

The Daily Bulletin: 2025-03-11

PUBLIC/HOUSE BILLS

H 22 (2025-2026) [FIRE INVESTIGATION LAW REVISIONS](#). Filed Jan 29 2025, *AN ACT TO EXPAND THE INVESTIGATORY POWERS OF THE OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN FIRE INVESTIGATIONS*.

House committee substitute to the 1st edition makes the following changes. Makes language gender neutral. Expands the entities that can supervise a preliminary investigation under GS 58-79-1 (covering fires investigated, reports, and records) so that both (was, either) the Director of the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) through the SBI and the State Fire Marshal [Marshal] through the Office of the State Fire Marshal ([OSFM]), as determined by the official who conducts the preliminary investigation, have the right to supervise the investigation. Makes conforming changes, including to the statute's title.

Intro. by Miller, Pyrtle.

[GS 58](#)

[View summary](#)

[Government, Public Safety and Emergency Management](#)

H 28 (2025-2026) [GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION ACT](#). Filed Jan 30 2025, *AN ACT TO CREATE THE OFFENSES OF POSSESSING, BRANDISHING, OR DISCHARGING A FIREARM OR WEAPON OF MASS DEATH AND DESTRUCTION BY A FELON DURING THE COMMISSION OR ATTEMPTED COMMISSION OF A FELONY*.

House committee substitute to the 1st edition makes the following changes. Instead of enacting new GS 14-415.1A, moves those provisions into GS 14-415 and makes the following changes. No longer sets out separate definitions for *firearm* and *weapon of mass death and destruction*. Also amends the statute by returning the punishment for a convicted felon to purchase, own, possess, or have in their custody, care, or control, any firearm or any weapon of mass death and destruction to a Class G felony (was, Class F in the 1st edition). No longer specifies that a violation of this statute is not a lesser included offenses of GS 14-415.1A. Changes the act's long title.

Intro. by Balkcom, Carson Smith, Miller, Pyrtle.

[GS 14](#)

[View summary](#)

[Courts/Judiciary, Criminal Justice, Criminal Law and Procedure](#)

H 69 (2025-2026) [MILITARY AND VETERANS EDUCATIONAL PROMISE ACT. \(NEW\)](#) Filed Feb 6 2025, *AN ACT TO PROHIBIT DISCRIMINATORY ADMISSIONS POLICIES REGARDING ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS; TO REQUIRE MILITARY ADMISSIONS DEFERMENT FOR CERTAIN PERSONS ADMITTED TO CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA; AND TO PROVIDE IN-STATE TUITION TO CERTAIN HONORABLY DISCHARGED VETERANS*.

House committee substitute to the 1st edition makes the following changes.

Instead of new GS 116-11.5 (concerning the admissions of military personnel at UNC constituent institutions), moves those provisions into proposed new Part 8A, Military Admissions and Deferment, in Article 1 of GS Chapter 116 and makes the following changes to the proposed provisions. Expands upon the definition of *Armed Forces* to also include the North Carolina National Guard. Removes the definition of the term *eligible applicant* and defines *applicant* as an individual who has applied for admission to a constituent institution of UNC. Specifies that a UNC constituent institution must not deny admission to any applicant solely on the basis of the applicant's indication (was, must not deny admission to any applicant who indicates) that

the applicant is serving or intends to serve in the uniformed services. Amends the provisions related to deferment to allow deferment for members and spouses of members of the Reserve Armed Forces for at least two years (was, for members of the reserve Armed Forces only); updates all periods of deferment so that they start running after entry into the reserve Armed Forces or the uniformed services (as applicable), instead of after the member accepts entry. Removes the provision that specified that these provisions do not supersede federal law or require a constituent institution to violate federal law. Makes additional organizational, clarifying, and technical changes.

Instead of amending GS 116-143.3, moves the provisions concerning charging qualifying veterans in-state tuition and fees, into new GS 116-143.3B. Adds that the individual applying for benefits under this statute has the burden of proving that they are entitled to the benefits. Makes additional clarifying changes.

Makes conforming changes to the act's titles.

Intro. by Campbell, Chesser, Hastings, Pittman.

GS 116

[View summary](#)

[Education, Higher Education, Military and Veteran's Affairs](#)

H 71 (2025-2026) [RESPIRATORY CARE MODERNIZATION ACT](#). Filed Feb 6 2025, *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.*

The House committee substitute to the 1st edition make a clarifying change to what is excluded from the practice of advanced practice respiratory therapy under GS 90-648(9a).

Intro. by Moss.

GS 90

[View summary](#)

[Business and Commerce, Occupational Licensing, Health and Human Services, Health, Health Care Facilities and Providers](#)

H 83 (2025-2026) [REVISE LAWS GOVERNING MINORS](#). Filed Feb 10 2025, *AN ACT TO AMEND THE OFFENSE OF DISSEMINATING OBSCENITY TO MINORS; TO ADD THE OFFENSES OF DISSEMINATING OBSCENITY TO MINORS, DISSEMINATING HARMFUL MATERIAL TO MINORS, AND EXHIBITING HARMFUL PERFORMANCES TO MINORS TO THE LIST OF CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS THAT MAY REQUIRE REGISTRATION UNDER THE SEX OFFENDER AND PUBLIC PROTECTION REGISTRATION PROGRAM; AND TO ESTABLISH THE OFFENSES OF HABITUAL INDECENT EXPOSURE AND AGGRAVATED HABITUAL INDECENT EXPOSURE AND REQUIRE SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION FOR THOSE OFFENSES.*

House committee substitute to the 1st edition makes the following changes. Removes Part II from the act, which was comprised of: (1) amendments to GS 20-280.5 to require transportation network company (TNC) drivers to obtain consent from an unemancipated minor's parent or legal guardian before providing service to that minor and (2) new GS 14-401.28 making it an infraction with \$250 fine for a TNC driver to provide TNC service (defined) to an unemancipated minor, without first obtaining consent from that minor child's parent or legal guardian. Makes organizational changes. Makes conforming changes, including to the act's title. Makes technical changes.

Modifies the age requirement under GS 14-190.7 (dissemination of obscene materials to minors) so that a person is now guilty of a Class H felony (was, Class G felony in 1st edition and H under current law) if the person age 18 or older is at least four years older than the minor (currently, GS 14-190.7 requires that the minor be under the age of sixteen). Makes organizational and conforming changes, including to the statute's title.

Removes the proposed felony class modifications to GS 14-190.8 (dissemination of obscene material to minors under age 13 by persons aged 18 or older) and GS 14-190.15 (dissemination of harmful material to minors).

Makes clarifying changes to the new offense of habitual indecent exposure under new GS 14-190.9(a6) and upgrades felony classification to Class F felony (was, Class H felony). Makes additional clarifying changes to the statute. Adds new GS 14-190.9(a7) creating a Class E felony for aggravated habitual indecent exposure when the person is at least 18 years old and willfully expose themselves to a minor in a public place and has two or more prior convictions under any combination of the listed offenses (except for habitual indecent exposure) in GS 14-190.9. Removes designation as *reportable conviction* under GS 14-208.6, the definitions pertaining to sex offender registration, of final convictions of habitual indecent exposure. Instead, lists both habitual indecent exposure and aggravated habitual indecent exposure as *sexually violent offenses* under that statute.

Intro. by Torbett.

[GS 14](#)

[View summary](#)

[Courts/Judiciary, Criminal Justice, Criminal Law and Procedure](#)

H 91 (2025-2026) [DEFINE ARMED FORCES/CONFORMING CHANGES](#). Filed Feb 10 2025, *AN ACT TO AMEND THE DEFINITION OF THE TERM "ARMED FORCES" OF THE UNITED STATES TO INCLUDE THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE AND TO MAKE CONFORMING CHANGES TO RELEVANT STATUTES RELATED TO THE MILITARY.*

House committee substitute to the 1st edition makes the following changes.

Deletes Part III of the act, which renamed Fort Bragg as Fort Liberty in GS 143-151.71 (definitions concerning military lands protections), GS 143-215.115 (definition of major military installation pertaining to wind energy facility permitting), GS 104-7(a)(2)(acquisition of land by the US for military bases) and GS 143B-1311 (membership in the NC Military Affairs Commission). Makes conforming changes to the act's long title.

Intro. by Loftis, Tyson, Penny, Majeed.

[GS 1](#), [GS 14](#), [GS 17C](#), [GS 45](#), [GS 47](#), [GS 50](#), [GS 50A](#), [GS 58](#), [GS 88B](#), [GS 104](#), [GS 115C](#), [GS 116](#), [GS 143](#), [GS 143B](#), [GS 163](#)

[View summary](#)

[Military and Veteran's Affairs](#)

H 95 (2025-2026) [THREATEN ELECTED OFFICIAL/INCREASE PUNISHMENT](#). Filed Feb 10 2025, *AN ACT TO INCREASE THE PUNISHMENT IMPOSED FOR AN ASSAULT OR THREAT AGAINST AN EXECUTIVE OFFICER, LEGISLATIVE OFFICER, COURT OFFICER, OR LOCAL ELECTED OFFICER AND TO REQUIRE PRETRIAL RELEASE CONDITIONS FOR ANY PERSON CHARGED WITH ASSAULTING OR MAKING A THREAT AGAINST AN EXECUTIVE OFFICER, LEGISLATIVE OFFICER, COURT OFFICER, LOCAL ELECTED OFFICER, OR ELECTION OFFICER TO BE DETERMINED BY A JUDGE.*

House committee substitute to the 1st edition makes the following changes.

Amends GS 14-16.6 by expanding upon the statute's scope to also prohibit assault on local elected officers, or assault on another person as retaliation against a local elected officer, in addition to the already included assault on a legislative officer, executive officer, or court officer. Increases the punishment for assault on these classes of individuals from a Class I felony to a Class G felony; from a Class F felony to a Class D felony when the offense includes the use of a deadly weapon; and from a Class E felony to a Class C felony when the person inflicts serious bodily injury to a legislative, executive, court, or local elected officer.

Further amends GS 14-16.7 (felony for threats against executive, legislative, court, or local elected officers) by increasing the penalties for violating the statute from a Class I felony to a Class H felony.

Amends proposed new GS 15A-534.9 so that it also applies to cases where a defendant is charged with violating GS 14-16.6. Requires that the judicial official determining pretrial release for defendants charged with those specified violations be a judge. Removes the requirement to set bond in an amount no less than \$50,000; adds the following requirements instead. Requires the judge to direct a law enforcement officer or district attorney to provide the defendant's criminal history report and to consider that criminal history when setting conditions of release. Prohibits a judge from unreasonably delaying the

determination of conditions of pretrial release for the purpose of reviewing the criminal history report. Allows a judge, if they decide that the defendant's immediate release will pose a danger of injury to persons and that executing an appearance bond will not assure that the injury will not occur, to keep the defendant in custody for a reasonable period of time while determining the conditions of pretrial release. Specifies four conditions that a judge may impose on pretrial release, which may be imposed in addition to requiring the defendant to execute a secured appearance bond. Specifies that the provisions of Article 5 (Procedure for Admission and Discharge of Clients) of GS Chapter 122C apply if the defendant is mentally ill and dangerous to himself or others or a substance abuser and dangerous to himself or others. Allows keeping a defendant in custody no more than 48 hours from the time of arrest with the judge making a determination under this statute; if a judge has not acted within those 48 ours, requires the magistrate to take action under this statute.

Makes conforming changes to the act's long title.

Intro. by Kidwell, Moss, Adams, Wheatley.

[GS 14, GS 15A, GS 163](#)

[View summary](#)

[Courts/Judiciary, Criminal Justice, Criminal Law and Procedure, Government, Elections, Local Government](#)

H 134 ((2025-2026) [PROHIBIT MISBRANDING OF CERTAIN FOOD PRODUCTS](#). Filed Feb 17 2025, *AN ACT TO PROHIBIT THE MISBRANDING OF CERTAIN FOOD PRODUCTS*.

House committee substitute to the 1st edition makes the following changes. Removes defined proposed new terms *insect-protein food product*, *manufactured-protein food product*, and *plant-protein food product* from GS 106-549.15 and GS 106-549.51. Modifies definition of *qualifying term* in those statutes to now mean a word, compound word, or phrase that would clearly disclose to a reasonable purchaser of meat food products that a food product is a cell-cultured meat product; this includes the following terms: "cell-cultured," "fake," "lab-grown," or "grown in a lab" (was, a word, compound word, or phrase that would clearly disclose to a reasonable purchaser of meat products that a food product is not a meat product; included the terms "cell-cultured," "fake," "grown in a lab," "insect," "insect-based," "insect-protein," "lab-created," "lab-grown," "meat free," "meatless," "plant," "plant-based," "vegan," "vegetable," "vegetarian," or "veggie.") Replaces references to "manufactured-protein food products" in GS 106-549.28A (labeling of manufactured-protein food products) and GS 106-549.55 (labeling standards), including in statutes' titles, to "cell-cultured food products."

Intro. by Dixon.

[GS 106](#)

[View summary](#)

[Agriculture](#)

H 188 (2025-2026) [AUTOMATIC RENEWAL OF CONTRACTS](#). Filed Feb 24 2025, *AN ACT TO AMEND THE REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN AUTOMATICALLY RENEWING CONSUMER CONTRACTS*.

House committee substitute to the 1st edition makes the following changes.

Amends proposed GS 75-41(f) by changing the definition of the term *automatic renewal provision* to a provision under which a contract is automatically renewed at the end of a definite term for a subsequent term of more than one month unless the consumer gives notice to the person of the consumer's intention to terminate the contract (was, the renewal is effective unless the consumer gives notice to the seller of the consumer's intention to terminate the contract).

Intro. by Stevens, Kidwell.

[GS 75](#)

[View summary](#)

[Business and Commerce, Consumer Protection](#)

H 231 (2025-2026) [SOCIAL WORK INTERSTATE LICENSURE COMPACT](#). Filed Feb 26 2025, *AN ACT TO ESTABLISH AND ENTER INTO AN INTERSTATE COMPACT FOR THE PRACTICE OF SOCIAL WORK*.

House committee substitute to the 1st edition makes the following changes.

Makes technical and clarifying changes to GS 90B-23.

Amends GS 90B-29 by making the member state licensing authority (was, member state board) responsible for filling vacancies on the Compact Commission; makes other technical and clarifying changes.

Amends GS 90B-31 to require that challenges to rule revisions be delivered to the Commission (was, to the chair of the Commission).

Changes the act's effective date to October 1, 2025.

Intro. by Reeder, Campbell, Potts, Blackwell.

[GS 90B](#)

[View summary](#)

[Business and Commerce, Occupational Licensing, Health and Human Services, Social Services](#)

H 244 (2025-2026) [DEPOLITICIZE GOVERNMENT PROPERTY ACT](#). Filed Feb 27 2025, *AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT ONLY OFFICIAL GOVERNMENTAL FLAGS MAY BE FLOWN OR DISPLAYED ON PROPERTY OWNED BY THE STATE OR A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE*.

House committee substitute to the 1st edition makes the following changes. Makes conforming changes, including to the act's long title.

Expands the flags considered official government flags under new GS 144-7.1 to now include:

- The flag of any state or territory of the United States.
- The flag of a political subdivision of any state or territory of the United States.
- The flag of any Indian tribe or Indian group recognized by State or federal law.

Removes requirement that flying or displaying a flag of a nation recognized by the United States of America only occur during a visit by the nation's head of state or national delegation. Removes references to the government property being owned or leased by the State or political subdivision thereof. Removes Class 3 misdemeanor penalty for second or subsequent violations of GS 144-7.1. Makes clarifying changes. Makes conforming changes to GS 144-5 (display and handling of flags) so that all official flags (currently, a flag of the United States or the State flag) under new GS 144-7.1 must be handled, displayed, stored, and disposed of properly. Requires local governments to comply with GS 144-7.1 as part of their obligations pertaining to display of official government flags under GS 144-7. Makes conforming and technical changes.

Changes the effective date to October 1, 2025 (was, when act became law).

Intro. by Echevarria, N. Jackson, B. Jones, Biggs.

[GS 144](#)

[View summary](#)

[Government, State Government, State Property, Local Government](#)

H 362 (2025-2026) [CLEAN SKIES GEOENGINEERING BAN](#). Filed Mar 11 2025, *AN ACT TO PROHIBIT THE INTENTIONAL RELEASE OF POLLUTING EMISSIONS, INCLUDING STRATOSPHERIC AEROSOL INJECTION, CLOUD SEEDING, AND ELECTROMAGNETIC RADIO FREQUENCY, INTO THE ATMOSPHERE TO ALTER THE TEMPERATURE, WEATHER, OR THE INTENSITY OF SUNLIGHT*.

Broadens the actions requiring a permit under GS 143-215.108 (concerning control of air pollution) to include intentionally injecting, releasing, or dispersing, by any means, chemicals, chemical compounds, substances, or apparatus within the borders of this state into the atmosphere with the intentional or sole purpose of atmospheric modification. Defines *atmospheric modification* as stratospheric aerosol injection (SAI), cloud seeding, electromagnetic radio frequency or microwave radiation emissions, or other atmospheric polluting activity affecting temperature, weather, intensity of sunlight, the environment, agriculture, wildlife, human health and safety, aviation, state security, or the economy of the state. Excludes pesticide delivery by aircraft from the term. Requires the Environmental Management Commission to adopt rules necessary to implement the act.

Intro. by Almond, McNeely, Pike.

[GS 143](#)

[View summary](#)

[Environment, Environment/Natural Resources](#)

H 363 (2025-2026) [REG. PUBLIC TRANS. AUTHORITY SERVICE AREA](#). Filed Mar 11 2025, *AN ACT TO ALLOW A REGIONAL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY TO OPERATE A BUSPOOL MORE THAN TEN MILES BEYOND ITS TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION*.

Amends GS 160A-601(4), pertaining to the Regional Public Transportation Authority (Authority), to define public transportation to include a buspool. Changes the description of geographic boundaries of the mode of transportation from territorial jurisdiction to service area. Amends GS 160A-610 (powers of the Authority) to specify that buspools are not subject to the limitation that service cannot be provided more than ten miles outside of the territorial jurisdiction of the authority. Makes technical and conforming changes, including referring to the Authority's service area instead of territorial jurisdiction. Effective July 1, 2025.

Intro. by Reives, Penny, White, Price.

[GS 160A](#)

[View summary](#)

[Transportation](#)

H 364 (2025-2026) [STIP GRANT ANTICIPATION NOTES](#). Filed Mar 11 2025, *AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE A LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO BORROW MONEY FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACCELERATING A LOCAL TRANSPORTATION PROJECT THAT IS IDENTIFIED FOR FUNDING UNDER THE STATE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (STIP)*.

Identical to [S 172](#), filed 2/25/25.

Amends GS 159-171 (Grant anticipation notes) to create new subsection (a1), permitting a unit of local government to borrow money for paying appropriations made for a State Transportation Improvement regional impact or division need project in anticipation of receiving the funds from the State or the federal government or their agencies, and to issue negotiable notes in evidence thereof. Provides that notes issued under the subsection cannot be renewed, and must mature no later than 12 months after the first day of the calendar year following the year the project is scheduled to be completed. Requires a local government that plans to borrow money under the subsection to enter into an expedited project agreement with the Department of Transportation and outlines the requirements of that agreement. Creates new subsection (b2) that prohibits borrowing under subsection (a1) if the total amount of notes issued in anticipation of the project exceeds the amount of funding identified for the project, and specifies a mandatory certificate to be included on the note, signed by the finance officer. Makes clarifying changes to the statute to reflect the new subsections.

Amends GS 136-189.11 to create new subsection (f1), requiring the Department of Transportation to ensure that any amendment or modification of the State Transportation Improvement Program will not delay the repayment of grant anticipation notes issued under GS 159-171(a1).

Requires the Department of Transportation to develop procedures and rules as necessary for expedited project agreements to incorporate the terms and use of grant anticipation notes as added by this bill. Directs the Department of the State Treasurer, in consultation with the Department of Transportation, to adopt rules that are consistent with the purposes of this bill.

[View summary](#)

**Government, State Agencies, Department of State Treasurer,
Department of Transportation, Transportation**

H 365 (2025-2026) **WORKFORCE EDUCATION ACT**. Filed Mar 11 2025, *AN ACT TO DIRECT THE STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES TO REVISE ITS FUNDING MODEL FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND ESTABLISH ENROLLMENT INCREASE RESERVE, TO EXPAND FUNDING FOR COOPERATIVE INNOVATIVE HIGH SCHOOLS, TO CREATE GRANT PROGRAMS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION TO PROMOTE CTE PROGRAMS AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, AND TO PROMOTE COMMUNITY COLLEGE ENROLLMENT TO PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS.*

Part I

Repeals Subsection 8.3(b) of SL 2011-145 (requiring the State Board of Community Colleges [SBCC] to allocate formula funds appropriated to support curriculum instruction and the occupational education component of continuing education in a certain way). Repeals Subsection 10.4(a) of SL 2013-360 (establishing community college funding as based on the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) students).

Requires the SBCC to revise the funding formula for community colleges and allocate funds accordingly, beginning with the 2025-26 fiscal year, according to the following minimum criteria: (1) each community college will continue to receive a base allocation of funds; (2) in addition to the base allocation of funds, funds shall be provided to community colleges based on the number of FTE students enrolled in the following: (i) curriculum, workforce continuing education, and Basic Skills courses and (ii) courses and programming conducted under the Customized Training Program and the Small Business Center Network; and (3) funds allocated according to prong two must be weighted based on the workforce sector of each course, as determined by the SBCC. In making its determinations, the SBCC must consider salary data and labor market demand for the applicable workforce sector. Amends GS 115D-5 (administration of institutions by SBCC) to require the SBCC to review and revise, as necessary, its workforce sector designations for curriculum, workforce continuing education, and Basic Skills courses at community colleges by January 15, 2027, and every two years thereafter.

Amends GS 115D-31 (state financial support of institutions), when receipts for community college tuition and fees exceed the amount certified in General Fund Codes at the end of a fiscal year, to allow SBCC to allocate those receipts to the community colleges for operating costs according to a formula adopted by the SBCC (currently, requires the SBCC to transfer the amount of receipts and fees above those budgeted to the Enrollment Growth Reserve). Makes conforming changes.

Appropriates \$94 million in recurring funds for 2025-26 from the General Fund to the Community Colleges System Office for implementation of these provisions.

Enacts new GS 115D-31.4, establishing the Enrollment Increase Reserve (Reserve), to be administered by the SBCC. Specifies the purpose of the Reserve is to allow the SBCC to provide funds to community colleges to account for enrollment increases beyond budgeted enrollment levels. Provides for monies in the Reserve to consist of funds appropriated by the General Assembly in its Current Operations Appropriations Act for a fiscal year. Directs the SBCC to include in its annual enrollment request the appropriation to the Reserve needed to fund enrollment increases in the next fiscal year. Allows the SBCC to allocate monies from the Reserve to a community college with an eligible increase in FTE enrollment according to a formula adopted by the SBCC. Specifies that an increase in FTE enrollment is either (1) an increase in FTE enrollment of more than 325 students or (2) an increase in FTE enrollment of more than 5% of the budgeted enrollment level in any of the following course categories: curriculum, workforce continuing education, or basic skills. Specifies that monies in the Reserve do not revert but instead remain available for the specified purposes. Makes conforming changes to GS 115D-31 (State financial support for community colleges) to include reference to the Reserve. Appropriates \$6 million from the General Fund to the Reserve, for 2025-26, for the purposes describe in this statute.

Part II.

Adds new GS 115C-238.54A (concerning cooperative innovative high schools funding based on county development tier designations) as follows. Designates three development tier areas mirroring the development tiers areas created by GS 143B-437 (defining a development tier one area as a county whose annual ranking is one of the 40 highest in the State. A

development tier two area is a county whose annual ranking is one of the next 40 highest in the State. A development tier three area is a county that is not in a lower-numbered development tier.) Requires the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) to allocate the following amounts from the cooperative innovative high school supplemental allotment to a local school administrative unit located in a development tier one area with a cooperative innovative high school that was approved by the State Board of Education (Board):

- \$740,000 in recurring funds for the first cooperative innovative high school approved by the Board.
- \$370,000 in recurring funds for each subsequent cooperative innovative high school approved by the Board.
- For a virtual cooperative innovative high school, requires DPI to allocate \$200,000 in recurring funds from the cooperative innovative high school supplemental allotment to the local school administrative unit for each fiscal year.
- For the Northeast Regional School of Biotechnology and Agriscience, requires DPI to allocate \$310,000 in recurring funds from the regional school supplemental allotment for the school for each fiscal year.

For development tier two areas, requires DPI to allocate the following amounts from the cooperative innovative high school supplemental allotment to a local school administrative unit located in a development area with a cooperative innovative high school that was approved by the Board:

- \$590,000 in recurring funds for the first cooperative innovative high school approved by the Board.
- \$295,000 in recurring funds for each subsequent cooperative innovative high school approved by the Board.
- For a virtual cooperative innovative high school, requires DPI to allocate \$200,000 in recurring funds from the cooperative innovative high school supplemental allotment to the local school administrative unit for each fiscal year.

For development tier three areas, requires DPI to allocate the following amounts from the cooperative innovative high school supplemental allotment to a local school administrative unit located in a development area with a cooperative innovative high school that was approved by the Board:

- \$550,000 in recurring funds for the first cooperative innovative high school approved by the Board.
- \$275,000 in recurring funds for each subsequent cooperative innovative high school approved by the Board.
- For a virtual cooperative innovative high school, requires DPI to allocate \$200,000 in recurring funds from the cooperative innovative high school supplemental allotment to the local school administrative unit for each fiscal year.

Appropriates \$40 million from the General Fund to DPI in recurring funds for 2025-26 to implement this section.

Part III.

Appropriates \$30 million in recurring funds from the General Fund to DPI for 2025-26 to create a grant program in collaboration with the Community Colleges System Office for public school units to promote science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education. Requires the grants to be used for professional development, classroom technology, lab upgrades, or coding programs for teachers teaching STEM courses. Requires DPI to make grant applications available to public school units before August 1 of each school year and requires applications to be submitted by October 1 of each school year. Requires DPI to determine grant recipients by November 1 of each school year and disburse grants funds within 60 days.

Appropriates \$20 million in recurring funds from the General Fund to DPI for 2025-26 to create a grant program in collaboration with the Community Colleges System Office for public school units to expand career and technical education course offerings, dual enrollment opportunities, and certification pathways for students in grades 9-12. Requires DPI to make the grant applications available to public school units before August 1 of each school year and for applications to be submitted by October 1 of each school year. Requires DPI to decide on grant recipients by November 1 of each school year and disburse grants funds within 60 days.

Appropriates \$25 million in recurring funds from the General Fund to DPI for 2025-26 to create a grant program in collaboration with the Community Colleges System Office for public school units to create industry-school partnerships to facilitate internships, apprenticeships, and project-based learning opportunities. Requires DPI to make grant applications available to public school units before August 1 of each school year and for applications to be submitted by October 1. Requires the application to include at least one industry partner that the public school unit intends to collaborate with to achieve program goals. Requires DPI to determine grant recipients by November 1 of each school year and disburse grants funds within 60 days.

Part IV.

Appropriates \$10 million in recurring funds from the General Fund to DPI for 2025-26 for DPI to collaborate with the Community Colleges System Office to create an awareness campaign in public school units to promote enrollment in community colleges, including informing students and parents of career pathways, internships, apprenticeships, dual enrollment opportunities, and certification pathways available through the Community College System.

Part V.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Intro. by Reives, Willis, Campbell, Roberson.

[APPROP, GS 115C, GS 115D](#)

[View summary](#)

[Education, Elementary and Secondary Education, Higher Education, Government, Budget/Appropriations, State Agencies, Community Colleges System Office, Department of Public Instruction](#)

H 366 (2025-2026) [REENACT & EXPAND PISTOL PURCHASE PERMIT](#). Filed Mar 11 2025, *AN ACT TO REENACT THE PISTOL PURCHASE PERMIT LAW AND ALSO REQUIRE A PERMIT FOR THE PURCHASE OF A LONG GUN*.

Reenacts the following statutes as they existed immediately before repeal: GS 14-402 (prohibiting sale of pistols without a permit), GS 14-403 (handgun permits), GS 14-315(b1)(1) (allowing possession of a permit under GS 14-402 as a defense to offense), GS 14-404 (issuance or refusal of permits in certain counties), GS 14-405 (permit records kept by sheriff), GS 14-407.1 (sale of blank cartridge pistols), and GS 122C-54(d2) (concerning sheriff's access to the record of involuntary commitment for mental health or substance abuse treatment required to be reported to the NICS). Broadens the requirements of GS 14-402, GS 14-403 and GS 14-404(c)(1) to include long guns (defined as a shotgun or rifle that is not considered an antique firearm as that term is defined in GS 14-402). Applies to the sale, giving away, transfer, purchase, or receiving of a pistol or a long gun on or after December 1, 2025.

Intro. by von Haefen, Majeed, Logan, Clark.

[GS 14](#)

[View summary](#)

[Courts/Judiciary, Criminal Justice, Criminal Law and Procedure](#)

H 367 (2025-2026) [PROVIDE RAPE KIT STATUS UPDATES TO VICTIMS](#). Filed Mar 11 2025, *AN ACT TO GIVE RIGHTS OF INFORMATION AND NOTIFICATION TO VICTIMS REGARDING SEXUAL ASSAULT EXAMINATION KITS*.

Enacts new GS 15A-266.5B, providing as follows. Provides that a victim for whom a sexual assault examination kit is submitted to the State Crime Lab, or an approved lab, has a right to know the status of the testing of the examination kit. Requires the State Crime Lab to develop a procedure for victims to exercise this right. Gives these victims a right to be notified when a: (1) determination is made that the examination kit is unable to be tested; (2) decision is made not to test the examination kit for a reason other than that it was unable to be tested; and (3) decision is made to destroy the examination kit. Requires the State Crime lab to develop procedures for these notifications. Makes it the victim's responsibility to ensure that the lab has the victim's required and current contact information. Applies to sexual examination kits submitted before, on, or after October 1, 2025.

Intro. by von Haefen, Charles Smith, A. Jones, Johnson-Hostler.

[GS 15A](#)

[View summary](#)

[Courts/Judiciary, Criminal Justice, Criminal Law and Procedure](#)

H 368 (2025-2026) **CLARIFY LAW REGARDING CAR SEATS**. Filed Mar 11 2025, *AN ACT TO CLARIFY LAW REGARDING CHILD RESTRAINT SYSTEMS*.

Amends GS 20-137.1, concerning the use of child restraint systems in vehicles, as follows. Defines *child passenger restraint system* as any device designed to restrain or position a child in a motor vehicle, including a booster seat. Under the current law, children younger than age eight and less than 80 pounds must be secured in a weight-appropriate child passenger restraint system, with specified provisions applicable when a vehicle has an active passenger side front air bag, and when no seating position equipped with a lap and shoulder belt to properly secure the child passenger restraint system is available. Removes these provisions and now requires the following instead. Requires a child younger than age eight and less than 57 inches in height to be secured in a height- and weight-appropriate child passenger restraint system. Requires, beginning as a newborn, for a child to be properly secured in a rear-facing child passenger restraint system with transition to a forward-facing system according to the manufacturer's instructions related to the child's height and weight requirements for use of the system as indicated by label on the car seat. Requires the child to be secured in a child passenger restraint system in a rear seat unless at least one of three circumstances exist, including when the system is designed for use with air bags. Prohibits placing a child in a rear-facing child passenger restraint system in a front passenger seat that has an active front air bag. Allows a child to be properly secured with a seat belt as follows: (1) a child less than eight years old, 40-80 pounds, and less than 57 inches tall in height may be restrained by a properly fitted lap belt, if no seating position equipped with a lap and shoulder belt to properly secure the weight-appropriate child passenger restraint system is available and (2) a child at least eight years old or 57 inches in height may be restrained by a properly secured lap and shoulder belt (sets out conditions met in order for a lap and shoulder belt to be considered properly secured).

Applies to offenses committed on or after December 1, 2025.

Intro. by Loftis, Penny, Ross, Scott.

GS 20

[View summary](#)

Courts/Judiciary, Motor Vehicle, Health and Human Services, Social Services, Child Welfare

H 369 (2025-2026) **PARKING LOT REFORM AND MODERNIZATION ACT**. Filed Mar 11 2025, *AN ACT TO RESTRICT LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FROM REQUIRING A MINIMUM NUMBER OR SIZE OF OFF-STREET PARKING SPACES, TO BAN THE FUTURE PURCHASE AND IMPORTATION FOR USE OF PAVEMENT SEALANTS CONTAINING HIGH LEVELS OF POLYCYCLIC AROMATIC HYDROCARBONS, AND TO CLARIFY THE LIMITS OF LOCAL ORDINANCES REGARDING STORMWATER REQUIREMENTS FOR REDEVELOPMENT SITES*.

Part I.

Amends GS 160D-702 by prohibiting a zoning or development regulation from requiring off-street vehicular parking to: (1) have a minimum width or length, unless the parking space is designed for handicap, parallel, or diagonal parking or (2) require a minimum number of parking spaces per development or structure, regardless of occupancy or use (was, must require a parking space to be larger than nine feet wide by 20 feet long, unless designated for handicap, parallel, or diagonal parking). Effective July 1, 2025.

Part II.

Enacts new GS 143-215.77B, prohibiting a person from purchasing or importing a high PAH (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons) sealant product (as defined) for use or application in the construction or maintenance of any parking or vehicular access area. Effective January 1, 2026.

Part III.

Amends GS 143-214.7 by no longer prohibiting stormwater runoff rules and programs from requiring private property owners to install new or increased stormwater controls for redevelopment activities that do not remove or decrease existing stormwater controls. Instead, prohibits local stormwater programs from requiring owners who are redeveloping a property to install new

stormwater controls for preexisting built-upon areas if the redevelopment site is a small scale residential development. Allows, when a preexisting development that is not a small scale residential development is redeveloped, for local stormwater programs to implement mandatory stormwater capture ordinances requiring owners undertaking the redevelopment to install new stormwater controls for preexisting built-upon area to capture up to 50% of the final stormwater runoff calculation for the entire property. Also allows applicable local stormwater programs to implement incentive stormwater capture ordinances that waive building, zoning, connection, or other fees; provide additional tax and financial benefits; or institute other incentives for redevelopments that capture additional stormwater over the local stormwater programs' mandatory percentages. Allows applicable local stormwater programs to elect to forego mandating stormwater capture controls and provide incentives to capture up to 100% of the final stormwater runoff calculation for the entire property.

Intro. by Loftis, Brody, Penny, Dahle.

GS 143, GS 160D

[View summary](#)

Development, Land Use and Housing, Building and Construction, Government, Local Government

H 370 (2025-2026) [GSC UNIFORM ACTS REGARDING CHILDREN](#). Filed Mar 11 2025, *AN ACT TO ENACT THE UNIFORM CHILD ABDUCTION PREVENTION ACT AND TO ENACT ARTICLE THREE OF THE UNIFORM UNREGULATED CHILD CUSTODY TRANSFER ACT, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GENERAL STATUTES COMMISSION.*

Part I.

Renames GS Chapter 50A's title to Uniform Acts on Children (currently, Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act and Uniform Deployed Parents Custody and Visitation Act). Adds new Article 4, the "Uniform Child Abduction Act" to GS Chapter 52A. Defines *abduction*, *petition*, *record*, *state*, *travel documents*, *wrongful removal*, and *wrongful retention*. Incorporates definitions of *child*, *child-custody determination*, *child-custody proceeding*, and *court* from GS 50A-102 (chapter definitions).

Permits court to enter abduction prevention measures either on its own motion or upon the filing of petition by party to child custody action with notice to respondent, so long as the court determines that there is a credible risk of abduction of the child. Requires court to consider thirteen factors in determining existence of credible risk of abduction, including history of abduction; threats of abduction; actions taken to indicate a planned abduction including severing ties to the State (e.g., abandoning employment, selling one's home, undergoing a change in citizenship or nationality status that would affect their ability to remain in the U.S.. etc.); history of domestic violence, stalking, child abuse or neglect; refusal to comply with a child custody order; lack of familial, cultural, financial or other ties to the State/strong familial, cultural, financial or other ties to another State or country; fraudulent attempts to obtain travel documents; the likelihood of respondent taking the child to a country that (1) does not provide for the extradition of an abducting parent or the return of an abducted child, (2) does not enforce or is not capable of enforcing the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, (3) has laws or practices that would prevent the petitioner from contacting the child, restrict the petitioner and child from traveling freely to see one another because of their gender, nationality, marital status or religion; (4) is included on the U.S. Department of State's current list of state sponsors of terrorism; (5) has no official U.S. diplomatic presence; or (6) is engaged in active military action or war, to which the child may be exposed). Requires court to also consider any evidence that the respondent believed in good faith that the respondent's conduct was necessary to avoid imminent harm to the child or respondent and any other evidence that may be relevant to whether the respondent may be permitted to remove or retain the child.

If the court finds credible risk of abduction of the child, requires the court to enter an abduction protection order with required findings and measures and conditions that are reasonably calculated to prevent abduction of the child, giving due consideration to the custody and visitation rights of the parties. Requires that the order consider the age of the child, the potential harm to the child from an abduction, the legal and practical difficulties of returning the child to the jurisdiction if abducted, and the reasons for the potential abduction, including evidence of domestic violence, stalking, or child abuse or neglect.

Permits an abduction prevention order to include one or more the following: (1) travel restrictions; (2) restrictions on respondent's ability to remove the child from the United States, the State, or other locations; (3) requiring the respondent to register the abduction prevention order in another state in order to allow the child to travel to that state; (4) passport restrictions or registration requirements; (5) prerequisites to existing custody or visitation rights including, registration of the order with the

US State Department with proof to the court and/or registration of the order with the U.S. embassy or other diplomatic presence in the destination country; and (6) upon the petitioner's request, require respondent to get and order from the relevant foreign country containing identical terms to the US custody determination. Allows the court to limit existing custody or visitation rights, including ordering supervised visitation or posting of bond or other security. Provides for special measures if the court must prevent imminent abduction of a child, including issuing an ex parte warrant to take physical custody of child or directing law enforcement to take any action reasonably necessary to locate or return the child, or enforce a custody determination under GS Chapter 50A, Article 4 or other State law. Specifies that the remedies are cumulative and do not affect the availability of other remedies to prevent abduction.

Authorizes the court to order law enforcement officers to take physical custody of the child as part of an ex parte warrant, including by force at any hour if an exigency exists, if the court finds that less intrusive measures will not be effective. Provides for service and an opportunity for respondent to be heard upon the execution of an ex parte warrants. Details required contents of ex parte warrant. Provides for jurisdictional rules and rules of construction. Provides remedy of costs and reasonable attorneys' fees if court finds that petition sought an ex parte warrant for purpose of harassment or in bad faith.

Provides for duration of order. Requires Revisor of Statutes to cause to be printed, as annotations to the published General Statutes, all relevant portions of the Official Comments to the Uniform Child Abduction Prevention Act and all explanatory comments of the drafters of this act as the Revisor may deem appropriate.

Specifies that GS 50A-110 (pertaining to communication between courts), GS 50A-111 (pertaining to taking testimony in another state), and GS 50A-112 (pertaining to preservation of records) under the Uniform Child-Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act, apply to new Article 4.

Specifies that new Article 4 modifies, limits, and supersedes the federal Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act, but does not modify, limit, or supersede Section 101(c) of the act (pertaining to consumer disclosures), or authorize electronic delivery of any of the notices described in Section 103(b) of that the act (pertaining to specific exceptions under the act).

Effective October 1, 2025, and applies to petitions filed or motions made on or after that date.

Part II.

Amends GS Chapter 48, Article 3, to create a new Part 2A adopting the Information and Guidance Provisions of the Uniform Unregulated Child Custody Transfer Act. Limits the scope of the Part to placement for adoption of a minor to whom any of the following applies: (1) has been or is in foster or institutional care; (2) previously has been adopted in a state; (3) has been or is being adopted under the law of a foreign country; (4) has come or is coming to a state from a foreign country to be adopted; (5) is not a US citizen. Requires adoption agencies, within a reasonable time before placing a minor for adoption with a prospective adoptive parent, to provide the prospective adopted with information addressing: (1) possible physical, mental, emotional, and behavioral issues concerning identity, loss, and trauma that a minor might experience before, during, or after adoption, and a minor leaving familiar ties and surroundings; (2) the effect that access to resources, including health insurance, may have on the ability of an adoptive parent to meet the needs of a minor; (3) causes of disruption of an adoptive placement or dissolution of an adoption and resources available to help avoid disruption or dissolution; and (4) criminal prohibitions under GS 14-321.2 (prohibiting the unlawful transfer of custody of minor child).

Requires adoption agencies to provide general adoption information and non-identifying information, as specified, about the minor to potential adoptive parents prior to their decision to adopt. Mandates that adoption agencies provide guidance and instruction for adoptive parents specific to the minor being adopted to help the parents respond to the needs of the adopted minor.

Requires the adoption agency or Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to provide information on how to obtain financial assistance and support services upon request from an adopted minor or adoptive parents. Permits DHHS to investigate adoption agencies for compliance with the part's requirements and to initiate proceedings to enforce the requirements or revoke the license of adoption agencies who do not comply.

Makes clarifying changes to GS 48-3-205.

Includes a severability clause.

Requires the Revisor of Statutes to print the official comments to Article 3 of the Uniform Unregulated Child Custody Transfer Act and the explanatory comments of the drafters.

Applies to the placement of minors for adoption 60 days after the date the act becomes law.

Intro. by Davis.

GS 48, GS 50A

[View summary](#)

Courts/Judiciary, Civil, Family Law, Government, State Agencies, Department of Health and Human Services, Health and Human Services, Social Services, Child Welfare

H 371 (2025-2026) **DMV MATERIALS IN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGES**. Filed Mar 11 2025, *AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO PROVIDE MATERIALS REQUIRED FOR LICENSURE IN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGES*.

Amends GS 20-7 to require the Division of Motor Vehicles to provide an option for applicants to receive the driver license handbook and take the written test required for licensure in Khmer and each language that is the primary language of at least 2% of the State's population. Effective January 1, 2026.

Intro. by Branson, Clark, Harrison, Quick.

GS 20

[View summary](#)

Courts/Judiciary, Motor Vehicle, Government, State Agencies, Department of Transportation

H 372 (2025-2026) **HOME-BASED BUSINESS FAIRNESS ACT**. Filed Mar 11 2025, *AN ACT PROVIDING THAT CITIES SHALL NOT PROHIBIT CERTAIN HOME-BASED BUSINESSES WITHIN THEIR JURISDICTIONAL LIMITS*.

Enacts new GS 160A-205.8 prohibiting cities from adopting ordinances or regulations that prohibit no-impact home-based businesses within its jurisdictional limits or require a person to apply, register, or obtain any permit, license, variance, or other approval to operate a non-impact home-based business within its jurisdictional limits. Defines a *no-impact home-based business* as a non-impact home-based business for which: (1) the total number of on-site employees and clients do not exceed the municipality's occupancy limit for the residential property and (2) the business activities are limited to the sale of lawful goods and services, do not generate on-street parking or a substantial increase in traffic through the residential area, occur inside or in the yard of the residential dwelling, and are not visible from the street. Allows a city to impose reasonable, narrowly tailored, restrictions on these businesses for the purpose of: (1) ensuring the protection of public health and safety, as allowed by law; (2) ensuring that the business activity is compatible with the residential use of the property and surrounding residential use, is secondary to the use of the property as a residential dwelling, and complies with State and federal law, including the payment of applicable taxes; and (3) prohibiting or limiting the use of no-impact home-based businesses for the purpose of selling illegal drugs, liquor, operating or maintaining a structured sober living home, pornography, obscenity, or nude or topless dancing or other adult-oriented businesses. Prohibits a municipality from requiring the owner or occupant to do the following as a condition of operating such a business: (1) submit a petition for rezoning the property for commercial use or (2) install or equip fire sprinklers in a single-family detached residential dwelling or any residential dwelling with no more than two dwelling units. Specifies that this statute does not apply if the operation of a non-impact home-based business is prohibited by the terms of any deed, covenant, or agreement restricting the use of the land, or by any master deed, bylaws, or other documents applicable to a homeowners association.

Intro. by Johnson, Chesser, Rhyne, Schietzelt.

GS 160A

[View summary](#)

Business and Commerce, Government, Local Government

H 373 (2025-2026) [UNC TUITION DISCOUNTS FOR CERTAIN STUDENTS](#). Filed Mar 11 2025, *AN ACT TO PERMIT CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA TO PROVIDE DISCOUNTED TUITION TO PERSONS RECEIVING MILITARY TUITION ASSISTANCE OR PERSONS ENROLLED IN AN EMPLOYER-SPONSORED FINANCIAL SUPPORT PROGRAM*.

Authorizes discounted tuition at UNC constituent institutions under GS 116-143 (requiring State-supported institutions of higher education to charge tuition and fees) for the following enrolled students: (1) qualifying resident military students (defined) receiving certain military tuition or State National Guard tuition assistance, by an amount of up to the difference in the maximum amount of military tuition assistance funds the student receives and the applicable rate of tuition and (2) students who are enrolled in an employer-sponsored financial support program (defined) that is approved by the UNC Board of Governors, by an amount of up to the difference in the maximum amount provided by the employer and the applicable rate of tuition. Requires the UNC Board of Governors to report to the specified NCGA committee and the Fiscal Research Division on the discounted tuition provided in the previous academic year, including the number of students receiving a discount and the annual financial impact on each constituent institution resulting from the discounted tuition. Makes technical, conforming, organizational, and clarifying changes. Applies beginning with the 2025-26 academic year.

Intro. by Campbell, Pickett, Chesser, Willis.

[GS 116](#)

[View summary](#)

[Education, Higher Education, Employment and Retirement, Government, State Agencies, UNC System, Military and Veteran's Affairs](#)

H 374 (2025-2026) [NCARCOG FUNDING/OPERATIONS IMPROVEMENTS](#). Filed Mar 11 2025, *AN ACT TO IMPROVE THE FUNCTION AND ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FROM AND THE OPERATIONS OF REGIONAL COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENT*.

Appropriates \$3.95 million in recurring funds for 2025-26 from the General Fund to the Department of Commerce to be allocated to the North Carolina Association of Regional Councils of Governments (NCARCOG) to create a financial administration program that provides the resources to employ 32 additional finance professionals in the 16 regional councils of governments to assist small local governments and public authorities with returning to compliant status. Requires that NCARCOG prioritize assistance to small units of local government and public authorities with limited means and on the Unit Assistance List.

Appropriates \$3.9 million in recurring funds for 2025-26 from the General Fund to the Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management, to be allocated to NCARCOG, to develop, implement, and provide relief pursuant to a disaster response plan. Sets out what must be included in the plan. Requires consulting with the Division of Emergency Management in developing the plan and requires the Division of Emergency Management to identify and incorporate the plan in areas where the Division's disaster relief plans might be made more efficient or effective by collaborating and aligning disaster response with regional councils of government.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Intro. by Cohn, Logan, Dew, K. Brown.

[APPROP](#)

[View summary](#)

[Government, Budget/Appropriations, Public Safety and Emergency Management, State Agencies, Department of Commerce, Department of Public Safety, Local Government](#)

H 375 (2025-2026) [AI/BAN DECEPTIVE ADS](#). Filed Mar 11 2025, *AN ACT TO REGULATE THE USE OF DEEPFAKES AND DECEPTIVE ADVERTISEMENTS IN ELECTIONS AND PROTECT MINORS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC FROM MISUSE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND SYNTHETIC MEDIA*.

Section 1.

Enacts new GS Chapter 170, the Artificial Intelligence and Synthetic Media Act (Act), as follows.

Article 1: Political Campaigns

Defines eighteen terms, including *generative artificial intelligence or generative AI* (AI that's trained on data, interacts with a person using text, audio, or visual communication and generates non-scripted outputs similar to outputs created by a human, with limited or no human oversight); *synthetic media* (an image, audio recording, or video recording of an individual's appearance, speech, or conduct that has been created or intentionally manipulated with the use of digital technology in a manner to create a realistic but false image, audio, or video). Defines *materially deceptive media* to mean synthetic audio or visual media that: (1) exhibits a high level of authenticity or convincing appearance that is visually or audibly indistinguishable from reality to a reasonable person; (2) depicts a scenario that did not actually occur, or that has been altered in a significant way from how it actually occurred such that it significantly changes how a reasonable person would understand the original content; (3) is likely or meant to harm reputation or mislead voters; and (4) is created by generative artificial intelligence or with software, machine learning, or any other computer-generated or technological means, including adapting, modifying, manipulating, or altering a realistic depiction.

Enacts GS 170-2, applicable only to audio or visual communications that: (1) are paid for by a candidate campaign committee, political action committee, political issues committee, political party, or a person using a contribution; (2) are intended to influence voting for or against a candidate or ballot proposition in an election or primary in this state; and (3) contain synthetic media. Requires placement of a clear and conspicuous disclosure message meeting the three described criteria by persons who act as a creator of a synthetic media message that the person knows is a deceptive and fraudulent deepfake of that candidate or of a political party that is on that ballot within 90 days before an election at which a candidate for elected office appears on the ballot. Additionally, requires that the advertisement carries tamper-evident digital content provenance that discloses the content's author and creator along with any other entity that subsequently edited or altered the content and any use of generative artificial intelligence in generating or modifying the substantive content.

Requires disclosures, as described, in new GS 170-3 by a person that distributes or publishes any political communication that was produced by or includes materially deceptive media and the person knows or should know that it is materially deceptive. Excludes visual media that is satire, parody, bona fide news reporting; an initial dissemination by a platform or service, including, but not limited to, a website, regularly published newspaper, or magazine, where the content disseminated is materially deceptive media provided by another information content provider when a good-faith effort has been made to establish that the depiction is not materially deceptive media; and an interactive computer service.

Provides remedies for violations of the Article in new GS 170-4, including: (1) injunctive or other equitable relief prohibiting the publication of the deceptive and fraudulent deepfake by a candidate whose appearance, action, or speech is depicted through the use of a deceptive and fraudulent deepfake and (2) reasonable attorneys' fees, costs, and injunctive relief prohibiting the distribution, publication, or broadcasting of any materially deceptive media against such individual or entity who disseminated or published the media without the consent of the candidate depicted and who knew or should have known that it was materially deceptive. Provides for venue, automatic calendar preferences in the filing court, rules pertaining to the availability of preliminary relief, and burdens of proof. Makes violations of the Article a Class 1 misdemeanor, except as follows: (1) for persons who commit the violation within five years of one or more prior convictions under GS 170-4, then designates violation as Class A felony and (2) if the person commits the violation with the intent to cause violence or bodily harm, then designates the violation as a Class A felony.

Exempts the following four classes of persons from the Article under GS 170-5:

1. A radio or television broadcasting station, including a cable or satellite television operator, programmer, or producer that broadcasts a deceptive and fraudulent deepfake and that is part of a bona fide newscast, news interview, or news documentary or on-the-spot coverage of bona fide news events, if the broadcast clearly acknowledges through its content or a disclosure in a manner that can be easily heard or read by the average listener or viewer that there are questions about the authenticity of the materially deceptive audio or visual media and is paid to broadcast a deceptive and fraudulent deepfake and has made a good-faith effort to establish that the depiction is not a deceptive and fraudulent deepfake.
2. An internet website or a regularly published newspaper, magazine, or other periodical of general circulation, including an internet or electronic publication, that routinely carries news and commentary of general interest and that publishes materially

deceptive audio or visual media if the publication clearly states that the materially deceptive audio or visual media was generated by artificial intelligence.

3. Satire or parody.

4. An *interactive computer service* (defined).

Article 2: Pornography and Fabricated Images

Enacts new GS 170-6, concerning generated child pornography (any image that has been created, altered, adapted, or modified by electronic, mechanical, or other computer-generated means to portray a fictitious person, who a reasonable person would regard as being a minor, engaged in sexual conduct), as follows. Makes the following a Class A felony: (1) intentionally creating generated child pornography and (2) to knowingly possess, control, or intentionally view a photograph, a motion picture, a representation, an image, a data file, a computer depiction, or any other presentation which, in whole or in part, the person knows includes generated child pornography. Specifies that the possession, control, or intentional viewing of each such photograph, motion picture, representation, image, data file, computer depiction, or other presentation constitutes a separate offense. Exempts any material possessed, controlled, or intentionally viewed as part of a law enforcement investigation. Provides rules for security of generated child pornography during a criminal proceeding and for copying those materials by the defendant in those proceedings.

Establishes the crime of disclosing fabricated images in GS 170-7 as a Class 1 misdemeanor on the first offense or a Class A felony if the defendant has one or more prior convictions for a violation of this section or the section governing disclosure of intimate images. Defines the offense as when a person knowingly discloses a fabricated intimate image of another person and the person disclosing the image: (1) knows or should have known that the depicted person has not consented to the disclosure and (2) knows or reasonably should know that disclosure would cause harm to the depicted person. Exempts persons under 18 from the crime unless the person (1) intentionally and maliciously disclosed a fabricated intimate image of another person and (2) knows or should have known that the depicted person has not consented to the disclosure. Further exempts disclosures made in the public interest, including reports of unlawful conduct, legal proceedings, law enforcement practices, or medical treatment and images that constitute commentary, criticism, or disclosure protected by the North Carolina Constitution or the United States Constitution. Clarifies that GS 170-7 does not impose liability upon interactive computer services, mobile telecommunications service providers or telecommunications network or broadband providers solely as a result of content provided by another person. Specifies that it is not a defense to prosecution that (1) the perpetrator lacked knowledge of whether the disclosed image had been created or altered by digitization or (2) the depicted person consented to the creation or alteration of the image. Directs that a minor who possesses any image of any other minor which constitutes a fabricated intimate image forfeits any right to continued possession of the image and any court exercising jurisdiction over such image must order forfeiture of the image.

Provides for civil remedies for disclosure of fabricated intimate images in GS 170-8 including a cause of action by a depicted individual who is identifiable and who suffers harm from a person's intentional disclosure or threatened disclosure of a fabricated intimate image without the depicted individual's consent against the disclosing party if they knew or acted with reckless disregard for whether: (1) the depicted individual did not consent to the disclosure and (2) the depicted individual was identifiable. Sets forth rules related to establishing consent of the disclosure of the fabricated image. Prohibits use of disclaimers as a defense. Provides for (1) the greater of actual damages or statutory damages or \$10,000; (2) an amount equal to any monetary gain made by the defendant from disclosure of the fabricated intimate image; and (3) punitive damages, as described. Provides for statute of limitations and rules relating to tolling of the statute of limitations for minors.

Exempts disclosures or threats to disclose such images were made in good faith from liability under this Article, as follows: (1) in connection with law enforcement activities, legal proceedings, or medical education or treatment; (2) in the reporting or investigation of unlawful conduct; and (3) in connection with a matter of public interest or concern. Clarifies that the exemption doesn't apply if the plaintiff proves the disclosure was prohibited by other law or made for the purpose of sexual arousal, sexual gratification, humiliation, degradation, or monetary or commercial gain. Specifies that disclosure of, or a threat to disclose, a fabricated intimate image is not a matter of public concern or public interest solely because the depicted individual is a public figure.

Enacts new GS 170-10, pertaining to AI-generated images in court proceedings, as follows. Directs that such material that includes explicit depictions of minors must remain in the care of either a law enforcement agency or the court in any criminal proceeding. Prohibits copying such materials by the parties so long as they are made reasonably available to one another. Prevents the defendant from viewing such materials unsupervised. Provides for rules relating to disclosure to an expert.

Requires a prosecutor to seek an order sealing exhibits of a depiction of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct. Provides for the destruction of such materials if the criminal proceeding ends in a conviction; if it ends in acquittal, directs that the materials be returned to the investigating law enforcement agency for either safekeeping or destruction.

Article 3: Various Regulations

Requires when a person uses generative artificial intelligence to interact with an individual that the business or person disclose that the individual is interacting with Gen AI only if the individual asks whether the interaction involves generative artificial intelligence. Provides, however, that when generative artificial intelligence is used to provide services of a regulated occupation, a prominent mandatory disclosure must be clearly and conspicuously provided. Requires regulated occupation professionals to disclose the use of Gen AI either verbally at the start of an exchange or conversation with a client or customer or through an electronic message before a written exchange. Makes violations a Class A misdemeanor and makes each interaction with a consumer a potential separate violation.

Article 4: Miscellaneous Provisions

Specifies that the Chapter's remedies are nonexclusive. Allows an aggrieved person with multiple options for seeking relief to pursue other remedies even if they chose an option provided by this Chapter.

Specifies that a defendant is guilty of a criminal offense under this Chapter if the defendant commits the offense with the aid of generative artificial intelligence or intentionally prompts or otherwise causes generative artificial intelligence to commit the offense; it is not a defense to the violation of any statute that generative artificial intelligence made the violative statement, undertook the violative act, or was used in furtherance of the violation.

Sets out provision on how the Chapter's provisions are to be construed and specifies that it is not to be construed to conflict with or prohibit compliance with specified federal acts or other applicable State or federal law. Includes a severability clause.

Section 2.

Applies to acts or omissions occurring on or after December 1, 2025.

Intro. by Warren, Davis, Schietzelt, Blust.

[View summary](#)

[Business and Commerce, Consumer Protection, Courts/Judiciary, Civil, Civil Law, Criminal Justice, Criminal Law and Procedure, Government, Elections](#)

H 376 (2025-2026) **VARIOUS ON-SITE WASTEWATER & WELL PROVISIONS**. Filed Mar 11 2025, *AN ACT TO MAKE VARIOUS CHANGES TO ON-SITE WASTEWATER PROVISIONS, TO ESTABLISH THE PRIVATE DRINKING WATER WELL TASK FORCE, AND TO ALLOW CERTAIN CERTIFIED WELL CONTRACTORS TO PERFORM WELL SITE EVALUATIONS.*

Amends GS 90A-73 by prohibiting members of the North Carolina On-Site Wastewater Contractors and Inspectors Certification Board from serving more than two consecutive three-year terms. Applies to terms beginning on or after July 1, 2026.

Amends GS 90A-77, as amended, by specifying that the requirement to be met in order to be awarded an on-site wastewater inspector certification that allows an applicant to complete the approved education requirements for the grade IV contractor instead of the specified experience requirements does not apply to a person certified as a grade II contractor. Also adds to the requirements to be met in order to receive an on-site wastewater contractor or inspector certification that the individual must hold sufficient general liability coverage and professional liability coverage for the project as well as errors and omissions coverage, where applicable.

Amends GS 90A-78 to also require a contractor, inspector, Authorized On-Site Wastewater Evaluator, or Private Compliance Inspector renewing a certification to submit proof that they hold sufficient liability coverage, as required above. Makes conforming changes.

Amends GS 130A-335 by prohibiting a local board of health from adopting any more stringent modifications or additions to wastewater system rules unless the local board of health has entered into an agreement with the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) under GS 143-300.8 (defense of local sanitarians), and DHHS has reviewed and approved the modification or addition. Requires DHHS to adopt rules of evidence to determine the validity of proposals from local boards of health seeking modifications or additions to rules established by the Commission based solely on the necessity to protect the public health. Requires DHHS, in evaluating the validity of a local health department's proposed modifications or additions under (c)(3) (requiring a wastewater system subject to approval under rules of the Commission to be reviewed and approved under rules of a local board of health when DHHS has found that the local board's rules concerning wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal systems are at least as stringent as rules adopted by the Commission and are sufficient and necessary to safeguard the public health), to hold public hearings and set out notice requirements. Requires DHHS to make its findings available to the public before approving or denying a proposed modification or addition. Requires DHHS to review all approved rules adopted by a local health department under this provision every four years and rescind approval for any rule DHHS finds is unnecessary to protect the public health. Makes conforming changes. Makes improvement permits for which a plat or site plan (was plat) is provided valid without expiration (was, improvement permits for which a site plan is provided were valid for five years). Requires displaying a statement on an application permit and permit that an Improvement Permit or a Construction Authorization is subject to revocation or amendment if the intended use, design daily flow, or site conditions change. Makes conforming changes to GS 130A-336 and also adds that DHHS or the local health department may delay the start of construction of any wastewater system until a verification shows that site conditions are unchanged from the issuance of the improvement permit, except that the verification must not include a geological soil assessment; allows the system's owner to accept or decline the findings of a reassessment of the soils on the site.

Amends GS 130A-337 to also allow an applicant to contract with a licensed engineer instead of a certified Authorized On-Site Wastewater Evaluator to conduct any required verifications or inspections; makes conforming changes. Requires that the installation or repair of a wastewater system be done according to the Improvement Permit and the Construction Authorization, including any noted site modification conditions, or that the specified written verifications be received, before the local health department must issue an operation permit authorizing the residence, place of business, or place of public assembly to be occupied and for the system to be placed into use or reuse. Adds that a local health department may not withhold issuance of an operation permit if the wastewater system was installed or repaired pursuant to the Improvement Permit, Construction Authorization, and any noted conditions at the time of issuance unless the system owner agrees to additional conditions in the operation permit; requires these additional conditions to be recorded in the operation permit.

Establishes the seven-member Private Drinking Water Well Task Force, consisting of the specified members, to study and issue a report to recommend streamlining private drinking water well rules to the Environmental Management Commission. Sets out issues that must be considered. Sets out requirements about meetings, election of a chair, and quorum. Requires a report to the specified NCGA committees and the Environmental Management Commission by December 31, 2025, and terminates the Task Force upon the earlier of the date it transmits its report or December 31, 2025.

Amends GS 87-97, by allowing either the local health department or a person certified both as a well contractor and as either a Level IV contractor, inspector, or Authorized On-Site Wastewater Evaluator to conduct a field investigation to evaluate the site on which a private drinking water well is proposed to be located before issuing a permit. Specifies that the well contractor of record for a proposed well site cannot perform the field investigation. Specifies that the Department of Environmental Quality and its authorized agents and local health departments are not liable for site evaluations performed by a certified well contractor.

Intro. by Brody, Zenger, Riddell.

STUDY, GS 87, GS 90A, GS 130A

[View summary](#)

Government, State Agencies, Department of Environmental Quality (formerly DENR), Department of Health and Human Services, Local Government, Health and Human Services, Health, Public Health, Public Enterprises and Utilities

Part I

Enacts Article 11 to GS Chapter 31, named the “North Carolina Electronic Uniform Electronic Wills Act (Act).” Establishes that an electronic will is a valid will in the State subject to State laws and principles of equity applicable to wills. Makes conforming change to GS 31-3.2 (kinds of wills) to list electronic wills. Requires an electronic will to be recorded in electronic form and readable as text at the time of signing, be signed by the testator, and be attested to by at least two competent witnesses. Specifies rules for revoking an electronic will. Sets out requirements under which an electronic will may be self-proved. Permits creating certified paper copies of an electronic will by a sworn certification attached to the will or by attaching the affidavits of self-proof at the time of the execution of the will. Specifies that the certified paper copy of an electronic will, but not the electronic will itself, may be probated. Provides for conversion of an attested written will to an electronic will. Amends GS 28A-2A-8 (pertaining to probate of wills) to establish a procedure for probate of an electronic will. Makes conforming changes to refer to certified paper copies of an electronic will in GS 28A-2B-1 (pertaining to establishment before death the validity of a will or codicil), GS 28A-2B-3 (pertaining to the contents of a petition for will validity), and GS 31-11 (pertaining to depositories in offices of the clerk of superior court). Makes other conforming and technical changes to those statutes. Makes conforming changes to GS 31-3.1.

Requires that uniformity amongst the states must be given consideration in applying and construing the Act. Sets forth the following definitions: *electronic*, *electronic will*, *record*, *sign*, and *state*. Requires the Revisor of Statutes to print as annotations to the statute all relevant portions of the official comments to the Uniform Electronic Wills Act and all explanatory comments of the drafters of this act as the Revisor may deem appropriate.

Effective January 1, 2026, and applies to electronic wills executed on or after that date and to attested written wills converted to electronic wills on or after that date, regardless of the date of execution of the attested written will.

Part II

Amends GS 30-3.3A (valuation of partial and contingent interests in property passing to a surviving spouse) as follows. Requires the terms of a trust to substantially meet the listed requirements in form and content (currently, just requires the trust terms to meet the listed requirements). Expands the types of trustees that control the trust during the surviving spouse’s lifetime. Allows the trust to authorize or require the trustee to also take assets (currently, just income and other means of support) into account. Specifies required language that the trust must contain pertaining to distribution of the income and principal. Makes clarifying and technical changes.

Amends GS 30-3.4 (procedure for determining the elective share), as follows. Removes the requirement that surviving spouse must mail or deliver a copy of the petition to the estate as a requirement for asserting a claim for elective share. Requires petition to be verified. Directs that an elective share proceeding is an estate proceeding to be conducted in line with Article 2 of GS Chapter 28A, except as modified or supplemented as described.

Applies to claims for elective share filed on or after January 1, 2026.

Part III

Amends GS 36C-6-604 (limitation on action contesting validity of revocable trust, distribution of trust property), as follows. Makes technical changes. Directs trustee to not distribute trust property to any beneficiary in contravention of the rights of any person who may be affected by the outcome of a pending or possible judicial proceeding if, at the time the distribution is made: (1) the trustee knows of a pending judicial proceeding pertaining to the validity of the trust or contesting the identity of beneficiaries, or (2) a potential contestant has notified the trustee in writing of a possible judicial proceeding to contest the validity of terms of the trust or to contest the identity of the beneficiaries eligible to receive distribution therefrom, and a judicial proceeding is commenced within 60 days after the contestant sent the notification. Expands those matters that prevent the trustee from distributing trust property to judicial proceedings or contestants challenging the identity of the beneficiaries eligible to receive distributions from the trust. Specifies that the trustee’s failure to comply with the above constitutes breach of trust. Provides for distribution of assets to beneficiaries upon motion, with notice to the interested parties upon court order. Expands the conditions upon which a beneficiary must return trust property to include when their interest in a trust has been determined to be invalid (currently, just when the trust has been determined to be invalid). Specifies that if the beneficiary

refuses to return the distribution after being ordered by the court, the beneficiary is liable for all costs incurred for recovery of the distribution, including attorneys' fees. Applies to settlors dying on or after January 1, 2026.

Part IV

Amends GS 30-15 (spousal allowances) as follows. Creates an exception for when the spousal allowance takes priority over a child's allowance that occurs if a surviving spouse entitled to an allowance fails to file a petition for an allowance within six months after the date of death of the decedent and an eligible person files a petition for a child's allowance before the spouse files a petition for an allowance. Specifies that a proceeding for a spouse's allowance will be an estate proceeding governed by Article 2 of GS Chapter 28A. Makes conforming changes.

Amends GS 30-17 (child's allowance) by amending the order of priority for the person entitled to file a petition on behalf of the child for a child's allowance, so that first priority is given to the child, if the child is at least 18 years old or an emancipated minor at the time the petition is filed. Specifies that a proceeding for a child's allowance will be an estate proceeding governed by Article 2 of GS Chapter 28A. Removes the clerk's discretion under GS 30-20(c) to on its own motion, determine that a hearing is necessary to determine whether a year's allowance should be awarded to the children of an estate under GS 30-20 (procedure for assignment).

Removes references to "GS 30-20(c)" and replaces those references with references to "contested case proceedings commenced by the petitioner or by order of the clerk joining respondents to the proceeding" in standing provisions in GS 30-23.1 (contested case proceedings regarding allowance). Makes conforming and clarifying changes.

Amends GS 28A-25-6 (payment to clerk of money owed decedent) as follows. Provides in (f) that if no administrator has been appointed, the clerk of superior court must upon motion of the clerk or application of an interested party, disburse the money received under this statute for the following purposes and in the following order: (1) to pay the surviving spouse's year's allowance and children's year's allowance assigned in accordance with law, except that if (1) it has been greater than six months since the date of death of the decedent and (2) there has been no petition filed and assignment of a spouse's or child's year's allowance, the clerk may disburse the money in accordance with the other provisions of (f) (which requires all other claims to be disbursed according to the order set out in GS 28A-19-6). Clarifies that after the death of a the decedent (currently, spouse who died intestate) and after the disbursements have been made, the balance in the clerk's hands belonging to the estate of the decedent will be paid to the surviving spouse, and if there is no surviving spouse, the clerk will pay it to the heirs or beneficiaries (currently, just heirs) in proportion to their respective interests. Makes technical changes. Applies to petitions filed on or after January 1, 2026.

Intro. by Stevens.

[GS 30, GS 31, GS 36C](#)

[View summary](#)

[Courts/Judiciary, Civil, Civil Law, Civil Procedure, Family Law](#)

H 378 (2025-2026) [LEON'S LAW \(DUAL ENROLLMENT INFO PARENTS\)](#). Filed Mar 11 2025, *AN ACT TO PROVIDE EDUCATIONAL RECORDS OF MINOR COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENTS TO THE PARENTS OF THE DEPENDENT STUDENT.*

Adds new Article 10, Academic Records, to GS Chapter 115D, providing as follows. Requires community colleges to, to the extent allowed under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), make educational records for minor students automatically available to the parents, guardians, or an individual acting as a parent in the absence of a parent or a guardian of the student if: (1) the student is under age 18, (2) the student is a dependent student, and (3) the parent has not opted out of receiving the records. Requires each community college to require minor students whose educational records are subject to this provision to complete a form before registering for courses acknowledging that the parents, guardians, or an individual acting as a parent has access to their educational records. Applies beginning with the 2025-26 academic year.

Intro. by Pickett, Cotham, Liu, Hawkins.

[GS 115D](#)

[View summary](#)

[Education, Higher Education, Government, State Agencies, Community Colleges System Office](#)

H 379 (2025-2026) [APPLICATION FOR A CONVENTION OF THE STATES](#). Filed Mar 11 2025, *A JOINT RESOLUTION APPLYING TO CONGRESS FOR AN ARTICLE V CONVENTION OF THE STATES WITH THE PURPOSE OF PROPOSING AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION.*

Includes whereas clauses.

Applies to Congress for the calling of a convention of the states limited to proposing amendments to the US Constitution that impose fiscal restraints on the federal government, limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, and limit the terms of office for its officials and for members of Congress. Specifies that this is a continuing application until the legislatures of at least two-thirds of states have made applications on the same subject.

Intro. by Riddell, Setzer, Blust, Schietzelt.

[JOINT RES](#)

[View summary](#)

[Constitution](#)

PUBLIC/SENATE BILLS

S 58 (2025-2026) [AG/RESTRICT CHALLENGE TO PRESIDENTIAL EOS](#). Filed Feb 5 2025, *AN ACT TO LIMIT THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S PARTICIPATION IN LITIGATION THAT WOULD RESULT IN THE INVALIDATION OF ANY EXECUTIVE ORDER ISSUED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.*

Senate amendment to the 2nd edition makes the following changes. Adds the requirement that the Attorney General report by June 1, 2025, to the specified NCGA committee on: (1) how many convictions for violations of GS 14-277 (impersonation of a law-enforcement or other public officer) have been obtained from January 1, 2021, through March 1, 2025, and (2) how many of those convictions were based on the defendant's impersonation of an agent of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement of the US Department of Homeland Security. Requires the Attorney General to request the required information and coordinate the required response by requesting information from all necessary parties, including the specified entities. Makes conforming changes to the act's long title.

Intro. by Settle, Hanig, Moffitt.

[GS 114](#)

[View summary](#)

[Courts/Judiciary, Court System, Criminal Justice, Criminal Law and Procedure, Government, State Government, Executive, Immigration](#)

S 227 (2025-2026) [ELIMINATING "DEI" IN PUBLIC EDUCATION](#). Filed Mar 3 2025, *AN ACT TO DEMONSTRATE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S INTENT THAT STUDENTS, TEACHERS, ADMINISTRATORS, AND OTHER SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RECOGNIZE THE EQUALITY AND RIGHTS OF ALL PERSONS AND TO PROHIBIT PUBLIC SCHOOL UNITS FROM PROMOTING CERTAIN CONCEPTS THAT ARE CONTRARY TO THAT INTENT.*

Senate amendments to the 1st edition make the following changes.

Amendment #2 amends proposed new GS 115C-76.210 by specifying that the statute does not limit single-sex schools, educational programs, or activities operated in compliance with State or federal law.

Amendment #3 makes the following changes. Amends GS 115C-47 to require local boards of education, upon the superintendent's recommendation, to adopt policies governing the conduct of employees (was, have full power to make all just and needful rules and regulations governing the conduct of teachers, principals, and supervisors). Requires that the policies governing conduct of employees prohibit discrimination based on an individual's protected classification under federal law, including antisemitism.

Amends GS 115C-390.2 to require a public school's Code of Student Conduct to prohibit discrimination based on an individual's protected classification under federal law, including antisemitism.

Intro. by Berger, Lee, Overcash.

GS 115C

[View summary](#)

**Education, Elementary and Secondary Education,
Government, State Agencies, Department of Public
Instruction, State Board of Education**

S 264 (2025-2026) **FLAGS AT EVERY SCHOOL**. Filed Mar 11 2025, *AN ACT TO REQUIRE AND FUND THE DISPLAY OF THE UNITED STATES AND NORTH CAROLINA FLAGS ON PUBLIC SCHOOL GROUNDS AND IN EVERY PUBLIC SCHOOL CLASSROOM*.

Identical to [S 123](#), filed 2/21/25.

Amends GS 115C-47(29a) to require local boards of education to adopt policies for the display of the US and State flags on school grounds near the main entrance to each school and in each classroom (was, in only in each classroom when available). Makes those same changes to: GS 115C-150.12C (applicable to schools for the deaf and blind); GS 115C-218.80 (applicable to charter schools); GS 116-69.1 (applicable to the UNC School of the Arts); and GS 116-235 (applicable to the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics—further amends the statute to specify that instruction in the meaning and history of the flag and pledge must be age-appropriate).

Amends GS 115C-238.66 and GS 116-239.8 to require regional schools and laboratory schools to display the US and NC flags on school grounds near the main entrance to the school and in each classroom; recite the Pledge of Allegiance daily; and provide age-appropriate instruction on the meaning and origins of the flag and pledge. Prohibits a compelling a person to stand, salute the flag, or recite the pledge.

Appropriates \$1 million in nonrecurring funds for 2025-26 from the General Fund to the Department of Public Instruction and \$100,000 in recurring funds for 2026-27 to allocate to public schools for the purchase of flags.

Appropriates \$1,000 in recurring funds for 2025-26 from the General Fund to the UNC Board of Governors to be allocated to the secondary schools it controls for the purchase of flags.

Applies beginning with the 2025-26 school year.

Intro. by Settle.

APPROP, GS 115C, GS 116

[View summary](#)

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

S 265 (2025-2026) **PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITY ACT**. Filed Mar 11 2025, *AN ACT TO REGULATE THE SALE AND DISTRIBUTION OF HEMP-DERIVED CONSUMABLE PRODUCTS AND TO BAN THOSE PRODUCTS FROM SCHOOL GROUNDS*.

Part I.

Section 1(a).

Article 1.

Enacts new GS Chapter 18D, pertaining to the regulation of hemp-derived cannabinoid products. Defines *Alcohol Law Enforcement (ALE) Division, batch, Department (Department of Revenue), distributor, exit package, final form product, hemp, hemp-derived cannabinoid, hemp-derived consumable product, hemp product, independent testing laboratory, ingestion, inhalation, license, manufacture, manufacturer, producer, raw hemp extract, seller, and serving*.

Enacts GS 18D-101, which sets forth six offenses involving the sale of hemp-derived consumable products, as follows:

1. To knowingly sell a product containing a hemp-derived cannabinoid to a person who is under 21 years of age or to sell that product to a person under 21 years of age when the seller has reason to know they are under 21.
2. Engage in the business of selling a hemp-derived consumable product without a valid license.
3. Knowingly, or having reason to know, sell at retail a hemp-derived consumable product that has a delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol concentration of more than 0.3% on a dry weight basis. (Designates second violations of this prong as a Class A1 misdemeanor with subsequent violations as a Class H felony.)
4. Knowingly, or having reason to know, sell a hemp-derived consumable product that is not contained in an exit package or a child-resistant package.
5. Knowingly, or having reason to know, sell at retail or on an internet website offering delivery in this State, a hemp-derived consumable product that is not in compliance with GS 18D-105.
6. Knowingly, or having reason to know, sell at retail hemp flower or a product containing hemp flower that is not accompanied by a certificate of analysis issued within the previous 12-month period demonstrating that the hemp flower or product containing hemp flower has delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol concentration of no more than 0.3% on a dry weight basis.

Requires age verification for online sales. Provides for three defenses to the violation described as 1 above, including (1) proof that the buyer produced an official State or federal identification showing their age to be at least 21 years old; (2) evidence of other facts that reasonably indicated at the time of sale that the purchaser was at least the required age; and (3) evidence that at the time of sale the purchaser utilized a biometric identification system that demonstrated their age to be at least 21 and that they had registered an official federal or State ID with the seller or the seller's agent showing them to be the legal age for purchase.

Provides for civil penalties ranging from \$500 to \$2,000 and for a one-year suspension of hemp seller licenses for third violations, and revocation of that license for subsequent violations. Allows for compromise in cases of revocation or suspension of licensure where the seller may pay a penalty of not more than \$3,000. Allows the Department to accept a compromise and suspend a license in the same case but prevents it from revoking a license if a compromise is accepted. Provides for payment of a testing fee conducted as part of sample testing in investigating alleged violations of the offense listed as 4 above, to be remitted to the ALE Division. Directs that the clear proceeds of any civil penalty be remitted to the Civil Penalty and Forfeiture Fund (Fund). Permits for forfeiture of products manufactured, distributed, or sold in violation of the offense listed as 4 above.

Enacts GS 18D-101A, preventing a producer from knowingly selling or in any way transferring hemp that has been processed or prepared with the intent to be used in a hemp-derived consumable product to any person or entity other than a licensee under GS Chapter 18D or any person or entity that otherwise meets the requirements of the jurisdiction in which they reside or conduct business to receive such material. Provides for civil penalties ranging from \$500 to \$2,000. Designates second violations as a Class A1 misdemeanor with third or subsequent violations a Class H felony.

Directs that the clear proceeds of any civil penalty be remitted to the Fund. Clarifies that the statute cannot be construed as preventing a producer from selling or transferring hemp intended to be used in a lawful product.

Enacts GS 18D-102, preventing persons less than 21 years of age from purchasing, attempting to purchase or possessing hemp-derived consumable products and to use fraudulent or altered identification or documentation, identification or documents issued to another, or any other form or means of identification that indicates or symbolizes that the person is not prohibited from purchasing or possessing a hemp-derived consumable product under the statute. Further makes it unlawful for a person to permit use of their identification to allow an underage person to purchase a hemp-derived consumable product. Also prohibits a person from giving a hemp-derived consumable product to anyone younger than age 21. Makes it a Class 2 misdemeanor for persons who violate the statute who are less than 21 years of age and a Class 1 misdemeanor for persons 21 and over who violate the section. Provides for aiding and abetting liability. Exempts an underage person from liability for selling, transporting, or possessing hemp-derived consumable products (1) in the course of employment if the employment of the person for that purpose is lawful under applicable youth employment statutes or (2) if the individual has a recommendation for a hemp-derived consumable product from a physician.

Enacts GS 18D-103, which makes it unlawful for a manufacturer or distributor to do any of the following four offenses:

1. Knowingly, or having reason to know, distribute samples of a hemp-derived consumable product in or on a public street, sidewalk, or park.

2. Engage in the business of manufacturing hemp-derived consumable products as a home-based manufacturer.
3. Engage in the business of manufacturing or distributing a hemp-derived consumable product without a valid license.
4. Knowingly, or having reason to know, manufacture or distribute a hemp-derived consumable product that has a delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol concentration of more than 0.3% on a dry weight basis.

Provides a defense to the violation listed as 3 above if the manufacturer (1) recalls all hemp-derived consumable products from the same batch as the product on which the violation is based; (2) has samples of the batch tested by an independent testing laboratory as described; and (3) provides certified results from the independent testing laboratory indicating that the sample tested does not contain a delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol concentration of more than 0.3% on a dry weight basis.

Classifies violations as a Class A1 misdemeanor and provides for civil penalties ranging from \$1,000 to \$7,500. Authorizes suspension, revocation, or conditions placed upon manufacturer or distributor licenses for a third violation committed within three years of the first violation. Allows for compromise in cases of revocation or suspension of licensure where the licensee may pay a penalty of not more than \$8,000. Allows the Department to accept a compromise and suspend a license in the same case but prevents it from revoking a license if a compromise is accepted. Provides for payment of a testing fee conducted as part of sample testing in investigating alleged violations of the offense listed as 4 above, to be remitted to the ALE Division. Directs that the clear proceeds of any civil penalty be remitted to the Fund. Permits for forfeiture of products manufactured, distributed, or sold in violation of the offense listed as 3 above.

Requires in new GS 18D-104, that a manufacturer have a hemp-derived consumable product tested by an independent testing laboratory prior to distribution to a distributor or before distributing the product to a seller as described and for the substances listed in the section. Requires a hemp-derived consumable product to be labeled with an expiration date that conforms with applicable federal law. Provides for civil penalties ranging from \$1,000 to \$7,500. Directs that the clear proceeds of any civil penalty be remitted to the Fund. Authorizes suspension, revocation, or conditions placed on the operating hours of the licensee's business placed upon the licensee's licenses for a third violation committed within three years of the first violation. Allows for compromise in cases of revocation or suspension of licensure where the licensee may pay a penalty of not more than \$8,000. Allows the Department to accept a compromise and suspend a license in the same case but prevents it from revoking a license if a compromise is accepted. Requires the Department to (1) maintain and post on its website a registry of testing labs that are qualified to conduct the testing required by the section and (2) develop an application and process to determine qualifying laboratories listed on its website, including a sample certificate of analysis.

Enacts new GS 18D-105, which concerns additional requirements and restrictions for hemp-derived consumable products including packaging requirements, advertising restrictions, ingestible product restrictions for products containing hemp-derived consumable products (both in non-liquid and liquid form), inhalable product restrictions for vaporization restrictions for products containing hemp-derived consumable products. Provides for civil penalties ranging from \$1,000 to \$7,500. Directs that the clear proceeds of any civil penalty be remitted to the Fund. Authorizes suspension, revocation, or conditions placed on the operating hours of the licensee's business placed upon the licensee's licenses for a third violation committed within three years of the first violation. Allows for compromise in cases of revocation or suspension of licensure where the licensee may pay a penalty of not more than \$8,000. Allows the Department to accept a compromise and suspend a license in the same case but prevents it from revoking a license if a compromise is accepted.

Contains a safe harbor provision for safe harbor hemp products and safe harbor manufacturer or storage facilities, which applies to products that contain hemp-derived compound or cannabinoids that are allowed to be manufactured, produced, or packaged in the State but not sold in the State in new GS 18D-105.2. Enacts GS 18D-106, which sets forth nine things that continue to not be prohibited by GS Chapter 18D.

Reserves Article 2 for future codification purposes.

Article 3.

Requires manufacturers, sellers, and distributors of hemp-derived consumable products in the State to obtain the appropriate license(s) from the Department either prior to commencing business or by July 1, 2026. Specifies that a person or entity engaged in more than one of the businesses listed is required to obtain only a single license. Lists five qualifications for licensure including that the licensee be at least 21 years of age and have not been convicted of a felony related to a controlled substance within 10 years in any state or federal jurisdiction. Requires annual renewal of licenses. Provides, in new GS 18D-302, for application fees ranging from \$250 per location for seller licensees with 25 locations or less or who do not offer internet delivery in the state, to \$15,000 for manufacturers whose income in the calendar year prior to application is \$100,000

or more. Sets renewal fees at \$5,000 for manufacturers, \$750 for distributors, and for sellers, the same amount as the initial licensing fee. Specifies that for those applicants engaging in more than one type of business requiring licensure under GS Chapter 18D, the fee will be the highest applicable.

Allows the Department to revoke or refuse to issue any license for: (1) failure to comply with or meet any of the licensure qualifications; (2) submission of false or misleading information in an application for licensure or renewal; (3) submission of false or misleading information in any report or information required by this Chapter to be submitted to the Department; and (4) failure to comply with civil penalties. Requires that proceedings for the assessment of civil penalties authorized in Article 1 be governed by GS Chapter 150B. Upon failure to pay a penalty, allows the Department to institute an action in the superior court of the county in which the person resides or has their principal place of business to recover the unpaid amount; specifies that this recovery does not relieve any party from any other penalty prescribed by law.

Requires the Department to develop and make available online an application for the license required by this Article. Authorizes the Department to adopt rules, amend, and repeal rules to implement GS Chapter 18D. Provides for monthly distribution of fee revenue to the ALE Division to cover enforcement costs.

Article 4.

Enacts new GS 18D-400 describing the enforcement authority of the ALE Division over GS Chapter 18D, including the ability to conduct random, unannounced inspections or general investigative inspections as described at locations where hemp-derived consumable products are sold or distributed to ensure compliance with the Chapter. Authorizes the ALE Division to take samples for testing, if upon reasonable inspection, it determines a licensee's inventory may consist of products not in compliance with the packaging, labeling, and testing requirements discussed above. Requires testing to be conducted by high-performance liquid chromatography or a fit for purpose and validated test method and shall otherwise ensure that the cannabinoids are not modified during the testing process. Makes it a Class 2 misdemeanor for any person to resist or obstruct an ALE Division agent attempting to make a lawful inspection. Specifies that refusal by a licensee or by any employee of a licensee to permit ALE Division agents to enter the premises to make an inspection is cause for suspension, revocation, or other action against the licensee. Instructs that an employee making a reasonable request that the ALE Division wait for a manager to arrive on the premises prior to inspection does not constitute a refusal. Requires the ALE Division to report all violations to the Department of Revenue where civil penalties are authorized. Starting January 1, 2027, requires the ALE Division to submit an annual report to the General Assembly on its enforcement efforts under GS Chapter 18D and to post such reports on its website. Enacts GS 18D-401 authorizing a law enforcement officer to seize any hemp-derived consumable product that is subject to forfeiture, and to provide for its safe storage until trial. Provides for disposition after a criminal trial and after a civil forfeiture proceeding as described. Allows for an owner of seized property to apply for return of the products if no criminal charge has been made or no action for civil forfeiture has been commenced in connection with that product within a reasonable time after seizure. Prevents return if doing so would be unlawful.

Section 1.(b).

Makes conforming changes to GS 18B-500 (subject matter jurisdiction for investigation and enforcement by ALE Division agents).

Section 1.(c).

Specifies that as part of the costs in criminal actions in GS 7A-304, \$600 should be ordered to be remitted to the ALE Division or agency that paid for laboratory services in cases where (1) defendant is convicted of a violation of GS 18D-103 and (2) as part of the investigation leading to the defendant's conviction, testing was conducted at a laboratory on products regulated under GS Chapter 18D.

Applies to all hemp-derived consumable products possessed, sold, distributed, or manufactured on or after July 1, 2026, and to all offenses committed on or after that date.

Part II.

Repeals GS 90-94.1 (exemption under the NC Controlled Substances Act for use or possession of hemp extract), effective December 1, 2025. Applies to offenses committed on or after that date.

Part III.

Recodifies Article 29A of GS Chapter 115C, consisting of GS 115C-407 to Part 7 of Article 7B of GS Chapter 115C consisting of GS 115C-77.

Modifies GS 115C-77 (school policies prohibiting tobacco on school grounds) as enacted by the above, as follows. Changes the entity responsible for adopting such written policies from the local boards of education to the governing bodies of public school units. Removes duties to implement and enforce such policies. Removes outdated language. Makes conforming changes.

Enacts new GS 115C-77.1 (policy prohibiting the use of hemp-derived consumable products in school buildings, grounds, and at school sponsored events), as follows. Requires governing bodies of public school units to adopt a written policy prohibiting at all times the use of any hemp-derived consumable product by any person in school buildings, in school facilities, on school campuses, and in or on any other school property owned or operated by the public school unit. Requires the policy to further prohibit the use of all hemp-derived consumable products by persons attending a school-sponsored event at any other location when in the presence of students or school personnel or in an area where the use of hemp-derived consumable products is otherwise prohibited by law. Requires the policy to include at least the following: (1) adequate notice to students, parents, the public, and school personnel of the policy; (2) posting of signs prohibiting at all times the use of hemp-derived consumable products by any person in and on school property; and (3) requirements that school personnel enforce the policy.

Authorizes hemp-derived consumable products to be included in instructional or research activities in public school buildings if the activity is conducted or supervised by the faculty member overseeing the instruction or research and the activity does not include smoking, chewing, or otherwise ingesting or inhaling the hemp-derived consumable product. Specifies that local school units can adopt and enforce a more restrictive policy on the hemp-derived consumable products in school buildings, in school facilities on school campuses, or at school-related or school-sponsored events, and in or on other school property.

Applies beginning with the 2026-27 school year.

Intro. by Johnson, Britt, Lazzara.

[GS 7A, GS 18B, GS 18D, GS 115C](#)

[View summary](#)

[Alcoholic Beverage Control, Courts/Judiciary, Criminal Justice, Criminal Law and Procedure, Education, Elementary and Secondary Education, Government, State Agencies, Department of Public Safety, Department of Revenue](#)

S 266 (2025-2026) [HISTORIC FLOOD EVENT BLDG. CODE EXEMPTION](#). Filed Mar 11 2025, *AN ACT TO ESTABLISH EXEMPTIONS FROM CERTAIN FLOODPLAIN REQUIREMENTS FOR THE REPLACEMENT OR RECONSTRUCTION OF STRUCTURES DAMAGED BY HISTORIC FLOOD EVENTS*.

Amends GS 143-138 by adding that the owner of a lawfully established building or structure that is damaged by a historic flood event may replace or reconstruct the building or structure within the base floodplain to the same or lesser extent or volume existing immediately before the historic flood event, without regard to changes in State or local regulations adopted after the building or structure was lawfully established, subject to the following limitations. Specifies that the replacement or reconstruction that increases the extent or volume of the building or structure within the base floodplain is not authorized unless hydrologic and hydraulic analyses demonstrate that the proposed replacement or reconstruction will not result in any increase in the base flood elevation. Defines *200-year flood* as a flood having a 0.5% probability of being equaled or exceeded in any given year, resulting in floodwater elevations higher than the base flood elevation associated with a 100-year flood. Defines *historic flood event* as a flood event that meets or exceeds a 200-year flood. Makes conforming changes to GS 143-215.54.

Intro. by Moffitt, Daniel, Britt.

[GS 143](#)

[View summary](#)

[Development, Land Use and Housing, Building and Construction, Government, Local Government](#)

Section 1

Allow corporations to limit or eliminate the personal liability of its officers (defined) arising out of an action for monetary damages for breach of duty in claims by or in the right of the corporation in its bylaws under GS 55-2-02. Specifies that such a provision can't be effective with respect to any claim by or in the right of the corporation. Makes technical and conforming changes.

Section 2

Removes provision directing that emergency bylaws are subject to amendment or repeal by corporate shareholders from GS 55-2-07 (emergency bylaws). Allows the bylaws to include provisions that become effective only during an emergency if they are adopted in advance of the emergency (was, the board of directors may adopt bylaws to be effective only in an emergency). Makes technical and clarifying changes.

Rescinds the power of a corporation's board of directors to modify lines of succession to accommodate the incapacity of a director, officer, employee or agent and to relocate its offices or designate other offices during an emergency under GS 55-3-03 (emergency powers). During an emergency (i.e., because of some catastrophic event, it is impracticable to convene a meeting of shareholders in accordance with GS Chapter 55 or the bylaws or as specified in a notice previously given for the meeting) authorizes the board of directors to postpone a shareholder meeting or allow for remote participation upon the described notice. Makes technical and clarifying changes.

Section 3

Enacts GS 55-2-08, authorizing that any or all internal corporate claims (defined) to be brought exclusively in any specified court or courts of this State and, if so specified, in any additional courts in this State or in any other jurisdictions with which the corporation has a reasonable relationship. Clarifies that such clauses cannot confer jurisdiction, prevent bringing an internal action in the courts of the State, nor can they require such claims to be determined by arbitration. Repeals GS 55-7-50 (concerning exclusive forum or venue provisions).

Section 4

Amends GS 55-6-04 (concerning fractional shares as follows). Allows corporations to issue fractions of a share or, in lieu of doing so, to (1) pay cash in the value of such shares; (2) dispose of the fractional shares and pay the proceeds to the holders of those shares (currently, no mention of payment and disposition is by shareholders); and (3) issue scrip in certified or uncertified form (currently, registered or bearer form), as described. Prevents scrip being issued in bearer form. Provides for transfer of written information within a reasonable time after the issuance or transfer of scrip without certificates. Modifies the listed rights of a holder of a fractional share to include receiving distribution upon liquidation (was, to participate in the assets of a corporation upon liquidation). Makes technical changes.

Prevents share certificates from being issued in bearer form in GS 55-6-25. Makes clarifying and technical changes.

Section 5

Makes clarifying change to defined term *derivative proceedings* in GS 55-7-41. Details further requirements for the contents of a written demand in a derivative proceeding under GS 55-7-41 (demand). Makes technical changes.

Amends GS 55-7-44 (dismissal of derivative proceedings) as follows. Now allows the court to dismiss the action if a determination is made either before or after commencement of the proceeding that maintenance of the derivative proceeding is not in the corporation's best interest (currently, statute is silent as to the timing of the best interest determination). Changes the composition of the panel appointed by the court to make a best interest determination, at the corporation's request, to one or more individuals appointed by the court (currently, one or more independent individuals). Allows the court on its own motion or on the motion of any party to order that any motion to dismiss be made within a specified reasonable time. Makes technical, clarifying, conforming and organizational changes.

Expands the authorized expenses for a corporation prevailing in a derivative action to include payment to the corporation incurred in responding to the demand in GS 55-7-46. Makes clarifying and technical changes.

Section 6

Remove bar on allowing corporation's committees to amend articles of incorporation under GS 55-8-25. Makes technical change.

Section 7

Repeals GS 55-11-04(f) (instructing that the provisions of GS 55-13-02(b) [limiting certain appraisal rights] do not apply to subsidiary corporations that are parties to mergers consummated under the statute).

Expands the conditions under which certain parent unincorporated entities may merge with certain subsidiary corporations as described in GS 55-11-12, to require that the parent approves, in the manner required by laws of the state or country governing the organization and internal affairs of the parent, a written plan of merger containing all of the provisions required by GS 55-11-10(c). No longer requires that the articles of merger delivered to the Secretary of State for filing contain (1) the merger's terms and conditions or (2) the manner and basis of converting the interests in each merging business entity into interests, obligations, or securities of the surviving business entity, or into cash or other property in whole or in part, or of cancelling the interests. Now requires delivery of a statement that the plan of merger has been approved by each merging business entity in the manner required by law as part of the delivery. Removes reference to board resolution in the provisions pertaining to delivery of certain information by a surviving domestic corporation. Removes provision directing that the provisions of the articles of merger may be made dependent on facts objectively ascertainable outside the articles of merger if the articles of merger set forth the manner in which the facts will operate upon the affected provisions, as described. Instead, directs that GS 55-11-10(c1) and (c2) (pertaining to mergers with unincorporated entities) apply.

Section 8

Directs the Revisor of Statutes to cause to be printed, as annotations to GS Chapter 55, all relevant portions of the Official Comments to the Model Business Corporation Act and all explanatory comments of the drafters of the act as the Revisor may deem appropriate.

Effective October 1, 2025, unless otherwise provided.

Intro. by Galey, Sawrey.

[GS 55](#)

[View summary](#)

[Business and Commerce, Corporation and Partnerships](#)

LOCAL/HOUSE BILLS

H 185 (2025-2026) [TRANSYLVANIA RURAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY](#). Filed Feb 24 2025, *AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE TRANSYLVANIA RURAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY*.

House committee substitute to the 1st edition makes the following changes. Specifies that the six appointments to the Transylvania Rural Development Authority (Authority) made by the NCGA are to be made under GS 120-121 with three members appointed upon the recommendation of the Speaker of the House and three appointed upon the recommendation of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. Allows the original appointing authority (was, just the Governor) to remove a member of the Authority for inefficiency or neglect of duty or misconduct in office. Amends the protection against liability for environmental issues so that it no longer covers those who are collaborating with the Authority on a project. Makes additional clarifying and technical changes. Removes the provision that removed Transylvania County from SL 1965-988, as amended, and instead specifies that the act applies to Transylvania County.

Intro. by Clampitt.

[UNCODIFIED, Transylvania](#)

LOCAL/SENATE BILLS

S 219 (2025-2026) [STALLINGS/MARVIN SATELLITE ANNEXATIONS. \(NEW\)](#) Filed Feb 27 2025, *AN ACT REMOVING THE CAP ON SATELLITE ANNEXATIONS FOR THE TOWN OF STALLINGS AND THE VILLAGE OF MARVIN.*

Senate committee substitute to the 1st edition makes the following changes.

Amends GS 160A-58.1 to also remove the cap on satellite annexations for Stallings. Makes conforming changes to the act's titles.

Intro. by Johnson.

[Mecklenburg, Union, GS 160A](#)

[View summary](#)

ACTIONS ON BILLS

PUBLIC BILLS

H 5: NC CONSTITUTIONAL CARRY ACT.

House: Withdrawn From Com

House: Re-ref to the Com on Judiciary 2, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 11: NO TAX ON TIPS, OVERTIME, BONUS PAY.

House: Reptd Fav

House: Re-ref Com On Finance

H 22: FIRE INVESTIGATION LAW REVISIONS.

House: Reptd Fav Com Substitute

House: Re-ref Com On Insurance

H 28: GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION ACT.

House: Reptd Fav Com Substitute

House: Re-ref Com On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 35: ESTABLISH MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH.

House: Reptd Fav

House: Re-ref Com On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 43: DESIGNATE STATE BALLOON RALLY.

House: Passed 2nd Reading

House: Passed 3rd Reading

H 47: DISASTER RECOVERY ACT OF 2025 - PART I.

House: Failed Concur In S Com Sub

House: Conf Com Appointed

H 52: PROTECT THOSE WHO SERVE & PROTECT ACT OF 2025.

House: Amend Failed A1
House: Passed 2nd Reading
House: Passed 3rd Reading

H 69: MILITARY AND VETERANS EDUCATIONAL PROMISE ACT. (NEW)

House: Reptd Fav Com Substitute
House: Re-ref Com On Higher Education

H 71: RESPIRATORY CARE MODERNIZATION ACT.

House: Reptd Fav Com Substitute
House: Re-ref Com On Regulatory Reform

H 83: REVISE LAWS GOVERNING MINORS.

House: Reptd Fav Com Substitute
House: Re-ref Com On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 91: DEFINE ARMED FORCES/CONFORMING CHANGES.

House: Reptd Fav Com Substitute
House: Re-ref Com On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 95: THREATEN ELECTED OFFICIAL/INCREASE PUNISHMENT.

House: Reptd Fav Com Substitute
House: Re-ref Com On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 98: PATRIOTISM EXPRESSION ACT.

House: Serial Referral To State and Local Government Stricken
House: Serial Referral To Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House Stricken
House: Serial Referral To Insurance Added
House: Serial Referral To State and Local Government Added
House: Serial Referral To Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House Added

H 124: ADOPT OFFICIAL STATE COOKIE.

House: Reptd Fav
House: Re-ref Com On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 125: ADOPT OFFICIAL STATE STAR.

House: Reptd Fav
House: Re-ref Com On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 134: PROHIBIT MISBRANDING OF CERTAIN FOOD PRODUCTS.

House: Reptd Fav Com Substitute
House: Re-ref Com On Agriculture and Environment

H 156: INCREASE ACCESS FOR SMALL EMPLOYERS/INSURANCE.

House: Serial Referral To Judiciary 1 Stricken

H 186: THE STARS AND STRIPES COMMITMENT ACT.

House: Reptd Fav
House: Re-ref Com On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 188: AUTOMATIC RENEWAL OF CONTRACTS.

House: Reptd Fav Com Substitute
House: Re-ref Com On State and Local Government

H 198: AMEND LAW ON NOTICE OF ABC VIOLATION.

House: Reptd Fav

House: Re-ref Com On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 231: SOCIAL WORK INTERSTATE LICENSURE COMPACT.

House: Reptd Fav Com Substitute

House: Re-ref Com On Finance

H 242: ADD PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS TO MEDICAID HASP.

House: Reptd Fav

House: Re-ref Com On Finance

H 244: DEPOLITICIZE GOVERNMENT PROPERTY ACT.

House: Reptd Fav Com Substitute

House: Re-ref Com On State and Local Government

H 328: BAN DELTA-8 & AMP DELTA-9 ON SCHOOL GROUNDS.

House: Withdrawn From Com

House: Re-ref to the Com on Health, if favorable, Education - K-12, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 329: TOBACCO AND HEMP ON NONPUBLIC SCHOOL GROUNDS.

House: Withdrawn From Com

House: Re-ref to the Com on Health, if favorable, Education - K-12, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 339: ECONOMIC SECURITY ACT.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 340: UNIVERSAL AIG SCREENING IN MIDDLE SCHOOLS.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 341: DISABLED VETERANS TAX RELIEF BILL.

House: Passed 1st Reading

House: Ref to the Com on Homeland Security and Military and Veterans Affairs, if favorable, Finance, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 342: GUILFORD COUNTY SCHOOLS FUNDING REQUESTS.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 343: ADVOCACY FOR LONG-TERM CARE RESIDENTS ACT.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 344: LITTER REDUCTION ACT OF 2025.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 345: RIGHTS OF NATURE/CERTAIN RIVER BASINS.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 346: CENTRAL CAROLINA CC MCC FUNDING.

House: Passed 1st Reading

House: Ref to the Com on Higher Education, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 347: CREDIT PROPERTY INSURANCE RESTRICTIONS.-AB

House: Passed 1st Reading

House: Ref to the Com on Insurance, if favorable, Finance, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 348: FARMERS' ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM.

House: Passed 1st Reading

House: Ref to the Com on Agriculture and Environment, if favorable, Finance, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 349: UPDATE REQS./ADVANCE HEALTH CARE DIRECTIVES.

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 350: REPORT LOST/STOLEN FIREARM WITHIN 24 HOURS.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 351: RECOVERY-FRIENDLY WORKPLACE PROGRAM/FUNDS.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 353: FAIR MINIMUM WAGE ACT.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 362: CLEAN SKIES GEOENGINEERING BAN.

House: Filed

H 363: REG. PUBLIC TRANS. AUTHORITY SERVICE AREA.

House: Filed

H 364: STIP GRANT ANTICIPATION NOTES.

House: Filed

H 365: WORKFORCE EDUCATION ACT.

House: Filed

H 366: REENACT & EXPAND PISTOL PURCHASE PERMIT.

House: Filed

H 367: PROVIDE RAPE KIT STATUS UPDATES TO VICTIMS.

House: Filed

H 368: CLARIFY LAW REGARDING CAR SEATS.

House: Filed

H 369: PARKING LOT REFORM AND MODERNIZATION ACT.

House: Filed

H 370: GSC UNIFORM ACTS REGARDING CHILDREN.

House: Filed

H 371: DMV MATERIALS IN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGES.

House: Filed

H 372: HOME-BASED BUSINESS FAIRNESS ACT.

House: Filed

H 373: UNC TUITION DISCOUNTS FOR CERTAIN STUDENTS.

House: Filed

H 374: NCARCOG FUNDING/OPERATIONS IMPROVEMENTS.

House: Filed

H 375: AI/BAN DECEPTIVE ADS.

House: Filed

H 376: VARIOUS ON-SITE WASTEWATER & WELL PROVISIONS.

House: Filed

H 377: CHANGES TO ESTATES AND TRUSTS STATUTES.

House: Filed

H 378: LEON'S LAW (DUAL ENROLLMENT INFO PARENTS).

House: Filed

H 379: APPLICATION FOR A CONVENTION OF THE STATES.

House: Filed

S 58: AG/RESTRICT CHALLENGE TO PRESIDENTIAL EOS.

Senate: Amend Adopted A2

Senate: Amend Failed A1

Senate: Passed 3rd Reading

Senate: Engrossed

S 59: REVISE VOLUNTARY AG. DISTRICT LAWS.

Senate: Reptd Fav

S 77: SCHOOL CONTRACTED HEALTH SERVICES.

Senate: Passed 2nd Reading

Senate: Passed 3rd Reading

S 190: PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT LICENSURE COMPACT.

Senate: Withdrawn From Com

Senate: Re-ref to Health Care. If fav, re-ref to Finance. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate

S 205: CLARIFY SWIMMING POOL LAWS/PRIV. POOL RENTALS.

Senate: Withdrawn From Com

Senate: Re-ref to Regulatory Reform. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate

S 223: EXPAND ACADEMIC TRANS. PATHWAYS/SOPHOMORE HS.

Senate: Reptd Fav

S 225: EDDIE BUFFALOE/SECRETARY OF DPS.

Senate: Reptd Fav

Senate: Re-ref Com On Select Committee on Nominations

S 227: ELIMINATING "DEI" IN PUBLIC EDUCATION.

Senate: Amend Adopted A2
Senate: Amend Failed A1
Senate: Amend Adopted A3
Senate: Passed 2nd Reading
Senate: Passed 3rd Reading
Senate: Engrossed

S 253: FUNDS FOR PITT-GREENVILLE AIRPORT.

Senate: Passed 1st Reading
Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
Senate: Withdrawn From Com
Senate: Re-ref Com On Appropriations/Base Budget

S 254: ESTABLISH OFFENSE FOR POSS. OF EXPLOSIVE.

Senate: Passed 1st Reading
Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate

S 255: GREENVILLE BULKHEAD APPROPRIATION.

Senate: Passed 1st Reading
Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
Senate: Withdrawn From Com
Senate: Re-ref Com On Appropriations/Base Budget

S 256: FUNERAL BOARD TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENTS/INS.

Senate: Passed 1st Reading
Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate

S 257: 2025 APPROPRIATIONS ACT.

Senate: Passed 1st Reading
Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
Senate: Withdrawn From Com
Senate: Re-ref Com On Appropriations/Base Budget

S 258: 2025 APPROPRIATIONS ACT.

Senate: Passed 1st Reading
Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
Senate: Withdrawn From Com
Senate: Re-ref Com On Appropriations/Base Budget

S 259: SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST OMNIBUS.

Senate: Passed 1st Reading
Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
Senate: Withdrawn From Com
Senate: Re-ref Com On Appropriations/Base Budget

S 260: CONFIRM DR. DEVDUTTA SANGVAI/DHHS.

Senate: Passed 1st Reading
Senate: Ref to Health Care. If fav, re-ref to Select Committee on Nominations

S 261: ENERGY SECURITY AND AFFORDABILITY ACT.

Senate: Passed 1st Reading
Senate: Ref to Agriculture, Energy, and Environment. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate
Senate: Reptd Fav
Senate: Re-ref Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate

S 262: RESCIND OLD CALLS/CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

Senate: Passed 1st Reading

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

S 263: 2025 APPROPRIATIONS ACT.

Senate: Passed 1st Reading

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

Senate: Withdrawn From Com

Senate: Re-ref Com On Appropriations/Base Budget

S 264: FLAGS AT EVERY SCHOOL.

Senate: Filed

S 265: PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITY ACT.

Senate: Filed

S 266: HISTORIC FLOOD EVENT BLDG. CODE EXEMPTION.

Senate: Filed

S 267: AMEND BUSINESS CORPORATIONS ACT.

Senate: Filed

LOCAL BILLS

H 105: GASTON CO. BD. OF ED. ELECT. PARTISAN.

House: Passed 2nd Reading

House: Passed 3rd Reading

H 116: COLUMBUS CO. BD. OF ED. PARTISAN. (NEW)

House: Passed 2nd Reading

House: Passed 3rd Reading

H 136: TOWN OF FAITH/FOUR-YEAR TERMS.

House: Passed 2nd Reading

House: Passed 3rd Reading

H 173: WAKE COUNTY ETJ.

House: Reptd Fav

House: Re-ref Com On Judiciary 1

H 185: TRANSYLVANIA RURAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY.

House: Reptd Fav Com Substitute

House: Re-ref Com On State and Local Government

H 223: TOWN OF MOORESVILLE/PROPERTY CONVEYANCE.

House: Reptd Fav

House: Re-ref Com On Housing and Development

H 352: HOLLY SPRINGS/FUQUAY-VARINA EXEMPT CONTRACTS.

House: Passed 1st Reading

House: Ref to the Com on Housing and Development, if favorable, State and Local Government, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

S 127: LOWER TAXES FOR SCOTLAND COUNTY.

Senate: Withdrawn From Com

Senate: Re-ref to Finance. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate

S 149: HENDERSON COUNTY/BLUE RIDGE CC CONSTRUCTION.

Senate: Reptd Fav

S 174: RUTHERFORD CTY/ISOTHERMAL CC CONSTRUCTION.

Senate: Reptd Fav

S 203: CITY OF WILMINGTON/PROPERTY CONVEYANCES.

Senate: Reptd Fav

Senate: Re-ref Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate

S 214: TOWN OF FOUR OAKS/DEANNEXATIONS.

Senate: Reptd Fav

Senate: Re-ref Com On Finance

S 219: STALLINGS/MARVIN SATELLITE ANNEXATIONS. (NEW)

Senate: Reptd Fav Com Substitute

Senate: Com Substitute Adopted

Senate: Re-ref Com On Finance

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