GS 160D](#)

[View summary](#)

**[Business and Commerce](#), [Occupational Licensing](#), [Courts/Judiciary](#), [Civil](#), [Civil Law](#), [Development](#), [Land Use and Housing](#), [Land Use, Planning and Zoning](#), [Property and Housing](#), [Environment](#), [Environment/Natural Resources](#), [Government](#), [Local Government](#)**

H 492 (2021-2022) [WC/PSYCH. TRAUMA-RELATED INJURIES](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT PROVIDING THAT LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS, FIREFIGHTERS, 911 DISPATCHERS, AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SERVICES PERSONNEL ARE ENTITLED TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION BENEFITS FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL TRAUMA WHETHER OR NOT SUCH INJURIES ARE ACCOMPANIED BY PHYSICAL INJURIES UNDER SPECIFIED CIRCUMSTANCES.*

Amends GS 97-53 to add the following applicable when determining eligibility of a first responder to get workers' compensation benefits under Article 1 of GS Chapter 97. Defines *first responder* to mean a law enforcement officer, a firefighter, a 911 dispatcher, or an emergency medical technician or paramedic employed by the State or a local government; also includes a volunteer firefighter meeting the specified requirements. Makes posttraumatic stress disorder suffered by a first responder without any other injury a compensable occupational disease that arises out of employment as a first responder and arises out of injuries that are characteristic of and peculiar to a particular trade, occupation, process, or employment if (1) the posttraumatic stress disorder is a result of the first responder acting within the course of his or her employment and (2) the first responder is examined and subsequently diagnosed with the disorder by a licensed psychiatrist or licensed psychologist who establishes within a reasonable degree of medical certainty that the disorder is a result of employment activities. Requires the disorder to be demonstrated by a preponderance of medical evidence demonstrated by a licensed psychiatrist or licensed psychologist. Requires first responder employing agencies to provide training related to mental health awareness, prevention, mitigation, and treatment. Effective July 1, 2021.

**Intro. by White, K. Baker, Cunningham.**

GS 97

[View summary](#)

**Employment and Retirement, Government, Public Safety and  
Emergency Management**

H 493 (2021-2022) [DEFINING/REGULATING FOOD DELIVERY PLATFORMS](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT DEFINING AND REGULATING THE OPERATION OF FOOD DELIVERY PLATFORMS.*

Enacts GS 75-44 to require food delivery platforms to obtain express written authorization from an eating establishment, as defined, before advertising any statement or image implying a partnership with the food delivery platform or before arranging for the delivery of a food order from an eating establishment. Permits an eating establishment to revoke authorizations by written notice. Defines *food delivery platform* as an online business that acts as an intermediary between consumers and multiple eating establishments by submitting food orders to the eating establishment and arranging for delivery of the order from the eating establishment to consumers. Deems a violation of the new statute an unfair and deceptive trade practice, subject to Article 1 enforcement and penalties.

Amends GS 130A-248, directing the Commission for Public Health to adopt rules governing the delivery of food orders by a food delivery platform.

Effective July 1, 2021.

**Intro. by White.**

GS 75, GS 130A

[View summary](#)

**Business and Commerce, Consumer Protection, Health and  
Human Services, Health, Public Health**

H 494 (2021-2022) [DIGITAL INTERFERENCE CENSORSHIP ACT](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO ENACT THE NORTH CAROLINA DIGITAL INTERFERENCE CENSORSHIP ACT.*

Adds new Article 9, Digital Interference Censorship Act, in GS Chapter 75. Makes this Article applicable to digital application distribution platforms with cumulative gross receipts from sales on the platform to state residents that exceed \$10 million in either the current or previous calendar year and that use the platform: (1) to provide an application that was created by a person

domiciled in this state to a user or (2) to provide an application to a resident of this state. Excludes a special-purpose digital application distribution platform. Defines a *digital application distribution platform* as a digital distribution platform for applications and services provided to a user on general-purpose hardware, including a mobile phone, smartphone, tablet, personal computer, or other similar Internet-enabled device. Specifies that the term includes a digital application platform provided or used only for a certain type of device, including a certain grade of computing device, a device made only by a particular manufacturer, or a device running a particular operating system.

Prohibits a provider of a digital application distribution platform from: (1) requiring a developer to use the provider's in-application payment system as the exclusive means for accepting payment from a user, or to purchase a digital or physical product or service created, offered, or provided by the developer through a software application; (2) retaliating against a developer for choosing to use another digital transaction system or in-application payment system; or (3) refusing to allow a developer to provide the provider's application or digital product to or through the provider's platform or system or refuse to allow a user access to the developer's application or digital product through the provider's platform or system, on account of the developer's use of another payment system, the application's religious or political content, or the religious or political content of users of the developer's application. Makes violations of the Article a violation of GS 75-1.1 (making unlawful unfair methods of competition in or affecting commerce, and unfair or deceptive acts or practices in or affecting commerce).

Allows a person or entity, if the Attorney General fails to prosecute a claim within 60 days, to bring an action in Superior Court to (1) enjoin further violations of this Article by the provider or (2) recover costs and other damages resulting from the provider's conduct. Allows awarding attorneys' fees to prevailing parties in specified instances.

Makes conforming changes to GS 114-2, concerning the Attorney General's duties.

Effective October 1, 2021.

**Intro. by McNeely, Johnson, Kidwell, Tyson.**

[GS 75, GS 114](#)

[View summary](#)

[Business and Commerce, Courts/Judiciary, Civil, Civil Law](#)

H 495 (2021-2022) [REDISTRICTING CRITERIA FOR 2021](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO ESTABLISH CRITERIA FOR LEGISLATIVE AND CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING FOLLOWING THE RETURN OF THE 2020 DECENNIAL CENSUS*.

To be summarized.

**Intro. by Harrison, Reives, Quick, Martin.**

[View summary](#)

H 496 (2021-2022) [PROPERTY OWNERS' RIGHTS/TREE ORDINANCES](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT PROVIDING THAT COUNTIES AND CITIES SHALL NOT ADOPT ORDINANCES REGULATING THE REMOVAL OF TREES FROM PRIVATE PROPERTY WITHOUT THE EXPRESS AUTHORIZATION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY*.

Enacts GS 153A-145.9, applicable to counties, and GS 160A-205.4, applicable to cities, prohibiting counties and cities from adopting ordinances regulating the removal of trees from private property within the county's jurisdiction, or the city's corporate limits or extraterritorial jurisdiction, without express statutory authority granted by either a general or local law. Deems all other bases invalid for the adoption of ordinances regulating the removal of trees from private property by a local governing body.

Provides for the continued validity of local acts authorizing ordinances regulating the removal of trees from private property and any ordinances adopted under that authority before the act becomes law.

Repeals any ordinances regulating the removal of trees from private property that were adopted before the date the act becomes law without express statutory authorization.

**Intro. by Boles, Hunter, Brody, Moffitt.**

GS 153A, GS 160A

[View summary](#)**Development, Land Use and Housing, Property and Housing,  
Government, Local Government**

H 497 (2021-2022) **SUPPORT VETERAN TEACHERS**. Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO INCREASE COMPENSATION FOR TEACHERS IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS WITH AT LEAST FIFTEEN YEARS OF EXPERIENCE*.

Sets a monthly teacher salary schedule for "A" teachers for 2021-22 for licensed public school personnel classified as teachers, based on years of experience, ranging from \$3,500 for teachers with 0 years of experience to \$5,460 for 25 or more years of experience.

Provides for a 12% salary supplement for licensed teachers who have National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification; a 10% salary supplement for licensed teachers classified as "M" teachers; a \$126 salary supplement for licensed teachers with licensure based on academic preparation at the six-year degree level, in addition to the "M" teachers salary supplement; a \$253 salary supplement for licensed teachers with licensure based on academic preparation at the doctoral degree level, in addition to the "M" teachers salary supplement; and a 10% salary supplement for certified school nurses.

Requires that the first step of the salary schedule for school psychologists, school speech pathologists licensed at the master's degree level or higher, and school audiologists licensed at the master's degree level or higher, must be equivalent to the sixth step of the "A" salary schedule. Provides for a 10% salary supplement. Deems these employees eligible to receive salary supplements equivalent to those of teachers for academic preparation at the six-year degree level or the doctoral degree level.

Requires that the twenty-sixth step of the salary schedule for school psychologists, school speech pathologists licensed at the master's degree level or higher, and school audiologists licensed at the master's degree level or higher must be 7.5% higher than the salary received by these same employees on the twenty-fifth step of the salary schedule.

Provides that in lieu of the amounts of annual longevity payments to teachers paid on the teacher salary schedule, beginning with the 2014-15 fiscal year, the amounts of those longevity payments are included in the monthly amounts under the teacher salary schedule.

Details teacher compensation for the 2021-22 school year based on either (1) the applicable salary schedule; (2) the sum of the salary the teacher received in 2013-14, longevity pay for the 2013-14 school year, and annual bonus provided in 2014-100; or (3) the sum of the salary and annual bonus the teacher received in the 2014-15 school year, with the compensation amount determined to be equal to the greater of those amounts. Provides that *teacher* includes instructional support personnel.

Appropriates \$179 million in recurring funds from the General Fund to the Department of Public Instruction for 2021-22 to increase salaries for teachers with at least 15 years of experience as specified.

Effective July 1, 2021.

**Intro. by B. Jones.**

APPROP, UNCODIFIED

[View summary](#)**Education, Elementary and Secondary Education,  
Employment and Retirement, Government,  
Budget/Appropriations, State Agencies, Department of Public  
Instruction****PUBLIC/SENATE BILLS**

S 470 (2021-2022) **NORTH CAROLINA REGULATORY SANDBOX ACT**. Filed Apr 1 2021, *AN ACT TO ENACT THE NORTH CAROLINA FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE REGULATORY SANDBOX ACT AND TO ESTABLISH THE NORTH CAROLINA FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE INNOVATION COMMISSION*.

Enacts new GS Chapter 169, to be known as the North Carolina Regulatory Sandbox Act of 2021. Sets out and defines terms as they are used in the Chapter, including defining *regulatory sandbox*, *sandbox*, or *sandbox program* as the program established by this Chapter that permits a person or entity to temporarily test an innovative financial or insurance product or service (as defined in the act) and make it available to consumers on a limited basis without being subject to certain licensing or other regulatory obligations imposed under applicable State law. Includes numerous NCGA findings related to the banking and insurance industry as well as emerging technology.

Allows a person who makes an innovative product or service available to consumers in the regulatory sandbox to be granted a waiver of specified requirements imposed by statute or rule, if these statutes or rules do not currently allow the product or service to be made available to consumers. Specifies that the waiver is to be no broader than necessary to accomplish the purposes set forth in this Act. Sets the duration of the waiver as the duration of participation in the regulatory sandbox, not to exceed 24 months from the date of admission into the regulatory sandbox program unless granted an extension.

Establishes the 11-member North Carolina Innovation Council (Council) to support innovation, investment, and job creation within the state by encouraging participation in the regulatory sandbox. Gives the Council the power to set standards, principles, guidelines, and policy priorities for the types of innovations that the regulatory sandbox program will support. Makes the Council responsible for admission into the regulatory sandbox program and for assigning selected participants to the applicable State agency. Sets out membership on the Council, including expertise requirements for the public members; prohibits paying members compensation except reasonable travel expenses.

Allows a designated nonprofit organization that has been authorized by the Office of the Secretary of State to be recognized as partners that may help sandbox applicants navigate the application process. Also allows certain participating nonprofit organizations to assist sandbox participants with the design and implementation of products and services during the regulatory sandbox program period. Sets out the application process for nonprofits. Also allows those nonprofit partners to explore, provide input, analyze, and make recommendations with respect to innovations and the application of innovative technologies that would benefit the state, its consumers, and its industry.

Allows entities to apply to participate in the regulatory sandbox by submitting an application to the Council. Sets a \$50 application fee and a \$450 fee to participate in the 24-month sandbox period. Allows for additional participation fees. Requires applicants to be a corporation or other organized entity with a physical presence in North Carolina. Sets out six items the Council is to consider when determining admission, including the nature of the innovation product or service proposed, including the potential risk to consumers; whether the entity's management has the necessary expertise to conduct a pilot of the innovative product or service during the sandbox period; and whether any person substantially involved in the development, operation, or management of the innovative product or service has been convicted of or is currently under investigation for fraud or State or federal securities violations. Allows the Council to deny an application in its discretion, but requires defined reasons to be given. Sets out the process by which an applicant may resolve the denial; denies judicial review.

Upon approval, gives an applicant 24 months to test the innovative product or service; allows the period to be extended by agreement of the applicable State agency. Requires innovations to be offered only to customers who are state residents, with a qualified exception for products or services associated with money transmitters; allows the applicable State agency to cap the number of participants, which may be increased by agreement. Allows the Council or State agency to publish a list of participants or innovation waivers. Allows requiring participants to post a consumer protection bond, or alternatively, a deposit of cash or marketable securities. Requires a final report at the end of the sandbox period. Provides that if the sandbox participant cannot obtain regulatory compliance within 90 days following the expiration of the sandbox period, the participant must wind down operations with existing consumers within 90 days after the conclusion of the sandbox period; sets out actions that may be taken after that period. Sets out notice requirements to be met when a participant's business objectives fail before the end of the testing period.

Requires a participant to make four specified disclosures to consumers before offering an innovative product or service, including that the innovative product or service is authorized under the regulatory sandbox for a temporary testing period and that neither the State nor any of the State agencies endorse or recommend the innovative product or service and is not subject to any liability for losses or damages caused by the product or service. Requires specified records, documents, and data to be kept for five years. Allows the applicable State agency to set reporting requirements.

Sets out provisions governing the confidentiality of various personal information and documents and materials; provides for when certain information may be disclosed.

Allows the Council to explore, receive input, analyze, and make recommendations, with respect to blockchain initiatives and their application. Defines *blockchain technology* as an electronic method for storing cryptographically secure data in a database or distributed ledger technology that is decentralized, consensus-based, mathematically verified, and distributed across multiple locations.

Deems a participant to possess an appropriate license under the State's laws for purposes of any provision of federal law that requires State licensure or authorization. Allows the Council to enter into agreements with other State, federal, or foreign regulators to advance the purpose of the regulatory sandbox. Specifies that this Chapter allows persons, applicants, or entities authorized in other jurisdictions or that hold a license in other jurisdictions to be recognized as sandbox participants in this state.

Effective October 1, 2021.

**Intro. by Johnson, Hise.**

GS 169

[View summary](#)

**Business and Commerce, Insurance**

S 477 (2021-2022) [VICTIMS' FAIR TREATMENT ACT](#). Filed Apr 1 2021, *AN ACT TO ENACT THE VICTIMS' FAIR TREATMENT ACT*.

Enacts a new GS Chapter 1H to establish the Victims' Fair Treatment Act. Defines *contributory fault* as contributory negligence, misuse of a product, unreasonable failure to avoid or mitigate harm, and assumption of risk unless the risk is expressly assumed in a legally enforceable release or similar agreement. Defines *released person* as a person that would be liable for damages if the person had not been discharged from liability under proposed GS 1H-35 (Effect of release) or GS 1H-40 (Reduction of worker's compensation lien and subrogation right).

Requires that in an action to recover damages for personal injury or harm to property involving the responsibility of more than one party or a released person, the jury must answer special interrogatories or the court must make specific findings as follows: (1) state the amount of damages that a claimant would be entitled to recover if any contributory fault was disregarded; (2) state, as to each claim, the percentage of total responsibility attributed to each claimant, defendant, and released person that caused the injury or harm; (3) whether any of the parties or released persons acted in concert or with intent to cause injury or harm to the claimant; and (4) any other issue of fact fairly raised by the evidence necessary to make a determination of the damage award or to enter or modify a judgment. Provides that the trier of fact consider the nature of the conduct and the extent of the causal relation between the conduct and the damages claimed when determining the percentages of responsibility. Allows the court to determine the extent to which the responsibility of one party, which is based on the conduct of another party, warrants that the parties be treated as a single party. (GS 1H-15).

Provides that in an action seeking damages for personal injury or harm to property based on negligence or on any other claim for which the claimant may be subject to a defense in whole or part based on contributory fault, the claimant's recovery is diminished by the percentage of responsibility assigned to the claimant pursuant to proposed GS 1H-15. Prohibits the claimant from recovering any damages if the contributory fault is greater than the combined responsibility of all parties and released persons that caused the injury or harm to the claimant. (GS 1H-10).

Requires that, after the trier of fact has answered interrogatories or made findings, the court determine the monetary amount of any award of damages to the claimant, the amount of the several share for which each party found liable is responsible, and any amount attributable to a released person. Allows a claimant to move the court to determine, no later than 90 days after the entry of judgment, whether all or part of the several share will not be reasonably collectible and request reallocation. If found by preponderance of the evidence that a share is uncollectible, the court may reallocate severally to the other parties based on the proportion that each party's percentage of responsibility bears on the total of the percentages of responsibility, not including the percentage being reallocated. Provides for liability for certain parties after reallocation. Prohibits reallocation from making a released person liable for any reallocated share unless the release or agreement so provides. Allows any party to conduct discovery regarding any issue relevant to a motion for reallocation. Requires the court to enter the judgment severally against each party adjudged liable, except in specified circumstances where the court may enter a judgment jointly and severally against the parties, and allows for modification of the judgment if the damages are reallocated. (GS 1H-20 and GS 1H-25).

Creates a right of contribution from another party, if the parties are jointly and severally liable, for any amount the party pays in excess of the several amount for which the party is responsible. Creates a right of indemnification for any party that is adjudged liable for the act or omission of another party. Allows a party subject to liability to (1) join a person that is also subject to liability and (2) seek contribution or indemnity from another person whose liability is not determined in the proceeding in which the party is adjudged liable if the other person is responsible for all or part of the claimant's injury or harm. A claim for contribution or indemnity may be asserted in the original action or in a separate action. (GS 1H-30).

Provides that a release, covenant not to sue, covenant not to execute a judgment, or similar agreement discharges the person, as well as any other person expressly provided for in the agreement, from liability and liability for contribution. Allows for parties to a proposed settlement of a claim in a Chapter 1H action to apply to the court for determination of whether or not the proposed settlement involves the payment of all funds that reasonably could be collected from the settling party or parties. Provides for judicial determination following proper notice and hearing requirements, and subject to judicial considerations, and provides for claimant recovery following the determination, as specified.

Provides that if an employer or workers' compensation insurer asserts a lien or right of subrogation under GS 97-10.2, the employer is deemed to have had its obligation to the employee for the compensation benefits paid or payable discharged as if the employer or insurer received a release, covenant not to sue, covenant not to execute a judgment, or similar agreement with the employee. An employee that asserts that the lien or right of subrogation should be reduced because of the employer's fault must give notice to the employer or insurer so that they may intervene in the employee's action for personal injury.

Enacts new GS 143-300.1B to provide that in tort claims against state departments and agencies where liability is based upon acts or omissions that constitute contributory fault, the provisions of GS Chapter 1H apply. Also makes conforming changes to GS 1B-2 (Pro rata shares of tort-feasors); GS 99B-1.1 (Strict liability; contributory fault related to products liability); GS 28A-18-2 (Death by wrongful act of another); GS 1A-1, Rule 7(a) (pleadings), and GS 1A-1, Rule 8(c) (affirmative defenses).

Effective for actions originally filed on or after January 1, 2022.

**Intro. by Britt, Perry, Galey.**

[GS 1A](#), [GS 1B](#), [GS 1H](#), [GS 28A](#), [GS 99B](#), [GS 143](#)

[View summary](#)

[Business and Commerce](#), [Courts/Judiciary](#), [Civil](#), [Civil Law](#), [Civil Procedure](#), [Government](#), [State Agencies](#)

S 478 (2021-2022) [2021 BUILDING CODE AND DEV. REG. REFORM](#). Filed Apr 1 2021, *AN ACT TO PROVIDE VARIOUS BUILDING CODE AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATORY REFORMS*.

Identical to [H 489](#), filed 4/1/21.

#### Section 1

Authorizes the State Licensing Board for General Contractors (Board) to use a criminal background check in determining a general contractor's application for licensure under GS 87-10; requires compliance with the provisions of GS 93B-8.1. Requires general contractors to consent to a criminal background check as part of licensing application requirements, as required by the Board and at the applicant's expense. Provides for information obtained from criminal background checks to be privileged, confidential, and not public record. Deems records, papers, and other documentation containing personal information collected or compiled by the Board in connection with an application for examination, licensure, certification, or renewal or reinstatement, or the subsequent update of information to be not be public records. Effective January 1, 2022, and applies to applications for licensure submitted on or after that date.

Modifies GS 87-10.2 to require the Board to approve providers and instructors of continuing education courses for licensees and requires providers of the mandatory course to register Board-approved instructors affiliated with the provider to attend a training program established, approved, and administered by the Board. Regarding live instruction credit hours, adds that transmission of live approved presentation by an approved instructor is included. Makes changes to refer to approved providers throughout (instead of approved sponsor in some places). Directs the Board to ensure that all continuing education requirements can be satisfied by approved internet-based e-learning courses. Extends the Board's authority regarding disciplinary action for false continuing education certification to apply to qualifiers and qualifying parties in addition to

licensees. Clarifies that the Board's duty to maintain and distribute educational coursework completion applies to required educational coursework. Requires annual requests to the Board for a licensee to place the licensee's license in an inactive status. Effective January 1, 2022, and applies to continuing education hours required on or after that date.

Regarding the Board's authority to seek injunctive relief for violations of Article 1 and rules adopted thereunder, requires the court to award reasonable attorneys' fees of up to \$5,000 plus the costs associated with obtaining the relief and the investigation and prosecution of the violation when the Board is successful in its action (previously authorized the court to award costs associated with the investigation and prosecution).

Directs the Board to adopt temporary and permanent implementing rules; excludes the Board from fiscal note requirements in adopting these rules.

## Section 2

Amends GS 143-138 to require the Building Code Council (Council) to conduct economic analysis or cost-benefit analysis of its own or that is submitted other than by the proponent of a proposed NC Building Code (Code) amendment or revision, excluding proposals for revision or amendments made upon motion of the Council or submitted by a State agency or political subdivision of the State. Updates statutory cross-references. Allows for rather than requires Council approval of local regulations approved by a local governing body which are found by the Council to be more stringent than the adopted statewide fire prevention code and regulate only activities and conditions in buildings, structures, and premises that pose dangers of fire, explosion or related hazards, and do not conflict with the Code.

## Section 3

Amends GS 160A-306 to add to the requirements of any setback lines to require they be designed to provide that measurements for sight distances at street intersections begin within the roadway or edge of pavement of a proposed or existing street. Makes technical changes.

Amends GS 160D-922 to provide that fees charged by local governments under their erosion and sedimentation control program are governed by GS 113A-60, as amended.

## Section 4

Enacts GS 160D-1104(d1), prohibiting charging fees for follow-up inspections to verify completion or correction of additional violations of the NC Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings or the Code discovered during a follow-up inspection conducted to verify completion or correction of Code violations noted in a previous inspection, and the additional violations are within an area of work for which a final inspection has already been conducted.

## Section 5

Enacts two new subsections to GS 113A-54.1, which provide as follows. Deems the financial responsibility for land-disturbing activity on residential lots involving new construction owned by builders or developers to transfer to the new owner upon the builder or developer's conveyance of the lot to the new owner and deed recordation. Prohibits requiring additional erosion control measures for the development of a residential lot where an erosion control plan for the development phase in which the lot is located has received final inspection and approval.

Amends GS 113A-54.2 to deem that GS 113A-60, as amended, governs the local government authority to assess fees for the review and approval of erosion and sedimentation control plans.

Amends GS 113A-60 to authorize local governments to adopt ordinances establishing a fee for the review and approval of erosion and sedimentation control plans, inspections conducted pursuant to the plan, and related activities (was, review of the plan and related activities). Establishes fee parameters to require the fee be calculated on the basis of either the number of acres disturbed or set at up to \$100 per lot developed, with the method of calculation at the option of the person submitting the plan for review and approval. Makes conforming and organizational changes. Enacts three new subsections, providing the following. Prohibits local governments from requiring a separate erosion control plan for development of individual residential lots within a development project which contains an approved master erosion control plan. Sets forth 11 specifications local governments can require for the review and approval of erosion control measures for such lot development. Establishes that, subject to federal law, local erosion control programs must provide that no periodic self-inspections or rain gauge installation is required on individual residential lots where less than one acre is being disturbed per lot, and, for a land-disturbing activity on

more than one residential lot where the total land disturbed exceeds one acre, allow the person conducting the activity to submit a single erosion plan for all of the disturbed lots or submit for review and approval the erosion control measures of each individual lot as if under an approved erosion control plan. Prohibits development regulations and local erosion and sedimentation control plans from requiring a silt fence or other measure to be placed, or a wire-backed reinforced silt fence, which would not substantially and materially retain the sediment generated by the land-disturbing activity within the boundaries of the tract during construction upon and development of the tract, due to the natural contour and topography of the site. Effective July 1, 2021, and applies to erosion control plans submitted for review and approval on or after that date.

Enacts GS 113A-61.1(d) to establish that the damage or destruction of a silt fence occurring during development or construction on a development project is not a violation of Article 4 so long as the silt fence is repaired or replaced within five working days of the inspection revealing the damage or destruction.

#### Section 6

Requires the Council to implement Section D107 of the 2018 NC Fire Code and other provisions related to fire apparatus access roads for one- and two-family dwelling residential developments as follows. Directs the Council and Code enforcement official to not require an automatic sprinkler system in one- or two-family dwellings where there are fewer than 100 dwelling units on a single public or private fire apparatus access road with access from one direction. Requires the Council to adopt amendments consistent with this directive, as specified.

**Intro. by Jarvis, McInnis, Woodard.**

**GS 87, GS 113A, GS 143, GS 160A, GS 160D**

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**Business and Commerce, Occupational Licensing, Courts/Judiciary, Civil, Civil Law, Development, Land Use and Housing, Land Use, Planning and Zoning, Property and Housing, Environment, Environment/Natural Resources, Government, Local Government**

S 480 (2021-2022) **EXPAND VICTIM SERVICES**. Filed Apr 1 2021, *AN ACT TO MAKE VARIOUS MODIFICATIONS TO THE GENERAL STATUTES TO EXPAND PROTECTIONS FOR VICTIMS OF CERTAIN CRIMES*.

Amends GS 7B-1111 to allow parental rights to be terminated when the court finds that the parent has been found, by clear and convincing evidence, to have committed (was, the parent has been convicted of) a sexually related offense under GS Chapter 14 that resulted in the juvenile's conception. Amends GS 7B-1112 by adding that a parent whose rights are terminated because of clear and convincing evidence that they committed a sexually related offense under GS Chapter 14 that resulted in the juvenile's conception, has no rights to custody of or rights of inheritance from that child, nor does that person have any rights related to the child under GS Chapter 48 (Adoptions) or Subchapter I (Abuse, Neglect, Dependency) of GS Chapter 7B. Makes additional clarifying and organizational changes.

Enacts new GS 8-53.12A, providing as follows. Defines *victim* as a person who: (1) alleges a homicide has been attempted against them or committed against a loved one or someone with whom they have a significant relationship and (2) consults an agent of a victim assistance center for services concerning mental, physical, or emotional injuries suffered as a result of the homicide. Prohibits requiring an agent of a victim assistance center from disclosing any information that the agent acquired during the provision of services to a victim and that was necessary to enable the agent to render the services, unless the victim waives the privilege. Terminates the privilege upon the victim's death. Requires the court to compel disclosure, either at the trial or before the trial, if the court finds, by a preponderance of the evidence, a good-faith, specific, and reasonable basis for all of the following: (1) the records or testimony sought contain information that is relevant and material to factual issues to be determined in a civil proceeding or that is relevant, material, and exculpatory upon the issue of guilt, degree of guilt, or sentencing in a criminal proceeding for the offense charged or any lesser included offense; (2) the evidence is not sought merely for character impeachment purposes; and (3) the evidence sought is not merely cumulative of other evidence or information available or already obtained by the party seeking the disclosure. Requires the party seeking disclosure to have made a sufficient showing that the records are likely to contain information subject to disclosure; upon such a showing requires the records to be produced for the court under seal and examined in camera.

Amends GS 42-40 by including in the definition of a protected tenant a victim of attempted homicide or household member of a victim of homicide under the specified statutes, where the premises was the location of the crime. Amends GS 42-45.1, which allows a protected tenant to terminate his or her rental agreement for a dwelling unit by providing the landlord with a written notice of termination to be effective on a date stated in the notice that is at least 30 days after the landlord's receipt of the notice. Requires a protected tenant who is a victim of attempted homicide or household member of a homicide victim, to include with the notice law enforcement, court, or federal agency records or files. Amends GS 42-2.2 to prohibit a landlord from terminating a tenancy, failing to renew a tenancy, refusing to enter into a rental agreement, or otherwise retaliating in the rental of a dwelling, because of the tenant's, applicant's, or household member's status as a victim of attempted homicide when the premises was the location of the crime or as a household member of a victim of homicide when the premises was the location of the crime. Makes conforming changes.

Amends GS 50B-2, concerning the filing of actions alleging acts of domestic violence, by deleting the provision that allowed magistrates to hear any motions for emergency relief ex parte (including the awarding of temporary child custody). Allows all hearings held under the statute, including those to consider emergency or permanent relief, to be held via video conference. Makes additional organizational and clarifying changes. Effective October 1, 2021.

**Intro. by Britt, Galey, Batch.**

[GS 7B](#), [GS 8](#), [GS 42](#), [GS 50B](#)

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[Courts/Judiciary](#), [Civil](#), [Civil Law](#), [Family Law](#), [Juvenile Law](#), [Abuse, Neglect and Dependency](#), [Criminal Justice](#), [Criminal Law and Procedure](#), [Development](#), [Land Use and Housing](#), [Property and Housing](#)

S 482 (2021-2022) [SITE DEVELOPMENT REVOLVING ASSISTANCE FUND](#). Filed Apr 1 2021, *AN ACT TO CREATE A SITE DEVELOPMENT REVOLVING ASSISTANCE FUND*.

Enacts new GS 143B-472.127A, which provides as follows. Provides that this statute governs the use of revenue appropriated to the Rural Infrastructure Authority (Authority) to provide a source of State Funds to provide site assistance for site development projects and revenue received from the Authority from the repayment of loans that are made with the use of these funds. Establishes the Site Development Revolving Assistance Fund (Fund) to receive State funds for site development. Requires the funds to be used to provide site assistance to local governments. Sets out 10 factors the Authority must consider when evaluating applications for site assistance, including whether site assistance is needed in order for the local government unit to complete the site development project, the anticipated economic impact of full utilization of the site, the types of industries for which the project is suitable for use, and the degree to which the site assistance funds will be recouped upon the sale of the project to a business. Subjects awards to a fee of 2% of the amount of the site assistance provided. Requires an annual report on the accounts in the Fund, with copies submitted to the specified NCGA committee and division; specifies information to be included in the report. Makes the Rural Economic Development Division (Division) responsible for administering the program, while funds are to be awarded by the Authority.

Allows local governments to use site assistance from the Fund for the following types of projects necessary to prepare or improve a site to make the site suitable for sale to a business looking to relocate or expand: (1) installation or purchase of equipment; (2) structural repairs, improvements, or renovations to existing buildings or construction of new buildings; (3) construction of or improvements to new or existing water, sewer, gas, or electric utility distribution lines or equipment for existing, new, or proposed buildings; or (4) any other purposes specifically provided by an act of the NCGA. Prohibits the amount of funds from exceeding the lesser of the construction costs of a project or the anticipated sale price of the improved asset. Specifies that site assistance is available only to the extent that other funding sources are not reasonably available to the local government.

Sets out requirements for applying for site assistance from the Fund. Sets out a ranking process that the Authority must use when reviewing applications. Provides that site assistance is considered awarded upon issuance of an offer to award the assistance. Requires approval from the Local Government Commission in order to award site assistance in the form of a loan. Sets out issues that are to be considered by the Local Government Commission when considering the loan and sets out loan terms, including placing a cap on the interest rate setting maximum maturity for a loan at 20 years or the project's expected life,

whichever is shorter. Allows a local government to execute a debt instrument payable to the State to evidence an obligation to repay the principal of and interest on site assistance in the form of a loan.

Sets out circumstances under which a letter of intent to offer an award for site assistance for a project is withdrawn. Sets out requirements for disbursement of the funds. Allows the Division to inspect a project for which assistance is awarded and provides additional requirements for such inspections.

Allows the Authority to adopt rules to implement this statute.

Appropriates \$100 million from the General Fund to the Fund.

Effective July 1, 2021.

**Intro. by Newton, Craven.**

**APPROP, GS 143B**

[View summary](#)

**Development, Land Use and Housing, Community and Economic Development, Government, Local Government**

S 486 (2021-2022) **REFORM COURTS AND JAILS**. Filed Apr 1 2021, *AN ACT TO PROMOTE CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM IN NORTH CAROLINA*.

Part I.

Amends GS 15A-534 to prohibit judicial officials from imposing a bond secured by a cash deposit as a condition of pretrial release pursuant to subdivision (a)(4) if no charge against the defendant is more severe than a Class 1, 2, or 3 misdemeanor, unless the judicial official makes written findings that the defendant will pose a danger of injury to any person. Makes clarifying and technical changes. Makes language gender-neutral. Applies to conditions of pretrial release imposed on or after October 1, 2021.

Part II.

Enacts GS 20-24.1(g) to require the Division of Motor Vehicles (Division) to automatically restore a license 12 months after the effective date of revocation pursuant to subsection (a) for either failing to appear at trial or a hearing or to pay court-ordered fines, penalties, or other court costs for motor vehicle offenses, except for revocations resulting from impaired driving charges. Repeals existing subsection (f), which permits application to a court for a limited driving privilege valid for up to one year for licenses revoked due to failure to pay court-ordered fines, penalties, or other court costs for motor vehicle offenses. Revises the conditions for restoration of a license revoked under subsection (a) to include that the person demonstrates to the court that failure to pay the fine or penalty (was the penalty, fine, or costs) was not willful and the person is making a good faith effort to pay. Makes conforming and clarifying changes. Makes language gender-neutral.

Adds to GS 20-7 to authorize the Division to waive license restoration fees and other service fees if the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles finds that the license holder has shown good cause for not being able to pay the fine.

Directs the Division to automatically restore any driver's license suspended for failure to pay after 12 months, except for offenses involving impaired driving.

Effective October 1, 2021.

Part III.

Amends GS 15A-601 to require any defendant charged with a misdemeanor under a magistrate's order or by criminal process who is held in the custody to have a first appearance before a district court judge in the district in which the crime is charged to have been committed. Specifies that this first appearance is a critical stage of the proceedings. Requires a defendant's first appearance before a district court judge to be held at the earlier of the first regular session of the district court in the county or within 48 hours after the defendant is taken into custody (previously, alternatively within 96 hours after taken into custody). Makes conforming changes regarding the clerk's authority to conduct the first appearance if the district court judge is unavailable within this period. Makes technical changes and language gender-neutral.

Further amends GS 15A-534 to no longer mandate a judicial official to require a defendant who has failed to appear on one or more prior occasions to answer the charge(s) to which pretrial conditions apply to execute a secured appearance bond in an amount at least double the amount of the most recent previous secured or unsecured bond, or \$1,000 if no bond has been required of the charges. Instead, requires the judicial official to require the execution of a secured appearance bond of at least \$1,000. Eliminates the provisions governing the judicial official's authority regarding the determination of the conditions of pretrial release for a defendant who is charged with an offense who is currently on pretrial release for a prior offense.

Enacts GS 15A-534.8 to require a defendant who remains in custody due to imposed conditions of pretrial release following an initial appearance to be brought before a district court judge for a preventative detention hearing within five days of the initial appearance. Requires that the hearing be separate from the defendant's first appearance. Provides for counsel at the hearing, with counsel provided at the expense of the State if the defendant is found to be indigent. Provides for the defendant to present evidence and testimony at the hearing to determine whether the pretrial conditions are necessary to ensure the safety of any person, with the State given the opportunity to respond, present evidence, and examine witnesses. Requires a judge to set new conditions if the judge finds by clear and convincing evidence that the imposed conditions are not necessary to reasonably prevent injury to any person, or to make written findings as to why the continued detention is necessary if the judge does not rule in favor of the defendant, with conditions continued unless lawfully modified.

Effective October 1, 2021, and applies to conditions of pretrial release imposed on or after that date.

#### Part IV.

Directs the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) to automatically enroll all criminal defendants into its court date reminder system. Requires criminal defendants to be allowed to opt out of the automatic enrollment by using a process developed by AOC, which must be developed and implemented by December 1, 2021. Effective December 1, 2021, and applies to criminal defendants arrested on or after that court date.

Enacts GS 15A-306 to require persons who fail to appear as required by a citation or other criminal process served pursuant to the Article to have 20 calendar days from the missed court date to contact the clerk of superior court to request a new court date. Mandates that such action requires the clerk to strike the person's failure to appear and any order for arrest or fines related to the failure to appear, and the clerk to provide a new court date in the case. Limits new court dates in criminal cases pursuant to these provisions to one. Effective October 1, 2021, and applies to failures to appear in court on or after that date.

#### Part V.

Revises and expands the qualifications for indigent defense under GS 7A-451. Now provides for indigent defense in any case in which (1) a felony or misdemeanor is charged (was, limited to cases in which imprisonment, or a fine of \$500 or more, is likely to be adjudged) or (2) for motions for appropriate relief if appointment of counsel is authorized by law and the defendant has been convicted of a felony, has been fined \$200 (was, \$500) or more, or has been sentenced to a term of imprisonment, among other existing eligibility criteria. Effective October 1, 2021.

Appropriates \$1.18 million in recurring funds from the General Fund to the Office of Indigent Defense Services, Private Assigned Counsel Fund, for each fiscal year of 2021-23 to fund the increased need of appointed counsel due to the expansion of eligibility. Effective July 1, 2021.

#### Part VI.

Revises Article 1 of GS Chapter 9 regarding preparation of jury lists and drawing of panels as follows.

Amends GS 9-2 to require the jury commission to annually prepare a master list of qualified prospective jurors to serve on January 1 of the next year (previously provided for biennium lists, or upon request of the senior resident superior court judge, annually). Makes conforming changes.

Makes a clarifying change to GS 9-4 to refer to the clerk of superior court's duty to maintain the master jury list.

Makes conforming changes to GS 20-43.4 regarding the list of currently licensed drivers that must be provided by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles (Commissioner) to each county jury commission, now annually. Now requires the list to include the driver's race. Enacts subsection (b1) to require the raw data of date of birth, sex, and race to be used to develop the list provided by the Commissioner to be made available for analysis by clerks of court, jury commissions, and the public.

Makes conforming changes.

Further amends GS 9-2, enacting subsection (l) to require the data of date of birth, sex, and race to be compiled by each county as public records for master jury lists, lists of jurors summoned, lists of jurors that have served, lists of jurors that have been excused, lists of jurors that have been disqualified, and lists of jurors whose service has been deferred. Applies to lists prepared on or after October 1, 2021.

#### Part VII.

Enacts Article 83A, *Dignity for Women Who are Incarcerated Act*, in GS Chapter 15A. Sets forth 11 defined terms.

Prohibits Department of Public Safety (DPS) and correctional facility employees from using leg restraints, wrist restraints, restraints connected to other incarcerated persons, or waist shackles on pregnant incarcerated women during the second and third trimester of pregnancy, during labor and delivery, and during the six-week postpartum recovery period. Defines *correctional facility employee* to include DPS employees and any persons employed by a *correctional facility*, defined to mean any unit of the State prison system, local confinement facility, juvenile detention facility, or other entity under the authority of any state or local law enforcement agency that has the power to detain or restrain a person under state law. Restricts use of wrist restraints during the postpartum recovery period to being held in front of her body, if the employee determines *extraordinary circumstances* exist, as defined, and the employee makes a written report to the warden or administrator within 72 hours containing justification for the use of the restraints. Clarifies that the provisions do not affect licensed health care professionals' use of medical restraints to ensure the medical safety of a pregnant incarcerated woman.

Prohibits correctional facility employees from conducting invasive body cavity searches of incarcerated women who are pregnant or in the postpartum recovery period unless the employee has compelling grounds to believe the person is concealing contraband that presents an immediate threat or harm to the person, fetus, or another person, and the employee submits a written report to the warden or the administrator within 72 hours containing the justification for the search.

Requires DPS and administrators of correctional facilities to ensure pregnant incarcerated women are provided sufficient food and dietary supplements, and access to food at appropriate times of day, as ordered by a physician, physician staff member, or a correctional facility nutritionist as specified.

Prohibits DPS and administrators of correctional facilities from placing pregnant incarcerated women or incarcerated persons in the postpartum recovery period in *restrictive housing*, as defined, unless the employee makes a determination that an *extraordinary circumstance* exists, as defined, and submits a written report to the warden or administrator within 72 hours containing the justification for the placement.

Prohibits DPS and correctional facility administrators from assigning incarcerated women who are pregnant or in the postpartum recovery period to any bed that is elevated more than 3 feet from the floor of the facility.

Requires prenatal, labor, and delivery care to be provided to pregnant incarcerated women at no cost to the incarcerated woman.

Directs the warden or administrator of the correctional facility to compile a monthly summary of all written reports received as required under the Article and submit the summary to the DPS Secretary.

Requires DPS and correctional facility administrators to permit a newborn to remain with the incarcerated woman for at least 72 hours unless the medical provider has a reasonable belief that remaining poses a health or safety risk to the newborn.

Requires DPS and administrators to make all necessary nutritional and hygiene products available during the postpartum recovery period, provided at no cost to the incarcerated woman.

Mandates DPS to place incarcerated persons in the custody of the State prison system who are parents of minor children within 250 miles of their permanent address to the extent practicable and after accounting for security and capacity. Requires DPS and administrators of correctional facilities to adopt visitation rules for persons with low- or minimum-security classifications who are parents to minor children to allow for visitation by the minors at least twice a week (except as specified) with no limitation on the number of dependent minors that may be permitted privileges and requires authorization of contact visits.

Requires DPS and administrators of correctional facilities to issue regulations that limit inspections by male employees when a female incarcerated person is in a state of undress to the greatest extent practicable and consistent with safety and order, and availability of female employees. Requires male correctional employees to make a written report within 72 hours containing the justification for inspection of a female incarcerated person while in a state of undress.

Requires DPS and administrators of correctional facilities to ensure availability of sufficient menstrual products for all incarcerated women as appropriate, at no cost to the incarcerated women.

Directs DPS and administrators of correctional facilities to develop and provide all correctional facility employees who have contact with pregnant incarcerated women training related to the physical and mental needs of pregnant incarcerated women and fetuses, as specified. Requires consultation with specified divisions of the Department of Health and Human Services. Also directs DPS and administrators of correctional facilities to develop and provide educational programming for pregnant incarcerated women, as specified.

Revises GS 143B-702 to make rules and regulations adopted by the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice subject to new Article 83A, GS Chapter 15A.

Enacts GS 153A-221.2 to subject local confinement facilities to the requirements of new Article 83A, GS Chapter 15A.

Effective October 1, 2021.

**Intro. by Mohammed, Fitch, Batch.**

[APPROP, GS 7A, GS 9, GS 15A, GS 20, GS 143B, GS 153A](#)

[Courts/Judiciary, Civil, Civil Law, Motor Vehicle, Court System, Criminal Justice, Corrections \(Sentencing/Probation\), Criminal Law and Procedure, Government, Budget/Appropriations, Public Safety and Emergency Management, State Agencies, Department of Public Safety, Department of Transportation, Local Government, Health and Human Services, Health, Social Services, Public Assistance](#)

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S 493 (2021-2022) [JDIG MULTILOCATION PROJECTS MODIFICATIONS](#). Filed Apr 1 2021, *AN ACT TO MODIFY MULTILOCATION PROJECT ENHANCEMENT FOR THE JOB DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT GRANT PROGRAM*.

Adds new provisions to GS 143B-437.56A, which governs multilocation projects under the Job Development Incentive Grant (JDIG) Program, as follows. Mandates a 10% increase of the annual grant approved for disbursement payable to a qualifying business. Provides that the amount of the increase is not to be used in calculating award limitations under the program. Sets qualifications for the increase, including (1) that the business was awarded the grant for locating a company headquarters, (2) that the business announces during the base period for relocation from another state to a development tier one or two area a manufacturing operation of the business or a business that controls, is controlled by, or is under common control of the business, (3) the relocation will result in the business creating a number of positions to be filled by new full-time employees in the State equal to or greater than the applicable minimum number of jobs required by law under JDIG (10 for tier one, 20 for tier two, 50 for tier three), and with withholdings equal to or greater than the amount of the bonus permitted under the statute for multilocation projects, and (4) the positions required are filled for the year in which the annual grant is increased.

Amends GS 143B-437.56 to no longer provide for the JDIG grant amount for projects located in more than one area designation to be based on the percentage of the withholdings of eligible positions for the location with the highest area designation. Maintains the percentages of 80% for tier one areas and 75% for tier two areas.

**Intro. by Newton, Craven.**

[GS 143B](#)

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[Business and Commerce, Development, Land Use and Housing, Community and Economic Development](#)

S 494 (2021-2022) [SBIR/STTR INCENTIVE MODIFICATIONS](#). Filed Apr 1 2021, *AN ACT TO MODIFY AND ENHANCE THE ONE NORTH CAROLINA SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAM*.

Revises the NC Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)/Small Business Technology Transfer Research (STTR) Incentive Program to provide grants to eligible businesses to offset costs for applying for federal SBIR and STTR grants awarded pursuant to GS 143B-437.80 (previously, provided for application to the US Small Business Administration), in order to foster job creation and economic development throughout the State (rather than in the State). Now provides for grants for a percentage of the costs of preparing and submitting a SBIR/STTR Phase I proposal up to \$12,000 (previously, for up to 50% of the costs with a \$3,000 max). Sets the maximum percentage of reimbursement at 100% for an eligible business located in a development tier one or two area, and 50% for other eligible businesses. Eliminates the restriction to one grant under the statute with respect to each federal proposal submission. Adds educational programs to costs that can be reimbursed. Adds new authority for the NC Board of Science, Technology, and Innovation to use up to 10% of funds appropriated for grants to provide education and outreach to aid in awareness and successful completion of SBIR/STTR Phase I proposals.

Amends the SBIR/STTR matching requirements set forth in GS 143B-437.81 to provide for matching funds received by a business through a SBIR/STTR Phase I proposal up to \$200,000 (was \$100,000). Eliminates the restriction limiting a business to receipt of only one grant under the statute per year. Limits a business to one grant under the statute for each federal proposal award (rather than submission). Increases the total award cap for a business over its lifetime under the statute from five to ten.

Appropriates \$2 million in recurring funds from the General Fund to the One NC Small Business Account (One Account) for 2021-22 and 2022-23 for the NC SBIR/STTR Incentive Program and Matching Program. Appropriates \$7 million from the General Fund to the One Account for 2021-22 as a supplement in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to be used for the NC SBIR/STTR Incentive Program and Matching Program. Effective July 1, 2021.

**Intro. by Newton, Salvador, Woodard.**

[APPROP, GS 143B](#)

[View summary](#)

[Business and Commerce, Development, Land Use and Housing, Community and Economic Development, Government, Budget/Appropriations](#)

S 495 (2021-2022) [CCRC SALES TAX MODIFICATIONS](#). Filed Apr 1 2021, *AN ACT TO MODIFY FOOD SALES TAX FOR CONTINUING CARE RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES*.

Enacts GS 105-164.14(b1) to deem the applicable local rate of sales and use tax paid by or on behalf of a provider of continuing care on the purchase of prepared food or other food items not subject to the refunds provisions for specified nonprofit entities granted under subsection (b), except for the purchases used in feeding residents receiving facility skilled nursing or assisted living services. Provides a statutory cross-reference for defined terms.

Adds to the food exempt from sales and use taxes under GS 105-164.13B to include food other than food prepared and other food items used, consumed, or provided by or on behalf of a provider of continuing care, as defined by statutory cross-reference.

Enacts GS 105-164.13F to deem providers of continuing care to be primarily engaged in rendering housing, health care, and other life care services to their residents who use and consume all items purchased for the provision of service. Explicitly subjects the purchase of food items to local sales and use tax under specified law and session laws. Makes the purchase of all other items subject to the applicable rate of sales and use tax, unless otherwise exempt. Deems the provision of such items or services by or on behalf of a provider to not be considered a retail sale by the provider or subject to use tax by the recipient of the item or service, regardless of itemization or whether included as part of a fee or charge imposed by the provider. Provides a statutory cross-reference for defined terms.

Adds to the sales and use tax exemptions set forth in GS 105-164.13, new subdivision (74), the (1) entrance, membership, resident, service, and other initial or periodic fees or charges charged by or on behalf of a provider of continuing care, and (2) purchase of prepared food or other food items by or for the benefit of a provider of continuing care to the extent used in feeding residents receiving facility skilled nursing or assisted living services. Provides a statutory cross-reference for defined terms.

Adds to the exemptions from sales and use tax for certain bundled transactions under GS 105-164.4D, providing an exemption if any element of the bundled transaction is an item which, if separately charged, would be exempt pursuant to new GS 105-

164.13(74).

Makes the above provisions applicable to sales made on or after July 1, 2021.

Enacts GS 105-244.4B, directing the Department of Revenue to take no action to assess or collect from any person any sales and use tax due for a filing period beginning on or after February 1, 2015, and ending prior to July 1, 2021, with respect to retail sale of taxable items or services on behalf of or by a provider of continuing care, except for sales tax owed on sales of alcoholic beverages. Directs the Secretary of Revenue to reduce an assessment issued on or after February 1, 2015, but prior to July 1, 2021, against a provider of continuing care who requests relief for State and local sales and use taxes, so long as the assessment remains appealable or is under appeal at the time of the request, to zero, except for portions attributable to sales of alcoholic beverages. Requires waiver of all penalties imposed as part of the assessment. Provides a statutory cross-reference for defined terms.

**Intro. by Edwards, Newton.**

GS 105

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**Government, State Agencies, Department of Revenue, Tax, Local Government, Health and Human Services, Health, Health Care Facilities and Providers**

S 496 (2021-2022) [DOI OMNIBUS BILL.-AB](#) Filed Apr 1 2021, *AN ACT TO AMEND AND TO MAKE CLARIFYING CHANGES TO VARIOUS INSURANCE LAWS, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE.*

Part I.

Revises GS 58-17-75, regarding required filing of insurance holding company forms, to require copies of statements and all exhibits, papers, and documents filed as part of the statement to be filed with the Commissioner of Insurance (Commissioner) by mail (previously alternatively allowed for personal delivery).

Part II.

Amends GS 58-7-170(d), which sets forth obligation limitations for permitted insurer investments under specified state law classified as medium to lower quality obligations which do not require the Commissioner's prior written approval. No longer excludes from the scope of the limitations obligations of subsidiaries or affiliated corporations.

Amends GS 58-19-10(b)(1) regarding insurer investments in common stock, preferred stock, debt obligations, and other securities of affiliates or subsidiaries to consistently refer to both affiliates and subsidiaries. Makes conforming changes to subsection (c) to subject such investments to the medium and lower quality obligation limitations of GS 58-7-170(d), as amended.

Part III.

Revises GS 58-89A-110 to no longer require professional employer organization licensees to notify the Commissioner within 30 days of initiation or termination of the licensee's relationship with any client company; maintains the required notification of its workers' compensation carrier and the NC Industrial Commission.

Part IV.

Adds to the statutes specified in GS 58-67-171 that apply to health maintenance organizations (HMOs) to include GS 58-7-21 (concerning credit allowed to a domestic ceding insurer), GS 58-7-26 (concerning asset or reduction from liability for reinsurance ceded by a domestic insurer to an assuming insurer not meeting the requirements of GS 58-7-21), GS 58-7-30 (concerning insolvent ceding insurers), and GS 58-7-31 (concerning life and health reinsurance agreements).

Part V.

Regarding the continuation of health care services under GS 58-93-75 for insolvent prepaid health plans (PHPs), requires PHP insolvency plans to allow for health care services to be provided to enrollees until the PHP's capitated contract is terminated by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and all enrollees required under GS 108D-40 to enroll in a PHP are

transitioned to another PHP (was until all of the PHP's enrollees whose enrollment in a PHP is not voluntary are enrolled in another PHP). Makes conforming changes to the Commissioner's authority to impose certain requirements on a PHP's insolvency plan.

#### Part VI.

Amends GS 20-279.21(d1)(2) to require the party who rejects an umpire's motor vehicle damage appraisal report to pay the costs of the umpire.

#### Part VII.

Makes the following changes regarding public school insurance.

Revises GS 115C-523.1 to require local boards of education to annually provide the Commissioner with a list of all of its insurable buildings, the equipment and contents of the buildings, and their insurable values by October 1. Requires local boards to provide the Commissioner a copy of a policy of insurance issued from a licensed and authorized company for any insurable building, its equipment, or its contents, with subsequent notification for the policy's cancellation, termination, or other changes. Makes conforming changes to include violations of the new provisions within the Commissioner's authority to impose civil penalties.

Enacts substantively identical reporting provisions to GS 115C-523.2 regarding flood insurance for public school buildings, GS 115D-58.11 regarding fire and casualty insurance for community colleges, and GS 115D-58.11A for flood insurance for community colleges, with local boards and boards of trustees charged with the duty as appropriate. Makes identical changes regarding the imposition of civil penalties for violations of the new reporting requirements.

#### Part VIII.

Revises and adds to the definitions set forth in GS 143-143.9, applicable to the NC Manufactured Housing Board and manufactured home warranties. Defines *Code* to mean the engineering standards entitled State of NC Regulations for Manufactured Homes adopted by the Commissioner (was engineering standards adopted by the Commissioner). Adds *qualifier* and defines the term to mean an individual taking the examination on behalf of a set-up contractor applicant, who is associated with the applicant and is actively engaged in the work of the applicant.

Amends GS 143-143.15 to more specifically require manufactured homes to be set up in accordance with the standards entitled State of NC Regulation for Manufactured Homes adopted by the Commissioner.

Repeals GS 143-143.21A(a)(5) to no longer require manufactured home purchase agreements to include the estimated terms of financing the purchase, if any.

Amends GS 143-151(a) to set the maximum civil penalty for violating Article 9A or rules adopted thereunder to limits sets by specified federal law (was \$1,000) per violation. Makes an identical change to penalties for a related series of violations occurring within one year after the date of the first violation.

#### Part IX.

Makes a technical change to the phone number of the Senior's Health Insurance Information Program of the Department of Health Insurance set forth in GS 58-55-60.

#### Part X.

Amends GS 58-28-5(a)(4), which excepts from the licensure requirements of insurers' transactions involving group life insurance, group annuities or group, blanket, or franchise accident and health insurance where the master policy for the insurance was lawfully issued and delivered in a state in which the company is authorized to transact business. Adds that the exception does not apply to companies that have had their license to conduct business in the state suspended or revoked.

#### Part XI.

Revises GS 58-49-12, which excludes certain health care sharing organizations from the authority of the Commissioner, to make the exception applicable to "faith-based health care sharing organizations" meeting the specified criteria. Revises the qualifications to include limiting participants to those of similar faith, disclosure of administrative fees and costs to participants, and providing that any card issued to a participant for presentation to a health care provider clearly indicates that

the participant is part of a faith-based health care sharing organization that is not an insurance company. Adds to the required monthly statement publications to include the total payments by members for the previous month, the percentage of total payments applied to administrative expenses, and the percentage of the total payments applied to the payment of participants' qualified needs. Requires the disclaimer provided to be written at the beginning of all applications and guidance materials distributed by or on behalf of the organization (was, to be written on or accompanying the applications and guidance materials). Applies to any faith-based health care sharing organization conducting business on or after October 1, 2021, and any written statement provided to participants on or after that date.

## Part XII.

Makes the following changes to GS 58-2-46, which provides for parameters that are effective when disaster declarations are proclaimed for the state or an area of the state or a Presidential major disaster declaration has been issued for the state or an area of the state, and the Commissioner has issued an order declaring the parameters to be in effect for the specific disaster. Makes changes throughout to refer to real property within the designated area rather than the geographic area designated in the proclamation or declaration. Adds that included in the deferral of time limits under the statute during a declared disaster is the transmittal of information and communications (was, the transmittal of information only) with respect to insurance policies or contracts, premium finance agreements, or debt instruments when the insurer, insured, claimant, or customer resides or is located in the designated areas in the proclamation or declaration. Further adds that the deferral of time limits applies to all insureds, claimants, or customers and does not require a request to defer. Adds the following conditions applicable to proclaimed or declared disasters.

For property and casualty insurance companies and insurance policies that insure customers and policyholders who reside in the designated area and who have been displaced from their residencies, requires: (1) payment of all premiums in arrears under the policy or contract after the deferral period has expired, with cancellation authorized for failure to pay on or after the 21st day following expiration, subject to notice requirements; (2) cancellations for nonpayment scheduled to be effective after the deferral period has commenced to be deferred until the period expires, subject to notice requirements; allows for processing of cancellations for cause that have been properly noticed during the deferral period; and (3) properly noticed nonrenewals effective after the commencement of the deferral period to be deferred until its expiration, subject to notice requirements. Excludes property and casualty insurance policies and contracts entered into on or after the date the Commissioner has issued an order declaring the statute effective for the specific disaster. Also excludes premium finance companies.

Instead enacts the following, applicable to premium finance companies and premium finance agreements that have financed property and casualty insurance policies for customers or policy holders who reside in the designated area in the proclamation or declaration who may have been displaced from their residences. Requires: (1) payments in arrears to be due after the deferral period has expired, with cancellation authorized for failure to pay on or after the 21st day following expiration, subject to notice requirements and (2) cancellations for nonpayment with properly noticed cancellation effective on or prior to the date the Commissioner issued the order to be cancelled and valid. Excludes premium finance agreements entered into on or after the date the Commissioner has issued an order declaring the statute effective.

Adds a new condition during a disaster, requiring that all collection agencies must discontinue attempts to collect debt against their customers who reside within the designated area in the proclamation or declaration during the deferral period.

Enacts six similar conditions applicable during a public health emergency or other situations that require citizens to shelter in place, including (1) requiring notice giving customers the option to defer premium payments due during the time period covered by the Commissioner's order declaring the statute to be in effect, as specified, with payments due upon the expiration of the deferral period and cancellations for nonpayment authorized, and excluding policies and contracts entered into on or after the date of the Commissioner's order; (2) permitting property and casualty insurance policy nonrenewals or cancellations during the situation; (3) requiring that all collection agencies must discontinue attempts to collect debt against their customers who reside within the designated area in the proclamation or declaration during the deferral period; (4) not applying the deferral period to time limitations imposed by law, rule, or other policy or contract provision or the transmittal of information or communication related to policies, premium finance agreements, or debt instruments; (5) authorizing the Commissioner to extend the deferral period; and (6) payment of all health benefit plan premiums in arrears upon expiration of the deferral period, with lapse provided for premiums not paid, as specified. Excludes situations that involve enemy attack, invasion, insurrection, riot, rebellion, revolution, civil war or commotion, or military or usurped power.

Makes clarifying and technical changes.

## Part XIII.

Regarding licensed insurance adjusters of other states permitted by the Commissioner to perform emergency insurance adjustment work for an licensed adjuster employer under GS 58-33-70, requires the employer to certify prior to beginning work that the adjuster has completed an approved catastrophe education course required by the Commissioner (previously required written notice to the Commissioner upon beginning work).

## Part XIV.

Expands the authority to incorporate optional enhancements to insurance programs under GS 58-36-43 to also include dwelling or residential private flood insurance (previously limited to automobile or homeowners' insurance). Makes conforming changes regarding program enhancement amendments and the prohibition against conditioning the acceptance of any optional enhancements upon the acceptance, renewal, or any underwriting rating criteria of the company, making those provisions applicable to the expanded policies and enhancements.

## Part XV.

Adds a standard notice statement to GS 58-44B-15 that must be included in travel protection plans, as specified.

## Part XVI.

Except as otherwise provided, the act is effective when it becomes law.

**Intro. by Johnson, Edwards, McInnis.**

GS 20, GS 58, GS 115C, GS 115D, GS 143

[View summary](#)

**Business and Commerce, Insurance, Courts/Judiciary, Motor Vehicle, Development, Land Use and Housing, Property and Housing, Education, Elementary and Secondary Education, Higher Education, Government, Public Safety and Emergency Management, State Agencies, UNC System, Department of Insurance, Local Government, Health and Human Services, Health, Health Insurance**

S 497 (2021-2022) [STOP SOCIAL MEDIA CENSORSHIP ACT](#). Filed Apr 1 2021, *AN ACT TO ENACT THE STOP SOCIAL MEDIA CENSORSHIP ACT TO PROHIBIT CERTAIN SOCIAL MEDIA WEBSITES FROM CENSORING CERTAIN POLITICAL OR RELIGIOUS SPEECH.*

Includes whereas clauses.

Enacts new Article 9, Stop Social Media Censorship Act, in GS Chapter 75. Specifies that the Article is intended to create a statute that parallels the spirit of the specified federal law that falls within the state law exemption and to create a civil right of action that will deter deceptive trade practices, false advertising, breach of contract, bad faith, unfair dealing, fraudulent inducement, and the stifling of political and religious speech in the modern day digital public square cultivated by social media websites that have achieved critical mass through fraud.

Provides that if the Attorney General fails to enjoin or prosecute a claim under this Article within 60 days of receiving a complaint from a user, the owner or operator of a social media website who contracts with a social media website user in this state is subject to a private right of action by a user if the social media website intentionally engages in: (1) deleting or censoring the user's religious speech or political speech (as defined in the act) or (2) using an algorithm to disfavor, shadowban (blocking or partially blocking a user or the user's content from an online community such that the block would not be readily apparent to the user), or censure the user's religious speech or political speech. Defines *social medial website* as an internet website or application that enables users to communicate with each other by posting information, comments, messages, or images and that meets all of the following requirements: (1) an open and public forum; (2) more than 75,000,000 subscribers; (3) from its inception, no specific affiliation with any single religion or political party; and (4) provides a means for its users to report obscene material and has procedures in place for evaluating those reports and removing obscene material. Allows awarding a social media website user up to \$75,000 in statutory damages, actual damages, punitive damages if aggravating

factors are found, and any other equitable relief. Awards the prevailing party costs and attorneys' fees. Specifies ways a social media website may mitigate damages. Prohibits a website from using a user's alleged hate speech as a basis for justification or as a defense. Allows the Attorney General to bring an action on behalf of a social media website user age 18 or older residing in the state whose religious speech or political speech has been censored. Specifies that the statute does not prohibit: (1) a social media website that deletes or censors a user's speech or that uses an algorithm to disfavor or censor speech that: calls for immediate acts of violence; calls for an individual to harm himself or herself; contains obscene, lewd, filthy, lascivious material, or material that is harmful to minors; is the result of operational error; is the result of a court order; comes from an inauthentic source or involves false impersonation; encourages criminal conduct; involves bullying of minors; constitutes trademark or copyright infringement; is excessively violent; or constitutes harassing spam that is commercial or (2) a social media website user's censoring of another user's speech.

Makes conforming changes to GS 114-2.

**Intro. by Alexander, Corbin, Johnson.**

GS 75, GS 114

[View summary](#)

**Business and Commerce, Courts/Judiciary, Civil, Civil Law**

S 498 (2021-2022) **GAMING MACHINE ENFORCEMENT ACT**. Filed Apr 1 2021, *AN ACT TO DIRECT THE LOTTERY COMMISSION TO REGULATE THE PLACEMENT AND OPERATION OF VIDEO GAME TERMINALS IN THIS STATE*.

Enacts Article 9, *Video Gaming Terminals*, to GS Chapter 18C. Organizes the Article into four Parts. Part 1 sets forth 13 defined terms.

Part 2 authorizes the NC State Lottery Commission (Commission) to regulate the placement and operation of *video gaming terminals* (VGTs), defined as a device that is any electronic computerized video machine operated upon the insertion of cash, player's club card, or other form of promotional credit; is available to play; and which uses a video display and microprocessors in which the player can receive free plays or credits that can be redeemed for cash, excluding machines for amusement purposes only. Specifies that the Article does not grant the NC Education Lottery (Lottery) to use or operate VGTs. Requires the Commission to make available a VGT permit to be affixed to all approved VGTs, placement of which represents that the machine has been registered and approved for operation in the state. Requires the Commission to issue VGT permits annually each fiscal year. Requires manufacturers, licensed operators, and retail establishments to make VGTs and associated equipment available for inspection by the Commissioner. Requires game software to be certified by an independent lab prior to VGT permit issuance. Deems any terminal or machine that does not display a VGT permit illegal and subject to confiscation by any law enforcement officer. Provides parameters for decal placement; requires each station of a device to have a valid decal, as appropriate. Provides for permit issuance upon payment of the \$150 annual terminal fee per terminal charged to licensed operators and retailers.

Establishes general restrictions as follows. Prohibits licensed operators from operating more than 12 VGTs within a 100-foot radius. Prohibits operation of 12 VGTs in any single *fraternal establishment* or any single *truck stop establishment*, as those terms are defined, and eight VGTs in any single retail establishment other than a fraternal establishment or truck stop establishment. Restricts VGT play to adults over 21. Prohibits local zoning designed to tax, relocate, limit, restrict, or eliminate VGTs or licenses, permits, or certifications for VGT manufacturers, operators, or location retailers. Caps the total amount of VGTs authorized to operate in the state at 34,000.

Requires segregated accounting of *net terminal revenue*, defined as money inserted into a VGT minus any prizes paid, due to the Commission by licensed retailers; deems net terminal revenue Commission property. Authorizes the Commission to require a retailer to establish a single, separate electronic funds transfer account. Provides for superiority of net terminal revenue due to the Commission over debts and demands of insolvent persons. Directs Commission action upon receipt of net terminal revenue, including the Commission retaining 15%, and providing, within five business days, 40% each to the licensed retailer and the licensed operator, and 5% to the licensed manufacturer. Directs the Commission to request for proposal a central monitoring system (CMS) from at least two suppliers of CMSs who are not licensed under the Article, and to use commercially reasonable efforts to adopt and implement a CMS as soon as possible, but no later than two years after the date the act becomes law. Provides for six parameters that must be enacted upon CMS adoption regarding linking a communication network through all VGTs.

Directs the Commission to issue manufacturer licenses, operator licenses, and retailer licenses associated with VGTs. Enumerates five licensure disqualifications, including felony conviction within the preceding 10 years, failure to meet the 21-year-old age requirement, or tax delinquency. Provides further licensure qualifications, including furnishing all required documentation specified, submission to a background investigation, and compliance with ethics standards provided. Places the burden of proof for establishing qualification upon the applicant.

Establishes additional disqualifications for a retailer license, including that the establishment would be exclusively engaged in the business of possessing VGTs, or the person who resides in the same household as a member of the Commission, the Director, or any other Commission employee. Bars retail licensee from having any interest in any person or immediate family of a person with an operator license or manufacturer license. Requires licensed retailers to be allowed to possess only a VGT retailer license and not an operator or manufacturer license. Enumerates additional information that retailers must include in their applications. Requires a retailer to contract with only one licensed operator per location. Requires that a licensed retailer must hold an active license to sell beer, wine, liquor, or tobacco products.

Sets annual fees at \$50,000 for a manufacturer license, \$25,000 for an operator license (with the above mentioned \$150 annual terminal fee per terminal), and \$1,000 for a retailer license (with the above mentioned \$150 annual terminal fee per terminal), and allows for an additional one-time application fee of up to \$1,000. Provides for nonpayment to constitute grounds for license revocation. Deems licenses renewable annually and not transferable or assignable. Requires annual terminal fees to be allocated to the county where the terminal is located to be used to mitigate the increased burden placed upon local communities from the impact of the regulated machines.

Establishes criteria for entities seeking to become licensed operators, including incorporation or formation in the state for at least three consecutive years prior to the filing of an application. Requires licensed operators to purchase eight specified components from licensed manufacturers. Prohibits an operator from creating, developing, or assembling their own VGTs. Restricts operation to eight machines per retail location. Requires licensed operators to prepare monthly accounting reports for each VGT. Further requires licensed operators to file locations of establishments in which VGTs are located and requires such establishments to be licensed. Bars licensure establishments located within 500 feet of a church, public school, or nonpublic school at the time of licensure.

Prohibits a licensed manufacturer from creating, developing, or assembling any major component exclusively for one operator.

Part 3 provides for permitted VGTS, including video poker, video blackjack, and video games based on or involving matching different pictures, words, numbers, or symbols. Requires licensed operators to submit monthly reporting to the Commission on each terminal, with specified content. Requires the minimum payout to a user over the lifetime of the VGT to be 85%.

Requires written contracts between licensed operators and licensed retailers, which must include three specified terms, including a minimum five-year term and equal shares of net terminal revenue after taxes. Prohibits offering anything of value to a licensed retailer or employee in exchange for allowing the licensed operator to place VGTs in the establishment.

Part 4 grants the Commission and any law enforcement agency enforcement authority under the Article, including inspection of an establishment of a licensee at any time during normal business hours. Makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor to tamper with or damage a VGT with the intent to interfere with proper operation, or manipulate the outcome, payoff, or operation of a VGT with the intent to do the same. Makes it a Class 2 misdemeanor and grounds for license termination for a licensed operator to intentionally falsely report or fail to report the amount due required by the Commission. Makes intentional violation of GS 18C-206(a) (regarding VGT location restrictions) a Class 2 misdemeanor and subjects the licensee to termination of the license. Establishes a \$5,000 mandatory penalty for licensed operators who intentionally violate GS 18C-208 (governing VGT permits).

Requires game software and other Commission-required components for all VGTs to be submitted by the licensed manufacturer to an independent, nationally recognized testing lab to test for compliance with industry standards and Commission rules and regulations.

Adds to the Commission's powers and duties under GS 18C-114 to include adopting rules to implement GS Chapter 18C, including establishing reasonable regulation of VGTs. Adds authority to charge new Article 9 applicants fees.

Makes conforming changes to except new Article 9 activities and machines from the general prohibitions of electronic machines and video gaming machines under GS 14-306.4 and GS 14-306.1A.

**Intro. by Johnson.**

GS 14, GS 18C

[View summary](#)**Business and Commerce, Courts/Judiciary, Civil, Civil Law, Criminal Justice, Criminal Law and Procedure, Government, Local Government, Lottery and Gaming**

S 499 (2021-2022) **PROMOTE HISTORICAL SITES THROUGHOUT NC ACT**. Filed Apr 1 2021, *AN ACT TO PROMOTE HISTORICAL SITES AND HISTORICAL PRESERVATION THROUGHOUT THE STATE*.

Amends GS 143B-62(1) (powers and duties of the North Carolina Historical Commission) to add to the Commission's duties developing and implementing programs to promote historical sites and historical preservation in the State.

**Intro. by Corbin.**

GS 143B

[View summary](#)**Government, Cultural Resources and Museums**

S 501 (2021-2022) **CREATE DEPART. OF ADULT CORRECTION**. Filed Apr 1 2021, *AN ACT TO CREATE THE DEPARTMENT OF ADULT CORRECTION, TO CREATE THE DIVISION OF JUVENILE JUSTICE AND THE DIVISION OF COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, TO MAKE OTHER TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING CHANGES, AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS*.

## Part I.

Establishes the Department of Adult Correction (DAC) as a single, unified cabinet-level department; makes conforming changes to GS 143B-6. Transfers and consolidates the functions, powers, duties, and obligations vested in the following programs, divisions, and entities currently located in the Department of Public Safety, to DAC as a Type I transfer: (1) Prisons Section, (2) Alcohol and Chemical Dependency Treatment Program (except the DART-Cherry and the Black Mountain Substance Abuse Treatment Center for Women), (3) Health Services Section, and (4) Correction Enterprises Section. Transfers the Grievance Resolution Board to DAC as a Type II transfer. Amends GS 143B-2 to make DAC subject to the Executive Organization Act of 1973. Amends GS 126-5 to include DAC among those departments to which the Governor may designated a total of 425 positions that are exempt from the NC Human Resources Act.

Enacts new Article 16, Department of Adult Correction, in GS Chapter 143B. Establishes DAC to perform executive branch functions in relation to the detention and correction of adult offenders. Sets out the duties of the Secretary of the Department of Adult Corrections and defines terms for use in the Article.

Recodifies GS 143B-707.3 (Medical costs for inmates and juvenile offenders) of Subpart A of Part 2 of Article 13 so that it is now under Part 1 of new Article 16. Repeals GS 143B-711 (concerning the organization of the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice of the Department of Public Safety). Recodifies statutes throughout Part 1A of Article 13 and Subpart A of Part 2 of Article 13 under new Parts 2 and 3 of Article 16. Amends Parts 1-10 of Article 16 of GS Chapter 143B, including those newly recodified statutes, by assigning specified existing Department of Public Safety duties to DAC; removes references to juvenile offenders and deletes outdated language. Makes those same changes to new Part 3 of Article 16, concerning inmate medical Costs and Medicaid services. Places responsibility for various duties, including Medicaid services, under the DAC's Division of Health Services.

Amends GS 143B-1454 to transfer and vest all functions, powers, duties, and obligations currently vested in the State Department of Correction and Commission of Correction to the Division of Prisons of DAC. Makes conforming changes throughout new Part 2 of Article 16. Removes the duty of aftercare supervision.

Transfers reporting duties under GS 143B-1476 from the Department of Public Safety to the Department of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice.

Amends specified statutes throughout the following GS Chapters by making conforming changes: 1, 7A, 14, 15, 15A, 15B, 17C, 20, 58, 62, 65, 66, 108A, 122C, 16, 127A, 130A, 131E, 143, 146, 147, 148, 150B, 153A, 160A, 162, 163, and 164.

#### Part II.

Repeals GS 143B-601(10), which gave the Department of Public Safety (DPS) power to carry out the relevant provisions of Part 2 of Article 13 (DPS) of GS Chapter 148, GS Chapter 15, GS Chapter 15A, and other provisions of the General Statutes governing the provision of necessary custody, supervision, and treatment to control and rehabilitate criminal offenders and thereby reduce the rate and cost of crime and delinquency. Amends GS 143B-604 to require a representative from the Division of Community Corrections of DPS (was, Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice) to serve on the State Reentry Council Collaborative.

Renames the Juvenile Justice Section as the Division of Juvenile Justice and keeps it within DPS. Makes conforming changes throughout Part 3 of Article 13 of GS Chapter 143B. Also makes conforming changes to statues throughout the following GS Chapters: 7A, 7B, 14, 15, 15A, 66, 106, 114, 115C, 115D, 122C, 126, 143B, 148, 153A, and 162 .

Renames the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice as the Division of Community Corrections. Keeps it within DPS. Makes conforming changes, including changes throughout the following GS Chapters: 7B, 14, 15, 15A, 20, 50, 105, 115C, 135, 143B, and 148.

#### Part III.

Makes conforming changes to the following by updating Division and Department duties and references: GS 7B-1402, GS 7B-2517, GS 14-196.3, GS 14-415.10, GS 15A-521, GS 15A-1340.18, GS 15A-1343, GS 15A-1343.2, GS 15A-1351, GS 15A-1368.6, GS 15A-1376, GS 115D-5, GS 115C-112.1, Part 10 of Article 5 of GS Chapter 12C, GS 122C-421, GS 143-138, GS 143-166.1, GS 143-166.2, GS 143-166.7, GS 143-166.13, GS 143B-179, GS 148-4.1, GS 148-29, GS 148-32.3, GS 148-40, GS 148-128, GS 150B-1, GS 153A-218, GS 162-39, GS 164-40, GS 164-43, and GS 164-47.

Amends GS 15A-2000 to include in aggravating circumstances instances when a capital felony was committed against an employee of the Division of Community Corrections or Division of Prisons (was, employee of the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice).

Amends GS 17C-3 by including the Secretary of Adult Correction in the membership of the NC Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission.

Amends GS 120-12.1 by including DAC in those that must report to the specified NCGA committees and subcommittees on positions that have remained vacant for 12 months or more.

Amends GS 143B-1100 to include the Secretary of DAC in the membership of the Governor's Crime Commission.

Appropriates \$5.4 million in recurring funds for the 2021-23 biennium, and \$1.6 million in nonrecurring funds for 2021-22 from the General Fund to DAC.

Effective July 1, 2021.

**Intro. by Daniel, Britt, Steinburg.**

[APPROP](#), [GS 1](#), [GS 7A](#), [GS 7B](#), [GS 14](#), [GS 15](#), [GS 15A](#), [GS 15B](#), [GS 17C](#), [GS 20](#), [GS 58](#), [GS 62](#), [GS 65](#), [GS 66](#), [GS 106](#), [GS 108A](#), [GS 114](#), [GS 115C](#), [GS 115D](#), [GS 120](#), [GS 122C](#), [GS 126](#), [GS 127A](#), [GS 130A](#), [GS 131E](#), [GS 143](#), [GS 143B](#), [GS 146](#), [GS 147](#), [GS 148](#), [GS 150B](#), [GS 153A](#), [GS 160A](#), [GS 162](#), [GS 163](#), [GS 164](#)

[Courts/Judiciary](#), [Juvenile Law](#), [Delinquency](#), [Criminal Justice](#), [Corrections \(Sentencing/Probation\)](#), [Government](#), [Budget/Appropriations](#), [State Agencies](#), [Department of Public Safety](#)

[View summary](#)

S 502 (2021-2022) [INTERDISCIPLINARY HEALTH ED TEACHING PILOT](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO DIRECT THE NORTH CAROLINA AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTERS PROGRAM TO ESTABLISH INTERDISCIPLINARY HEALTH EDUCATION TEACHING HUBS AND TO STUDY IMPEDIMENTS TO THE AVAILABILITY OF COMMUNITY-BASED PRECEPTORS FOR STUDENTS IN RURAL AND UNDERSERVED AREAS.*

Contains several whereas clauses. Directs the North Carolina Area Health Education Centers (NCAHEC) to establish a two-year pilot program with interdisciplinary health education teaching hubs at at least three different safety net health care clinics to teach health professional students from at least three different disciplines. Directs NCAHEC to provide technical assistance to the sites, evaluate the results of the pilot program, fund clinical teaching at the sites, and report to legislative committees on the results of the pilot by December 1, 2023. Also directs NCAHEC to, in consultation with other specified health care professional organizations, study the availability and supply of community preceptors or community health care professional teachers in the State, and to report the findings of this study to legislative committees by December 1, 2022. Appropriates \$1.1 million in the 2021-22 fiscal year and \$1 million in the 2022-23 fiscal year to the University of North Carolina Board of Governors for the NCAHEC pilot program. Effective July 1, 2021.

**Intro. by Woodard.**

[APPROP, STUDY](#)

[View summary](#)

[Government, Budget/Appropriations, State Agencies, UNC System, Health and Human Services, Health](#)

S 503 (2021-2022) [END YOUTH NICOTINE DEPENDENCE ACT OR END ACT](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT ENACTING THE "END YOUTH NICOTINE DEPENDENCE ACT" OR "END ACT."*

Includes whereas clauses. Titles the act as the "End Youth Nicotine Dependence Act" or the "END Act.". Enacts new GS 14-313.5 establishing the Tobacco Use Prevention Fund (Fund) in the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Division of Public Health, Chronic Disease and Injury Section (Section), with the purpose of preventing the use of new and emerging tobacco products. Allows the Fund to be used to: (1) fund local health departments through a regional infrastructure to provide community-based education and training of youth leaders, schools, and local agencies regarding Centers for Disease Control and Prevention evidence-based tobacco use prevention and cessation interventions, including those addressing e-cigarettes; (2) for evidence-based media and education campaigns on the health risks of tobacco use, including e-cigarettes; (3) to increase military readiness of active-duty military in North Carolina through tobacco use prevention and cessation policy, systems, and environmental change; (4) for grants to community colleges to support a healthy, tobacco-free campus; (5) to track tobacco use and exposure among young people and populations most at risk for tobacco use; (6) to provide technical assistance and oversight of regional tobacco use prevention programs; and (7) to conduct an independent evaluation of the reach and effectiveness of the State's tobacco use prevention programs. Allows DHHS to use a specified amount for administrative purposes. Requires DHHS to report annually to the specified NCGA committee and division on expenditures made from the Fund, including specified information.

Amends GS 143C-9-3 to appropriate \$17 million from the Settlement Reserve Fund to the Fund.

Effective July 1, 2021.

**Intro. by Woodard.**

[GS 14, GS 143C](#)

[View summary](#)

[Government, State Agencies, Department of Health and Human Services, Health and Human Services, Health, Public Health](#)

S 504 (2021-2022) [STANDARD DEDUCTION CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO ALLOW A TAX CREDIT FOR CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS BY A TAXPAYER THAT ELECTS TO TAKE THE STANDARD DEDUCTION.*

Enacts GS 105-153.11 to provide a tax credit applicable to individual State income tax in the amount of 25% of charitable contributions made by a taxpayer under section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code for a taxpayer who deducts the standard deduction provided for taxpayers under GS 105-153.5(a)(1) for the taxable year. Requires nonresidents or part-year residents to reduce the credit as appropriate under GS 105-153.4. Bars the credit from exceeding the amount of tax income tax imposed for the taxable year reduced by the sum of all credits allowed, except payments of tax made by or on behalf of the taxpayer. Effective for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2021.

**Intro. by Woodard.**

[GS 105](#)

[View summary](#)

**Government, Tax**

S 505 (2021-2022) [MEDICAL BILLING TRANSPARENCY](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO PREVENT NORTH CAROLINIANS FROM BECOMING VICTIMS OF SURPRISE BILLING BY OUT-OF-NETWORK HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS THAT HAVE RENDERED HEALTH CARE SERVICES AT HEALTH SERVICES FACILITIES THAT ARE IN-NETWORK WITH AN INDIVIDUAL'S HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN.*

Includes whereas clauses.

Enacts new GS 58-3-295 to require all contracts or agreements for participation as an in-network health services facility between an insurer offering health benefit plans in this state and a health services facility at which there are out-of-network providers who may be providing services to an insured person receiving care at the facility, to require that an in-network health services facility give at least 72 hours' advanced written notice to an insured with a scheduled appointment of any out-of-network provider who will be part of providing care. Sets out alternate requirements for timing of notice in situations in which there is not 72 hours between the appointment and when it is scheduled or when there is an emergency. Requires the notice to include: (1) all of the health care providers that will be rendering services who are not in-network and (2) the estimated cost to the insured of the services being rendered by those out-of-network providers. Sets out the procedure under which an insurer may recover overpayments made to the provider or facility. Defines a *health care provider* as any individual licensed, registered, or certified under GS Chapter 90, or under another state's laws, to provide health care services in the ordinary care of business or practice, as a profession, or in an approved education or training program in: (1) anesthesia or anesthesiology, (2) emergency services, (3) pathology, (4) radiology, or (5) rendering assistance to a physician performing any of these services.

Applies to contracts entered into, amended, or renewed on or after January 1, 2022.

**Intro. by Krawiec, Burgin, Perry.**

[GS 58](#)

[View summary](#)

**Health and Human Services, Health, Health Care Facilities and Providers, Health Insurance**

S 506 (2021-2022) [CERTIFICATE OF NEED MODIFICATIONS](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT MODIFYING CERTIFICATE OF NEED LAWS.*

To be summarized.

**Intro. by Krawiec, Burgin, Craven.**

[View summary](#)

S 507 (2021-2022) [MODIFY BUSINESS CORPORATION ACT](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO MAKE VARIOUS CHANGES TO THE NORTH CAROLINA BUSINESS CORPORATION ACT, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE NORTH CAROLINA BAR ASSOCIATION.*

To be summarized.

**Intro. by Gale.**

[View summary](#)

S 508 (2021-2022) [LOCAL CONTROL OF HUMANE CANINE DESIGNATION](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO AMEND THE DANGEROUS DOG LAWS TO PERMIT A CASE-BY-CASE DETERMINATION AS TO WHETHER A DOG TRAINED FOR DOG FIGHTING IS DANGEROUS*.

Amends the definition of *dangerous dog* set forth in GS 67-4.1, applicable to the regulation of dangerous dogs under Article 1A, to no longer include any dog owned or harbored primarily or in part for the purpose of dog fighting, or any dog trained for dog fighting.

Adds to GS 67-4.5 to provide that Article 1A does not prevent local ordinances or programs for control of dangerous dogs consistent with the Article.

Applies to acts of dangerous dogs occurring on or after October 1, 2021.

**Intro. by Woodard.**

[GS 67](#)

[View summary](#)

[Animals, Government, Local Government](#)

S 509 (2021-2022) [AN ENERGY RESILIENT NC](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO DIRECT THE STATE ENERGY OFFICE TO CARRY OUT A GRANT PROGRAM TO IMPROVE THE ENERGY RESILIENCE, ENERGY DEMOCRACY, AND ENERGY SECURITY OF COMMUNITIES, AND TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR THE PROGRAM*.

Titles the act as the "Energy Resilient Communities Act." Enacts new Part 32A, North Carolina Energy Resilient Communities, in Article 7 of GS Chapter 143B, providing as follows. Establishes the Energy Resilient Communities Fund (Fund) in the Department of Environmental Quality's State Energy Office (Office), to provide local governments with grants to help them achieve their sustainability goals through planning and implementation of clean energy projects that equitably advance energy efficiency, renewable energy, and related priorities. Allows for technical assistance grants of not more than \$50,000 per local government; outreach, engagement, and planning grants of no more than \$25,000 per local government; and grants for projects to develop and construct a clean energy microgrid that supports critical community infrastructure of no more than \$150,000 per local government. Sets out a prioritization process that the Office must use in awarding grants. Requires local governments to match grant funds on the basis of one non-State dollar for every three dollars provided from grant funds. Allows the Office to retain a specified amount for administrative costs. Requires the Office to report annually to the specified NCGA commission and division on the commitment, disbursement, and use of funds allocated from the Fund.

Appropriates \$1 million for 2021-22 and \$3 million for 2022-23 from the General Fund to the Office for the Fund. Effective July 1, 2021.

**Intro. by Salvador, Murdock, Woodard.**

[APPROP, GS 143B](#)

[View summary](#)

[Environment, Energy, Government, Budget/Appropriations, State Agencies, Department of Environmental Quality \(formerly DENR\), Local Government](#)

S 510 (2021-2022) [RELEASE BODY-WORN/DASHBOARD CAMERA VIDEO](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE RELEASE OF BODY-WORN AND DASHBOARD CAMERA RECORDINGS UPON REQUEST AFTER FORTY-EIGHT HOURS HAVE PASSED FROM THE TIME OF THE RECORDING*.

Revises GS 132-1.4A, which governs law enforcement agency recordings. Repeals subsection (f) and (g) which sets forth the procedure for and requirements of the release of recordings in the custody of a law enforcement agency by court order to authorized persons identified in subsection (c). Replaces the provisions with new subsection (g1) as follows. Requires a custodial law enforcement agency to release a recording after 48 hours have passed from the time of the recording, upon request, unless a court orders that the release of the recording must be restricted for a specified period of time. Permits any custodial law enforcement agency to file an action for an order restricting release of the recording for a specified period of time in the appropriate county, as specified. Requires the request to identify the activity by date and time, or otherwise identify the activity. Permits the court to conduct an in-camera review of the recording. Directs the court to consider eight specified standards in determining whether to restrict the release of all or a portion of the recording for a specified period of time, in addition to any other relevant standards, including whether the release is necessary to advance a compelling public interest, whether the recording contains information that is otherwise confidential or exempt from disclosure or release under State or federal law, whether release would reveal information regarding a person that is of a highly sensitive personal nature, and whether release may harm the reputation or jeopardize the safety of a person. Directs the court to restrict the release of only those portions that it deems necessary to restrict. Requires notification of and an opportunity to be heard at any proceeding: the head of the custodial law enforcement agency, any law enforcement agency personnel whose image or voice is in the recording and the head of that person's employing law enforcement agency, and the District Attorney. Requires hearings under the new subsection as soon as practicable, with subsequent proceedings accorded priority by the trial and appellate courts. Makes conforming changes.

**Intro. by Clark, deViere, Mohammed.**

GS 132

[View summary](#)

**Courts/Judiciary, Civil, Civil Law, Criminal Justice, Government, Public Records and Open Meetings, Public Safety and Emergency Management, Local Government**

S 511 (2021-2022) **REDISTRICTING COUNTY CLUSTER PROCESS**. Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A PROCESS FOR THE CREATION AND SELECTION OF COUNTY CLUSTER MAPS TO BE USED WHEN REVISING DISTRICTS FOR THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOLLOWING THE RETURN OF THE 2020 DECENNIAL CENSUS*.

Includes whereas clauses concerning legislative redistricting. Sets forth 14 defined terms.

Details a seven-step process for establishing cluster maps to use for the apportionment of seats and the nomination and election of members of the NCGA Senate and House of Representatives following the return of the 2020 census. Defines a cluster as a grouping of one or more counties that is capable of containing a whole number of legislative districts. Requires the State Board of Elections (State Board) to develop and provide, through the Executive Director, to the Senate Pro Tempore, the House Speaker, and their Principal Clerks, a cluster map set from the data from the 2020 decennial census, as defined, within 28 days of receipt of the data. Defines a cluster map set to mean the total collection of optimum cluster maps for consideration prior to revising the legislative districts. Authorizes the State Board to delegate development responsibility to the Department of Mathematics at Duke University or the School of Government at UNC-Chapel Hill. Requires the Executive Director to ensure that each cluster map in the set includes specified notes and tables, shapefiles and block assignment files, and is provided in Portable Document Format. Requires the NCGA Principal Clerks to make the cluster map set available to legislators within 29 days of the date the data from the 2020 decennial census is provided to the State. Requires legislative committees tasked with reapportioning legislative districts to post the cluster map set on its website within 30 days of the date the data from the 2020 decennial census is provided to the State, and allows for at least five days of public comment before taking any committee action. Requires all legislative committees tasked with legislative redistricting to meet jointly to receive in-person public comment on the cluster map set provided by the State Board within 37 days of the date the data from the 2020 decennial census is provided to the State. Expressly prohibits legislative committees tasked with legislative redistricting to consider incumbency protection or partisan advantage when selecting a cluster map.

**Intro. by Clark, Woodard.**

UNCODIFIED

[View summary](#)

**Government, Elections, State Agencies, State Board of**

## Elections

S 512 (2021-2022) [HIRE NC WORKERS](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO PROVIDE TAX INCENTIVES FOR SMALL BUSINESSES TO HIRE NORTH CAROLINA WORKERS*.

Includes whereas clauses.

Enacts new GS 105-129.16K, allowing a tax credit to an eligible small business that hires an employee who is a North Carolina resident. Defines an *eligible small business* as a business, other than an eligible restaurant, with cumulative gross receipts from business activity for the taxable year not in excess of \$1 million, that has fewer than 99 employees, and is subject to income tax. Sets out the formula for calculating the amount of the credit, which is based on whether an employee is full time or part time.

Allows an eligible restaurant that hires a delivery driver who is a North Carolina resident a tax credit and sets out the formula for calculating the amount of the credit, based upon whether the driver is full time or part time. Defines *eligible restaurant* as a restaurant properly registered and licensed to do business as a restaurant in the state that is subject to income tax.

Effective for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2021, and expires for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2022.

**Intro. by Crawford, deViere, Batch.**

GS 105

[View summary](#)

**Business and Commerce, Government, Tax**

S 513 (2021-2022) [VARIOUS ADMINISTRATIVE LAW CHANGES.-AB](#) Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO UPDATE THE PROCESS FOR LEGISLATIVE REVIEW OF RULES, TO DESIGNATE THE NORTH CAROLINA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE PUBLISHED ONLINE AS THE OFFICIAL VERSION AND REMOVE THE REQUIREMENT TO PUBLISH AND PROVIDE PRINTED COPIES, TO CLARIFY THAT CONSULTATION WITH THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS FOR TEMPORARY AND EMERGENCY RULES THAT ESTABLISH OR INCREASE A FEE IS NOT REQUIRED, TO UPDATE THE MODEL CODE OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT FOR STATE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES, AND TO MAKE CLARIFYING CHANGES TO THE OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING LAWS*.

Amends GS 150B-21.3 regarding the effective dates of permanent rules as follows. Amends subsection (b) to reference new GS 150B-21.3B(b) which establishes procedures for legislative review of rules; deletes subsection (b1) which provided for delayed effective dates of rules; deletes subsection (b2) which established the process by which a person may object to a rule; deletes subsection (c) which authorized the Governor to make a rule effective by executive order; amends subsection (c1) to specify that only permanent rules that establish a new or increased fee are subject to the consultation requirements of GS 12-3.1; deletes subsection (d) which defined a legislative day and legislative day of adjournment; and amends subsection (f) to include approval of a rule for which no notice or hearing is required by the Codifier of Rules, if applicable, for certain permanent rules.

Enacts GS 150B-21.3B establishing procedures for legislative review of rules as follows. Defines *legislative day*. Establishes procedures for filing objections to the adoption of permanent rules. Permits any person to object to adoption of a permanent rule by filing written comments with the agency and, if the objection is not resolved, by filing written objections to the RRC clearly requesting review by the NCGA in accordance with instructions posted on the Commission's website. Provides for the rule to become effective under the delayed effective date requirements of subsection (e) if the Commission receives written objections from 10 or more persons no later than 5:00 P.M. on the day following the day the Commission approves a rule. Requires the Commission to notify the agency that the rule is subject to legislative rule.

Authorizes an agency to adopt as a temporary rule a permanent rule that is subject to legislative review if the rule would have met the criteria of GS 150B-21.1(a) at the time the notice of the rule was published in the North Carolina Register. Allows the agency to make other rules effective under the delayed effective date requirements of subsection (e) by giving written notice to the Commission if a rule under legislative review is among a group of related rules adopted at the same time.

Authorizes any NCGA member to introduce a bill during the first 30 legislative days of the regular session specifically disapproving a rule that is subject to legislative review under subsection (b), which has been approved by the Commission or that has not yet become effective or has been made effective by executive order pursuant to subsection (f). Requires the bill to refer to the rule by its Administrative Code citation and state that the rule is disapproved.

Provides for a delayed effective date of rules subject to legislative review as follows. Rules approved by the Commission on or before December 31 become effective on the 31st legislative day of the Regular Session in the following calendar year unless a bill disapproving the rule is introduced before that legislative day. If a bill disapproving the rule is timely introduced, the rule becomes effective August 1 of the calendar year following the calendar year the Commission approved the rule. Provides that a permanent rule not approved by the Commission or that is disapproved by a bill that becomes law does not become effective.

Authorizes the Governor to make a permanent rule approved by the Commission effective by Executive Order subject to the delayed effective date requirements of subsection (e) when the Governor finds that the rule is necessary to protect public health, safety, or welfare. Requires the Codifier of Rules to reflect this action when entering the rule in the Administrative Code. Provides for continued effect of a rule made effective by executive order unless disapproved by the NCGA in a bill that becomes law before August 1 of the year following the year in which the executive order is issued, and requires the Codifier of Rules to note in the Administrative Code that the rule was not disapproved by the NCGA.

Revises GS 150B-21.18 to require the Codifier of Rules to publish the NC Administrative Code (NCAC) electronically on its website of the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH; previously required to publish in print). Deems the electronic version of the Code the official publication.

Repeals GS 150B-21.25 which provides for paid copies of the NC Register and the NCAC.

Makes the above provisions effective January 1, 2022.

Adds to the exceptions to the consultation requirement of GS 12-3.1, temporary and emergency rules that establish a new fee or increase an existing fee. Revises the exceptions to include rules that establish a new fee or increase an existing fee or charge to State, federal, or local governmental units (was, rules establishing fees or charges to such governments).

Revises requirements of the Chief Administrative Law Judge and administrative law judges of OAH under GS 7A-754. Requires compliance with the American Bar Association Model Code of Judicial Conduct for State Administrative Law Judges dated August 2018, as amended (was, a similar Model Code revised in 1998), with the provisions of the statute controlling as to the practice of law in lieu of Rule 3.10 of Canon 3, and GS 126-13 controlling as to political activity in lieu of Canon 4.

Amends GS 93B-8.1 to include a person who makes application for licensure from a State agency licensing board to the defined term *applicant*.

**Intro. by Galey, Sanderson.**

[GS 7A](#), [GS 12](#), [GS 93B](#), [GS 150B](#)

[View summary](#)

**[Business and Commerce](#), [Occupational Licensing](#), [Government](#), [APA/Rule Making](#), [General Assembly](#), [State Agencies](#), [State Government](#), [Executive](#)**

S 514 (2021-2022) [YOUTH HEALTH PROTECTION ACT](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO PROTECT MINORS FROM ADMINISTRATION OF PUBERTY BLOCKERS AND CROSS-SEX HORMONES AND OTHER RELATED ACTIONS, PROCEDURES, AND TREATMENTS.*

Includes whereas clauses. Enacts Article 1M, *Youth Health Protection Act*, of GS Chapter 90. Makes it unlawful for any individual to engage in any of the following practices upon a minor, or cause them to be performed, to facilitate the minor's desire to present or appear in a manner that is inconsistent with the minor's sex: (1) performing surgeries that sterilize; (2) performing a mastectomy; (3) administering or supplying any of the three specified medications that induce transient or permanent infertility; and (4) removing any otherwise healthy or nondiseased body part or tissue. Defines *minor* to mean anyone under 21 years of age. Defines *sex* to mean the biological state of being female or male, based on sex organs, chromosomes, and endogenous hormone profiles. Deems medical professionals, as defined, who engage in any of the specified unlawful practices to have engaged in unprofessional conduct and subject to licensure revocation or other appropriate

discipline by the respective licensing board. Establishes a \$1,000 civil penalty per occurrence, with remittance to the Civil and Penalty Forfeiture Fund. Excludes from the scope good-faith medical decisions of parents or guardians of a minor born with a medically verifiable genetic disorder of sexual development, and specifies such examples. Makes it unlawful for an health care provider that receives State funds to furnish, provide, or perform any health care service that constitutes the performance of or preparation for gender transition procedure to a minor.

Bars State entities, local governments, and any organization with authority to license or discipline members of a profession from prohibiting, imposing any penalty, or taking any adverse action against any individual who gives or receives counsel, advice, guidance, or any other speech or communication, whether described as therapy or provided for a fee, consistent with conscience or religious belief.

Explicitly allows parents, guardians, or custodians to withhold consent for any treatment, activity, or mental health care services that are designed and intended to form their child's conceptions of sex and gender or to treat gender dysphoria or gender nonconformity, without government infringement. Prohibits government agents, and State or local employees, or any other governmental entity, other than law enforcement, from encouraging or coercing a minor to withhold information from the minor's parent, or withholding from a minor's parent information relevant to the physical or mental health of their child as specified. Provides that such conduct is grounds for employee discipline in addition to other remedies under the Article. Establishes a duty for a government agent with knowledge that a minor under its care or supervision has exhibited symptoms of gender dysphoria, gender nonconformity, or otherwise demonstrates a desire to be treated in a manner incongruent with the minor's sex to immediately notify each of the minor's parents, guardians, or custodians in writing, with descriptions of relevant circumstances.

Prohibits discrimination against persons providing or causing to be provided information or an act or omission regarding Article violations to his or her employer or specified public entities, testified or prepared to testify in a proceeding under the Article, or assisted or participated in a proceeding under the Article. Prohibits discrimination against persons who make disclosures under the Article believed to be a violation of law, rule, or regulation; any violation of any standard of care or other ethical guidelines for the provision of health care service; or gross mismanagement, a gross waste of funds, an abuse of authority, or a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety.

Establishes a civil action for compensatory or special damages, injunctive relief, or other legal remedies for any person for any violation of the Article against the clinic, health care system, medical professional, or other responsible person. Provides a two-year statute of limitations, except allows for minors injured by practices prohibited by the Article to bring an action during their minority through a parent, and bring an action in their own name upon reaching majority at any time from that date until 20 years from the date the minor attained the age of majority. Allows for the award of monetary damages, total costs of the action and reasonable attorneys' fees, and any other appropriate relief.

Preempts political subdivisions of the State from enacting, adopting, maintaining, or enforcing any order, ordinance, rule, regulation, policy, or similar measure that prohibits, restricts, limits, controls, or directs, or otherwise interferes with the professional conduct and judgement of a mental health care professional or counselor undertaken within the course of treatment and communication with clients, patients, other persons, or the public. Provides for enforcement by the Attorney General or a mental health care professional or counsel through an action for injunctive relief. Allows a mental health care professional to recover reasonable attorneys' fees and reasonable costs incurred in obtaining an injunction. Waives sovereign immunity to suit and immunity from liability under this statute.

Enacts GS 143C-6-5.6 to prohibit the use of State Funds for the performance of or in furtherance of gender transition procedures or to support the administration of any governmental health plan or government-offered insurance policy offering gender transition procedures.

Includes a severability clause.

Effective October 1, 2021.

**Intro. by Hise, Daniel, Sanderson.**

**GS 90, GS 143C**

[View summary](#)

**Business and Commerce, Occupational Licensing, Courts/Judiciary, Civil, Civil Law, Employment and Retirement, Government, State Agencies, State Government,**

**Local Government, Health and Human Services, Health,  
Health Care Facilities and Providers, Mental Health**

S 515 (2021-2022) **HEALTH CARE HEROES CONSCIENCE PROTECTION ACT**. Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO PROTECT THE RIGHT OF CONSCIENCE OF MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS, HEALTH CARE INSTITUTIONS, AND HEALTH CARE PAYERS.*

Includes whereas clauses.

Enacts new Article 1M, Health Care Heroes Conscience Protection Act, providing as follows. Gives a medical practitioner, health care institution, or health care payer the right not to participate in or pay for any health care service which violates his, her, or its conscience. Defines *conscience* as (1) the religious, moral, or ethical beliefs or principles held by any medical practitioner, health care institution, or health care payer or (2) any published religious, moral, or ethical guidelines or directives, mission statements, articles of incorporation, bylaws, policies, or regulations published or created by institutional entities or corporate bodies. Provides immunity from civil, criminal, and administrative liability for exercising right of conscience not to participate in or pay for a health care service; extends the immunity from liability to health care institutions when the exercise of conscience right is by a medical practitioner employed, contracted, or granted admitting privileges by the health care institution. Makes it unlawful to discriminate against any medical practitioner, health care institution, or health care payer that refuses to participate in or pay for a health care service on the basis of conscience. Defines *discrimination* as any adverse action against any medical practitioner, health care payer, or health care institution as a result of his, her, or its decision to decline to participate in a health care service on the basis of conscience, including any of the 15 specified actions; excludes the negotiation or purchase of insurance by a nongovernmental entity.

Specifies that any medical practitioner, health care institution, or health care payer holding itself out to the public as religious, states in its governing documents that it has a religious purpose or mission, and has internal operating policies or procedures that implement its religious beliefs, has the right to make employment, staffing, contracting, and admitting privilege decisions consistent with its religious beliefs. Specifies that the Article does not override the requirement to provide emergency medical treatment.

Allows any medical practitioner, health care institution, or health care payer to bring a civil action for damages or injunctive relief for violations of this Article; prohibits bringing an action against an individual who declines to use or purchase health care services from a specific medical practitioner, health care institution, or health care payer for exercising the rights granted in this Article. Allows recovery of treble damages and costs of the action and reasonable attorneys' fees; also allows for injunctive relief.

Prohibits discriminating against a medical practitioner for: (1) providing, causing to be provided, or taking steps to provide or cause to be provided to his or her employer, the Attorney General, any State agency, the US Department of Health and Human Services, or any other federal agency, any information or an act or omission that is a violation of this Article; (2) testifying or preparing to do so, in a proceeding concerning a violation of this Article; or (3) assisting or participating in a proceeding concerning a violation of this Article. Also prohibits discrimination because the medical practitioner disclosed any information that the practitioner reasonably believed was evidence of the listed violations.

Includes a severability clause.

Effective October 1, 2021.

**Intro. by Hise, Daniel, Sanderson.**

GS 90

[View summary](#)

**Health and Human Services, Health, Health Care Facilities  
and Providers, Health Insurance**

S 516 (2021-2022) **EXTENDED GROUP COVERAGE/EMPLOYEE DECEASED**. Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO ALLOW THE CONTINUATION OF A GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE POLICY OF A WIDOWED SPOUSE OR SURVIVING DEPENDENT FOR THIRTY-SIX MONTHS AFTER THE DATE THE COVERED EMPLOYEE HAS DECEASED.*

Amends GS 58-53-35, as the title indicates. Applies to group policies in effect on and after October 1, 2021.

**Intro. by Chaudhuri, Crawford.**

GS 58

[View summary](#)

**Health and Human Services, Health, Health Insurance**

S 517 (2021-2022) **INNOVATIVE STATEWIDE BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE**. Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FOR THE PREPARATION OF STATEWIDE BROADBAND MAPS AND TO ESTABLISH THE DEPARTMENT AS THE SOLE SOURCE OF BROADBAND MAPPING FOR STATE AGENCIES; RELIEVE REGULATORY BURDENS TO EXPEDITE BROADBAND EXPANSION; ALLOW FOR USE OF EXISTING EASEMENTS FOR BROADBAND EXPANSION; EXPAND DISTRIBUTION OF STATE SURPLUS COMPUTERS AND COMPUTER HARDWARE FOR NONPROFITS; ALLOW LOCAL GOVERNMENT LEASING OF EXISTING BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE; EXPAND FUNDING FOR G.R.E.A.T. PROGRAM BROADBAND GRANTS; AND PROVIDE STOPGAP INTERNET ACCESS FOR CLASSROOM ACCESS, HEALTH CARE ACCESS, AND JOB CREATION.*

Part I.

Amends GS 143B-1321 to give the Department of Information Technology (Department) the power and duty to prepare and maintain statewide broadband maps to identify the capabilities and needs related to broadband access and serve as the sole provider of broadband mapping for State agencies. Amends GS 143B-1370 by making conforming changes. Amends GS 143B-1373 to require the Office of Broadband Infrastructure in the Department to serve as the designated agency for the receipt of all State, federal, and private grants, gifts, or matching funds for broadband mapping; requires the funds to remain unexpended until appropriated by the NCGA.

Appropriates \$1 million for 2020-21 from the General Fund to the Department for broadband mapping.

Part II.

Requires the Institute for Emerging Issues at NC State University (IEI) to host a structured stakeholder process to ascertain ways to relieve regulatory burdens with the goal of expediting broadband expansion in the State. Appropriates \$25,000 for 2020-21 from the General Fund to NC State University to be allocated to IEI to host the process.

Sets out headings for Parts III-VII, which are currently blank.

**Intro. by Newton, Chaudhuri.**

APPROP, GS 143B

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**Government, Budget/Appropriations, State Agencies, UNC System, Department of Information Technology, Public Enterprises and Utilities**

S 518 (2021-2022) **PROTECTING AND SUPPORTING NC'S CHILDREN**. Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO AMEND VARIOUS ABUSE, NEGLECT, AND DEPENDENCY LAWS TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF CHILDREN IN OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENTS AND EXPEDITE PERMANENCY PLANNING HEARINGS FOR CHILDREN WHO HAVE BEEN REMOVED FROM THE HOME; TO CLARIFY THE NON-CARETAKER DEFINITION FOR THE RESPONSIBLE INDIVIDUALS LIST; TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF EMERGENCY JUDGES TO ADDRESS THE CHILD WELFARE CASE BACKLOG; TO HIRE REGIONAL ABUSE AND MEDICAL SPECIALISTS TO IMPROVE THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM; AND TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES, TO DEVELOP A PLAN TO IMPLEMENT A CENTRALIZED HOTLINE FOR CHILD WELFARE INTAKE.*

To be summarized.

**Intro. by Batch, Burgin, Edwards.**

[View summary](#)

S 519 (2021-2022) [YELLOW BRICK ROAD](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A TIME LINE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO ACCEPT SUBDIVISION TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS TO THE STATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM FOR MAINTENANCE.*

Amends GS 160D-804 by requiring the Department of Transportation to add transportation improvements for those that are intended to be designated as public, to the State highway system for maintenance no later than 90 days after receiving the filing of the certificate of completion by the engineer of record.

**Intro. by Sawyer.**

GS 160D

[View summary](#)**Government, State Agencies, Department of Transportation, Transportation**

S 520 (2021-2022) [RESPIRATORY CARE MODERNIZATION ACT](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO UPDATE THE GENERAL STATUTES OF NORTH CAROLINA GOVERNING THE PRACTICE OF RESPIRATORY CARE TO BETTER REFLECT THE CHANGES IN EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE, AND PRACTICE OF THE PROFESSION IN ORDER TO ENHANCE THE HEALTH AND WELFARE OF NORTH CAROLINA CITIZENS.*

To be summarized.

**Intro. by Perry, Krawiec, Burgin.**[View summary](#)

S 521 (2021-2022) [RAISE THE ROOF](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE ELIGIBLE COUNTIES TO USE FUNDS FROM THE NEEDS-BASED PUBLIC SCHOOL CAPITAL FUND FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION AND BUILDING RENOVATIONS AND TO ALLOW FOR FUNDS FROM THE PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDING CAPITAL FUND TO BE USED FOR CERTAIN LEASE AGREEMENTS.*

To be summarized.

**Intro. by Sawyer, Daniel.**[View summary](#)

S 522 (2021-2022) [DRIVING INTO THE FUTURE](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO ALLOW REMOTE INSTRUCTION FOR CLASSROOM PORTIONS OF DRIVER EDUCATION PROGRAMS.*

Amends GS 115C-215 to allow high school driver education to be offered at the State's public high schools or through online instruction. Requires the State Board of Education to provide for a program of online driver education instruction to be offered through the State's public high schools. Requires the internet-based program to include at least: (1) customer service support that is available through a toll-free telephone number; (2) storage of course content and student data on a secure server that is protected against data breaches and is regularly backed up; (3) the ability to update course content uniformly throughout the State; and (4) online classroom instruction that includes at least accountability features to ensure the identity of the student, measuring the amount of time that the student spends on each section of the course, use of a pool of rotating quiz questions, and a means for the student to measure performance outcomes. Applies beginning with the 2022-23 school year.

**Intro. by Sawyer, Johnson, Perry.**

GS 115C

[View summary](#)**Courts/Judiciary, Motor Vehicle, Education, Elementary and Secondary Education**

S 523 (2021-2022) **BROADBAND AFFORDABILITY PROG./DIGITAL EQUITY**. Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE NORTH CAROLINA BROADBAND ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO PROVIDE FUNDS TO ELIGIBLE LOW-INCOME FAMILIES TO HELP MAKE BROADBAND ACCESS MORE AFFORDABLE*.

Requires the Department of Commerce (DOC) to establish the North Carolina Broadband Assistance Program (Program). Requires DOC to coordinate with county departments of social services to determine eligibility for low-income families for the Program. Makes families with annual household income at or below 100 of the federal poverty level eligible for free broadband service. Provides a credit of at least \$15 per month for broadband service to families with annual household incomes above 100%, but no greater than 135%, of the federal poverty level and that include at least one adult individual or dependent child who qualifies for or participates in at least one of the six specified assistance programs. Allows credits to be adjusted according to family size.

Requires program applicants to demonstrate income qualifications at least annually. Requires providing information so that funds can be provided directly to the broadband service provider. Allows terminating participation in the Program upon notification by the broadband service provider that the Program recipient's account is more than 45 days past due. Requires DOC to report on the Program quarterly beginning October 1, 2021, to the specified NCGA committee and division. Specifies information that must be included in the report, including any legislative recommendations relating to the Program.

Appropriates \$250 million for 2021-22 from the General Fund to DOC for the Program.

Effective July 1, 2021.

**Intro. by deViere, Chaudhuri, Foushee.**

APPROP, UNCODIFIED

[View summary](#)**Government, Budget/Appropriations, State Agencies, Department of Commerce, Health and Human Services, Social Services, Public Assistance, Public Enterprises and Utilities**

S 524 (2021-2022) **SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE**. Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO PROVIDE FUNDS TO ASSIST SMALL BUSINESSES*.

Includes whereas clauses. Appropriates \$250 million from the General Fund to the Department of Commerce (Department). Provides that the funds do not revert. States the purpose of the act. Establishes the COVID-19 Small Business Recovery Program (Program). Charges the Department with Program administration. Provides for the Department to provide a one-time grant to each *qualifying business*, defined to be an entity that is subject to income tax, with annual receipts for the 2019 tax year of \$8 million or less when combined with annual receipts of all related persons, that had a reduction of 25% or more in sales tax collections resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic for the 2020 tax year when compared to collections for the 2019 tax year. Provides for grant application procedures, with applications accepted until appropriated funds have been fully awarded. Caps the grant amount at the lesser of \$250,000 or the amount of reduction in sales tax collection of the qualifying business resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic for the 2020 tax year when compared to collections for the 2019 tax year. Caps the total of all grants awarded under the Program at \$250 million. Requires verification of qualifying businesses with the Department of Revenue, and authorizes the Department of Revenue to disclose tax-related information for verification. Deems the Department's grant determinations final. Conditions grants upon a recipient business maintaining operations for at least six months following receipt, with the Department directed to clawback a proportionate amount of the grant for any portion of the six months in which the recipient does not maintain business operations.

Establishes an income tax deduction for taxpayers under GS 105-153.5 for the amount granted to a taxpayer during the taxable year under the Small Business Recovery Program. Effective for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2021, and

expires for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2022.

**Intro. by deViere, Batch, Garrett.**

APPROP, UNCODIFIED, GS 105

[View summary](#)

**Business and Commerce, Government,  
Budget/Appropriations, Public Safety and Emergency  
Management, State Agencies, Department of Commerce, Tax**

S 525 (2021-2022) [NC STOP HUMAN TRAFFICKING FUNDS](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO NC STOP HUMAN TRAFFICKING*.

Includes whereas clauses. Appropriates \$100,000 for 2021-22 from the General Fund to NC Stop Human Trafficking to be used to help the organization's efforts to stop human trafficking. Effective July 1, 2021.

**Intro. by Davis.**

APPROP

[View summary](#)

**Courts/Judiciary, Criminal Justice, Government,  
Budget/Appropriations**

S 526 (2021-2022) [A TIME FOR SCIENCE FUNDS](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR A TIME FOR SCIENCE IN PITT COUNTY*.

Appropriates \$250,000 for 2021-22 from the General Fund to Bray Hollow Foundation Inc. to be used to support A Time for Science, which promotes science education. Effective July 1, 2021.

**Intro. by Davis.**

APPROP

[View summary](#)

**Education, Government, Budget/Appropriations**

S 527 (2021-2022) [LOST SHEEP RESOURCE FOUNDATION FUNDS](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE LOST SHEEP RESOURCE FOUNDATION*.

Appropriates \$250,000 for 2021-22 from the General Fund to the Lost Sheep Resource Foundation to be used for historic preservation. Effective July 1, 2021.

**Intro. by Davis.**

APPROP

[View summary](#)

**Government, Budget/Appropriations, Cultural Resources and  
Museums**

S 528 (2021-2022) [FUNDS FOR VARIOUS GREENE CO. ORGANIZATIONS](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS IN GREENE COUNTY*.

Appropriates \$50,000 for 2021-22 from the General Fund to the Greene County Arts and Historical Society to support its community programs.

Appropriates \$250,000 for 2021-22 from the General Fund to the Greene County Training School & South Greene High School National Alumni Association Inc. to be used for facility improvements at the former Rosenwald School.

Appropriates \$50,000 for 2021-22 from the General Fund to Greene County Interfaith Volunteers to support its community programs.

Appropriates \$50,000 for 2021-22 from the General Fund to the Greene County Improvement Association Inc. to support its community programs.

Effective July 1, 2021.

**Intro. by Davis.**

[APPROP, Greene](#)

[View summary](#)

[Development, Land Use and Housing, Community and Economic Development, Government, Budget/Appropriations, Cultural Resources and Museums](#)

S 529 (2021-2022) [COUNTY WASTE MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO RESTORE ASSISTANCE TO COUNTIES WITH THE CLEANUP OF SCRAP TIRES*.

Amends GS 105-187.19 to require that 17% of the net proceeds of the scrap tire disposal tax be credited to the Scrap Tire Disposal Account, with 13% credited to the General Fund (was, the entire 30% was credited to the General Fund).

Reenacts GS 130A-309.36, Scrap Tire Disposal Account, as it existed immediately prior to repeal and makes the following changes. Removes the deadline for the report to the Environmental Review Commission (ERC) on the the implementation of the NC Scrap Tire Disposal Act.

Repeals GS 130A-309.64 concerning grants for the disposal of scrap tires and activities related to scrap tires.

Amends GS 130A-309.06 to require the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to include in its annual report to the ERC and specified NCGA division on solid waste management, the beginning and ending balances in the Scrap Tire Disposal Account for the reporting period, and the amount credited to the Scrap Tire Disposal Account during the reporting period. Makes conforming changes.

Amends GS 130A-309.09C to provide that local governments that do not comply with the requirements of GS 130A-309.09A(b) (requiring making a good-faith effort to achieve the State's 40% municipal solid waste reduction goal and to comply with the State's comprehensive solid waste management plan), GS 130A-309.09A(d) (requiring annual reporting on the solid waste management programs and waste reduction activities within the unit of local government), and GS 130A-309.09B(a) (including specific requirements for a local government's solid waste reduction program) are not eligible for grants from the Scrap Tire Disposal Account.

Effective July 1, 2021.

**Intro. by Burgin, Foushee.**

[GS 105, GS 130A](#)

[View summary](#)

[Environment, Government, Tax, Local Government](#)

S 530 (2021-2022) [MEDICAID FOR TWELVE MONTHS POSTPARTUM](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO PROVIDE COVERAGE UNDER THE NORTH CAROLINA MEDICAID PROGRAM FOR PREGNANT WOMEN FOR TWELVE MONTHS POSTPARTUM, AS ALLOWED UNDER THE FEDERAL AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021, AND TO PLAN TO PROVIDE THOSE INDIVIDUALS WITH A WAIVER OF TUITION AND REGISTRATION FEES AT A NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE*.

Directs the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to implement the continued Medicaid eligibility of pregnant women for 12 months postpartum to begin on April 1, 2022, as allowed under the specified section of the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

Revises the Medicaid eligibility category for pregnant women set forth in GS 108A-54.3A(10), which specifies that coverage for pregnant women eligible under the subdivision only includes services related to pregnancy and to other conditions determined by DHHS as conditions that may complicate pregnancy. Adds that the limitation on services does not apply as long as the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) allows coverage of pregnant women for 12 months postpartum. Effective April 1, 2022.

Appropriates \$12,344,000 in recurring funds for 2021-22 and \$50,816,000 in recurring funds for 2022-23 from the General Fund to DHHS, Division of Health Benefits (DHB) to implement the act and provide a State match for \$25,813,000 in recurring federal funds for 2021-22 and \$106,264,000 in recurring funds for 2022-23. Appropriates the described federal funds to DHB to implement the act. Effective July 1, 2021.

States legislative intent for provide individuals eligible for Medicaid under GS 108A-54.3(10) with a waiver of tuition and registration fees for community college courses under a future program.

**Intro. by Burgin, Krawiec, Corbin.**

APPROP, GS 108A

[View summary](#)

**Education, Higher Education, Government, Budget/Appropriations, State Agencies, Department of Health and Human Services, Health and Human Services, Health, Health Insurance, Social Services, Public Assistance**

S 531 (2021-2022) **PUBLIC BODIES/MODS TO REMOTE MEETING REQS.** Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO MAKE MODIFICATIONS TO THE LAW REGARDING REMOTE MEETINGS BY PUBLIC BODIES DURING A STATE OF EMERGENCY.*

Expands GS 166A-19.24 to authorize public bodies within an emergency area to conduct remote meetings throughout the duration of a municipal or county declaration of emergency under GS 166A-19.22, in addition to declarations under GS 166A-19.20. Establishes a presumption that remote meetings are open to the public if the public body has complied with the statute's requirements. Adds new authority for a public body that has issued notice for an in-person meeting to amend the notice to make the meeting a remote meeting up to six hours before the noticed time for the in-person meeting. Requires the revised notice and the remote meeting to comply with the statute's requirements. Revises the public body's authority to conduct and take action on a public hearing required or authorized by law during a remote meeting to require that the public body for submission of written comments on the subject of the public hearing between publication of any required notice and 24 hours prior to the noticed time for the hearing (was, between publication of any required notice and 24 hours after the public hearing).

**Intro. by Burgin, Foushee.**

GS 166A

[View summary](#)

**Government, Public Records and Open Meetings, Public Safety and Emergency Management, State Government, Local Government**

S 532 (2021-2022) **LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX FLEXIBILITY.** Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO GIVE COUNTIES ADDITIONAL FLEXIBILITY WITH REGARD TO THE LOCAL OPTION SALES AND USE TAX WITHOUT INCREASING THE EXISTING MAXIMUM TAX RATE.*

To be summarized.

**Intro. by Burgin, Foushee.**

[View summary](#)

S 533 (2021-2022) [REQUIRE ELIMINATION OF VACANT POSITIONS](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO REQUIRE STATE AGENCIES TO ELIMINATE ALL POSITIONS WITHIN THE AGENCY THAT HAVE BEEN VACANT FOR AT LEAST TWELVE MONTHS*.

Enacts GS 143C-6-6.1, directing State agencies to annually eliminate all positions within the agency that have been vacant for at least 12 months, beginning October 1, 2021. Requires elimination in conjunction with the Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM). Provides for half of the total amount of funds resulting from each elimination to remain unexpended until legislatively appropriated, with remaining funds used by the State agency from which the positions were eliminated in accordance with applicable state law. Explicitly limits agency authority to eliminate vacant positions and to use resulting funds to the authority granted by this statute or the Current Operations Appropriations Act. Directs OSBM to report to the specified NCGA committee and division within 15 days from the date positions are eliminated pursuant to the statute, detailed and organized as specified.

**Intro. by Burgin, Krawiec.**

GS 143C

[View summary](#)

**Employment and Retirement, Government, State Agencies, Office of State Budget and Management, State Government, State Personnel**

S 534 (2021-2022) [LEGISLATIVE REFORM COMMISSION](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO CREATE THE LEGISLATIVE REFORM COMMISSION TO STUDY AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING LEGISLATOR TERMS, TERM LIMITS, SESSION LIMITS, AND COMPENSATION*.

Establishes the eight-member Commission on Legislative Reform (Commission). Provides for member appointment by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, with four appointments each. Bars elected officials from serving on the Commission. Provides for a Commission chair, meetings, vacancies, and member expenses. Charges the Commission with studying and making recommendations regarding modifications to the NC Constitution with regards to NCGA member terms, NCGA member term limits, limitations on the length of legislative sessions, legislative compensation, and legislative per diem and mileage allowances. Enumerates six other areas the Commission can study, including the length of legislative sessions for each biennium since 1981 and the length of other states' legislative session and limitations on the length of legislative sessions, as well as any other information the Commission deems appropriate. Directs UNC-Chapel Hill's School of Government to assist the Commission by providing a meeting space, provide necessary clerical, administrative, and legal support, and preparing the Commission's report. Directs the Commission to report to specified NCGA leadership and committee chairs by April 15, 2022, as specified. Terminates the Commission upon the earlier of submission of its report or April 15, 2022.

**Intro. by Burgin.**

STUDY

[View summary](#)

**Constitution, Government, General Assembly, State Agencies, UNC System**

S 535 (2021-2022) [SAFE SURRENDER INFANTS](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO REVISE THE LAWS PERTAINING TO THE SAFE SURRENDER OF INFANTS UNDER THE ABUSE, NEGLECT, DEPENDENCY LAWS AND TO MAKE CONFORMING STATUTORY CHANGES*.

Enacts Article 5A, Safe Surrender of Infants, to GS Chapter 7B. States the Article's purpose and scope, limiting the scope exclusively to safely surrendered infants, defined to mean an infant reasonably believed to be under seven days of age and without signs of abuse or neglect who is voluntarily delivered to an individual pursuant to new Article 5A by the infant's parent who does not express an intent to return for the infant, as enacted in GS 7B-101. Explicitly excludes from the Article's scope surrendered infants not reasonably believed to be seven days old, infants that show signs of abuse or neglect, when there's

reasonable belief that the surrendering individual was not the infant's parent, or when there was reason to believe the parent intended to return for the infant at the time of surrender.

Creates a duty for the following individuals to take temporary custody of an infant reasonably believed to be under seven days of age that is voluntarily delivered to the individual by the infant's parent who does not express an intent to return for the infant: a health care provider on duty or at a hospital or at a local or district health department or a nonprofit community center; a first responder; and a social services worker on duty or at a local department of social services. Does not require a court order. Details duties of the individual taking temporary custody of the surrendered infant, including immediately notifying the department of social services of the county. Allows the individual to inquire about personal information of the parents or the child so long as the individual discloses that the parent is not required to provide the information. Requires the individual to provide the surrendering parent information created by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Division of Social Services (DSS) regarding the surrender of infants and parental rights. Grants full immunity to individuals to whom an infant is surrendered, less conduct that constitutes gross negligence, wanton conduct, or intentional wrongdoing.

Details confidentiality requirements for the surrendering parent's identity. Requires the individual taking an infant into temporary custody to provide any personal information obtained about the infant or the infant's parents and the circumstances of surrender to the director of the department of social services (dss director), which may only be disclosed to local law enforcement to determine if the infant is a missing child, contact with the non-surrendering parent, or as ordered by a court. Identifies authorized disclosure of the information by the dss director, including to a health care provider, placement provider, agencies involved in adoption placement, court, and guardian ad litem. Deems the confidentiality provisions to not apply if dss determines the juvenile is not a safely surrendered infant or is the victim of a crime.

Deems the dss director to have the surrendering parents' rights to legal and physical custody of the infant without obtaining a court order. Authorizes dss to apply ex parte after properly published notice for a district court order finding that the infant has been safely surrendered and confirming dss's custody for purposes of obtaining certified identifying documents of the child or benefits for the minor. Enumerates seven duties of the dss director, including verifying the infant's age and that there are no signs of abuse or neglect (with treatment as a juvenile who has been reported to be an abused, neglected, or dependent juvenile if the infant is found to be over seven days old or has signs of abuse or neglect); notifying law enforcement to investigate whether the infant is a missing child; contacting the non-surrendering parent if known; arrange genetic testing if there is uncertainty and a parent seeks custody; and initiate a termination of parental rights for the surrendering parent after 60 days of surrender if the surrendering parent has not sought custody and the infant has not been placed with the non-surrendering parent. Establishes three criteria for the infant to be placed with the non-surrendering parent. Provides for treating the juvenile as if reported of abuse, neglect or dependency if the known non-surrendering parent is suspected to have created such circumstances; bars the surrendering parent from being party to the dss assessment or a petition filed under GS 7B-302.

Sets extensive requirements for the dss director to publish notice in a qualified newspaper within 14 days from the date of surrender that an infant has been surrendered and taken into dss custody. Requires the notice to be published once a week for three successive weeks. Details content requirements. Requires the publisher to file an affidavit at the preliminary hearing for termination of parental rights for the safely surrendered infant, if commenced.

Provides for the surrendering parent's right to seek custody prior to the filing of a termination of parental rights petition; requires the dss director to treat such a request as a report of neglect and comply with the provisions of GS 7B-302. Specifies a surrendering parent can execute relinquishment of their parental rights for adoption. Provides for immunity under GS 14-322.3 for the surrendering parent. Directs DSS to create information about infant safe surrender and parental rights, which must be posted on its website and available for distribution to agencies where individuals who may receive surrendered infants are on duty, and other agencies upon request. Details required content. Directs DSS to create a printable and downloadable medical history form that is optional for surrendering parents, that includes instructions on completion and return.

Amends GS 7B-101 to exclude safely surrendered infants from the defined term neglected juvenile. Adds non-surrendering parent and surrendering parent to the defined terms.

Enacts GS 7B-1105.1 to establish parameters for a preliminary hearing regarding a safely surrendered infant. Requires a preliminary hearing within 10 days of filing of a petition to terminate parental rights of the surrendering or non-surrendering parent, or during the next term of court if no court is held in that county during that period. Provides for a closed hearing unless the surrendering parent appears and requests for the hearing to be open. Provides for the purpose of the hearing and the court's required inquiries of the dss director. Directs the court to determine whether any diligent efforts are required to identify or locate the surrendering parent, and specifies the required efforts of dss and required service. Provides for service of the non-

surrendering parent. Requires the court to order service by publication and specify notice content, meeting enumerated requirements. Requires an affidavit of the publisher to be filed upon completion of the service by publication. Requires the court to issue the order within 30 days of the hearing unless additional time is needed for investigation. Specifies that no summons is required for a parent who is served by publication.

Amends GS 7B-1111 to exclude from the grounds warranting a court to terminate parental rights upon finding the parental rights of the parent has been terminated involuntarily with respect to another child of the parent, instances when the parent's parental rights were terminated as a result of the other child being a safely surrendered infant.

Makes conforming changes to GS 7B-401.1 (regarding when a parent cannot be a party to a abuse, neglect, dependency proceeding); GS 7B-500 (repealing existing law regarding taking temporary custody of a safely surrendered infant); GS 7B-501 (regarding duties for individuals taking a juvenile into temporary custody); GS 7B-1111 (regarding termination of parental rights); GS 14-322.3 (regarding abandonment of an infant); and GS 115C-47, GS 115C-218.75, GS 115C-548, GS 115C-556, and GS 115C-565 (regarding local boards of education, charter schools, and nonpublic schools' duty to ensure certain students annually receive information on lawfully abandoning an infant).

Effective October 1, 2021.

**Intro. by Burgin, Krawiec.**

[GS 7B](#), [GS 14](#), [GS 115C](#)

[View summary](#)

[Courts/Judiciary](#), [Civil](#), [Civil Law](#), [Juvenile Law](#), [Abuse, Neglect and Dependency](#), [Criminal Justice](#), [Criminal Law and Procedure](#), [Education](#), [Elementary and Secondary Education](#), [Government](#), [Public Safety and Emergency Management](#), [State Agencies](#), [Department of Health and Human Services](#), [Health and Human Services](#), [Health](#), [Health Care Facilities and Providers](#), [Social Services](#), [Child Welfare](#)

S 536 (2021-2022) [JUNK AND SALVAGE VEHICLE AMENDMENTS](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT PROHIBITING THE TITLING AND REGISTRATION OF JUNK VEHICLES AND REMOVING ANY DISTINCTION BASED ON VEHICLE AGE WITH RESPECT TO THE BRANDED TITLE REQUIREMENTS FOR SALVAGE VEHICLES.*

Amends GS 20-71.3 as the title indicates. Applies to any title or registration application submitted on or after October 1, 2021.

**Intro. by Burgin.**

[GS 20](#)

[View summary](#)

[Courts/Judiciary](#), [Motor Vehicle](#), [Government](#), [State Agencies](#), [Department of Transportation](#)

S 537 (2021-2022) [EXPAND NC INFANT SAFE SLEEP PROGRAM/FUNDS](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH, TO EXPAND THE NORTH CAROLINA INFANT SAFE SLEEP PROGRAM.*

Appropriates \$85,000 for 2021-22 and \$85,000 for 2022-23 from the General Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, as title indicates, to reduce Sudden Infant Death Syndrome and infant sleep-related deaths in the state. Effective July 1, 2021.

**Intro. by Burgin, Krawiec.**

[APPROP](#)

[View summary](#)

[Government](#), [Budget/Appropriations](#), [State Agencies](#), [Department of Health and Human Services](#), [Health and Human Services](#), [Health](#), [Public Health](#)

S 538 (2021-2022) [DHHS CONTRACT/EPIC AT STATE PSYCH. HOSPITALS](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT DIRECTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DIVISION OF STATE OPERATED HEALTHCARE FACILITIES, IN COORDINATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT THAT PROVIDES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF EPIC SOFTWARE AS THE STANDARD, UNIFORM SOFTWARE PLATFORM FOR ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORDS WITHIN THE STATE'S PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS; AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THAT PURPOSE.*

To be summarized.

**Intro. by Burgin, Krawiec, Perry.**

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S 539 (2021-2022) [DISCLOSE HUMAN TRAFFICKING CONVICTION/CUSTODY](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO REQUIRE DISCLOSURE OF A CONVICTION FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN A CHILD CUSTODY PROCEEDING.*

To be summarized.

**Intro. by Sanderson.**

[View summary](#)

S 540 (2021-2022) [VARIOUS CHANGES TO NONPROFIT CORPORATIONS ACT](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO MAKE VARIOUS CHANGES TO THE NORTH CAROLINA NONPROFIT CORPORATIONS ACT.*

To be summarized.

**Intro. by Woodard, Burgin, Mayfield.**

[View summary](#)

S 541 (2021-2022) [NC PROMISE/ADD FAYETTEVILLE STATE](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO ADD FAYETTEVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY AS ONE OF THE CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS WITH AN ESTABLISHED RATE OF TUITION AS PART OF THE NC PROMISE TUITION PLAN AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THIS PURPOSE.*

To be summarized.

**Intro. by deViere, Blue, Ballard.**

[View summary](#)

S 542 (2021-2022) [SHP COMBAT FRAUD AND ABUSE INCENTIVES](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO ALLOW THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE HEALTH PLAN FOR TEACHERS AND STATE EMPLOYEES TO ADOPT A PROGRAM TO INCENTIVIZE PLAN MEMBERS TO REPORT ACTIVITIES SUCH AS FRAUD, WASTE, AND ABUSE BY HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS PROVIDING SERVICES TO PLAN MEMBERS.*

To be summarized.

**Intro. by Burgin.**[View summary](#)

S 543 (2021-2022) [ESTABLISH KEY INDICATORS/INTERNAL AUDITS](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO ESTABLISH MINIMUM KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR INTERNAL AUDITS*.

To be summarized.

**Intro. by McInnis, Edwards, Woodard.**[View summary](#)

S 544 (2021-2022) [2021 WATER SAFETY ACT](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR EXPERTISE AND TECHNOLOGY AVAILABLE IN INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION LOCATED WITHIN THE STATE TO ADDRESS PER- AND POLY-FLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES, INCLUDING GENX*.

To be summarized.

**Intro. by Lee, Ballard, Edwards.**[View summary](#)

S 545 (2021-2022) [UNIVERSAL LICENSURE RECOGNITION ACT](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO PROVIDE A UNIVERSAL RECOGNITION PROCESS FOR LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, OR REGISTRATION FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO ESTABLISH RESIDENCE IN THIS STATE*.

Enacts new GS 93B-15.2 to require an occupational licensing board or a State agency licensing board to issue a license, certification, or registration to any applicant who establishes residence in this state, and satisfies all of stated nine conditions, including: (1) the applicant is currently licensed, certified, or registered in at least one other jurisdiction in the discipline applied for in this state at the same or substantially equivalent practice level; (2) the applicant has been licensed, certified, or registered by another jurisdiction for at least one year; (3) the applicant is in good standing in all jurisdictions in which the applicant holds a license, certification, or registration; and (4) the applicant does not have any active or pending disciplinary actions from an occupational licensing board or agency in another jurisdiction, and, if applicable, the occupational licensing board or State agency has completed verification. Sets out actions the occupational licensing board must take when an applicant has any prior disciplinary actions from an occupational licensing board or State agency licensing board at the time of application. Requires online publication of criteria or requirements for licensing, certification, or registration of the required documentation. Specifies that the statute does not prevent any occupational licensing board or State agency licensing board in this state from entering into a reciprocity agreement with another jurisdiction, or invalidate any existing reciprocity agreement. Provides that a license, certification, or registration granted by an occupational licensing board or State agency licensing board under this statute is valid only in this state and does not extend validity to other jurisdictions. Provides that any individual licensed, certified, or registered under this statute is entitled to the same rights and subject to the same obligations as individuals licensed, certified, or registered by an occupational licensing board or State agency licensing board in this state under any other provision of law. States that nothing in the statute prohibits an individual from proceeding under the existing licensure, certification, or registration requirements established by an occupational licensing board or State agency licensing board in this state.

Requires occupational licensing boards and State agency licensing boards to report annually to the specified entities, beginning October 31, 2022, on the number of individuals who: applied for licensure, certification, or registration in accordance with this

act; received licensure, certification, or registration in accordance with this act; and were denied licensure, certification, or registration in accordance with this act.

Applies to applications for licensure, certification, or registration received on or after October 1, 2021.

**Intro. by Edwards, Sanderson.**

GS 93B

[View summary](#)

**Business and Commerce, Occupational Licensing**

S 546 (2021-2022) [UNC BOG/NO LOBBYISTS/SPOUSES](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO PROHIBIT LOBBYISTS AND THE SPOUSES OF LOBBYISTS FROM SERVING AS MEMBERS ON THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA*.

To be summarized.

**Intro. by Perry.**

[View summary](#)

S 547 (2021-2022) [FIBER NC ACT](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO FOSTER INFRASTRUCTURE FOR BROADBAND EXPANSION AND RESOURCES IN NORTH CAROLINA BY AUTHORIZING COUNTIES AND CITIES TO BUILD AND LEASE FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT OF BROADBAND SERVICES TO INCREASE ADEQUATE BROADBAND SERVICES IN RURAL AREAS OF THE STATE WHERE THE NEED FOR BROADBAND IS GREAT DUE TO MANY FACTORS, INCLUDING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC*.

To be summarized.

**Intro. by Lazzara, Corbin, deViere.**

[View summary](#)

S 548 (2021-2022) [INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR OVERSIGHT OF PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS*.

To be summarized.

**Intro. by Johnson, McInnis, Sawyer.**

[View summary](#)

S 549 (2021-2022) [IMPROVE PIPELINE SAFETY](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO PROTECT THE CITIZENS OF NORTH CAROLINA FROM AGING AND POORLY MAINTAINED PIPELINES*.

To be summarized.

**Intro. by Marcus.**

[View summary](#)

S 550 (2021-2022) [MODIFY SURETY/BAIL BOND/BONDSMEN PROVISIONS](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO MODIFY QUALIFICATIONS AND TESTING PROCEDURES FOR BAIL BONDSMEN AND RUNNERS AND TO MODIFY VARIOUS PROVISIONS RELATED TO BAIL BOND FORFEITURES AND BAIL BOND SURETIES*.

To be summarized.

**Intro. by Britt, Craven, Lazzara.**

[View summary](#)

S 551 (2021-2022) [SUPPORT VETERAN TEACHERS](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO INCREASE COMPENSATION FOR TEACHERS IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS WITH AT LEAST FIFTEEN YEARS OF EXPERIENCE*.

Identical to [H 497](#), filed 4/5/21.

Sets a monthly teacher salary schedule for "A" teachers for 2021-22 for licensed public school personnel classified as teachers, based on years of experience, ranging from \$3,500 for teachers with 0 years of experience to \$5,460 for 25 or more years of experience.

Provides for a 12% salary supplement for licensed teachers who have National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification; a 10% salary supplement for licensed teachers classified as "M" teachers; a \$126 salary supplement for licensed teachers with licensure based on academic preparation at the six-year degree level, in addition to the "M" teachers salary supplement; a \$253 salary supplement for licensed teachers with licensure based on academic preparation at the doctoral degree level, in addition to the "M" teachers salary supplement; and a 10% salary supplement for certified school nurses.

Requires that the first step of the salary schedule for school psychologists, school speech pathologists licensed at the master's degree level or higher, and school audiologists licensed at the master's degree level or higher, must be equivalent to the sixth step of the "A" salary schedule. Provides for a 10% salary supplement. Deems these employees eligible to receive salary supplements equivalent to those of teachers for academic preparation at the six-year degree level or the doctoral degree level.

Requires that the twenty-sixth step of the salary schedule for school psychologists, school speech pathologists licensed at the master's degree level or higher, and school audiologists licensed at the master's degree level or higher must be 7.5% higher than the salary received by these same employees on the twenty-fifth step of the salary schedule.

Provides that in lieu of the amounts of annual longevity payments to teachers paid on the teacher salary schedule, beginning with the 2014-15 fiscal year, the amounts of those longevity payments are included in the monthly amounts under the teacher salary schedule.

Details teacher compensation for the 2021-22 school year based on either (1) the applicable salary schedule; (2) the sum of the salary the teacher received in 2013-14, longevity pay for the 2013-14 school year, and annual bonus provided in 2014-100; or (3) the sum of the salary and annual bonus the teacher received in the 2014-15 school year, with the compensation amount determined to be equal to the greater of those amounts. Provides that teacher includes instructional support personnel.

Appropriates \$179 million in recurring funds from the General Fund to the Department of Public Instruction for 2021-22 to increase salaries for teachers with at least 15 years of experience as specified.

Effective July 1, 2021.

**Intro. by Britt.**

**APPROP, UNCODIFIED**

**Education, Elementary and Secondary Education,  
Employment and Retirement, Government,  
Budget/Appropriations, State Agencies, Department of Public  
Instruction**

[View summary](#)

S 552 (2021-2022) [LIMIT WHO MAY ADVERTISE/ADOPTION LAWS](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO LIMIT WHO MAY ADVERTISE FOR THE ADOPTION OF A MINOR CHILD UNDER THE LAWS PERTAINING TO ADOPTIONS*.

To be summarized.

**Intro. by Sanderson.**

[View summary](#)

S 553 (2021-2022) [DAMAGE TO REAL PROPERTY/PUNISHMENT](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO INCREASE THE PUNISHMENT FOR WILLFUL AND WANTON INJURY TO REAL PROPERTY*.

To be summarized.

**Intro. by Burgin, Daniel, Britt.**

[View summary](#)

S 554 (2021-2022) [ENCOUR. AFFORDBLE HOUSING/SHIPPING CONTAINERS](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO PROMOTE AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN NORTH CAROLINA BY ENCOURAGING THE CONVERSION OF SHIPPING CONTAINERS TO HOUSING UNITS*.

To be summarized.

**Intro. by Ballard, Britt, Lee.**

[View summary](#)

S 555 (2021-2022) [SHRA/BAN ON APPLICANT SALARY HISTORY](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT AMENDING THE STATE HUMAN RESOURCES ACT TO PROHIBIT INQUIRIES ABOUT AN APPLICANT'S SALARY HISTORY DURING THE HIRING PROCESS*.

To be summarized.

**Intro. by Salvador, Batch, Fitch.**

[View summary](#)

S 556 (2021-2022) [APPLIANCE ENERGY EFFICIENCY STANDARDS](#). Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT TO ENACT STATE ENERGY EFFICIENCY STANDARDS FOR CERTAIN APPLIANCES*.

To be summarized.

**Intro. by Salvador, Woodard, Garrett.**

[View summary](#)

S 557 (2021-2022) **UP SHP PAY & DEATH BENEFITS/DEATH PENALTY.** Filed Apr 5 2021, *AN ACT INCREASING THE PAY AND DEATH BENEFITS OF MEMBERS OF THE STATE HIGHWAY PATROL KILLED OR MURDERED IN THE LINE OF DUTY; AND REQUIRING THAT A JURY DECIDE THE DEFENDANT'S SENTENCE IN EVERY CASE INVOLVING THE MURDER OF A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER.*

To be summarized.

**Intro. by Burgin, Davis.**

[View summary](#)

## ACTIONS ON BILLS

### PUBLIC BILLS

#### **H 11: REGULATE ALCOHOL CONSUMABLES.**

*House: Regular Message Sent To Senate*

*Senate: Regular Message Received From House*

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

#### **H 53: EDUC. CHANGES FOR MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENTS.**

*House: Pres. To Gov. 4/5/2021*

#### **H 142: UNC BUILDING RESERVES/CERTAIN PROJECTS.**

*House: Regular Message Sent To Senate*

*Senate: Regular Message Received From House*

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

#### **H 159: EDUCATION LAW CHANGES.-AB**

*House: Regular Message Sent To Senate*

*Senate: Regular Message Received From House*

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

#### **H 289: DIT/BROADBAND MAPPING -- FUNDS.**

*House: Regular Message Sent To Senate*

*Senate: Regular Message Received From House*

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

#### **H 312: QUALIFICATIONS FOR SHERIFF/EXPUNCTION.**

*House: Regular Message Sent To Senate*

*Senate: Regular Message Received From House*

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

#### **H 335: TIMELY LOCAL PAYMENTS TO CHARTER SCHOOLS.**

*House: Regular Message Sent To Senate*  
*Senate: Regular Message Received From House*  
*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*  
*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**H 351: CLIFFORD'S LAW.**

*House: Regular Message Sent To Senate*  
*Senate: Regular Message Received From House*  
*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*  
*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**H 479: EXTENDED GROUP COVERAGE/EMPLOYEE DECEASED.**

*House: Passed 1st Reading*  
*House: Ref To Com On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House*

**H 480: DESIGNATE STATE BALLOON RALLY.**

*House: Passed 1st Reading*  
*House: Ref to the Com on State Government, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House*

**H 481: FIREARM DISPOSAL/UNC CAMPUS POLICE.**

*House: Passed 1st Reading*  
*House: Ref to the Com on Education - Universities, if favorable, Judiciary 2, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House*

**H 482: ANIMAL SUPPORT/ENRICHMENT PRG. FOR STUDENTS.**

*House: Passed 1st Reading*  
*House: Ref to the Com on Appropriations, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House*

**H 483: PISTOL PERMIT/MENTAL HEALTH RECORD TO SHERIFF.**

*House: Passed 1st Reading*  
*House: Ref to the Com on Health, if favorable, Judiciary 2, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House*

**H 485: AMEND 1-YR SEP/REPEAL ALIEN. OF AFF/CRIM. CON.**

*House: Passed 1st Reading*  
*House: Ref to the Com on Judiciary 2, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House*

**H 486: REPLACE EOC WITH NATIONAL ASSESSMENT.**

*House: Passed 1st Reading*  
*House: Ref to the Com on Education - K-12, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House*

**H 487: CERTAIN PROHIBITIONS/WORKING/VOTING PROCESS.**

*House: Passed 1st Reading*  
*House: Ref to the Com on Judiciary 1, if favorable, Election Law and Campaign Finance Reform, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House*

**H 488: ANALYSIS DOULA SUPP. SERVICES/MEDICAID COV.**

*House: Passed 1st Reading*  
*House: Ref to the Com on Health, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House*

**H 489: 2021 BUILDING CODE AND DEV. REG. REFORM.**

*House: Passed 1st Reading*  
*House: Ref to the Com on Local Government - Land Use, Planning and Development, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House*

**H 490: ROANOKE RAPIDS EXIT 171 DEVELOPMENT PLAN.**

*House: Passed 1st Reading*

*House: Ref to the Com on Appropriations, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House*

**H 492: WC/PSYCH. TRAUMA-RELATED INJURIES.**

*House: Filed*

**H 493: DEFINING/REGULATING FOOD DELIVERY PLATFORMS.**

*House: Filed*

**H 494: DIGITAL INTERFERENCE CENSORSHIP ACT.**

*House: Filed*

**H 495: REDISTRICTING CRITERIA FOR 2021.**

*House: Filed*

**H 496: PROPERTY OWNERS' RIGHTS/TREE ORDINANCES.**

*House: Filed*

**H 497: SUPPORT VETERAN TEACHERS.**

*House: Filed*

**S 146: TELEDENTISTRY/RDH ADMIN. LOCAL ANESTHETIC.**

*House: Passed 1st Reading*

*House: Ref To Com On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House*

**S 173: OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY INTERSTATE COMPACT.**

*House: Passed 1st Reading*

*House: Ref To Com On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House*

**S 196: GSC SALE OF PROPERTY AMENDMENTS.**

*Senate: Regular Message Sent To House*

*House: Regular Message Received From Senate*

**S 197: GSC TRUSTS & AMP ESTATES AMENDMENTS.**

*Senate: Regular Message Sent To House*

*House: Regular Message Received From Senate*

**S 198: GSC GOOD FUNDS SETTLEMENT/COMM. RECEIVERSHIP.**

*Senate: Regular Message Sent To House*

*House: Regular Message Received From Senate*

**S 296: COLLABORATORY/FISHERIES STUDY.**

*Senate: Regular Message Sent To House*

*House: Regular Message Received From Senate*

**S 308: BUILDING CODE INSPECTION REFORM.**

*Senate: Regular Message Sent To House*

*House: Regular Message Received From Senate*

**S 317: MARINE FISHERIES REFORM.**

*Senate: Regular Message Sent To House*

*House: Regular Message Received From Senate*

**S 321: AMEND NC CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT.**

*Senate: Regular Message Sent To House*

*House: Regular Message Received From Senate*

**S 448: AMENDMENTS TO SCHEDULE VI OF THE CSA.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 449: REVISE MANUFACT. HOME TITLE LAWS.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 450: CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS/SCHOOL BLDGS.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 451: BAN SINGLE-USE AND NON-RECYCLABLE PRODUCTS.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 452: UTILITIES/USER RESPONSIBLE FOR UTILITY BILL.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 453: ABC STORE TASTINGS PERMIT CLARIFICATION.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 454: ARSON LAW REVISIONS.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 455: DECRIMINALIZE NON-STATUTORY OFFENSES.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 456: CHILD DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE APPRENTICE PILOT.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 457: HEALTHY FAMILIES & WORKPLACES/PAID SICK DAYS.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 458: REINSTATE MTN ISLAND LAKE MARINE COMMISSION.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 459: AMEND 1-YR SEP/REPEAL ALIEN. OF AFF/CRIM. CON.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 460: ESTABLISH PFAS TASK FORCE/ADD'L MEASURES.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 461: FUND HEALTH CTR. PROGRAMS/HEALTH DISPARITIES.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: RefTo Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 462: CON/THRESHOLD AMDS. & AMP CERTIFICATE EXPIRATIONS.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: RefTo Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 463: DEPLOY CHILD WELFARE & AGING COMPONENT/NCFAS.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: RefTo Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 464: SMART START FUNDS.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: RefTo Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 465: TRASH COLLECTION/MULTIFAMILY RESIDENTIAL.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: RefTo Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 466: REQ SOURCE DISCLOSURE/ONLINE GRASSROOTS LOBBY.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: RefTo Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 467: EARNED WAGE ACCESS SERVICES ACT.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: RefTo Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 468: SCIENTIFIC INTEGRITY ACT.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: RefTo Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 469: SALES TAX PENALTY WAIVER.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: RefTo Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 470: NORTH CAROLINA REGULATORY SANDBOX ACT.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: RefTo Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 471: INCREASE VETERANS ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: RefTo Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 472: EXPAND OCCUP. CANCER BENEFITS/FIREFIGHTERS.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: RefTo Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 473: ENHANCE LOCAL GOV'T TRANSPARENCY.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: RefTo Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 474: SEPTAGE MANAGEMENT AMENDMENTS.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: RefTo Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 475: TRANSPARENCY IN EVIDENCE STANDARDS.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: RefTo Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 476: PROTECTING PROPERLY INSURED INDIVIDUALS.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: RefTo Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 477: VICTIMS' FAIR TREATMENT ACT.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: RefTo Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 478: 2021 BUILDING CODE AND DEV. REG. REFORM.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: RefTo Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 479: 2% COLA FOR STATE RETIREES.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: RefTo Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 480: EXPAND VICTIM SERVICES.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: RefTo Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 481: EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REFORM ACT.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: RefTo Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 482: SITE DEVELOPMENT REVOLVING ASSISTANCE FUND.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: RefTo Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 483: MARIJUANA/DIVERSION COURT/CLASS 3 MISD. STUDY.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: RefTo Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 484: SCHOOL-BASED COMPLAINT/SROS.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: RefTo Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 485: FUND DRUG TREATMENT/MENTAL HEALTH COURTS.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: RefTo Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 486: REFORM COURTS AND JAILS.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: RefTo Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 487: EXPAND CJ FELLOWS/LEO IN-SERVICE TRAINING.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: RefTo Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 488: CONSUMER PROTECTION- INVOICE ADVERTISEMENTS.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: RefTo Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 489: CREDIT UNION FEES AND LATE PENALTY.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 490: LICENSE TO WORK.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 491: CREATE AN ADDITIONAL 5-TIER SYSTEM.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 492: ESTABLISH NC TEXTILE MUSEUM.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 493: JDIG MULTILOCATION PROJECTS MODIFICATIONS.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 494: SBIR/STTR INCENTIVE MODIFICATIONS.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 495: CCRC SALES TAX MODIFICATIONS.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 496: DOI OMNIBUS BILL.-AB**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 497: STOP SOCIAL MEDIA CENSORSHIP ACT.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 498: GAMING MACHINE ENFORCEMENT ACT.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 499: PROMOTE HISTORICAL SITES THROUGHOUT NC ACT.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 500: FUNDS/AIRBORNE & SPECIAL OPERATIONS MUSEUM.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 501: CREATE DEPART. OF ADULT CORRECTION.**

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**S 502: INTERDISCIPLINARY HEALTH ED TEACHING PILOT.**

*Senate: Filed*

**S 503: END YOUTH NICOTINE DEPENDENCE ACT OR END ACT.***Senate: Filed***S 504: STANDARD DEDUCTION CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS.***Senate: Filed***S 505: MEDICAL BILLING TRANSPARENCY.***Senate: Filed***S 506: CERTIFICATE OF NEED MODIFICATIONS.***Senate: Filed***S 507: MODIFY BUSINESS CORPORATION ACT.***Senate: Filed***S 508: LOCAL CONTROL OF HUMANE CANINE DESIGNATION.***Senate: Filed***S 509: AN ENERGY RESILIENT NC.***Senate: Filed***S 510: RELEASE BODY-WORN/DASHBOARD CAMERA VIDEO.***Senate: Filed***S 511: REDISTRICTING COUNTY CLUSTER PROCESS.***Senate: Filed***S 512: HIRE NC WORKERS.***Senate: Filed***S 513: VARIOUS ADMINISTRATIVE LAW CHANGES.-AB***Senate: Filed***S 514: YOUTH HEALTH PROTECTION ACT.***Senate: Filed***S 515: HEALTH CARE HEROES CONSCIENCE PROTECTION ACT.***Senate: Filed***S 516: EXTENDED GROUP COVERAGE/EMPLOYEE DECEASED.***Senate: Filed***S 517: INNOVATIVE STATEWIDE BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE.***Senate: Filed***S 518: PROTECTING AND SUPPORTING NC'S CHILDREN.***Senate: Filed***S 519: YELLOW BRICK ROAD.***Senate: Filed***S 520: RESPIRATORY CARE MODERNIZATION ACT.***Senate: Filed***S 521: RAISE THE ROOF.**

*Senate: Filed*

**S 522: DRIVING INTO THE FUTURE.**

*Senate: Filed*

**S 523: BROADBAND AFFORDABILITY PROG./DIGITAL EQUITY.**

*Senate: Filed*

**S 524: SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE.**

*Senate: Filed*

**S 525: NC STOP HUMAN TRAFFICKING FUNDS.**

*Senate: Filed*

**S 526: A TIME FOR SCIENCE FUNDS.**

*Senate: Filed*

**S 527: LOST SHEEP RESOURCE FOUNDATION FUNDS.**

*Senate: Filed*

**S 528: FUNDS FOR VARIOUS GREENE CO. ORGANIZATIONS.**

*Senate: Filed*

**S 529: COUNTY WASTE MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE.**

*Senate: Filed*

**S 530: MEDICAID FOR TWELVE MONTHS POSTPARTUM.**

*Senate: Filed*

**S 531: PUBLIC BODIES/MODS TO REMOTE MEETING REQS.**

*Senate: Filed*

**S 532: LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX FLEXIBILITY.**

*Senate: Filed*

**S 533: REQUIRE ELIMINATION OF VACANT POSITIONS.**

*Senate: Filed*

**S 534: LEGISLATIVE REFORM COMMISSION.**

*Senate: Filed*

**S 535: SAFE SURRENDER INFANTS.**

*Senate: Filed*

**S 536: JUNK AND SALVAGE VEHICLE AMENDMENTS.**

*Senate: Filed*

**S 537: EXPAND NC INFANT SAFE SLEEP PROGRAM/FUNDS.**

*Senate: Filed*

**S 538: DHHS CONTRACT/EPIC AT STATE PSYCH. HOSPITALS.**

*Senate: Filed*

**S 539: DISCLOSE HUMAN TRAFFICKING CONVICTION/CUSTODY.**

*Senate: Filed*

**S 540: VARIOUS CHANGES TO NONPROFIT CORPORATIONS ACT.***Senate: Filed***S 541: NC PROMISE/ADD FAYETTEVILLE STATE.***Senate: Filed***S 542: SHP COMBAT FRAUD AND ABUSE INCENTIVES.***Senate: Filed***S 543: ESTABLISH KEY INDICATORS/INTERNAL AUDITS.***Senate: Filed***S 544: 2021 WATER SAFETY ACT.***Senate: Filed***S 545: UNIVERSAL LICENSURE RECOGNITION ACT.***Senate: Filed***S 546: UNC BOG/NO LOBBYISTS/SPOUSES.***Senate: Filed***S 547: FIBER NC ACT.***Senate: Filed***S 548: INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS.***Senate: Filed***S 549: IMPROVE PIPELINE SAFETY.***Senate: Filed***S 550: MODIFY SURETY/BAIL BOND/BONDSMEN PROVISIONS.***Senate: Filed***S 551: SUPPORT VETERAN TEACHERS.***Senate: Filed***S 552: LIMIT WHO MAY ADVERTISE/ADOPTION LAWS.***Senate: Filed***S 553: DAMAGE TO REAL PROPERTY/PUNISHMENT.***Senate: Filed***S 554: ENCOUR. AFFORDABLE HOUSING/SHIPPING CONTAINERS.***Senate: Filed***S 555: SHRA/BAN ON APPLICANT SALARY HISTORY.***Senate: Filed***S 556: APPLIANCE ENERGY EFFICIENCY STANDARDS.***Senate: Filed***S 557: UP SHP PAY & DEATH BENEFITS/DEATH PENALTY.***Senate: Filed***LOCAL BILLS**

**H 484: NEW BERN FEES IN LIEU.**

*House: Passed 1st Reading*

*House: Ref to the Com on Local Government - Land Use, Planning and Development, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House*

**S 279: LOCAL GOVERNMENTS/REGULATE NAVIGABLE WATERS.**

*Senate: Regular Message Sent To House*

*House: Regular Message Received From Senate*

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