

The Daily Bulletin: 2025-04-03

PUBLIC/HOUSE BILLS

H 297 (2025-2026) **BREAST CANCER PREVENTION IMAGING PARITY**. Filed Mar 5 2025, *AN ACT TO PROVIDE HEALTH COVERAGE PARITY FOR SUPPLEMENTAL AND DIAGNOSTIC BREAST IMAGING*.

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

Amends GS 58-3-271 (concerning health benefit plan coverage for diagnostic, screening, and supplemental exams for breast and cervical cancer) to do the following. Amends the coverage requirements for low-dose screen mammography so that it applies to women (was individuals). Changes the coverage for cervical cancer screening so that it either has to comply with the most recent guidelines of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (was, American Cancer Society) or guidelines adopted by the NC Advisory Committee on Cancer Coordination and Control. Amends the definition of supplemental examination for breast cancer to specify that it may include breast MRI or ultrasound to screen for cancer when there is no abnormality seen or suspected and the patient meets the specified criteria.

Intro. by Belk, Carney, White, Lambeth.

GS 58, GS 90, GS 135

[View summary](#)

Government, State Government, State Personnel, Health and Human Services, Health, Health Care Facilities and Providers, Health Insurance

H 357 (2025-2026) **CONTINUING CARE RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES ACT.-AB** Filed Mar 10 2025, *AN ACT TO ENACT THE CONTINUING CARE RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES ACT, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE*.

House committee substitute to the 1st edition makes the following changes. Amends GS 58-64A-370, the twelve-member Continuing Care Advisory Committee so that six members are appointed by the Commissioner, three are appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and three appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives (was, all members appointed by the Commissioner, with two members consisting of, and nominated by, the North Carolina Continuing Care Residents Association and two representatives consisting of, and nominated by, LeadingAge North Carolina). Makes conforming changes.

Intro. by Humphrey.

GS 58

[View summary](#)

Business and Commerce, Insurance, Occupational Licensing, Courts/Judiciary, Civil, Civil Law, Criminal Justice, Criminal Law and Procedure, Government, State Agencies, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Insurance, Health and Human Services, Health, Health Care Facilities and Providers, Social Services, Adult Services

H 576 (2025-2026) **DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES REVISIONS.-AB** Filed Mar 31 2025, *AN ACT MAKING TECHNICAL, CONFORMING, AND OTHER MODIFICATIONS TO LAWS PERTAINING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES*.

Section 1.

Designates the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) as the agency tasked under GS 130A-4.3 to ensure that school nurses funded with State funds comply with the tasks outlined in the statute (currently Division of Public Health oversees those obligations under GS 130A-4.3).

Section 2.

Extends DHHS's end-date for using the federally facilitated healthcare marketplace to make Medicaid decisions from June 30, 2025, to June 30, 2028, set forth in Section 1.8 of SL 2023-7, as amended. Makes technical correction to statutory citation.

Changes the eligibility date for reinstatement for eligibility for Medicaid benefits for inmates and other persons who are released from carceral settings under GS 108D-40 to the first day of the month following the twelfth month after their release (currently, earlier of their initial Medicaid eligibility certification post release or 365 days). Effective when the act becomes law and applies to (1) inmates released on or after that date and (2) inmates released on or after January 1, 2025, who are not enrolled with a prepaid health plan (PHP) on the date the act becomes law.

Amends GS 108C-3 relating to Medicaid provider screening. Effective retroactively to January 1, 2023, specifies that nursing facilities categorized as "limited" risk do not include skilled nursing facilities, whereas prospective (newly enrolling) skilled nursing facilities and those undergoing a change in ownership are designated as "high" risk, and revalidating skilled nursing facilities are "moderate" risk unless the facility meets the description for "high" risk designation.

Further amends GS 108C-3 as follows. Moves portable X-ray suppliers from "low" categorical risk to "moderate". Designates prospective (newly enrolling) hospice organizations and those undergoing a change in ownership as "high" risk. Designates as "high" categorical risk the following revalidating providers that are revalidating for the first time since newly enrolling and for which fingerprinting requirements as a newly enrolling provider were waived due to a national, State, or local emergency: opioid treatment programs that have not been fully and continuously certified by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration since October 23, 2018; agencies providing durable medical equipment; adult care homes delivering Medicaid-reimbursed services; agencies providing private-duty, home health, personal care services, in-home care services, or home infusion; skilled nursing facilities; and hospice organizations. Designates other revalidating hospice organizations which do not meet the description for those designated "high" risk as "moderate". Makes conforming changes. Effective retroactively to January 1, 2024.

Amends GS 108A-57 relating to the State's subrogation rights to medical beneficiary Medicaid claims. Adds new language authorizing DHHS to designate one or more PHPs to receive all or a portion of payments due under the statute to DHHS for a Medicaid claim by sending a notice of designation to the beneficiary who has the claim against the third party and any PHP designated in the notice. Defines "designated PHP" as used in the statute to refer to a PHP designated in this notice. Adds that if a PHP made payments on behalf of a Medicaid beneficiary that are in the Medicaid claim, that the beneficiary's application to a court to dispute the presumptions established by subsection (a1) of the statute must be served on that PHP within the same time frame as service required on DHHS by current law. Includes non-payment and payment to a designated PHP, as an alternative to DHHS, within the required determinations of a court regarding a beneficiary who disputes the statute's presumption. Requires notification of any designated PHP of the receipt of proceeds of a settlement or judgment related to a Medicaid claim by the beneficiary, and includes designated PHPs as an alternative to DHHS for specified distribution of the proceeds. Applies to Medicaid claims brought by medical assistance beneficiaries against third parties on or after the date the act becomes law.

Section 3.

Lowers the limit on the number of persons under the supervision of the US Veterans Administration that a facility must care for to qualify for an exemption from licensure as an adult care home under GS 131D-2.3 from no more than four to no more than three people.

Increases the criminal consequences for failure to register as a multiunit assisted housing under GS 131D-2.5 from a Class 3 misdemeanor to Class H felony. Raises the fine from \$50 for the first offense and not more than \$500 for each subsequent offense to \$1,000 per day the facility operates in violation of Article 1 of GS Chapter 131D. Authorizes DHHS and county departments of social services, in actions taken under GS 131D-2.6, to inspect (1) a residence or facility that DHHS believes is operating without an appropriate license or registration or (2) a registered multiunit assisted housing with services facility to determine if it is operating as a licensable adult care home facility without a license. Increases the criminal consequences and raises the fines for operating an assisted living facility in the same way as the act does for failure to register as a multiunit housing. Effective December 1, 2025, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.

Adds Division of Health Service Regulation (DHSR) as defined term to the GS 131E-76 (definitions provision of the Hospital Licensure Act). Changes the hospital reporting duties under GS 131E-88.2 so that each hospital must provide the requested data for the prior fiscal year ending September 30 to DHSR by February 28 annually (currently, DHSR collects the specified data for the prior calendar year by October 1). Changes the due date for DHHS's report to the specified NCGA committee from December 1 to May 1. Makes a technical change.

Repeals the NC New Organizational Vision Award Special Licensure Designations, Part 6 to Article 6, GS Chapter 131E.

Changes the entity tasked with approving individuals to administer epinephrine under GS 143-509 from the NC Medical Care Commission to the Office of Emergency Medical Services.

Section 4.

Increases the membership of local teams that are part of the NC Child Fatality Prevention System (System) in GS 7B-1407, so that they include a staff member of the county department of social services or of the consolidated human services agency, appointed by the county department of social services or the consolidated human services agency. Authorizes the director of the local department of health to designate a member of senior management to serve on the local team. Removes the limit on the number of additional individuals that the chair of a local team may invite to join the team. Substitutes references to the "Commission for Public Health" with "DHHS" in GS 15A-534.2 and GS 20-138.7; makes technical changes. Replaces the member of the Advisory Committee on Cancer Coordination and Control (Advisory Committee) who represented the Cancer Committee of the NC Medical Society with member who represents the NC Medical Society in GS 130A-33.50. Makes technical changes. Requires DHHS to consult with the Advisory Committee instead of the Cancer Committee of the NC Medical Society in implementing Part 1 to Article 7 of GS Chapter 130A, concerning cancer. Removes references to copies of birth and death certificates in GS 130A-97, instead tasks local registrars with using the registration method prescribed by the State Registrar. Makes technical changes.

Removes required script that is issued with mammogram results in GS 130A-215.5, and instead requires the health care facility performing the exam to provide each patient with a summary of the mammography report in language understandable by a layperson that includes an assessment of the patient's breast density consistent with FDA guidelines. Requires additional information, as specified, if the facility determines that a patient has heterogeneously or extremely dense breasts. Makes technical changes. Extends the sunset date on the program authorizing a person to elect to contribute all or part of their tax refund to be used for early detection of breast and cervical cancer at DHHS's Cancer Prevention and Control Branch from January 1, 2026, to January 1, 2030.

Section 5.

Enacts GS 108A-106.1 and GS 108A-106.2 as part of the Protection of the Abused, Neglected, or Exploited Disabled Adult Act, as follows. Grants a magistrate emergency authority to accept a petition for an order authorizing the provision of emergency services to a disabled adult with the clerk's office is closed. Allows the chief district court judge to authorize one or more magistrates to hear ex parte motions for the provision of emergency services to disabled adults when the district court is not in session and there is no judge available to hear such motions. Makes the orders effective when they are reduced to writing and signed by a district court judge or magistrate. Prevents a child care institution from employing an applicant on a conditional basis prior to the results of a criminal history check (currently, child care facility can employ a person conditionally so long as the individual has consented to a criminal history check and the request is submitted within the described time period).

Modifies the background check provisions of GS 48-3-309 (adoptive parents) and GS 131D-10.3A (foster parents and prospective foster parents) to allow DHHS to provide the prospective adoptive parent/foster parent/prospective foster parent or any other individual required to submit to a criminal history record check a copy of that applicant's criminal history information for the purpose of reviewing or challenging the accuracy of the criminal history (currently, no such review right exists). Requires public child placing agencies, including supervising county departments of social services, to have an employee on staff that is trained and certified to receive criminal history record information to the extent required by federal policy, law, and standards. Allows prospective foster parents who disagree with DHHS's decision under GS 131D-10.3A to request a hearing under the APA's contested case provisions.

Section 6.

Enacts GS 122C-256 authorizing DHHS or a Local Management Entity/Managed Care Organization (LME/MCO) to contract for three or more community-based capacity restoration programs (CBCRPs), and up to three Detention Center Capacity Restoration Programs (DCCRP). Allows CBCRPs and DCCRPs to be county- or regionally-based and provides specified requirements for regionally-based programs. Allows DHHS to consult with one or more LME/MCOs for contracting purposes. Authorizes a court to order capacity restoration to be completed at either program as an alternative to a State-operated psychiatric hospital for individuals recommended for participation in either program by a forensic evaluator.

Intro. by Potts.

GS 7B, GS 15A, GS 20, GS 48, GS 108A, GS 108C, GS 108D,
GS 122C, GS 130A, GS 131D, GS 143

[View summary](#)

Government, State Agencies, Department of Health and Human Services, Health and Human Services, Health, Health Care Facilities and Providers, Health Insurance, Public Health, Social Services, Public Assistance

H 580 (2025-2026) [SBOE LEGISLATIVE CHANGES.-AB](#) Filed Mar 31 2025, *AN ACT TO MAKE VARIOUS ELECTIONS LAW CHANGES, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS.*

Part I.

Amends GS 163-228 to make confidential any information the State Board of Elections (State Board) or county board possess that would disclose that an identifiable voter has requested an absentee ballot, to become a public record upon the opening of the voting place, unless otherwise protected from disclosure by law.

Amends GS 163-233 to require the county board of elections (county board) to also create a list of applications made for absentee ballots received and approved (was, received) by the county board; the list is a public record.

Part II.

Amends GS 163-182.2, as amended, by amending the process for counting ballots cast on election day as follows. Now requires that counting of ballots cast during early voting begin at 5:00 pm on election day: however, allows counting to begin between the hours of 9:00 am and 5:00 pm on election day if a resolution has been adopted at least two days before the election stating the hour and place of counting the ballots. Requires such a resolution to be posted on the county board's website and distributed to all persons required to receive notice under GS 143-318.12(b)(2) (notice of public meetings except emergency meetings). Prohibits the county board from announcing the result of the count before 7:30 pm on election day. No longer specifies the time of day for counting provisional official ballots. Allows counties to review provisional ballots cast during early voting for approval and take steps to prepare for the count before election day with the same procedures used for absentee ballots, as long as those steps do not reveal election results to any person not engaged in the actual count before 7:30 pm on election day. Adds that when a person has voted on a provisional official ballot after completing an affidavit because of failure to have adequate photo identification and the county board has not found the affidavit to be valid by the required time for counting provisional ballots because the board believes the affidavit is false, then the board must determine whether to count the provisional official ballot by the county canvas.

Amends GS 163-230.1, as amended, to consider an absentee ballot return envelope with a curable deficient that is transmitted to the county board, if cure documentation is received by 12:00 pm on the fourth (was, third) business day after the election. Amends the time period during which the county board must hold public meetings to act on absentee ballot applications so that it is the fifth Tuesday before an election through election day (previously no end date was specified) in any election in which absentee ballots are authorized, with meetings held each Tuesday. Amends the notice that the county board must give if it changes the time of the meeting or adds additional meetings, so that now the notice must be posted on the county board's website and distributed to all persons required to receive notice under GS 143-318.12(b)(2) at least two day before the meeting (was, must be published in a newspaper circulated in the county at least 30 days before the election).

Amends GS 163-234, as amended, to prohibit the county board from adjourning its meeting to county absentee ballots until the count is complete. Allows the absentee ballot counting to begin between 9 am and 5 pm upon the adoption of a resolution at least two days before the election in which the hour and place of counting must be stated. Requires such a resolution to be

posted on the county board's website and distributed to all persons required to receive notice under GS 143-318.12(b)(2) (was, replaces requirements for publication in a newspaper or on a radio or tv station for specified periods of time). Requires that the county board also count absentee ballots that have cured deficiencies during its meeting to count absentee ballots that happens after the election and before canvass; makes conforming changes.

Part III.

Amends GS 163-41 concerning the appointment of precinct judges and chief, to provide that the appointment of a person who is a nonresident of the precinct ends if the county board appoints a qualified resident regardless of party affiliation if the nonresident was unaffiliated, to replace the nonresident judge/chief judge. Adds that no more than one judge in each precinct can be appointed upon the recommendation of the same political party that recommended the chief judge. Makes changes to the process for recommending people for appointment as chief judge or judge so that the chair of each of the two political parties in the county having the greatest number of registered voters in the State recommend four registered voters who meet the specified qualifications. Changes the voting threshold for the process under which the party chairs' recommendations are insufficient and the county board must name judges, to require a bipartisan majority vote (was, unanimous vote). Also amends the process for filling vacancies in the chief judge or judge positions. Makes additional clarifying and technical changes.

Amends GS 163-42 as follows. Removes the prohibition on appointing no more than two assistants in precincts with 500 or less registered voters. Amends the process for recommending precinct assistants so that the chair of each of the two parties in the county having the greatest number of registered voters in the State can recommend up to 10. Changes the voting threshold for the process under which the party chairs' recommendations are insufficient and the county board must name assistants, and for the appointment of emergency election-day assistants, to require a bipartisan majority vote (was, unanimous vote). Removes the prohibition on appointing nonresidents of the precinct to a majority of the precinct assistant positions in a precinct. Removes the provision requiring the State Board to determine for each election how many emergency election day assistants each county can have. Changes the requirements for the party apportionment of emergency election day assistants.

Part IV.

Amends GS 163-16 concerning the acceptable forms of photo identification when voting to require various forms of identification, no longer requiring them to be identification cards. Makes conforming changes to GS 163-166.17 (use of UNC and community college identifications) and GS 163-166.18 (use of employee identifications).

Part V.

Amends GS 163-55 by adding that a voter is not subject to challenge if the voter was qualified to cast the ballot at the time it was received by the county board; provided, however, that a voter who casts a ballot in a general election before turning 18 but who will be as of the date of the general election must not be disqualified on account of age.

Part VI.

Enacts new GS 163-90.4 requiring the State Board, after each election, to conduct a statewide audit to identify absentee ballots and ballots cast during early voting that are ineligible to be counted and give the results to the county boards by 5:00 pm on the fourth business day before canvass. Requires the county boards to review the audit, analyze their voter records, and serve a challenge by 5:00 pm on the third business day before the canvas on any voter that the county board has determined has cast an ineligible ballot.

Part VII.

Amends GS 163-22 by amending the conditions under which a resolution can authorize the State Board to reduce the time by which absentee ballots must be printed and distributed from the election from 50 days to 45 days, only if unforeseen circumstances make compliance with the 50 days impracticable (was, limited to primary elections and with certain allowances for the general election and didn't require unforeseen circumstances).

Amends GS 163-113 by adding that in an election of presidential electors, if a candidate is nominated by a political party, only the political party making the nomination can withdraw the nomination, and the political party executive committee must certify that withdrawal in writing to the State Board before the first day on which military and overseas absentee ballots are transmitted to voters.

Amends GS 163-114 by amending the process for filling a vacancy in the nomination of a candidate for one of the listed offices when the candidate dies, resigns, or becomes ineligible, by removing provisions that apply when nomination is made after ballots have been printed, and provision that applies when vacancies occur due to a cause other than death and is more than 120 days before the general election.

Enacts new GS 163-115.5 requiring the board with jurisdiction over a ballot item under GS 163-182.4 (setting our jurisdictions of county boards and the State Board) to remove a candidate from the general election ballot if the board receives notification no later than 20 days before absentee ballots are authorized to be distributed for the general election, that the candidate has died, withdrawn, or for any reason has become ineligible or disqualified. Allows (except as provided in GS 163-113) either the candidate or the relevant executive committee of the candidate's political party, if the candidate is a nominee of the party, to provide the required notice. Allows the nominee's name to be replaced on the ballot only if the replacement has been certified to the board by 20 days before absentee ballots are authorized for distribution for the election. Specifies existing provision that apply if the withdrawal, disqualification, or replacement occurs later than 20 days before absentee ballots are authorized for distribution for the general election. Requires when a vacancy in office occurs and that vacancy requires an election to fill the unexpired term without a candidate filing period, any nominees authorized for the election to be certified to the board of elections with jurisdiction over a ballot item under no later than eight days before absentee ballots are authorized for distribution for the election. Excludes from this statute GS 103-5(a) (allowing when the day or the last day for doing any act required or permitted by law to be performed in a public office or courthouse falls on weekend or holiday when the public office or courthouse is closed, the act may be performed on the next day that the public office or courthouse is open). Amends GS 163-115 the provisions related to obtaining nominations when the vacancy is for clerk of superior court, an elective State or district office other than US House, county board of commissioners, or US Senator to require that those nominations be subject to the deadlines in new GS 163-115.5. Also makes conforming changes to GS 163-122, GS 163-165.3, and GS 163-294.1.

Amends GS 163-227.10 to require absentee ballots be provided 50 days before the date on which any election is conducted (was, applicable only to elections other than the statewide general election, which required ballots to be provided 60 days before election). Requires for second primaries that the county board provide absentee ballots no later than 45 days before the second primary.

Amends GS 163-229 to require the county board to print absentee ballot envelopes no later than 50 days before an election (was, 60 days before a general election and 50 days before a statewide primary). Makes conforming changes to provision of the instruction sheets.

Amends GS 163-230.1, as amended, by changing the timing for mailing applications and absentee ballots to no earlier than 50 days before an election.

Amends GS 163-258.9 to require the county board to transmit a ballot to voters who submit a military-overseas ballot application by 50 days before any election, unless 45 days is allowed by the State Board or there is an appeal that has not been conclude, in which case the county board must provide the ballots as quickly as possible upon the conclusion of that appeal. Requires for a second primary (was, only a second primary that includes a candidate for federal office) that the county board transmit a ballot by no later than 45 days before the second primary.

Part VIII.

Amends GS 163-209 to require that that the names of the electors of President and Vice-President be filed with the Secretary of State no later than 60 days before the general election. Requires the names of the candidates for President and Vice-President nominated by a recognized political party or who has qualified as an unaffiliated candidate to be filed with the State Board by 60 days before the general election, and for those names to be printed on the ballot.

Part IX.

Amends GS 163-278.10A by increasing the threshold for exempting certain candidates from financial reporting from contribution of \$1,000 or less, to \$3,000 or less, also expands upon those candidates to include district court judges and superior court judges. Makes conforming changes.

Part X.

Amends GS 163-278.12 to require filing a statement of independent expenditure for those in excess of \$1,000, (was, \$100).

Part XI.

Amends GS 163-221 to a prohibition on compensating a person based on the number of signatures collected on a petition calling for any election or referendum. Amends GS 163-274 to make it a Class 2 misdemeanor to compensate a person based on the number of signatures obtained on such a petition.

Part XII.

Amends GS 163-96, defining political party to require a petition for the formulation of a new political party to be submitted to the State Board by noon on the first day of May (was, June). Specifies that the petition for the creation of a new party must be on a form that is prescribed by the State Board. Requires the petitions to be submitted to the chair of the county board where the signatures were obtained by the specified time on the 30th day (was, 15th day) preceding the date the petitions must be filed with the State Board; requires verification to be completed within four weeks instead of two.

Amends GS 163-122 (concerning unaffiliated candidates nominated by petition) as follows. Modifies the deadline for filing written petitions for statewide candidacy, district offices under the jurisdiction of the State Board, General Assembly seats in which the district lies in more than one county, and offices for superior court judge or district court judge from noon on the date of the primary election to 5:00 pm on the twentieth business day after canvass of the primary. Requires the State Board to determine the sufficiency of such petitions and to immediately communicate that decision to the petitioning candidate. For all other candidates other than offices for superior court judge or district court judge requires petitions for statewide candidacy to be presented to the chair of the County Board by noon on the day of the primary election. Specifies that those petitions only contain the names of registered voters in that county. Requires the chair to complete the verification and return it to the person from the State Board who presented it for checking by no later than 15 days after the canvass of the primary. Removes option for verification through Executive Director of the State Board. Changes the deadline for filing petitions of candidacy for partisan municipal office to noon on the day of the primary (was, timeframe set under GS 163-296). Requires the County Board to verify the filed petition within 15 days of the primary (was, the canvass). Makes conforming changes. Removes candidate filing deadline for unaffiliated candidates in cities conducting partisan elections set forth in GS 163-296 (nominations by petition) so that such filing deadlines are instead governed by GS 163-122.

Part XIII.

Requires notices of assessment to contain information about filing good cause waivers of the civil penalties for late filing imposed by GS 163-278.34, to be requested within the time specified. Provides for notice if the State Board does not find good cause. Requires notices of assessment of civil penalties for illegal contributions and expenditures to contain information about contesting the assessment within the specified timeframe. Makes technical changes.

Part XIV.

Changes the election dates for the following primaries, elections, or runoff elections, for offices filled by election of the people in cities, towns, incorporated villages, and special districts set forth in GS 163-279: (1) if the election is nonpartisan and the nonpartisan primary method of election is used, changes the nonpartisan primary date from the fourth Tuesday before the election to the second Tuesday after Labor Day and (2) if the election is nonpartisan and the election and runoff election method of election is used, changes the election date from the fourth Tuesday before the Tuesday after the first Monday in November to the second Tuesday after Labor Day.

Part XV.

Amends the provisions in GS 163-20, as amended by SL 2024-57, pertaining to meetings of the State Board to investigate alleged violations of GS Chapter 163, by now giving the State Board the discretion to hear such matters in the county (was, required to meet in that county) where the violations are alleged to have occurred and requires the prior request of any three members. Makes conforming changes.

Part XVI.

Provides a separate filing deadline in GS 163-89 of no later than two business days after the primary or election for challenges to absentee ballots in a municipal primary or election conducted under Article 24 of GS Chapter 163, where the canvass is to be held on the seventh day following the primary or election.

Part XVII.

Replaces references to “precinct” with “precinct, ward, or other election district,” in GS 163-55. Now specifies every person born in the United States, and every person who has been naturalized, and who shall have resided in the State of North Carolina and in the precinct, ward, or other election district in which the person offers to vote for 30 days next preceding an election, will, if otherwise qualified, be qualified to vote in any election held in this State (was, qualified to vote in the precinct in which the person resides). Specifies that if an election district encompasses more than one precinct, then for purposes of those offices to be elected from that election district, a person will also be deemed to be a resident in the election district which includes the precinct in which that person resides. Authorizes an election district to include a portion of a county, an entire county, a portion of the State, or the entire State. Directs that when a precinct has been divided among two or more election districts for purposes of elections to certain offices, then with respect to elections to those offices, a person is deemed to be a resident in only that election district which includes the area of the precinct in which that person resides.

Now also requires a county board to count an individual's provisional official ballot for all ballot items on which it determines that the individual was eligible under State or federal law to vote, as part of the conditions under which a person can cast a provisional ballot under GS 163-166.11. Amends GS 163-182.2(a)(4), as amended by Section 3A.4(e) of SL 2024-57, as follows. If the county board finds that an individual voting a provisional official ballot is not eligible to vote in one or more ballot items on the official ballot, the board cannot count the official ballot in those ballot items but must count the official ballot in any ballot items for which the individual is eligible to vote (was, except as provided in GS 163-82.15(e), if the county board finds that an individual voting a provisional official ballot (i) did not vote in the proper precinct (ii) is not registered in the county as provided or (iii) is otherwise not eligible to vote, required that the ballot not be counted, without any examination of individual ballot items). Makes technical and organizational changes.

Amends GS 163-59 to allow a person who will become qualified by age to register and vote in the general election for which the primary is held, even though not so qualified by the date of the primary to register and vote in the primary and general election on the day thereof pursuant to GS 163-82.6B (same-day registration). Clarifies that the registration deadlines for primaries or election in GS 163-82.6 apply except to the extent the same-day provisions under GS 163-82.6B apply. Authorizes preregistration to vote under GS 163-82.1 (general principals of voter registration) for a person who is at least 16 years of age but will not be 18 years of age by the date of the next election and who is otherwise qualified to register. Directs that the person will be automatically registered upon reaching the age of eligibility following verification of the person's qualifications and address in accordance with GS 163-82.7. Requires the State Board to develop a preregistration form in GS 163-82.3. Makes conforming changes to the contents of an application form in GS 163-82.4 to GS 163-82.19(a) (voter registration at drivers license offices), GS 163-82.20 (voter registration at other public agencies) and GS 163-82.23 (voter registration at high schools) to account for preregistration. Makes technical changes.

Part XVIII.

Expands the definition of a *covered voter* under the Uniform Military and Overseas Voter Act to include a voter who is registered to vote in this State and who has been deployed by the voter's employer away from the voter's county of residence to respond to a disaster declared by the Governor or the President of the United States within 60 days before an election.

Part XIX.

Applies to elections held on or after the act becomes law.

Intro. by Dahle, Baker, Buansi, Rubin.

GS 163

[View summary](#)

Government, Elections, State Agencies, State Board of Elections, Local Government

H 588 (2025-2026) [SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST OMNIBUS](#). Filed Mar 31 2025, *AN ACT TO ENACT PROVISIONS RELATED TO IMPROVING THE NUMBER AND QUALITY OF SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS IN NORTH CAROLINA*.

Part I.

Provides for salary supplements to school psychologists for the 2025-26 fiscal year to be provided in addition to any salary received under the teacher salary schedule, as follows: (1) \$650 per month and (2) for school psychologists who have a

National Certified School Psychologist Credential, 12% of their monthly salary. Appropriates \$8.1 million in recurring funds from the General Fund to the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) for 2025-26 for the compensation increase.

Part II.

Enacts GS 115C-316.6, the school psychologists grant program, to provide funds to public school units for signing bonuses to recruit school psychologists subject to the following conditions: (1) Superintendent must prioritize the award of funds to public school units without a full-time psychologist at the time the application is submitted; (2) no individual bonus can be greater than \$5,000; (3) the school psychologist must agree to remain employed in the public school unit for at least one year; and (4) grants must be used to supplement, not supplant, State or non-State funds already used for these services. Sets forth application requirements and instructs the Superintendent of Public Instruction to consult with the school psychologist recruitment and retention coordinator to develop criteria and guidelines for the administration of the grants. Allows DPI to use up to 5% of the funds for administrative costs. Requires DPI to provide sufficient funds for the salary of the school psychologist recruitment and retention coordinator. By no later than April 1, 2026, and annually thereafter in years where funds are awarded, requires the superintendent of DPI to report to the specified NCGA committee and division on the grant program. Appropriates \$5 million in recurring funds for 2025-26 from the General Fund to DPI for the grant program.

Part III.

Enacts GS 115C-316.7 requiring DPI to establish an internship program for school psychologists in public school units. Sets forth stipend and field supervisor compensation. Appropriates \$5 million in recurring funds from the General Fund to DPI for the internship program.

Part IV.

Appropriates \$5 million from the General Fund to the UNC Board of Governors for 2025-26 to be allocated to Appalachian State University (ASU) to host a virtual school psychology training program at the ASU campus in Hickory, North Carolina.

Part V.

Appropriates \$1.6 million in recurring funds from the General Fund to the UNC Board of Governors for the 2025-26 fiscal year to be allocated to five specified constituent institutions to support the school psychology programs at those institutions with the goal of doubling the number of school psychologists produced.

Part VI.

Adds new Article 17F, School Psychologist Interstate Licensure Compact (Compact), to GS Chapter 115, providing as follows. States that the purpose of the Compact is to facilitate the interstate practice of School Psychology in educational or school settings, and in so doing to improve the availability of School Psychological Services to the public and sets out seven items that the Compact does, including: (1) promote the mobility of School Psychologists between and among the Member States in order to address workforce shortages and to ensure that safe and reliable School Psychological Services are available in each Member State, (2) enhance the public accessibility of School Psychological Services by increasing the availability of qualified, licensed School Psychologists through the establishment of an efficient and streamlined pathway for Licensees to practice in other Member States, and (3) promote cooperation between the Member States in regulating the practice of School Psychology within those states. Defines terms as they are used in the Compact.

Requires states to do the following in order to be eligible to join the Compact, and to maintain eligibility as a Member State: (1) enact a Compact statute that is not materially different from the Model Compact as defined in the Commission's Rules; (2) participate in the sharing of information with other Member States as reasonably necessary to accomplish the objectives of this Compact, and as further statutorily defined; (3) identify and maintain with the Commission a list of Equivalent Licenses available to Licensees who hold a Home State License under this Compact; (4) have a mechanism in place for receiving and investigating complaints about Licensees; (5) notify the Commission, in compliance with the terms of the Compact and the Commission's Rules, of any Adverse Action taken against a Licensee, or of the availability of investigative information which relates to a Licensee or applicant for licensure; (6) require that applicants for a Home State License have met specified exam and educational requirements; and (7) comply with the terms of this Compact and the Rules of the Commission. Requires Member States to grant an Equivalent License to practice School Psychology in that state upon application by a Licensee who satisfies the specified criteria and require renewing the license of a Licensee who satisfies the specified. Allows Member States to set and collect a fee for granting an Equivalent License. Requires licensee, in order to obtain and maintain an Equivalent

License from a Remote State under this Compact, to: (1) hold and maintain an active Home State License; (2) satisfy any applicable State Specific Requirements established by the Member State after an Equivalent License is granted; (3) complete any administrative or application requirements which the Commission may establish by Rule and pay any associated fees; (4) complete any requirements for renewal in the Home State, including applicable Continuing Professional Education requirements; and (5) undergo criminal background check in the Member State in which the Equivalent License is sought.

Deems Licensees who are an Active Military Member or is their spouse to hold a Home State License in any of the following locations: (1) the Licensee's permanent residence, (2) a Member State that is the Licensee's primary state of practice, and (3) a Member State where the Licensee has relocated pursuant to a Permanent Change of Station (PCS).

Sets out provisions governing investigation and discipline of Licensees.

Creates a joint government agency made up of all Member States that have enacted the Compact, known as the School Psychologist Interstate Licensure Compact Commission (Commission). Sets out provisions governing Commission membership, voting, and meetings. Lists the Commission's 23 powers, including to establish and amend rules and bylaws, maintain and certify records and information provided to a Member State as the authenticated business records of the Commission and designate an agent to do so on the Commission's behalf, purchase and maintain insurance and bonds, conduct an annual financial review, assess and collect fees, establish a budget and make expenditures, and borrow money. Gives the seven-member Executive Committee the power to act on behalf of the Commission and sets out nine duties; sets out meeting requirements. Requires the Executive Commission to give the Member States an annual report. Sets out conditions under which the Commission or the Executive Committee or other committees of the Commission may convene in a closed, nonpublic meeting, as well as the requirements that must be met during such meetings. Sets out requirements for how the Commission is to be financed, including allowing the Commission to levy on and collect an annual assessment from each Member State and impose fees on Licensees practicing in the Member States under an Equivalent License to cover the cost of the operations and activities of the Commission and its staff. Sets out provisions governing qualified immunity, defense, and indemnification.

Requires the Commission to facilitate the exchange of information to administer and implement the provisions of this Compact. Requires a Member State to agree to provide for the facilitation of the specified Licensee information.

Sets out provisions governing the Commission's rule-making powers.

Sets out provisions governing oversight, dispute resolution, and enforcement of the Compact by the Member States, including provisions for curing defaults and for termination of membership.

States that the Compact comes into effect on the date on which the Compact statute is enacted into law in the seventh Member State. Sets out additional provisions governing the enactment of the Compact as well as the effect of withdrawing from the Compact. Sets out provisions for the construction of the Compact's provisions and a severability clause.

Amends GS 115C-12 by making the State Board of Education the State Licensing Authority or Licensing Authority for purposes of Article 17F and fulfilling any requirements, duties, or obligations of the State Licensing Authority or Licensing Authority pursuant to that Article.

Part VII.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Intro. by Lambeth, Ball, Paré, Baker.

[APPROP, GS 115C](#)

[View summary](#)

[Education, Elementary and Secondary Education, Higher Education, Government, State Agencies, UNC System, Department of Public Instruction, State Board of Education, Health and Human Services, Health, Health Care Facilities and Providers, Mental Health](#)

H 595 (2025-2026) **PARENTAL RIGHTS FOR CURRICULUM AND BOOKS**. Filed Mar 31 2025, *AN ACT TO PROVIDE CHANGES TO THE STANDARD COURSE OF STUDY IN HEALTH EDUCATION, ENSURE AGE-APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTION FOR STUDENTS, ESTABLISH A PROCESS FOR SELECTION OF LIBRARY BOOKS AND HEALTH AND SAFETY INSTRUCTIONAL AND SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS, REQUIRE INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL REPOSITORIES, AND RESTRICT ACCESS IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES FOR STUDENTS TO MATERIALS HARMFUL TO MINORS.*

Section 1.

Enacts GS 115C-81.16, preventing instruction on gender identity, sexual activity, or sexuality from being included in curriculum provided in kindergarten through sixth grade, whether the information is provided by school personnel or third parties. Prevents students in grades seven through twelve from participating in instruction on gender identity, sexual activity, or sexuality without the prior written consent of their parent or legal guardian. Requires public school units to adopt a policy and a mechanism to allow a parent or legal guardian to annually consent to such instruction. Enacts GS 115C-81.29, requiring each public school unit to provide a human growth and development program in grades four and five, which cannot include information on gender identity, sexual activity, or sexuality. Confines the topics presented at grade four to a summary of the biological changes during puberty with a recognition that puberty is experienced at different ages, depending on the individual. In fifth grade, outlines five topics that must be covered in single-sex groups, including illustrating how societal influences can impact reproductive health behavioral choices and consequences. Requires parental consent for students to participate.

Makes conforming changes to GS 115C-81.25 (concerning health education requirements). Now tasks public school units with administering reproductive health and safety education programs from seventh grade onward (was, local school administrative units) in GS 115C-81.30. Requires annual parental consent for student participation (currently, parents can withdraw consent). Prevents local boards of education from expanding on the subject areas listed in GS 115C-81.25. Makes conforming changes, including to the statute's title.

Requires the State Board of Education (Board), in adopting new or revised K-12 Healthful Living standards to include the requirements of GS 115C-98.1 as enacted by the act and not add any additional standards for the human growth and development program in grades four and five or for the reproductive health and safety education program commencing in seventh grade.

Applies beginning with the 2025-2026 school year.

Section 2.

Defines *health and safety program* and makes organizational changes to GS 115C-85 (textbook needs). Enacts GS 115C-98.1, requiring a governing body of a public school unit to hold a public hearing upon notice, as described, when adopting, modifying, or amending a health and safety program and the instructional and supplemental materials for that program. Enacts GS 115C-98.2 requiring governing bodies of public school units to establish criteria for selection of library books (defined), including a recommendation review process, and select and procure library books based on recommendations from the superintendent in line with the following criteria:

- Supports and enriches students' personal learning and the standard course of study for grades and courses offered at that school.
- Meets high standards in literary, artistic, and aesthetic quality, as well as technical aspects and physical format.
- Is appropriate for the subject area and for the age, intellectual development, and ability level of the students for whom the materials are selected and received access level designation.
- For nonfiction resources, incorporates accurate and authentic factual content from authoritative sources.
- Balances financial cost with need.
- Contain material appropriate for students and should reflect the age and grade levels of students enrolled in the school. Cannot contain material that are harmful to minors, as defined in GS 14-190.13 and must comply with the federal Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA), 47 U.S.C. § 254(h)(5), including technology protection measures.
- For fiction, narrative nonfiction, including memoirs and biographies, and graphic novels, in addition to the other requirements of this subsection, a determination that that library book is:
 - Integral to the instructional program.
 - Reflects the learning needs of the students and school personnel.
 - Is appropriate for the reading levels and understanding of students.
 - Is included because of the library book's literary or artistic value.
 - If narrative nonfiction, presents information with accuracy and clarity.

Specifies that selection of materials is an ongoing process that includes the removal of collections determined to no longer meet the criteria for selection and the periodic replacement or repair of materials still of educational value. Requires the governing body to establish a recommendation review process as described, that places library books recommended for selection readily available for parental review for a minimum of 30 days prior to consideration for selection by posting a list of the recommended books in a publicly accessible portion of the public school unit's website and by including a copy of all recommended library books in the instructional materials repository. Requires a process for submitting an objection to selection of the book, including a means for identifying with specificity the criteria that the recommended book fails to meet. Allows the governing body to delegate the authority for selection of library books to the superintendent as described. Requires the governing body to establish a community library advisory committee to investigate and evaluate challenges from parents, teachers, and members of the public to library books on the grounds that they do not conform to the criteria for selection of library books. Directs the Board to review its rules and policies concerning these challenges and establish guidelines to be followed by community library advisory committees. Requires, prior to any school conducting or partnering with a third party to conduct a student book fair, the principal of that school to designate appropriate school personnel to review all books that will be made available to students at the book fair to determine if the books meet the criteria established and meet the content access designation for the school. Requires the principal to ensure that no books be accepted by the school or made available to students in the student book fair that do not meet the established criteria and content access designation of that school.

Enacts GS 115C-102.1, requiring a governing body of a school to maintain a continuous repository of current instructional and supplemental materials that have been selected and acquired by the governing body of a public school unit for in-person review by parents and the public upon request, and the names of all those materials shall be posted to the local school administrative unit's website for review by parents and the public. Further requires the governing body to maintain a continuous program repository of current objectives, entire curricula, texts, and all other materials used in any health and safety program, as described. Provides for notice to parents of their right to review those materials, as described.

Changes the entity charged with providing for local operation of textbook programs and the selection of other instructional materials from local boards of education to governing bodies of public school units in GS 115C-98. Makes conforming changes, including to statute's title.

Applies beginning with the 2025-2026 school year.

Section 3.

Removes defense available to a school, church, museum, public library, governmental agency, medical clinic, or hospital carrying out its legitimate function; or an employee or agent of such an organization acting in that capacity and carrying out a legitimate duty of his employment for the criminal act of dissemination of harmful material to minors under GS 14-190.15. Applies to offenses committed on or after December 1, 2025.

Section 4.

Allows library user records to be disclosed to the parent of minor in GS 125-19 (confidentiality of library user records). Enacts Article 4, concerning access for minors to GS Chapter 125. Defines five terms, including *library book* and *harmful to minors*. Requires a library to ensure that any library books containing material harmful to minors held by the library are inaccessible to minors in both print, nonprint, and electronic form. Requires the library to place library books containing material harmful to minors in an age-restricted portion of the library that is accessible only to those 18 years of age and older. Prevents a library from lending books to a minor unless it has parental consent in writing, as described. Authorizes a parent to access their child's library records.

Effective July 1, 2025. For library cards issued to minors without written parental consent prior to the effective date, a library must either establish written consent from the parent prior to December 31, 2025, or revoke the library card of the minor after that date.

Intro. by Torbett, Blackwell.

GS 14, GS 115C, GS 125

[View summary](#)

Courts/Judiciary, Criminal Justice, Criminal Law and Procedure, Education, Preschool, Elementary and Secondary Education, Government, Local Government

H 615 (2025-2026) [ENROLLMENT STABILITY FOR MILITARY STUDENTS](#). Filed Mar 31 2025, *AN ACT TO PROVIDE MILITARY FAMILIES ADDITIONAL TIME TO PROVIDE PROOF OF RESIDENCY FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENT*.

Amends GS 115C-366(a9) which permits students who are children of active duty military to enroll in public schools by remote means prior to residency in the local school's area. Amends requirements for eligibility, including having active duty parents who are transferred to the state or who are about to separate from active duty within 12 months and intends to establish residency in the state. Requires documentation of fate of separation to support eligibility. Provides that the ability to attend remotely ceases after the later of (1) one year from the active reporting-for-duty or separation date, or (2) the end of the school year for which the student began attending remotely. Makes an exception to this timeline for students in grades 11 and 12, who are permitted to attend through high school graduation.

Effective and applicable to the 2025-2026 school year.

Intro. by Loftis, Potts, Lambeth, Willis.

[GS 115C](#)

[View summary](#)

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

H 616 (2025-2026) [SELECTSITE READINESS PROGRAM MODIFICATIONS](#). Filed Mar 31 2025, *AN ACT TO MODIFY THE SELECTSITE READINESS PROGRAM*.

Amends SL 2023-134, Section 11.12 concerning the Selectsite Readiness Program as follows.

Mandates that funds appropriated to the North Carolina Selectsite Fund (Fund) be used for purposes consistent with Section 11.12(a) (was, specified that this applied to funds transferred from unspent allocations to nonprofit corporations contracting with the Department of Commerce and for purposes consistent with subdivision (e)(1)). Removes language that pertained to limiting the use of a nonrecurring fund allocation for 2024-25.

States the grant program should identify and evaluate selectsites of less than 1,000 acres for preferred development and marketing (was, limited to identification and evaluation of up to 15 selectsites). Adds participation in the performance of engineering design and permitting to the list of support provided to local governments or a partnership of local governments, including supporting them to fund permitting as part of the on-site preparation process. Adds geotechnical investigations and evaluations, environmental permitting and studies related to road and highway infrastructure to serve sites to the list of support provided to local governments or a partnership of local governments in conducting due diligence.

Changes some funding requirements for a part of the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina (EDPNC) allocation in the Fund in the following ways: on a biennial basis, no more than \$150,000 (was, unspent funds transferred pursuant to subsection (a) of 11.12) to be used for engaging a national site selection firm through a competitive bid process to produce a biennial report (was, a report) identifying 10 new selectsites (was, 15) for preferred development and marketing, of which 5 (was, 7) must be less than 500 acres and of which an additional 3 (was, 2) must be less than 100 acres. Adds requirement that geographic diversity be a priority consideration in new site selection beginning with the report due in 2026. Changes were also made to some of the requirements for funds appropriated for local government grants for selectsites in the following ways: (1) requires EDPNC to prioritize local government grants with the greatest potential to reduce the time for site readiness and reduce the risk of unforeseen conditions that could affect the site viability for manufacturing projects (was, advanced manufacturing projects) and (2) adds Phase I environmental, Threatened & Endangered Species studies to the list of basic due diligence requirements for selectsites before monies can be granted.

Act applies to appropriations to, and unencumbered funds in, the North Carolina Selectsite Fund on or after the date the act becomes law.

Intro. by Johnson.

[UNCODIFIED](#)

H 617 (2025-2026) **SUPPORTING SMALL FARMERS FOR NC'S FUTURE ACT**. Filed Mar 31 2025, *AN ACT TO SUPPORT SMALL FARMERS IN NORTH CAROLINA BY PROVIDING GRANT FUNDING TO ENSURE THE FUTURE VIABILITY OF NORTH CAROLINA'S FAMILY FARMS AND BY LOWERING THE INCOME REQUIREMENT FOR QUALIFYING FARMERS FOR PURPOSES OF THE SALES TAX EXEMPTION FOR FARMERS.*

Section 1

Details NCGA findings and the act's purpose.

Section 2

Adds new article to Chapter 106, Article 61B, Small Farmers Support Grant Program (Program).

Enacts GS 106-748. Defines Commissioner as the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services; Department as the NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; eligible individual as a resident of the state who is at least 21 years old, a small farmer, and had an annual income of at least \$1,000 from farming operations in the preceding taxable year; eligible purpose as purchases of mechanized equipment for harvest and crop management, farm infrastructure that includes livestock fencing, and food processing equipment; and small farmer as a farmer with a gross cash farm income less than or equal to \$300,000 determined as the Department specifies.

Enacts GS 106-749 establishing the Program within the Department and the Small Farmer Growth Fund (Fund) as a special revenue fund. Requires the Fund to be used to provide grants to eligible individuals for essential inputs, equipment, and operational improvements. Details grant procedures and restrictions. Requires the Department to establish an advisory committee to monitor the Program's efficacy, Requires the Department to adopt rules to carry out the Article's provisions.

Section 3.(a)

Appropriates \$20 million in recurring funds for 2025-26 from the General Fund to the Department, to be allocated as follows: (1) \$12 million to the Program established in GS 106-749 for any eligible purpose of the Program; (2) \$3 million to the Program for grants for new or additional cold storage equipment for storage of fresh produce or meat; (3) \$4 million to provide a grant to the Carolina Farm Steward Association for the FarmsSHARE program; and (4) \$1 million to the Program to be used for bridge loans to enable eligible farmers to participate in the Environmental Quality Incentives Program under the Natural Resources Conservation Service of the US Department of Agriculture (NRCS EQIP). The program will loan money on terms that coincide with the NRCS EQIP grant contract and loans must be paid directly back to the Program.

Section 3.(b)

Permits Department to retain up to 1% of appropriated funds for administrative costs and establish two positions as detailed to support these initiatives.

Section 4

Amends the lower income threshold for sales tax exemption for farmers in GS 105-164.13E. Defines a qualifying farmer as a person who has either an annual income from farming operations for the preceding taxable year or an average annual income from farming operations for the three preceding taxable years of \$7,500 or more (was, \$10,000 or more for both). Makes conforming change to the conditional exemption documentation required in subsection (b).

Effective July 1, 2025. Section 4 of this act applies to exemption certifications issued on or after that date.

Intro. by Jeffers, Pittman, R. Pierce, Ager.

GS 105, GS 106

H 618 (2025-2026) [IVERMECTIN ACCESS ACT](#). Filed Mar 31 2025, *AN ACT DIRECTING THE STATE HEALTH DIRECTOR TO ISSUE A STATEWIDE STANDING ORDER TO ALLOW PHARMACISTS TO DISPENSE IVERMECTIN WITHOUT A PRESCRIPTION; AND PROVIDING IMMUNITY FROM CIVIL OR CRIMINAL LIABILITY FOR THE STATE HEALTH DIRECTOR AND ANY PHARMACIST WHO DISPENSES IVERMECTIN PURSUANT TO THE STATEWIDE STANDING ORDER.*

Adds new GS 130A-158.15 (Statewide standing order for the dispensing of ivermectin), which permits the State Health Director to issue a statewide standing order allowing pharmacists to dispense ivermectin without a prescription or consultation with a healthcare professional. Provides immunity from civil and criminal liability for actions taken as authorized under the statute.

Requires the State Health Director to issue the statewide order by October 1, 2025.

Intro. by Almond, Zenger, N. Jackson, Rhyne.

[GS 130A](#)

[View summary](#)

[Health and Human Services, Health, Health Care Facilities and Providers](#)

H 619 (2025-2026) [HEALTH CARE SECURITY ACT](#). Filed Mar 31 2025, *AN ACT TO ELIMINATE THE STATUTORY TRIGGER FOR DISCONTINUATION OF COVERAGE FOR THE MEDICAID EXPANSION POPULATION IF THE FEDERAL MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PERCENTAGE FALLS BELOW NINETY PERCENT.*

Repeals GS 108A-54.3C (NC Health Works federal financial participation), which requires discontinuation of the expanded Medicaid coverage under the NC Health Works program if federal medical assistance funding falls below 90%.

Intro. by Crawford, Pittman, Cohn, Jeffers.

[GS 108A](#)

[View summary](#)

[Health and Human Services, Health, Health Insurance, Social Services, Public Assistance](#)

H 622 (2025-2026) [LIMIT EXCESSIVE MAG SIZES](#). Filed Mar 31 2025, *AN ACT TO LIMIT THE SIZE OF AMMUNITION MAGAZINES.*

Adds new GS Chapter 14, Article 53D (Regulation of Large-Capacity Ammunition Magazines). Defines “large-capacity magazine” to include (1) a fixed or detachable magazine box, drum, feed strip, or similar device capable of accepting, or that is designed to be readily converted to accept, more than 10 rounds of ammunition, (2) a fixed or detachable magazine that is capable of accepting more than eight shotgun shells, and (3) a detachable magazine, tube, box, drum, feed strip, or similar device that is capable of accepting more than eight shotgun shells when combined with a fixed magazine. Excludes from the term: (1) a feeding device that has been permanently altered so that it cannot accommodate more than 10 rounds of ammunition, (2) an attached tubular device designed to accept and capable of operating only with .22 caliber rimfire ammunition, or (3) a tubular magazine that is contained in a lever-action firearm. Prohibits possessing, manufacturing, selling, purchasing, or transferring a large-capacity magazine, and makes the violation of this prohibition a Class 2 misdemeanor offense with subsequent offenses a Class 1 misdemeanor; violations committed during the commission of a felony are a Class 1 felony.

Provides exceptions to the prohibition for entities and employees manufacturing large-capacity magazines for federal, state, or local government entities, licensed firearms dealers selling out-of-state, and foreign governments approved for sales by the federal government. Also excepts persons carrying large-capacity magazines in the course of employment as a military or government employee. Allows persons who possess a large-capacity magazine to modify, surrender, or sell to a licensed firearm dealer for out-of-state use within 180 days of the effective date of the act.

Effective and applicable to offenses on or after December 1, 2025.

[View summary](#)

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

H 624 (2025-2026) [PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRICING](#). Filed Mar 31 2025, *AN ACT TO PROMOTE PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRICE TRANSPARENCY*.

Amends GS Chapter 90 by adding a new article, Article 4D, prescription Drug Transparency.

Enacts GS 90-85.55, defining eight terms, including generic drug, interested parties, manufacturer, prescriber, prescription drug, prescription order, Secretary (Department of Health and Human Services Secretary), and substantial price increase. Defines interested parties as state agencies that purchase prescription drugs or employ prescribers, health insurance companies, health care service plan providers, and pharmacy benefit managers. Defines manufacturer as entities or their agents that are involved in a host of listed ways with preparation of brand-name or generic drugs but does not include an entity engaged in preparation or dispensing these drugs pursuant to a prescription. Defines substantial price increase as any increase in price charged by a manufacturer for a prescription drug that would increase the cost of the drug by 10% or more over 12 months.

Enacts GS 90-85.56, requiring a manufacturer to notify all interested parties of upcoming substantial price increases at least 60 days before the increase and provides a list of disclosures manufacturers must provide to the interested parties within 30 days after notice is given. Requires a manufacturer to notify all interested parties of the price of any new prescription drug within three days after it receives approval by the US Food and Drug Administration and provides a list of disclosures manufacturers must provide to the interested parties within 30 days after notice is given. Requires a manufacturer or its agent to disclose to a prescriber if any ingredient in a prescription drug is known to pose a risk of dependency in humans if they are meeting or otherwise communicating with the prescriber to market the drug.

Enacts GS 90-85.57, requiring the Secretary to assess a civil penalty, with a maximum of \$1,000 per day, against a manufacturer that fails to report information required under GS 66-462(a) and (b). Remits proceeds from any penalties to the Civil Penalty and Forfeiture Fund.

Enacts GS 90-85.88, clarifying that nothing in this Article is a price limitation.

Enacts GS 90-85.59, requiring the Secretary to develop a data collection plan to collect manufacturer data related to cost and pricing of prescription drugs. Requires Secretary to submit an implementation plan regarding these requirements and any other findings to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services by February 1, 2026. Requires Secretary to implement an online portal granting public access to notifications, reports, and other disclosures required by this Article. Requires annual report by Secretary to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services beginning December 1, 2026, with the listed information about prescription drugs.

Effective October 1, 2025.

[View summary](#)

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

H 626 (2025-2026) [HOUSING CHOICE ACT](#). Filed Mar 31 2025, *AN ACT TO ENACT THE HOUSING CHOICE ACT*.

Creates new GS 160D-980 (Land-use regulation strategies), allowing municipalities to adopt certain policies for priority consideration of loans or grants under the Wastewater Reserve or the Drinking Water Reserve created under GS 159G-23. Municipalities that adopt the specified policies are eligible to receive priority consideration as specified in GS 159G-23 when they adopt the required number of provisions listed below. For municipalities with fewer than 100,000 residents, the policies are (1) permit by right multifamily development in all residential districts, (2) use local funding subsidies to waive

construction-related fees for low- or moderate-income housing, (3) allow multifamily dwellings compatible with single-family dwellings in mixed-use zones, (4) allow at least one accessory dwelling unit for all owner-occupied dwellings in residential districts, (5) create a landlord incentive fund or housing loss mitigation fund for low- and moderate-income housing, and (6) implement a first-time homebuyers education service. For municipalities with more than 100,000 residents, the policies are (1) establish a minimum gross density of four units per acre in residential districts, (2) allow accessory dwelling units as provided above, (3) prohibit parking requirements, (4) allow multifamily residential dwellings in any zoning district allowing single-family dwellings, (5) demonstrate a 30% increase of building permit issuance over a 12-month period, (6) allow multifamily residential development in nonresidential districts within ¼ mile of major transit investment corridors, (7) eliminate building height restrictions of less than three stories in transit-oriented districts, (8) use local funding subsidies to waive construction-related fees for low- or moderate-income housing, (9) allow multifamily dwellings compatible with single-family dwellings in mixed-use zones, (10) create a landlord incentive or housing loss mitigation fund as provided above, (11) enter into a joint acquisition agreement with another local government to acquire property for low- or moderate-income housing, and (12) use a moderate-income housing set aside from a community reinvestment agency or redevelopment agency, to create or subsidize moderate-income housing.

Requires the State Water Infrastructure Authority to create an application for municipalities to use to demonstrate compliance with the policies above, and authorizes an application and approval process.

Directs the Legislative Research Commission to study housing needs of current and future residents of the state through 2050, in collaboration with local governments. Requires a report on the study to be submitted no later than the convening of the 2026 Regular Session.

Intro. by Alston, Dahle.

STUDY, GS 159G, GS 160D

[View summary](#)

Development, Land Use and Housing, Land Use, Planning and Zoning, Property and Housing, Government, General Assembly, Local Government

H 628 (2025-2026) [REENACT CHILD TAX CREDIT](#). Filed Mar 31 2025, *AN ACT TO REENACT THE CHILD TAX CREDIT*.

Reenacts GS 105-153.10 (Credit for children), providing an income tax credit for qualifying children, as defined in Section 152(c) of the Internal Revenue Code, of taxpayers. Lays out the applicable credit based upon adjusted gross income (AGI) for each classification of taxpayer filing status. Increases the amount of credit available for each classification; for example, Married Filing Jointly with an AGI of up to \$40,000 is eligible for \$250, increased from \$125, and for an AGI from \$40,000 up to \$100,000 the credit is \$125, increased from \$100. Provides a limitation for nonresidents or part-year residents based on the fraction in GS 105-153.4. Caps married filing separately benefits to no more than the maximum credit under a joint return. Makes the credit refundable, allowing excess to be refunded to the taxpayer.

Effective and applicable for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2025.

Intro. by Longest, Lofton, Helfrich, Reives.

GS 105

[View summary](#)

Government, Tax

H 633 (2025-2026) [EXPAND SICKLE CELL DISEASE PROGRAMS & AMP SVCS](#). Filed Mar 31 2025, *AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH, TO EXPAND PROGRAMS AND SERVICES FOR NORTH CAROLINIANS WITH SICKLE CELL DISEASE*.

Substantively Identical to [S 283](#), and filed on 3/13/25.

Includes whereas clauses.

Appropriates \$1,678,400 in recurring funds and \$629,873 in nonrecurring funds from the General Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, for 2025-26, and \$1,678,400 in recurring funds and \$613,250 in nonrecurring funds for 2026-27 to be allocated in the specified amounts to be used in the following ways: (1) distributed to the six specified comprehensive sickle cell medical centers to support the multifaceted needs of individuals with sickle cell disease, including social and behavioral health services and assistance for young adults transitioning from pediatric to adult care; (2) used by each of those six comprehensive sickle cell medical centers to create one full-time, permanent Transition Coordinator position at each medical center to conduct transition readiness assessments and other coordination activities to ensure a seamless referral process for individuals with sickle cell disease who are transitioning from pediatric to adult care; (3) provide grants to one or more nonprofit corporations to provide services to individuals with sickle cell disease, with priority given to community-based, nonprofit organizations providing a comprehensive array of services to individuals with sickle cell disease, their families, and the surrounding community in counties lacking these services (grantees are required to use some funds to facilitate the transition of individuals with sickle cell disease from pediatric to adult care at the local level); and (4) provide funding to the Women, Infant and Community Wellness Section of the Division of Public Health to support the operations of the North Carolina Sickle Cell Syndrome Program (Program) with funds used for positions to support the work of the Program, to purchase office equipment to be used by those positions, and for the dissemination and implementation of a sickle cell disease toolkit for use by emergency departments.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Intro. by T. Brown, Cunningham.

APPROP

[View summary](#)

**Government, Budget/Appropriations, State Agencies,
Department of Health and Human Services, Health and
Human Services, Health, Health Care Facilities and Providers**

H 635 (2025-2026) **INCREASE ACCESS TO FERTILITY TREATMENT.** Filed Mar 31 2025, *AN ACT TO PROVIDE ACCESS TO FERTILITY DIAGNOSTIC CARE, TREATMENT, AND PRESERVATION SERVICES UNDER CERTAIN LARGE GROUP HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS.*

Enacts GS 58-3-241, defining experimental fertility procedure, fertility diagnostic care, fertility preservation services, fertility treatment, and large group market. Requires a health benefit plan offered in the large group market to provide coverage for fertility diagnostic care, fertility treatment, and fertility preservation services. Exempts health benefit plans offered by religious institutions and self-insured group health benefits from this requirement. Establishes minimum coverage inclusions for fertility treatments. Mandates procedures to be performed at a licensed healthcare facility and follow American Society of Reproductive Medicine guidelines to be eligible for coverage. Clarifies this does not require coverage for experimental fertility procedures or nonmedical costs related to donor gametes, donor embryos, or surrogacy. Effective October 1, 2025, and applies to insurance contracts issued, renewed, or amended on or after that date.

Intro. by T. Brown, Cotham, Helfrich, Charles Smith.

GS 58

[View summary](#)

Health and Human Services, Health

H 636 (2025-2026) **PROMOTING WHOLESOME CONTENT FOR STUDENTS.** Filed Apr 1 2025, *AN ACT TO ESTABLISH PROCEDURES TO ENSURE THAT CONTENT THAT IS HARMFUL TO MINORS IS NOT MADE AVAILABLE IN SCHOOLS AND TO ESTABLISH A PRIVATE CAUSE OF ACTION FOR PARENTS, GUARDIANS, STUDENTS, OR RESIDENTS OF A COUNTY AGAINST A PUBLIC SCHOOL UNIT THAT IS VIOLATING THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 7B OF CHAPTER 115C OF THE GENERAL STATUTES, CHAPTER 114A OF THE GENERAL STATUTES, OR PART 3 OF ARTICLE 1A OF CHAPTER 90 OF THE GENERAL STATUTES.*

Amends GS 115C-12 by adding a new subsection requiring the State Board of Education to maintain and annually update a publicly available database of all library media and materials rejected by public school units to new Part 7 of Article 7B of this

Chapter. Requires the Department of Public Instruction to maintain the website where this database is made publicly available.

Adds Part 7 to Article 7B of Chapter 115C pertaining to public school unit requirements. Enacts GS 115C-78, which does all of the following:

(1) Defines seven terms, including *harmful to minors* as any material or performance that depicts or describes sexual activity or is pervasively vulgar; *library media* as any electronic, print, or nonprint resources, excluding textbooks, for independent use by students and school personnel and not used as part of the standard course of study for any grade or course, whether in a formal school library or in a classroom; and *sexual activity* as defined in GS 14-190.13.

(2) Requires governing bodies of public school units to adopt a policy for selecting library media that includes a recommendation review process including review of donated items.

(3) Mandates approval of media to be an ongoing process that includes removal of media that no longer meets the approval criteria.

(4) Details six requirements for the policy adopted by a governing body for media to be approved for addition to a school library: (1) superintendent must delegate responsibility to identify media recommended for addition to a community library advisory committee; (2) superintendent or designee must review media and determine if it meets the listed eight-point criteria; (3) superintendent must submit recommendations to the governing body of the public school unit for approval or denial; (4) the governing body must consider the recommended material at meetings, permits the body to request more information from the superintendent while reviewing, allows any member of the body to make a motion to place the recommended media before the body for approval, clarifies that without the motion media is not approved, and requires consideration to be completed within 90 days of submission; (5) requires recommended materials by superintendent or designee to be placed on the publicly-accessible school website with a form for submission of objections and instructions for eligible persons to submit an objection to approval; and (6) requires superintendent to submit letters of objection to the library advisory committee if a piece of media receives 10 or more letters of objection that specify how the media fails to meet the criteria.

(5) Requires governing body of the public school unit to establish a community library advisory committee to investigate and evaluate challenges from parents, teachers, and county residents including letters of objection. Notes member composition requirements for the board and requires the State Board of Education to review its rules and policies and establish guidance to be followed by these advisory committees.

(6) Requires the governing body of the public school unit to publish on a publicly accessible website and make available any specifically requested media available in the school library and criteria established used to select or procure the library media and materials to a parent, guardian, or county resident where the unit is located; and

(7) Requires school principals to review all media that will be made available at a student book fair to determine if it meets the eight-point criteria in subsection (c)(2) and has been assigned a proper contact access designation. Makes it the principal's express duty to ensure no media fails to comply.

Clarifies that for media materials purchased by a public school unit before this act becoming law, the governing body must use the library advisory committee to investigate and evaluate challenges using the same consideration process in GS 115C-78(d).

Amends Part 4 of Article 7B of Chapter 115C, pertaining to notifications of student physical and mental health, by enacting GS 115C-76.61 to provide for civil remedies for certain violations of the Parents' Bill of Rights and listing the causes of actions that may be brought. Requires exhaustion of all administrative remedies available pursuant to GS Chapter 115C first.

Intro. by N. Jackson, Biggs, Willis, Balkcom.

GS 115C

[View summary](#)

Education, Elementary and Secondary Education

Amends GS 115C-310.13 (Advanced teaching roles salary supplements) in subsection (a) by removing language regarding eligibility for teacher salary supplements and instead allocating the funds for salary supplements for each teacher serving in the advanced teaching roles to the school unit directly. Creates new subsection (a1), specifying that the salary supplement for an adult leadership teacher may be shared with other teachers teaming with that adult leadership teacher in the R3 Program Community of Practice model. Makes a conforming change in subparagraph (c)(2) for qualifying teachers.

Specifies that the changes in the act apply only to Pitt County Schools. Effective and applicable beginning with the 2025-2026 school year.

Intro. by Reeder, G. Brown.

[Pitt, GS 115C](#)

[View summary](#)

[Education, Elementary and Secondary Education](#)

H 638 (2025-2026) [EQUIT. ESCALATION OF ELECTRICITY DEMAND ACT](#). Filed Apr 1 2025, *AN ACT TO ASSIGN THE COST OF NEW DATA CENTERS, ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS, AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICITY DEMANDS TO THOSE WHO BENEFIT DIRECTLY FROM THESE POWER SUPPLIES.*

Contains whereas clauses.

Creates new GS Chapter 62, Article 18 (The Equitable Escalation of Electricity Demand Act). Sets definitions for the new Article.

Establishes new GS 62-361 (Protecting electricity users reliability and availability), requiring a fee to be placed on all new electric vehicle charging stations and new electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles sold or licensed to operate in NC to offset the cost of maintaining dispatchable power supply. Mandates in subsection (b) that charging stations owned by the state assess a fee for maintaining the power grid to users of the charging station. Specifies in subsection (c) that new data centers requiring dispatchable power are required to contract for the construction of such power sources directly with a local utility, and requires safeguards to ensure cost overruns are not borne by ratepayers of the utility. Requires the state and any political subdivisions that enter into an economic incentive agreement for the opening of a new data center to mandate compliance with subsection (c). Allows data centers that cannot contract with a local utility for dispatchable power to submit plans to the Utilities Commission directly, and requires compliance with the applicable regulations that public utilities operate under.

Contains a severability clause.

Intro. by Loftis, Ward, Tyson, Greene.

[GS 62](#)

[View summary](#)

[Environment, Energy, Public Enterprises and Utilities](#)

H 639 (2025-2026) [PRIORITIZE IN-STATE APPLICANTS/UNC ED SCHOOLS](#). Filed Apr 1 2025, *AN ACT TO REQUIRE EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS OF CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA TO PRIORITIZE IN-STATE APPLICANTS FOR ADMISSION.*

Adds new GS 116-11(8c) as title indicates.

Applies beginning with the 2025-26 school year.

Intro. by Jeffers, Hawkins, Roberson, Baker.

[GS 116](#)

[View summary](#)

[Education, Higher Education, Government, State Agencies, UNC System](#)

H 643 (2025-2026) [CLARIFY FIREARM STORAGE LAW](#). Filed Apr 1 2025, *AN ACT TO CLARIFY THAT THE LAW REQUIRING THE STORAGE OF FIREARMS TO PROTECT MINORS APPLIES TO FIREARMS THAT ARE LOADED AND UNLOADED.*

Contains whereas clauses.

Amends GS 14-315.1 (Storage of firearms to protect minors) to remove ambiguities by eliminating the requirement to store a firearm “in a condition that the firearm can be discharged.” Makes it a Class A1 (was, Class 1) misdemeanor offense to violate the statute. Specifies that a violation of the statute exists when a minor does any of (1) possesses the firearm on educational property or extracurricular activities, (2) exhibits the firearm in a public place in a careless or threatening manner, (3) causes personal injury or death with the firearm that is not in self-defense, or (4) uses the firearm in the commission of a crime.

Effective and applicable to offenses on or after December 1, 2025.

Intro. by Rubin, Helfrich, A. Jones, Clark.

GS 14

[View summary](#)

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

H 646 (2025-2026) [CONST. AMEND.: REMOVE SLAVERY AS PUNISHMENT](#). Filed Apr 1 2025, *AN ACT TO MAKE ABSOLUTE THE PROHIBITION AGAINST SLAVERY AND INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE IN THE STATE.*

Subject to approval by voters at the statewide election on November 3, 2026, amends Section 17 of Article I of the North Carolina Constitution to forever prohibit involuntary servitude (currently, involuntary servitude is prohibited except as a punishment for crimes where the party has been adjudicated guilty). If approved, effective upon certification by the State Board of Elections.

Intro. by Buansi, Charles Smith, A. Jones, T. Brown.

CONST

[View summary](#)

[Constitution, Courts/Judiciary, Criminal Justice, Corrections \(Sentencing/Probation\)](#)

H 647 (2025-2026) [AG. PUV CONSERVATION](#). Filed Apr 1 2025, *AN ACT TO ALLOW PROPERTY OWNED BY CERTAIN CONSERVATION ENTITIES TO BE TAXED AT PRESENT-USE VALUE.*

Amends GS 105-277.2 by (1) adding a definition for conservation holder, defined as a nonprofit or private corporation that qualifies as a “holder” pursuant to GS 121-35(2), meets the definition of “charitable corporation” under GS 55A-1-40 and is organized to receive and administer agricultural land, horticultural land, or forestland to preserve the uses of such land in perpetuity; and (2) changing the definition of individually owned to also include ownership by a conservation holder.

Amends GS 105-277.3, pertaining to agricultural, horticultural, and forestland special property classifications for tax purposes by adding a new exception to ownership requirements. Exception outlines how a conservation holder’s land use can be exempted from the ownership requirements. Provides that land qualifies for classification if the new owner is a conservation holder, the land was appraised at its present-use value when the title to the land passed to the new owner, the new owner uses the lands for purposes consistent with conservation holder qualifications, the new owner timely files an application as required by GS 105-277.4(a), and the new owner has certified that they accept liability for any deferred taxes and intends to use the land for proper purposes. Mandates that if all qualifications are met, then any deferred taxes remain a lien on the land and the new owner becomes liable for those deferred taxes, which become payable if the land fails to meet any other condition or requirement for classification. Adds a conservation holder exception for property appraised at its present-use value allowing for continuing qualification for appraisal, assessment, and taxation under GS 105-277.2 through GS 105-277.7 without regard to actual production or income requirements as long as the taxpayer remains a conservation holder using the land for proper purposes. Makes technical changes.

Effective for taxes imposed for taxable years beginning on or after July 1, 2026.

Intro. by Balkcom, Gillespie, Eddins, N. Jackson.

GS 105

[View summary](#)

**Development, Land Use and Housing, Property and Housing,
Government, Tax**

H 648 (2025-2026) **CLARIFY NONRELATIVE PLACEMENT TIMING**. Filed Apr 1 2025, *AN ACT TO CLARIFY THE APPROPRIATE TIMING FOR CONSIDERING NONRELATIVE PLACEMENT FOR NONSECURE CUSTODY AND DISPOSITION*.

Amends GS 7B-903 (regarding disposition alternatives for abused, neglected, or dependent juveniles) to add clarification as title indicates through the addition of a requirement that the court cannot consider out-of-home placement with a nonrelative unless the court determines that there is either no relative willing and able to care for and supervise the juvenile in a safe home, or placement with a relative willing and able to do so would not be in the juvenile's best interest. Adds an appropriate former foster parent to the list of nonrelatives a court can consider in determining who could provide proper care and supervision for the juvenile in a safe home (was, nonrelative kin or other persons with legal custody of the juvenile's siblings). Adds an appropriate former foster parent and other persons with legal custody of a juvenile's siblings to those nonrelatives a court may order placement of the juvenile with (was, only nonrelative kin). Makes technical changes by moving language mandating that the court consider if it is in the juvenile's best interest to remain in their community of residence and that the placement with a relative outside of the state be in accordance with the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children when placing a juvenile in out-of-home care to its own subsection.

Amends GS 7B-505 (regarding placement of a juvenile while in nonsecure custody) by adding identical clarifying provisions for when the court can consider out-of-home placement with a non-relative as detailed in the first sentence discussing GS 78-903 amendments above. Removes language allowing the court to order the Department of Social Services to notify the juvenile's state-recognized tribe of the need for nonsecure custody to locate relatives or nonrelative kin for placement. Adds an appropriate former foster parent and other persons with legal custody of a juvenile's sibling to the list of people the court can order placement of the juvenile to be with if it is in the juvenile's best interests.

Effective October 1, 2025, for actions filed on or after that date.

Intro. by Stevens.

GS 7B

[View summary](#)

**Courts/Judiciary, Juvenile Law, Abuse, Neglect and
Dependency**

H 649 (2025-2026) **COUNTY TIER DESIGNATION STUDY BILL**. Filed Apr 1 2025, *AN ACT TO DIRECT THE NORTH CAROLINA COLLABORATORY TO STUDY THE EFFECTS OF VARIOUS PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE COUNTY TIER DESIGNATION SYSTEM*.

Requires the North Carolina Collaboratory (Collaboratory) at UNC-Chapel Hill to study the potential effects of the changes in this act on the county tier designation system under GS 143B-437.08.

Requires a focus on proposed changes to the criteria used to rank counties, changes to the way in which tier designations are assigned, and changing the time frame in which counties are ranked. Requires evaluating the impact of the proposed changes on the county rankings, on programs that use the tier designations, and on the ease of doing business in the state. Sets out agencies that the Collaboratory must work with on the study. Requires evaluating if the changes align with the State's economic development goals; use current, reliable, timely and high-quality data; implement a method that is easy to understand; and accurately identify areas of distress.

Requires a preliminary report on the study by December 31, 2025, to the specified NCGA committee and division and a final report by December 1, 2026.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Intro. by Johnson, Reives.

STUDY

[View summary](#)

Development, Land Use and Housing, Community and Economic Development, Government, State Agencies, UNC System, Local Government

H 650 (2025-2026) **NO INTERCHANGE FEES ON SALES TAX OR TIPS**. Filed Apr 1 2025, *AN ACT TO PROHIBIT INTERCHANGE FEES ON SALES TAX OR GRATUITIES*.

Creates new GS Chapter 66, Article 52 (No Interchange Fees on Sales Tax or Gratuities), and establishes definitions for the Article. Prohibits banks, payment card networks, and processors from receiving or charging an interchange fee to merchants on the amount of taxes or gratuity included in an electronic payment transaction as long as the merchant submits the amount of tax and gratuity as a part of the authorization. Allows merchants to submit documentation up to 180 days after the transaction to obtain a credit for the tax and gratuity. Specifies that the payment card network is not liable for the accuracy of the tax or gratuity information reported by the merchant. Makes it unlawful for the bank or processor to manipulate the computation of fees to avoid these requirements.

Provides penalties for violation of the Article, including the Attorney General's authority to seek injunctive relief and civil penalties, and authority for a court to order refunds. Makes it unlawful for any entity involved in processing the data involved in the transactions to distribute, exchange, or otherwise use the electronic data involved in the transactions except to process payments, monitor fraud, and provide loyalty rewards or promotions.

Contains a severability clause.

Effective and applicable to transactions made on or after October 1, 2025.

Intro. by Howard, Setzer, N. Jackson.

GS 66

[View summary](#)

Banking and Finance, Government, Tax

H 651 (2025-2026) **REDUCE PARENT COPAYS/CHILD CARE SUBSIDY/FUNDS**. Filed Apr 1 2025, *AN ACT TO REDUCE PARENT COPAYMENTS FOR SUBSIDIZED CHILD CARE AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THAT PURPOSE*.

Amends Section 9D.3.(b) of SL 2023-134 to lower the fees required from parents purchasing subsidized child care services from 10% to 7% of gross family income.

Appropriates \$25,000,000 in recurring funds from the General Fund for each year of the 2025-2027 biennium to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child Development and Early Education, to implement the reduction in fees required by the act.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Intro. by Lofton, von Haefen, Prather, Helfrich.

APPROP

[View summary](#)

Government, Budget/Appropriations, State Agencies, Department of Health and Human Services, Health and Human Services, Social Services, Child Welfare

H 652 (2025-2026) **TRANSPORTATION GOODS UNIT PRICING COST**. Filed Apr 1 2025, *AN ACT TO MODIFY CALCULATION OF TRANSPORTATION GOODS UNIT PRICING COST*.

Amends GS 136-18.05(b)(1a) to require that the Department of Transportation use a rolling three-year average instead of the 2015-2016 fiscal year when calculating the baseline unit prices and future targets for transportation goods used in highway projects.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Intro. by Chesser, Iler, Shepard, McNeely.

GS 136

[View summary](#)

Government, State Agencies, Department of Transportation, Transportation

H 653 (2025-2026) [ADJUST FMAP TRIGGER FOR MEDICAID EXPANSION](#). Filed Apr 1 2025, *AN ACT TO LOWER THE THRESHOLD AT WHICH A REDUCTION OF THE FEDERAL MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PERCENTAGE TRIGGERS DISCONTINUATION OF COVERAGE FOR THE MEDICAID EXPANSION POPULATION*.

Amends GS 108A-54.3C by adding subsection (a), which defines “newly eligible individual” by reference to 42 CFR § 433.204. Mandates that if the federal medical assistance percentage for Medicaid coverage provided to newly eligible individuals (was, the category of individuals described in GS 108A-54.3A(a)(24)) falls below the percentage provided to individuals who are not newly eligible individuals (was, 90%), then Medicaid coverage for the individuals described in GS 108A-54.3A(a)(24) will be discontinued expeditiously. Makes technical, organizational, and conforming changes to the rest of the statute's language.

Intro. by Greenfield, Pittman, R. Pierce, Willingham.

GS 108A

[View summary](#)

Health and Human Services, Health, Health Insurance, Social Services, Public Assistance

H 655 (2025-2026) [ENDING OFFENSIVE INDIAN MASCOTS](#). Filed Apr 1 2025, *AN ACT TO PROHIBIT THE USE OF OFFENSIVE AMERICAN INDIAN MASCOTS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS*.

Amends GS 115C-210.4 by adding (2b), requiring the State Advisory Council on Indian Education (Council) to include information on public school mascots as part of the Council’s annual report and presentation that includes a definition of an American Indian mascot and a list of the known public schools with those mascots and what the mascot is.

Amends GS 115C-12 by requiring the State Board of Education (Board) to ensure no public school in the state uses an American Indian mascot as defined in new GS 115C-210.4(2b). Requires the Board to vote on whether it concurs or objects with the Council’s finding that a school is using an American Indian mascot and to notify the governing body and superintendent, or equivalent authority, of the public school unit and direct the mascot to be changed to a non-American Indian mascot within 2 years.

Amends GS 115C-276 by requiring the superintendent to ensure no school in a public school unit has an American Indian mascot. Permits superintendent to give relevant authorities under an existing school or local board policy one year to begin process to change the mascot once notice is received pursuant to new GS 115C-12(50) that a school mascot must be changed. Empowers superintendent to choose new mascot for a school if no action is taken to change the mascot after one year. Requires the Department of Public Instruction to determine if the superintendent willfully failed to comply with requirements if there is no mascot change after two years and details consequences if so.

Amends GS 115C-218.75 by prohibiting charter schools from having an American Indian mascot as well. Requires the school to change the mascot to a non-American Indian mascot within two years as well. Requires Board to determine if a charter school willfully failed to comply with GS 115C-12(50) if there is no change within two years of the school’s receipt of notice and details consequences if so.

Act applies beginning with the 2025-26 school year.

Intro. by Lowery.

GS 115C

[View summary](#)

**Education, Elementary and Secondary Education,
Government, State Agencies, State Board of Education**

H 656 (2025-2026) [SPLIT DISTR CT/DEFENDER DISTR 43 INTO 43A/43B](#). Filed Apr 1 2025, *AN ACT TO SPLIT DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT 43 INTO DISTRICT COURT DISTRICTS 43A AND 43B, TO SPLIT DEFENDER DISTRICT 43 INTO DEFENDER DISTRICTS 43A AND 43B, AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS.*

Amends GS 7A-133 to split the district court judicial district 43 into district 43A, containing Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Macon, and Swain counties, and district 43B, containing, Haywood, and Jackson counties, and assigning four district court judges to each of the new districts by allocating the seven existing district court judges and hiring one additional new judge. Elections in 2026 must be held so that this change is effective January 1, 2027.

Appropriates \$253,001 in recurring funds and \$10,376 in nonrecurring funds from the General Fund for the 2026-2027 year to the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) to hire an additional district court judge as required by the new districts.

Appropriates \$7,421 in recurring funds from the General Fund for the 2026-2027 year to AOC for the judge selected as chief district court judge of district 43B.

Appropriates \$71,932 in recurring funds and \$3,436 in nonrecurring funds from the General Fund for the 2026-2027 year to AOC for one full-time judicial assistant for district 43B.

Appropriations for the district court are effective July 1, 2026.

Amends GS 7A-498.7(a) to split the existing defender district 43 into defender district 43A, containing Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Macon, and Swain counties, and defender district 43B, containing Haywood and Jackson counties.

Appropriates \$228,461 in recurring funds and \$4,895 in nonrecurring funds from the General Fund for the 2026-2027 year to AOC Office of Indigent Defense Services to hire a chief public defender for defender district 43B.

Appropriates \$424,488 in recurring funds and \$14,685 in nonrecurring funds from the General Fund for the 2026-2027 year to AOC Office of Indigent Defense Services to hire three full-time assistant public defenders for defender district 43B.

Changes and appropriations for the defender districts are effective July 1, 2026.

Intro. by Clappitt.

APPROP, GS 7A

[View summary](#)

**Courts/Judiciary, Court System, Administrative Office of the
Courts, Government, Budget/Appropriations**

H 657 (2025-2026) [DUKE'S RESCUE ACT](#). Filed Apr 1 2025, *AN ACT TO PROVIDE MINIMAL STANDARDS OF CARE FOR COMPANION ANIMALS.*

Enacts GS 14-360.5 establishing minimum care standards for companion animals that require any person owning such an animal to provide adequate care, exercise, feed, shelter, space, and water, as well as appropriate veterinary treatment including emergency treatment. Provides exemptions pertaining to adequate shelter and space for certain actions like using a dog in a lawful hunt, restraints for certain business-related activities like shepherding, herding, or cultivating agricultural products or as required in camping or recreational areas. Provides definitions for adequate care, adequate exercise, adequate feed, adequate shelter, adequate space, adequate water, companion animal, emergency veterinary treatment, extreme weather, owner (or to own), tethering, and veterinary treatment. Defines "companion animal" as any domestic dog or cat, not including animals being raised for human consumption whether for their meat, milk, or eggs. Defines "owner, or to own" as someone who has a right of property in an animal, keeps or harbors an animal, has an animal in his or her care, or acts as a custodian of an animal. Provides

that the first violation of this statute is punishable as a Class 3 misdemeanor and for any second or subsequent offense is punishable as a Class 2 misdemeanor.

Requires any local ordinances regulating companion animal standards of care adopted prior to the date this act becomes law to remain in effect after it becomes law. Permits the governing body of a county or city to adopt ordinances regulating companion animal standards of care after this act becomes law if they meet or exceed the requirements in new GS 14-360.5.

Effective December 1, 2025, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.

Intro. by Ross, Carney, Cotham, Ward.

GS 14

[View summary](#)

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

H 658 (2025-2026) [OPTOMETRISTS TELEHEALTH SERVICES](#). Filed Apr 1 2025, *AN ACT TO ALLOW LICENSED OPTOMETRISTS FLEXIBILITY TO PROVIDE TELEHEALTH SERVICES*.

Creates new GS 90-118.5A, allowing licensed optometrists to perform optometry through telemedicine as long as they possess a valid license in the state. Clarifies that the optometrist does not need to be physically located in the state or licensed in another jurisdiction where they may be located while providing telemedicine services. Specifies that the authorization does not limit the authority of the North Carolina Board of Examiners in Optometry to pursue violations against licensed optometrists for violations, and that telemedicine does not alter the scope of practice or the applicable laws and rules for the practice of optometrists.

Directs the Board to adopt rules implementing the new section, including patient relationships, examination and diagnosis standard of care, and display of licensure and credentials.

Effective October 1, 2025.

Intro. by Campbell, Huneycutt, Almond, Lowery.

GS 90

[View summary](#)

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

H 660 (2025-2026) [FUNDS FOR VARIOUS PROJECTS IN CABARRUS CO.](#) Filed Apr 1 2025, *AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR VARIOUS PROJECTS IN THE TOWNS OF MIDLAND AND HARRISBURG*.

Appropriates \$7,000,000 from the General Fund for the 2025-2026 year to the Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM) for a directed grant to the Town of Midland for road improvements in the Bethel Glen and Tucker Chase Developments.

Appropriates \$12,700,000 from the General Fund for the 2025-2026 year to OSBM for a directed grant to the Town of Harrisburg for \$2,500,000 for turf fields, \$9,200,000 for the Harrisburg passenger rail station, and \$1,000,000 to complete the Harrisburg YMCA building.

Appropriates \$1,950,000 from the General Fund for the 2025-2026 year to OSBM for a directed grant to Cabarrus County for Cabarrus Rowan Community Health Center.

Appropriates \$1,000,000 from the General Fund for the 2025-2026 year to OSBM for a directed grant to Cabarrus Cooperative Christian Ministry.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Intro. by Echevarria.

[APPROP, Cabarrus](#)

[View summary](#)

Government, Budget/Appropriations, State Agencies, Office of State Budget and Management

H 664 (2025-2026) **ELIMINATE PET SCANNERS FROM CON REVIEW**. Filed Apr 1 2025, *AN ACT ELIMINATING THE PURCHASE OF POSITRON EMISSION TOMOGRAPHY SCANNERS FROM CERTIFICATE OF NEED REVIEW*.

Repeals GS 131E-176(16)f1.8, which includes “positron emission tomography scanner” or PET scan in the definition of “new institutional health services” that are subject to the certificate of need requirements in GS Chapter 131E, Article 9.

Intro. by Campbell.

GS 131E

[View summary](#)

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

H 667 (2025-2026) **REDUCE BARRIERS TO COLLEGE COMPLETION**. Filed Apr 1 2025, *AN ACT TO PROVIDE IN-STATE TUITION FOR CERTAIN CHILDREN OF LAWFULLY ADMITTED OR LAWFULLY PRESENT NONCITIZENS*.

Includes whereas clauses.

Amends GS 116-143.1 to allow the following people to be charged in-state tuition at the constituent institutions of the University of North Carolina and the community colleges under the jurisdiction of the State Board of Community Colleges. Applies to a person lawfully admitted to this State or lawfully present in the State who: (1) has a parent or legal guardian who was lawfully admitted to the United States or is lawfully present in the United States, is not a US citizen, and holds a valid H-1B visa or L-1 visa and (2) meets all of the following criteria: (a) either holds a valid H4 visa, or is continuously enrolled at an institution of higher education, held a valid H4 visa at some point during the period of continuous enrollment, and was as classified as a resident for tuition purposes at some point during the period of continuous enrollment and (b) establishes domicile in this State under this statute.

Applies beginning with the 2025-26 academic year.

Intro. by Cervania, Buansi, Prather.

GS 116

[View summary](#)

Education, Higher Education, Government, State Agencies, Community Colleges System Office, UNC System, Immigration

H 671 (2025-2026) **COMPETITIVE SPEECH AND DEBATE GRANT PILOT**. Filed Apr 1 2025, *AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A PILOT PROGRAM FOR GRANTS FOR COMPETITIVE SPEECH AND DEBATE TEAMS*.

Establishes a Competitive Speech and Debate Team Grant Pilot Program (Program) to allow public schools serving students in grades 9 through 12 in the state to form a speech and debate team and allow the team to participate in speech and debate competitions. Mandates that the program will begin the 2025-26 school year and conclude at the end of the 2028-29 school year. Allows eligible schools to apply to the Department of Public Instruction (Department) for a grant. Requires the Department to develop and publish application guidelines and criteria for the Program by August 1 of each year funds are made available. Mandates that applications be accepted until September 30 of each school year and requires applications to include a proposed budget for the team, at minimum. Requires the Department to award of grants by October 31 of each year and sets the amount for each award to be \$10,000 maximum per team per school year and provides purposes for which the funds can be used and limitations. Requires teams receiving funding through the Program to participate in the Tarheel Forensic League and National Speech and Debate Association. Allows student participation on a team at the geographically closest school to their residence if the school they are enrolled in does not offer a speech and debate team, but the student must be responsible for

transportation to and from the school where the team meets. Clarifies that schools can enforce other guidelines for student participation in extracurricular activities like academic performance requirements and can conduct a selection process for the team if an eligible student from another school can participate as if enrolled in that school. Details reporting requirements for the Department to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee and Fiscal Research Division.

Adds two members to the board of directors of the Tarheel Forensic League, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House and one by the President Pro Tempore of Senate, provides instructions for appointment, term lengths, limitations on appointment for membership. Prohibits compensation for appointed members and limits per diems and allowances as described.

Appropriates \$500,000 from the General Fund to the Department of Public Instruction per fiscal year for the 2025-26, 2026-27, 2027-28, and 2028-29 fiscal years for the Department to establish and administer the Program.

Effective July 1, 2025 and applies beginning with the 2025-26 school year.

Intro. by Willis, Cotham, Biggs, T. Brown.

STUDY

[View summary](#)

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

H 674 (2025-2026) **THE FIREARMS LIBERTY ACT**. Filed Apr 1 2025, *AN ACT TO ALLOW THE ISSUANCE OF LIFETIME CONCEALED HANDGUN PERMITS, TO PROVIDE THAT A CONCEALED CARRY PERMITTEE WHO ALLOWS THE PERMIT TO LAPSE DOES NOT HAVE TO TAKE ANOTHER FIREARMS SAFETY AND TRAINING COURSE UPON APPLYING FOR RENEWAL UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS, TO PROTECT THE PROPERTY RIGHTS OF PERSONS SUBJECT TO A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROTECTIVE ORDER BY ALLOWING THEM TO STORE THEIR FIREARMS WITH OR SELL THEIR FIREARMS THROUGH A QUALIFIED LICENSED FIREARMS DEALER, AND TO AUTHORIZE THE STORAGE AND USE OF DEFENSIVE DEVICES IN BIOMETRIC SAFES FOR SCHOOLS.*

Part I.

Titles the act as “The Firearms Liberty Act.”

Part II.

Amends GS 14-415.10 (definitions section for concealed handgun permits) to add definition for *fixed duration permit* and *lifetime permit*. Modifies the definition of *permit* to now account for both types of concealed handgun permits - fixed duration permits and lifetime permits. Makes organizational changes. Makes conforming change to GS 17C-6 and GS 14-269 to account for renumbering of definitions.

Amends GS 14-415.11 (scope of concealed handgun permits) to specifically refer to fixed duration permits in those parts of the statute that reference an expiration date for the permit. Specifies that a lifetime permit is valid throughout the state until revoked or surrendered. Requires any permit holder to notify the sheriff in the county where they reside of any change of address (currently, holder must notify the sheriff who issued the permit of a change of address).

Amends GS 14-415.14(a) (pertaining to the permit application forms) to require permit applications to indicate the type of permit sought.

Amends GS 14-415.15 (concerning the issuance or denial of a permit) to allow an applicant to appeal the denial of a permit or the nonrenewal of a fixed duration permit (no longer includes appeal of the revocation of a permit). Specifies that a court’s determination is final for the purpose of appeal.

Amends GS 14-415.16 (pertaining to renewal of concealed handgun permits) to limit the renewal provisions to fixed duration permits. Allows renewal applicants to indicate whether the permit holder would like the renewal to be for a fixed duration permit or a lifetime permit. Allows an applicant to appeal the nonrenewal of a fixed duration permit.

Makes conforming changes to GS 14-415.16A (permit extension and renewals for deployed military permittees) to make the provisions applicable to fixed duration permits only.

Enacts GS 14-415.16B to allow for lifetime permit holders to submit an application at any time to have that permit reissued as a fixed duration permit. Specifies application requirements, including submission and review.

Amends GS 14-415.17 (pertaining to the sheriff's list of concealed handgun permit holders) to refer to both types of permits. States certificate requirements of permits with regard to type and expiration. Specifies that a sheriff must submit any changes of address for permit holders to the State Bureau of Investigation for inclusion in the statewide system.

Amends GS 14-415.18 (pertaining to reasons why a permit may be revoked) to authorize revocation when a person is no longer a resident of the state. Limits the scope of what may be appealed to the revocation of a permit (currently, revocation and nonrenewal are able to be appealed). Specifies that the court's determination is final for the purpose of appeal.

Amends GS 14-415.19 (permit fees) to include reissuance fees. Makes conforming changes.

Effective December 1, 2025.

Part III.

Amends GS 14-415.16 to require the sheriff to waive the requirement of taking another firearms training course if the concealed carry permittee applies to renew the permit less than 180 days (was, no more than 60 days) after the permit expires. Allows waiving the requirement if the permittee applies for renewal between 180 days and one year after the permit expires; deletes the other proposed conditions. Applies to renewal applications submitted on or after October 1, 2025.

Part IV.

Amends GS 50B-3.1 as follows. Allows a defendant to enter into an agreement with a qualified licensed firearms dealer, after the defendant surrenders possession of all firearms, machine guns, ammunition, and permits to the sheriff pursuant to existing subsection (d), which requires the surrender upon service of a domestic violence emergency or ex parte order pursuant to GS Chapter 50B (Domestic Violence). Defines *qualified licensed firearms dealer* as a federally licensed firearms dealer that operates a business in a commercial building located in the state that is open to the public who regularly engages in the purchase and sale of firearms with members of the public.

Provides for the qualified licensed firearms dealer to take possession of the surrendered items from the custody of the sheriff if the defendant is the owner of the items and the items have been in the custody of the sheriff for at least 15 days. Requires that the defendant authorize the qualified licensed firearm dealer to submit a form created by the Administrative Office of the Courts requesting the transfer with notarized signatures of the defendant and the qualified licensed firearms dealer, and authorizing the storage or sale of the firearms, machine guns, and ammunition by the qualified licensed firearms dealer. Requires the form to include information concerning the defendant's rights to recover the surrendered items. Requires the qualified licensed firearms dealer to submit the form and a copy of the dealer's valid federal firearms license to the sheriff, who must facilitate the transfer within 24 hours. Specifies that sale proceeds are property of the defendant. Specifies that the defendant's permits remain with the sheriff. Requires the qualified licensed firearms dealer to provide a copy of the record required to be maintained under federal law upon the receipt or disposition of the firearm, machine gun, or ammunition to the sheriff and the owner upon taking possession. Makes it a Class 2 misdemeanor for a qualified licensed firearms dealer that accepts possession to (1) release the transferred items to the defendant unless the motion for a protective order is dismissed or any order of surrender expires or (2) transfer possession to any person the dealer knows or reasonably should know will allow the defendant to exercise care, custody, possession, ownership, or control of the items. Prohibits a sheriff from charging storage fees for the first 15 days for items transferred to a qualified licensed firearms dealer.

Makes conforming changes throughout regarding retrieval, motions to return by third-party owners, and disposal, making the provisions applicable to qualified licensed firearms dealers.

Revises the procedure for a defendant's surrendered items to be returned. Now requires the defendant to submit a written request with the sheriff or the qualified licensed firearms dealer who has control of the firearms, ammunition, or permits (was, file a motion with the court) at the expiration of the current order or final disposition of any pending criminal charges committed against the person subject to the current protective order no later than 30 days (was, 90 days) after the expiration of the current order or final disposition of any pending criminal charge committed against the person subject to the current protective order. Upon receipt of the request, requires the sheriff or the qualified licensed firearms dealer to conduct a check through the NICS and file a motion with the court on a form created by AOC if the check provides grounds for the defendant's preclusion from owning or possessing a firearm under State or federal law, during which time the items cannot be returned to

the defendant until a court rules on the motion. Requires the court to hold a hearing and rule on the motion as previously provided for motions by the defendant for return of the items, with notice required for the qualified licensed firearms dealers, as applicable.

Adds that a judge can order firearms and ammunition surrendered to a qualified licensed firearms dealer to be disposed of by sale by the dealer. Specifies that proceeds from the sale after deducting any costs associated with the sale and any storage fees owed to the sheriff or the qualified licensed firearms dealer must be provided to the defendant (previously, did not include deductions for storage fees from sale proceeds under this subsection). No longer requires the defendant to request proceeds from the sale by motion before or at the hearing.

Makes conforming, organizational, and clarifying changes.

Effective December 1, 2025, and applies to orders issued on or after that date.

Part V.

Amends GS 115C-105.52 to allow a public school unit or nonpublic school to provide for a defensive device on the school's educational property if it is stored in a defensive device storage container. Defines a *defensive device* as a device used to defend against the imminent use of unlawful force, and specifies that this may include a disabling chemical spray, an electronic incapacitation device, or a firearm. Defines a *defensive device storage container* as a locked container that is securely affixed to the premises of the educational property and accessible by a biometric lock that limits access to only authorized employees with training for any device classifications stored within the container or law enforcement officers. Allows the administrator for each school to affix one or more devices and post signs alerting the public to the presence of the containers. Requires annual training for a device classification to be eligible for biometric access to the defensive device storage container with that same classification. Provides immunity from liability from civil damages for a public school unit, nonpublic school, or authorized employee unless the act or omission amounts to gross negligence, wanton conduct, or intentional wrongdoing.

Amends GS 14-269, which makes it illegal to willfully and intentionally carry concealed weapons, by adding an exemption for a public school unit or nonpublic school employee who: (1) has completed annual training for a device classification to access any defensive device stored in a locked container securely affixed to the premises of the educational property and accessible by a biometric lock that limits access to only authorized employees with training for defensive devices stored within the container or law enforcement officers; (2) accesses and uses a defensive device in response to a threatening situation in which force was justified.

Amends GS 14-269.2, which prohibits weapons on campus or other educational property, by excluding a weapon that is a defensive device stored on educational property or use of those devices by authorized employees in response to a threatening situation in which force was justified.

Amends GS 143B-1209.59 by adding to the duties of the Center for Safer Schools establishing classifications of defensive devices, and in collaboration with the North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission, establishing minimum training standards for school employees to qualify to access and use that classification of defensive device in a storage container with biometric locks. Requires the minimum training standards to be publicly available for use by law enforcement or private entities to provide training. Requires the classifications and training standards to be established by January 1, 2026.

Allows public school units awarded school safety grants to use the funds to purchase defensive devices and storage containers, and for associated training.

Part VI.

Provides that prosecutions for offenses committed before the act's effective date are not abated or affected by this act, and the statutes that would be applicable but for the act remain applicable to those prosecutions.

Intro. by Adams, Kidwell, Eddins, Carson Smith.

GS 14, GS 50B, GS 115C, GS 143B

[View summary](#)

**Courts/Judiciary, Civil, Family Law, Criminal Justice,
Criminal Law and Procedure, Education, Elementary and
Secondary Education**

H 675 (2025-2026) [EMT PERSONNEL CREDENTIALING MODIFICATIONS](#). Filed Apr 1 2025, *AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE NATIONAL REGISTRY OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS EXAMINATION FOR CREDENTIALING AS VARIOUS EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL*.

Amends GS 131E-155 by amending the definition of the practical examination that individuals seeking credential as an emergency medical technician, advanced emergency medical technician, paramedic, emergency medical responder, emergency medical dispatcher, or emergency medical services instructor to require the test comply with National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians exam standards.

Amends the credentialing requirements for those individuals, found in GS 131E-159, by adding the following requirements. Beginning January 1, 2026, a person seeking credentialing or renewal of credentialing emergency medical responders, emergency medical technicians, advanced emergency medical technicians, paramedics, emergency medical dispatchers, and emergency medical services instructors must pass the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians examination for the level of certification desired. Requires a person with a state credential or other accepted credential not from the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians for their respective certification before January 1, 2026, to be certified under the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians by January 1, 2030. Also requires those individuals to undergo a criminal history records check.

Limits how long an individual currently credentialed as an emergency medical dispatcher who is currently residing in North Carolina or affiliated with an emergency medical dispatcher program approved by the Department of Health and Human Services offering service within North Carolina is eligible for credentialing as an emergency medical dispatcher without taking an exam to one year. Adds that if a person seeking credentialing holds a state-level certificate as an emergency medical technician, advanced emergency medical technician, paramedic, emergency medical responder, emergency medical dispatcher, or emergency medical services instructor in another state, the person must obtain a credential from the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians within one year of the issuance of their credentialing in this state; after one year requires passage of the exam to continue to be credentialed.

Requires any person seeking credentialing as a specialty certification, including a flight paramedic, critical care paramedic, community paramedic, tactical paramedic, wilderness paramedic, designated infection control officer, or a medical transportation safety professional, to pass the appropriate exam from the International Board of Specialty Certification.

Requires credentialed persons to carry a certification card. Provides for obtaining replacement cards.

Requires the Medical Care Commission to adopt temporary rules to implement this act, which will remain in place until permanent rules are adopted.

Effective January 1, 2026.

Intro. by Pless.

[GS 131E](#)

[View summary](#)

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

H 677 (2025-2026) [OPEN MOVIE CAPTIONING IN MOVIE THEATERS](#). Filed Apr 1 2025, *AN ACT TO REQUIRE OPEN MOVIE CAPTIONING IN MOVIE THEATERS UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES*.

Creates new GS 168-3.1 (Open movie captioning), which establishes definitions and requires open captioning for at least a quarter of all showings if a movie theater offers more than 10 showings each operating week. Specifies that no more than four open caption showings for a single movie are required in any operating week. Requires that at least half of the open caption showings occur during peak times. Mandates that a movie theater subject to the section must advertise the open caption showings in the same way as normal showings, and indicate which showing include open captioning, and maintain records showing compliance with the section for at least three years.

Provides an exception for movies that are distributed without open captions. Makes a violation of the statute subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$100 or more than \$500 for each occurrence.

Effective and applicable to movies showing on or after October 1, 2025.

Intro. by Turner, Alston, Lopez, Crawford.

GS 168

[View summary](#)

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

H 678 (2025-2026) [ENSURE CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT](#). Filed Apr 1 2025, *AN ACT TO AMEND THE NORTH CAROLINA CONSTITUTION TO PROVIDE THAT THE GOVERNOR DOES NOT HAVE STATEWIDE EMERGENCY POWERS WHICH PERMIT HIM TO RULE BY DECREE FOR AN INDEFINITE PERIOD OF TIME, TO PROTECT THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE DURING A STATE OF EMERGENCY, TO TRIGGER A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPON THE CALLING BY THE GOVERNOR OF A STATEWIDE STATE OF EMERGENCY, TO RESTORE THE ACTUAL INTENT OF THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ACT, AND TO REQUIRE GENERAL ASSEMBLY APPROVAL OF EMERGENCY MEASURES LASTING MORE THAN TWO WEEKS.*

Includes whereas clauses.

Subject to approval by voters at the general election on November 3rd, makes the following changes to the North Carolina Constitution. Amends Section 5 of Article III to specify that nothing in the section, Article, or Constitution gives the Governor emergency powers beyond those expressly granted by law passed by the NCGA. Requires emergency powers to be strictly construed and not used to infringe on or deny the rights of the people. Limits the duration of actions by the Governor exercising emergency powers to two weeks unless ratified by a joint resolution passed by a majority of the members of each house of the NCGA present and voting in an emergency session. Amends Section 11 of Article II by requiring the NCGA to go into an emergency session when the Governor declares a state of emergency that begins seven days after the effective date of the statewide state of emergency (excluding Sundays and holidays). Effective upon certification.

Amends GS 166A-19.20, concerning states of emergency, to set a statewide state of emergency to expire seven calendar days (was, 30) after issuance without concurrence of the Council of State. Requires a declaration of emergency to expire 14 calendar days (was, 60) after issuance when the Council of State concurs with the declaration, unless the NCGA extends the duration.

Intro. by Blust.

CONST, GS 166A

[View summary](#)

[Constitution, Government, General Assembly, Public Safety and Emergency Management, State Government, Executive](#)

H 681 (2025-2026) [UPDATE OPIOID ABATEMENT TREATMENT PROG. RULES](#). Filed Apr 1 2025, *AN ACT DIRECTING THE COMMISSION FOR MENTAL HEALTH, DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, AND SUBSTANCE USE SERVICES TO AMEND THE RULES REGARDING OUTPATIENT OPIOID TREATMENT PROGRAMS FOR GREATER CONSISTENCY WITH FEDERAL REGULATIONS.*

Directs the Commission for Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Use Services (Commission) to amend the rules applicable to outpatient opioid treatment programs, as specified, to be more consistent with the federal regulations governing medications for the treatment of opioid use disorder.

Mandates that the Commission's changes must include (1) removing the patient eligibility criteria of a stable home environment and social relationships, (2) explicitly prohibiting discharge from treatment due to continued substance use, missed doses, and nonparticipation in ancillary services like counseling, (3) removing structured counseling session schedules, (4) reducing the number of drug tests, (5) removing the requirement for observed urine testing, and (6) explicitly permitting opioid treatment programs to administer methadone to patients who are not enrolled with the program.

Specifies that the Commission must engage with current and former treatment program clients and providers for input on how to align requirements with the federal regulations and improve patient care.

Requires the Commission to publish proposed text of amended rules by July 1, 2025.

Intro. by Crawford, Reeder, Chesser.

UNCODIFIED

[View summary](#)

Health and Human Services, Health, Health Care Facilities and Providers, Mental Health

H 696 (2025-2026) **HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONER TRANSPARENCY ACT**. Filed Apr 2 2025, *AN ACT TO PROMOTE HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONER TRANSPARENCY THROUGH ADVERTISEMENT REQUIREMENTS*.

Identical to [S 332](#), and filed on 3/19/25.

Section 1

Makes organizational changes to Article 37 of GS Chapter 90. Adds new Part 2, Health Care Practitioner Transparency Act, providing as follows.

Requires an advertisement for health care services (including medicine, nursing, dentistry, pharmacy, and related occupations involving providing health care directly to patients) that names a health care practitioner to identify their license, certification, or registration; prohibits the advertisement from containing deceptive or misleading information. Prohibits a health care practitioner from making a deceptive or misleading representation about their license, certification, or registration. Prohibits unlicensed individuals from holding themselves out as a physician or any of the listed medical titles, with the intent to represent that they practice medicine.

Makes it a violation for a health care practitioner to (1) knowingly aid, assist, procure, employ, or advise an unlicensed individual or entity in practicing or engaging in acts outside of the scope of the health care practitioner's degree of licensure; (2) knowingly delegate or contract the performance of health care services to a health care practitioner that is unqualified to perform those health care services; and (3) fail to comply with any provision of this Article. Violators are guilty of unprofessional conduct and may be subject to disciplinary action. Exempts from the Article health care practitioners who work in non-patient settings and do not have direct patient health care interactions.

Section 2

Requires the 15 listed boards to adopt temporary rules to implement this act and requires the rules to remain in effect until permanent rules are adopted.

Section 3

Effective October 1, 2025.

Intro. by Potts, Reeder, Campbell.

GS 90

[View summary](#)

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

H 697 (2025-2026) **NC GENETIC COUNSELORS WORKFORCE ACT**. Filed Apr 2 2025, *AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE GENETIC COUNSELORS LICENSURE BOARD AND TO REGULATE THE PRACTICE OF GENETIC COUNSELING*.

Identical to [S 668](#), and filed on 3/25/25.

Amends GS Chapter 90 by enacting new Article 44, pertaining to genetic counselor licensure.

Defines the following terms ABGC (American Board of Genetic Counseling), ACGC (Accreditation Council for Genetic Counseling), ACS (Active Candidate Status conferred by the American Board of Genetic Counseling), Active Candidate Status (a person who has met the requirements established by the ABGC to take the ABGC certification examinations in general genetics and genetic counseling and has been granted this designation by ABGC), board, CEU, department, examination, genetic counseling, genetic counseling intern, genetic counselor, genetic testing, NSGC, qualified supervisor, reciprocity, referral, supervisee, supervision, and temporary license.

Establishes a five-member Genetic Counselors Licensure Board (Board) with members serving staggered terms. All members must be state residents. Specifies that two members will be appointed by the General Assembly, upon the recommendation of the Speaker of the House and President Pro Tempore of the Senate, respectively, and will each serve three-year terms for their initial terms. The remaining three members will be appointed by the Governor. After expiration of the initial term, Board members will be appointed by the specified appointing authority for three-year terms. All except the Governor's appointees must be licensed genetic counselors who will obtain licensure as soon as the first application period begins. Sets term limits of two consecutive terms. Specifies that a former member is eligible for appointment after a one-year period of not being a member of the Board. Provides for a process for filling vacancies. Bars Board members from participating in matters where they have a pecuniary or similar conflict of interest. Requires the Board to meet at least twice a year. Sets forth quorum and rules pertaining to how additional meetings may be called. Bars the Board members from receiving compensation but allows for per diem and necessary travel expenses. Allows them to hire staff and to fix staff compensation. Bars the Board from employing staff to perform inspectional or ministerial tasks for the Board. Emphasizes that the State will not be liable for expenses incurred by the Board in excess of the income derived from Article 44. Specifies that the Governor may remove a Board member for all of the following: (1) ceases to meet the qualifications specified in the act; (2) fails to attend three successive Board meetings without just cause as determined by the remainder of the Board; (3) is found by the remainder of the Board to be in violation of the provisions of Article 44 or to have engaged in immoral, dishonorable, unprofessional, or unethical conduct, and the conduct is deemed to compromise the integrity of the Board; (4) is found guilty of a felony or an unlawful act involving moral turpitude by a court of competent jurisdiction or is found to have entered a plea of nolo contendere to a felony or an unlawful act involving moral turpitude; (5) is found guilty of malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance regarding Board duties by a court of competent jurisdiction; and (6) is incapacitated and without reasonable likelihood of resuming Board duties, as determined by the Board.

Specifies the following powers and duties of the Board:

- Administer, coordinate, and enforce the provisions of Article 44.
- Adopt, amend, or repeal rules to administer and enforce Article 44.
- Establish and determine qualification and fitness of applicants for licensure under Article 44.
- Issue, renew, deny, suspend, revoke, or refuse to issue or renew any license under Article 44.
- Establish fees for applications, initial and renewal licenses, and other services provided by the Board.
- Discipline individuals licensed under Article 44.
- Adopt rules that establish standards of ethical practice.

Specifies that the Board may empower any member to conduct any proceeding or investigation necessary to its purposes and may empower its agent or counsel to conduct any investigation necessary to its purposes, but any final action requires a quorum of the Board. Provides for official seal.

Requires the Board to make public, on its website, the names of licensed genetic counselors and disciplinary information. Requires the Board to submit an annual report to the Governor of its activities since the preceding July 1, including (1) names of all licensed genetic counselors to whom licenses have been granted, (2) any cases heard or decisions rendered, (3) recommendations of the Board for future actions and policies, and (4) a financial report. Requires all Board members to sign the report and provides for a member to record a dissenting view.

Enacts GS 90-754, setting forth qualifications for licensure as a genetic counselor and an application process before the Board. Specifies that the applicant must meet the following criteria:

- Submit an application prescribed by the Board.
- Pay a fee determined by the Board.
- Provide satisfactory evidence of having certification as a genetic counselor by the ABGC.
- Is at least 18 years of age.

- Is of good moral character and conducts all professional activities in accordance with accepted professional and ethical standards.
- Has not engaged in any practice at any time that would be a ground for denial, revocation, or suspension of a license.
- Has submitted the required criminal history record, as required by law.
- Is qualified for licensure under the requirements of Article 44.

Allows for temporary licenses to be issued in certain circumstances and provides for reciprocity with other jurisdictions with substantially the same licensing requirements. Provides for an alternative application for licensure if the individual does not qualify as a genetic counselor under GS 90-754 but who has worked as a genetic counselor for at least 10 years preceding the enactment of Article 44 and provides documentation of all of the following: (1) has a master's or higher degree in genetics or a related field of study, (2) has never passed the ABGC certification examination, (3) submits three letters of recommendation from at least one genetic counselor who qualifies for licensure under this Article and a licensed physician, and (4) can provide documentation of attending NSGC-approved continuing education programs within the last five years. Except for temporary licenses, all licenses must be renewed every two years. Requires genetic counselors whose licenses have been suspended or revoked to return the original license to the Board.

Specifies that the scope of practice of genetic counseling includes all of the following:

- Obtain and evaluate individual, family, and medical histories to determine genetic risk for genetic or medical conditions and diseases in a patient, the patient's children, and other family members.
- Discuss the features, natural history, means of diagnosis, genetic and environmental factors, and management of risk for genetic or medical conditions.
- Identify, order, and coordinate genetic laboratory tests and other diagnostic studies as appropriate for the genetic assessment.
- Integrate genetic laboratory test results and other diagnostic studies with personal and family medical history to assess and communicate risk factors for genetic or medical conditions and diseases.
- Explain the clinical implications of genetic laboratory tests and other diagnostic studies and their results.
- Evaluate the client's or family's responses to the condition or risk of recurrence and provide client-centered counseling and anticipatory guidance.
- Identify and utilize community resources that provide medical, educational, financial, and psychosocial support and advocacy.
- Provide written documentation of medical, genetic, and counseling information for families and health care professionals.

Specifies that the practice of genetic counseling does not include diagnosis, treatment, or recommendations for treatment. Sets fee schedule. Sets forth requirements related to criminal history checks for all licensure applicants. Sets forth continuing education requirements.

Bars individuals from holding themselves out as genetic counselors unless licensed under Article 44. Practicing without being licensed and registered is a Class 1 misdemeanor. Makes it a Class I felony to practice without being licensed and registered and falsely representing oneself in a manner as being licensed or registered. Makes it a Class I felony to practice without being licensed and registered while being an out-of-state practitioner.

Exempts an individual from the requirements of Article 44 if the following requirements are met: (1) any individual licensed by the State to practice in a profession other than genetic counseling when acting within the scope of the individual's profession and doing work of a nature consistent with the individual's training (the individual cannot hold themselves out to the public as a genetic counselor); (2) any individual employed as a genetic counselor by the State, as well as the federal government or an agency thereof, if the individual provides genetic counseling services solely under the direction and control of the organization by which the individual is employed; (3) a student or intern enrolled in an ABGC-accredited genetic counseling educational program if genetic counseling services performed by the student are an integral part of the student's course of study and are performed under the direct supervision of a licensed genetic counselor assigned to supervise the student and who is on duty and available in the assigned patient care area and if the person is designated by a title "genetic counseling intern."

Sets forth a 15-prong code of conduct, a violation of which is grounds for discipline, which may include denying, suspending, or revoking licensure and may discipline, place on probation, limit practice, and require examination, remediation, and rehabilitation of any applicant or licensee by the Board. Allows for alternate sanctions in lieu of denial, suspension, or revocation of a license. Allows the Board to enter into consent orders with the licensee or applicant in lieu of or in connection with any disciplinary proceeding or investigation. Permits the Board to seek a court order for a physical or psychological evaluation if the Board is considering whether an applicant or licensee is physically or mentally capable of practicing. Requires

disciplinary procedures to conform to the APA, including its hearing provision. Clarifies that no applicant or licensee is entitled to hearing for failure to pass an examination. Specifies that an individual whose license has been denied or revoked may reapply to the Board for licensure after the passage of one calendar year from the date of the denial or revocation. Provides that a licensee may voluntarily relinquish a license at any time with the consent of the Board. Allows the Board to delay or refuse granting consent as necessary in order to investigate any pending complaint, allegation, or issue regarding violation of any provision of Article 44 by the licensee. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, clarifies that the Board retains full jurisdiction to investigate alleged violations of Article 44 by any individual whose license is relinquished under this subsection and, upon proof of any violation of Article 44 by any individual, the Board may take disciplinary action. Sets out items that are not considered public record.

Allows the Genetic Counselors Licensure Board to appear in an action for injunctive relief to prevent violations of the Article. Sets out provisions governing the administering of oaths and the subpoena of witnesses, records, and other materials. Sets out provisions governing jurisdiction over an inactive license.

Effective October 1, 2026.

Requires the Board to adopt temporary rules to implement the act, which remain in effect until permanent rules are adopted and go into effect.

Requires that the initial appointments of the Board must be made on or before October 1, 2025, with the initial terms to commence on January 1, 2026.

Enacts new GS 143B-1209.23A allowing the Board to conduct criminal records checks. Effective October 1, 2026.

Intro. by Potts, Reeder, Campbell, Cervania.

GS 90, GS 143B

[View summary](#)

Business and Commerce, Occupational Licensing, Health and Human Services, Health, Health Care Facilities and Providers

H 700 (2025-2026) **THE PATIENTS' RESTORATION OF RIGHTS ACT**. Filed Apr 2 2025, *AN ACT TO ALLOW CLAIMS OF ACTION FOR WRONGFUL DEATH OR INJURY AGAINST A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER ARISING AFTER MARCH 1, 2020, TO BE FILED IF OTHERWISE TIME-BARRED.*

Enacts new GS 90-21.19A (temporary civil authorization for injury or death in certain circumstances) that authorizes a patient or personal representative of a patient to bring an action for death or injuries alleged to have resulted from medical malpractice arising out of a health care provider's performance of or failure to perform professional services in a court of competent jurisdiction, if (1) the alleged death or injury arose on or after March 1, 2020, and (2) the alleged death or injury was not the direct result of the patient contracting COVID-19 (i.e., the disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus). Sunsets one year after the act becomes law. Effective from March 1, 2020, until one year after the act becomes law, GS 90-21.19A revives any civil action for a claim of wrongful death under GS Chapter 28A or medical malpractice claim under Article 1B of GS Chapter 90, or any other appropriate civil action brought under the laws of this State, otherwise time-barred under GS 1-15 or GS 1-17 as it existed immediately before the enactment of GS 90-21.19A.

Effective when the act becomes law and applies to claims that arose on or after March 1, 2020, and one year after the act becomes law.

Intro. by A. Jones.

GS 90

[View summary](#)

Courts/Judiciary, Civil, Civil Law, Health and Human Services, Health, Health Care Facilities and Providers

H 701 (2025-2026) **ADOPT LAFAYETTE DAY**. Filed Apr 2 2025, *AN ACT ADOPTING THE SEVENTEENTH DAY OF MAY OF EACH YEAR AS LAFAYETTE DAY.*

Includes whereas clauses.

Amends GS 103-19 as title indicates.

Intro. by Charles Smith, Blackwell, Wheatley, Colvin.

GS 103

[View summary](#)

Government, Cultural Resources and Museums

H 704 (2025-2026) **ESTABLISH AAPI HERITAGE COMMISSION.** Filed Apr 2 2025, *AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE COMMISSION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO SUPPORT THE COMMISSION.*

Amends Article 2 of Chapter 143B by adding new Part 30B. Creates the Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Commission (Commission) within the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources for historical, art, and cultural purposes. Sets the duties of the Commission to include an advisory role to the Secretary of the Department, responsibilities relating to promotion of public awareness of relevant programs/materials, support of elementary and secondary school education, creation of a statewide group dedicated to the overall mission, and creation of a preservation program to manage relevant cultural materials, with direction from the Secretary.

Establishes that the Commission will have nine members, serving staggered terms, and the first board will be selected on or before October 1, 2025. Requires the Governor to appoint four members, two serving three year terms, one serving a two year term, and one serving a one year term. At least one of these appointed members will be a member of the NC Historical Commission. Requires the General Assembly to appoint two members by the recommendation of the Senate President Pro Tempore, one serving a three year term and one serving a two year term. Requires the General Assembly to appoint two members by the recommendation of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one serving a two year term and one serving a one year term. Requires the Secretary to appoint one member who will serve a three year term. Upon term expiration of these first members, each member is appointed for three years until a successor is appointed.

Addresses procedures for vacancies, stating positions will be filled the same way as original appointments except for unexpired appointments by the General Assembly, which will be filled according to GS 120-122. Addresses removal for neglect of duty, incompetence, or unprofessional conduct.

The Governor selects the chair of the Commission, and the Commission selects a vice-chair and other officers. Commission members receive no salary, but will receive compensation for expenses incurred in their duties, according to GS 120-3.1, GS 138-5, and GS 138-6.

Appropriates \$250,000 in recurring funds for each year of the 2025-27 biennium from the General Fund to the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, supporting the operations of the Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Commission, including a director, deputy director, and administrative services.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Intro. by Cervania, Liu, Goodwin.

APPROP, GS 143B

[View summary](#)

Government, Budget/Appropriations, Cultural Resources and Museums, State Agencies, Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (formerly Dept. of Cultural Resources)

H 705 (2025-2026) **STUDY CTE LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS.** Filed Apr 2 2025, *AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO STUDY LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON AN ALTERNATIVE OR MODIFIED PATH TO LICENSURE.*

Requires the Department of Public Instruction (DPI), by March 15, 2026, to collaborate with the State Board of Community Colleges to study and report to the specified NCGA committee on recommendations on licensure requirements for Career and Technical Education (CTE) high school teachers. Sets the purposes of the study as: (1) review current CTE licensure policy to determine if a different set of criteria would qualify a credentialed skilled worker or professional to effectively teach students and (2) apply that criteria as an alternative path or as a modification to an existing path to CTE teacher licensure. Requires the report to at least include: (1) the recommended criteria for a credentialed skilled worker or professional to possess competency sufficient to teach students his or her subject matter, including consideration of the four listed components and (2) recommendations on how to best implement an alternative path or a modified path to licensure for individuals who meet the criteria recommended by the study. Effective July 1, 2025.

Intro. by Johnson, Cotham, Willis.

STUDY

[View summary](#)

Education, Elementary and Secondary Education, Higher Education, Government, State Agencies, Community Colleges System Office, Department of Public Instruction

H 706 (2025-2026) **CHANGE TO NEEDS-BASED CAPITAL FUNDING**. Filed Apr 2 2025, *AN ACT TO MODIFY THE PRIORITIZATION OF THE ALLOCATION OF GRANTS FOR THE NEEDS-BASED PUBLIC SCHOOL CAPITAL FUND AND TO OTHERWISE PROHIBIT THE ALLOCATION OF EDUCATION FUNDS BASED ON THE ECONOMIC TIER DESIGNATIONS ASSIGNED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE*.

Amends GS 115C-546.11 to expand upon counties that are eligible for a grant from the Needs-Based Public School Capital Fund, to also include a county that contains census tracts that are experiencing persistent poverty or are identified as having low to moderate income. Requires those counties that also have an adjusted market value of taxable real property of greater than \$40 billion, to have a local match of 35%; all other eligible counties have the match requirements already set out in the statute.

Repeals SL 2017-57, Section 7.22, subsections (c), (d), and (e), concerning allocations of funds from the cooperative innovative high school supplemental allotment to a local school administrative unit located in development tier one, tier two, and tier three areas.

Requires the Department of Public Instruction (DPI), beginning with the 2025-26 fiscal year, to allocate in an equal amount per school on a recurring basis the cooperative innovative high school supplemental allotment to local school administrative units for each cooperative innovative high school located in the unit that (1) is approved by the State Board of Education and (2) received funds for the cooperative innovative high school supplemental allotment for the 2025-27 fiscal biennium.

Provides that beginning with the 2025-26 fiscal year and subsequent fiscal years thereafter, no State agency responsible for the allocation of State funds for education purposes to elementary and secondary public schools, community colleges, or the UNC constituent institutions will be directed to or can use the economic development tier designation for a county as the basis for the allocation of those state funds.

Repeals all laws and clauses of laws in conflict with this act.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Intro. by Lopez, Majeed, Belk, Johnson-Hostler.

GS 115C

[View summary](#)

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

H 707 (2025-2026) [DRONES/CERTAIN VENDOR PURCHASES PROHIBITED](#). Filed Apr 2 2025, *AN ACT PROVIDING THAT THE STATE AND POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS OF THE STATE SHALL NOT PURCHASE ANY SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM MANUFACTURED OR ASSEMBLED BY CERTAIN FOREIGN VENDORS*.

Identical to bill [S 670](#). and filed on 3/25/25.

Enacts GS 143-59.5 preventing the State and its political subdivisions from purchasing or otherwise acquiring any small, unmanned aircraft system manufactured or assembled by a covered foreign entity. Prohibits State funds from being used in connection with the purchase or acquisition of any small, unmanned aircraft system (defined) manufactured or assembled by a covered foreign entity, including any State funds provided through a contract, grant, or cooperative agreement. Defines covered foreign entity as an individual, foreign government, or party that meets one or more of the following:

- Is on the United States Consolidated Screening List or Entity List.
- Is domiciled in the People's Republic of China or the Russian Federation.
- Is under the influence or control of the government of the People's Republic of China or the Russian Federation.
- Is a subsidiary or affiliate of an individual, government, or party of the People's Republic of China or the Russian Federation.

Applies to small, unmanned aircraft purchased on or after July 1, 2027.

Intro. by Torbett, Greene, Miller, Pyrtle.

[GS 143](#)

[View summary](#)

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

H 708 (2025-2026) [IROBOT - INCREASING ROBOTICS OPPORTUNITIES](#). Filed Apr 2 2025, *AN ACT TO INCREASE ROBOTICS OPPORTUNITIES AND BUILD OUR TALENTS BY CONTINUING THE ROBOTICS GRANT PROGRAM FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS*.

Adds news Part 12, Academic Grant Programs, to Article 16 of GS Chapter 115C, providing as follows. Establishes the Educational and Competitive High School Robotics Grant Program (Program) to promote evidence-based, after-school programs for robotic education and competition for high school students, and to motivate students to pursue education and career opportunities in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics while building critical life and work-related skills. Requires the Program to operate in any year when funds are made available. Allows any robotics team to apply to the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) for a grant to develop an educational and competitive high school robotics program with a robotics partner; allows teams to be coordinated through a public school unit or a community organization (as defined). Sets out requirements for robotics partners. Requires DPI, by August of each year, to develop and publish criteria and guidelines for the application process and requires accepting applications until September 30. Sets out information that must be included in applications. Requires grants to be awarded by October 31st and allows funds to be used to: (1) establish a relationship with a robotics partner; (2) purchase robotics kits, parts, or supplies; (3) provide stipends for coaches; (4) make payments associated with participation in a robotics league or robotics competition; and (5) pay fees incurred as part of the administration of a robotics team. Requires DPI to report specified Program information to the specified NCGA committee and division by October 15th.

Appropriates \$2.5 million in recurring funds for 2025-26 from the General Fund to DPI to establish and administer the Program. Effective July 1, 2025.

Amends GS 115C-379 to allow excused absences from school for participation in school-sanctioned academic competitions, including Science Olympiad, 4-H, high school robotics, and speech and debate. Makes conforming changes.

Applies beginning with the 2025-26 school year.

Intro. by T. Brown, Willis, Lofton.

[APPROP, GS 115C](#)

[View summary](#)

[Education, Elementary and Secondary Education, Government, Budget/Appropriations, State Agencies,](#)

Department of Public Instruction

H 709 (2025-2026) [K-3 LITERACY AND IMPROVEMENT ACT](#). Filed Apr 2 2025, *AN ACT TO CREATE A PILOT GRANT PROGRAM FOR ADDITIONAL TEACHER ASSISTANT POSITIONS IN PARTICIPATING PUBLIC SCHOOLS.*

Establishes the Additional Teacher Assistant Grant Program (Program) to provide the dollar equivalent of teacher assistant positions to participating public school units based on the following ratios: (1) one teacher assistant for every grade K-2 class and (2) one teacher assistant for every three classes in third grade. Requires the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) to create an application for the Program no later than 30 days after this act becomes law. Allows local school administrative units and charter schools to apply for the Program and requires applications to be submitted by 60 days after the application becomes available. Requires DPI to choose one local school administrative unit and one charter school from each of the eight educational districts, no later than 30 days after the closing of the application period. Requires funds allocated under this act to be distributed based on an estimated statewide average salary and benefits per position and an average class size of 21 students in membership per classroom.

Appropriates \$14.8 million for each year of the 2025-27 biennium from the General Fund to DPI for this act.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Intro. by T. Brown, Brockman, Baker, F. Jackson.

[APPROP, UNCODIFIED](#)

[View summary](#)

[Education, Elementary and Secondary Education, Government, State Agencies, Department of Public Instruction](#)

H 710 (2025-2026) [MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS UNIT PILOT FOR LSAUS](#). Filed Apr 2 2025, *AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS UNIT PILOT PROGRAM.*

Requires the State Board of Education (Board) to establish the Mental Health Crisis Unit Pilot Program (Program) to provide funds to establish at least one mental health crisis unit in each participating local school administrative unit. The Program begins in the 2025-26 school year and expires June 30, 2028. Requires the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) to choose up to eight local school administrative units to participate in the Program and consider at least: (1) resources available to the local school administrative unit; (2) overall impact on students' mental health in the local school administrative unit if it was selected to participate; and (3) history in the local school administrative unit of sudden traumatic events. Participants receive \$250,000 in each fiscal year in which funds are made available to establish and maintain at least one mental health crisis unit in the local school administrative unit, with the purpose of the unit providing mental health resources to students and staff and be on call during school operating hours to provide rapid response to mental health emergencies. Requires informing students and staff about any available mental health crisis unit and provide opportunities to learn about its purposes and function. Require the unit to rotate between schools. Requires DPI, in consultation with the Center for Safer Schools, to establish standards and guidelines for the development, operation, and staffing of mental health crisis units under the Program, including a requirement that each mental health crisis unit be composed of at least one nurse, social worker, and counselor. Requires an annual report on the Program from the Board to the specified NCGA committee.

Appropriates \$2 million in recurring funds for 2025-26 from the General Fund to DPI to implement the Program.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Intro. by T. Brown, Lambeth, Cunningham, Cotham.

[APPROP](#)

[View summary](#)

[Education, Elementary and Secondary Education, Government, Budget/Appropriations, State Agencies, Department of Public Instruction, State Board of Education, Health and Human Services, Mental Health](#)

H 716 (2025-2026) [BAIL BOND OMNIBUS](#). Filed Apr 2 2025, *AN ACT TO MODIFY LAWS AFFECTING BAIL BONDS*.

Identical to [S 702](#), and filed on 3/25/25.

Makes various amendments to GS Chapter 15A, Article 26 (Bail), to update and modernize laws regarding bail bonds. Makes clarifying and conforming changes throughout Article 26.

Amends GS 15A-531 to allow a defendant's address of record to include the address on the bond, the defendant's permanent or temporary address, an address on court records, an address the defendant provided to the bondsman, or an address provided by anyone with actual or constructive notice of the defendant's address.

Provides in GS 15A-534(h) that a bail bond under that statute is valid for not more than three years in cases without a pending forfeiture. Requires the surety to inform the district attorney 30 days before the bond expires. Provides two new circumstances where an obligor's obligation on a bond is terminated, when a prosecutor enters a dismissal with leave or when a court grants a motion to set aside a bond forfeiture.

Amends GS 15A-544.5 (Setting aside forfeiture) to include reference to electronic delivery through the court's case management system. Also amends subparagraph (d)(6) to specify that after a court allows a motion to set aside forfeiture as outlined in the section, the surety is relieved of the obligation and no other forfeitures will be issued for that bail bond.

Amends GS 15A-544.8 (Relief from final judgment of forfeiture) to include reference to electronic delivery through the court's case management system and makes a conforming change to GS 15A-544.3.

Creates new GS 15A-545, requiring district attorneys to submit information about criminal defendants who fail to appear in court to the National Crime Information Center within 10 days of their failure to appear.

Requires the district attorney for each county and the attorney for each county board of education to be listed in the county's electronic filing or case management system as parties for purposes of Article 26, and requires those attorneys to maintain current contact information.

Adds a definition of "residential address" to GS 58-71-1, which includes the defendant's address of record or any other place they may be occupying as lodging.

Specifies that no electronic system can act in the capacity of a bondsman in GS 58-71-40(a1).

Adds a reference to the Administrative Office of the Courts' Odyssey system in GS 58-71-200(a).

Effective and applicable to motions, orders, and notice made or given on or after October 1, 2025.

Intro. by Humphrey, Balkcom, Carson Smith, Johnson.

[GS 15A, GS 58](#)

[View summary](#)

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

H 717 (2025-2026) [AMEND NC PEO ACT.-AB](#) Filed Apr 2 2025, *AN ACT ENACTING CHANGES TO THE NORTH CAROLINA PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYER ORGANIZATION ACT, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE*.

Identical to [S 268](#), and filed 3/12/25.

Adds terms tangible net worth and working capital to the definitions provisions of the NC Professional Employer Organization Act (Act) under GS 58-89A-5. Modifies the term audited GAAP financial statement so it is just referred to as an audited financial statement.

Broadens the entities that may be licensed as professional employer organization groups under GS 58-89A-35 to include persons (currently, limited to professional employer organizations) that are controlled by the same parent, entity or persons.

Allows such groups to satisfy their reporting and financial requirements on a consolidated or combined basis (currently, just consolidated). Clarifies that the conditions pertaining to financial obligations must be met before the group is considered a professional employer organization group. Makes technical changes.

Expands persons required to file an additional surety bond under the described conditions set forth in GS 58-89A-50 to include licensees. Makes clarifying and conforming changes.

Repeals GS 58-89A-60(g) (listing certain conditions pertaining to the controlling person upon which the Insurance Commissioner [Commissioner] may deny licensure to an applicant under the Act).

Amends GS 58-89A-60 (licensure applications), as amended by the act, as follows. Expands required information pertaining to applicant managers to be submitted to the Commissioner to now include listing of directors, the educational background of all listed persons and their management and business experience. Removes requirement that Commissioner engage in rulemaking to require additional information beyond the statute, but specifies that any additional information required must be reasonable. Extends the date for completion of the applicant's audited financial statement to be submitted to the Commissioner to one that has been prepared no more than 120 days before the date of the application (currently, 90 days before the date of the application). Requires an applicant to have a tangible net worth of at least \$50,000. Makes technical, conforming, and clarifying changes. Removes requirement that the audited financial statement be prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and then audited by an independent CPA as described. Now, just requires preparation of the audited financial statement by an independent CPA as described. Provides for additional documentation that must be submitted with an applicant's combined or consolidated audited financial statement.

Allows applicants that do not have at least 12 months of operating history to meet the financial requirements by filing with the Commissioner financial statements that have been reviewed by an independent CPA and prepared not later than 90 days before the date of the application (currently, not requirement for such applicants to use an independent CPA or 90-day timeframe). Authorizes the Commissioner to accept the audited financial statement of the applicant's parent company if the submitted information allows the Commissioner to determine the financial condition and financial responsibility of the applicant. Authorizes the Commissioner to accept the audited financial statement of an applicant's parent company and consider the financial condition and financial responsibility of the parent in lieu of the applicant if three listed conditions are met, including that the information in the audited financial statement and other documents meet the statutory requirements and enable the Commissioner to determine the financial condition and financial responsibility of the parent and the applicant. Expands persons required to submit to fingerprinting and a criminal background check to include changes in officers, directors, and other controlling persons of professional employer organization groups licensed under the Act (currently, change to a controlling party of a professional employer organization).

Lists six circumstances under which the Commissioner may deny licensure, including that a controlling person of the applicant has been convicted of a felony, that the applicant has not provided evidence satisfactory to the Commissioner of financial responsibility, and that the applicant is not current with respect to all of its obligations for payroll, payroll-related taxes, workers' compensation insurance, and employee benefits and the applicant has failed to satisfy the Commissioner as to the reasons why. Removes provision authorizing denial of an application for any reason for which a license may be suspended or terminated under GS 58-89A-155. Makes conforming and technical changes.

Repeal subsections (a1), (c1), and (c2) of GS 58-89A-65.

Expands persons required to annually certify compliance with the licensure requirements of the Act in GS 58-89A-70 to include officers and directors of the licensee. Modifies the evidence of financial responsibility that must be included with each licensee's annual filing with the Commissioner so that it now means an audited financial statement of the licensee or its parent company if allowed by the Commissioner on a form as described. Adds requirement for annual submission of an attestation, executed by the chief financial officer and the chief executive officer of the licensee, that the licensee is current with respect to all of its obligations for payroll, payroll-related taxes, workers' compensation insurance, and employee benefits, as described. Limits other information required by the Commission to reasonable information. Makes technical changes.

Now also requires that an applicant for de minimis registration as a limited professional employer under GS 58-89A-75 not be domiciled in the State. Clarifies the ways an applicant can advertise other than through any media outlet physically located in the State. No longer accepts persons only registered as professional employer organization in another State as eligible for de minimis registration. Makes organizational changes.

Applies to applications for licensure issuance or renewal submitted on or after the act becomes law.

[View summary](#)

**Business and Commerce, Corporation and Partnerships,
Insurance, Occupational Licensing, Government, State
Agencies, Department of Insurance**

H 718 (2025-2026) **BAIL BONDSMEN REVISIONS.-AB** Filed Apr 2 2025, *AN ACT REVISING THE LAWS RELATED TO BAIL BONDSMEN, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE.*

Identical to [S 251](#), and filed on 3/6/25.

Adds GS 58-71-2, setting forth a statement of purpose and expressly abrogating any part of the common law that conflicts with Article 71.

Amends GS 58-71-30 (allowing a surety to arrest a defendant for purposes of surrendering the defendant before forfeiture of the undertaking or to request a judicial official to order that arrest) by adding new provisions as follows. Bars sureties on a bail bond or undertaking from another state or jurisdiction from arresting the defendant in this state for purposes of surrender, but requires those sureties to use any surety bondsman, professional bondsman, or runner to effect the arrest or surrender of the defendant so long as the surety provides that person with a certified copy of the undertaking.

Amends GS 58-71-1 as follows. Deletes defined term first-year licensee (any person licensed as a bail bondsman or runner and who has that license for a period of less than 12 months). Sets forth new defined terms direct supervision and provisional licensee (any person licensed as a bail bondsman or runner for less than a period of 24 months). Amends the definition of supervising bail bondsman to be any person licensed as a professional bondsman or surety bondsman that meets the requirements of GS 58-71-41.1, GS 58-71-50, and who employs or contracts with a provisional licensee. Amends definition of surety bondsman so that it is a licensed person who is appointed by the Insurance Commissioner to execute or sign bail bonds for the insurer in connection with the proceedings of another (was, judicial proceedings).

Amends GS 58-71-41 (governing limitations on first-year licensees) by deleting the reference to "first-year licensees" and replacing that term with the new term "provisional licensee." Removes provision requiring a provisional licensee to work from the same official business address as their supervising bail bondsman. Specifies that the supervising bail bondsman is responsible for the direct supervision of a provisional licensee. Increases the time of a provisional licensee's supervision from 12 to 24 months. Increases the time that a first-year bail bondsman cannot serve as supervising bail bondsman from two years to five years. Makes conforming changes, including to section title.

Adds new GS 58-71-41.1 setting forth the following requirements for supervising bail bondsmen: (1) submission of an application with \$200 fee; (2) five years of uninterrupted experience as a licensed bail bondsman; (3) have not violated an order of the Commissioner or had adverse administrative action taken against the applicant's license pursuant to GS 58-71-80 (disciplinary procedures); (4) demonstration of the competence, experience, or integrity considered by the Commissioner to be necessary to serve as a supervising bail bondsman. Requires renewal applications to be submitted by May 31, with failure to comply resulting in revocation of the bondsman's status as a supervising bail bondsman. Sets forth a monthly reporting requirement to the Commissioner of each supervised provisional licensee. Prohibits a supervising bail bondsman from charging a fee for supervising a provisional licensee or from supervising more than two at once. Sets out requirements for the timing of applications for supervising restoring revoked status.

Expands the list of actions triggering discipline under GS 58-71-80 to include violation of a statute or ordinance that results in injury or death and unnecessary or excessive force by the licensee. Broadens the conditions requiring the Commission to revoke or deny a license to include administrative adjudications where the Commissioner or other body has found that the applicant or licensee performed the acts necessary to satisfy the elements of a felony. Clarifies that a conviction under the statute includes an adjudication of guilt or a plea of guilty or nolo contendere. Makes conforming changes to refer to provisional licensee and 24-month supervisory period.

Amends GS 58-71-71 (governing continuing education requirements for runners or bail bondsmen) to change the due date for completing continuing education from June 30 to May 15. Makes a conforming change. Amends GS 58-71-75 (licensure

renewal) to set an established license renewal due date of May 15 of each even-numbered year (currently, tied to the licensee's current license expiration date).

Prevents, in GS 58-71-40, bail bondsmen and runners from working with or soliciting assistance from an unlicensed person to secure the custody of another. Requires licensees to have an official business address that is a physical location in the state that is separate and apart from any residence or other business and in compliance with all local zoning ordinances and regulations. Bars use of a PO Box as an official business address. Directs, in GS 58-71-50 (qualifications for bail bondsmen and runners) that licensees must comply with all motor vehicle financial responsibility requirements under GS 20-309 (vehicle registrations).

Effective July 1, 2025, and applies to bail bondsmen licenses issued or renewed on or after that date.

Intro. by Humphrey, Setzer, Balkcom.

GS 58

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Business and Commerce, Insurance, Occupational Licensing, Courts/Judiciary, Criminal Justice, Corrections (Sentencing/Probation), Government, State Agencies, Department of Insurance

H 720 (2025-2026) [INSURANCE GUARANTY ASSOCIATION ACT REVISIONS.-AB](#) Filed Apr 2 2025, *AN ACT ENACTING REVISIONS TO THE INSURANCE GUARANTY ASSOCIATION ACT, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE.*

Identical to [S 269](#), and filed on 3/12/25.

Makes the following changes to Article 48 (concerning the Postassessment Insurance Guaranty Association [Association]) of GS Chapter 58.

Clarifies, in GS 58-48-10 (scope of Article), that coverages like warranties or service contracts that are set forth in a cybersecurity insurance policy are covered by the Article. Clarifies that the defined term covered claim includes claim obligations that arose through the issuance of an insurance policy by a member insurer, which are later allocated, transferred, merged into, novated, assumed by, or otherwise made the sole responsibility of a member or nonmember insurer if the four described conditions are met. Adds defined term cybersecurity insurance.

Modifies the Association's powers/duties under GS 58-48-35 as follows. Limits the Association's obligations to \$500,000 in paying all first and third-party claims under a policy or endorsement providing cybersecurity insurance coverage arising out of a single insured event, as described. Removes Association's right to review settlements and other described documents to determine the extent to which those documents may be properly contested as part of its authority to pay and deny covered claims. Authorizes the Association to: (1) appoint, substitute, and direct legal counsel for the defense of covered claims and appoint and direct other service providers for covered services and (2) establish priority of payment. Grants the Association the right to review and contest settlements, releases, compromises, waivers, and judgments to which the insolvent insurer or its insureds were parties prior to the entry of the order of liquidation, subject to the four described conditions.

Modifies the net worth requirement under GS 58-48-50 (effect of paid claims) so that the Association can only recover the described covered claim against an insured whose net worth exceeds \$50 million in the year before the insured becomes insolvent so long as the insured's net worth on that date is deemed to include the aggregate net worth of the insured and all of its subsidiaries and affiliates as calculated on a consolidated basis.

Removes provisions pertaining to reopening of default provisions under GS 58-48-65, and makes conforming changes to statute's title.

Intro. by Humphrey, Setzer, Balkcom.

GS 58

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Business and Commerce, Insurance

H 721 (2025-2026) [MUDDY SNEAKERS/ST. GERARD HOUSE](#). Filed Apr 2 2025, *AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO SUPPORT THE MUDDY SNEAKERS PROGRAM AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO ST. GERARD HOUSE TO SUPPORT ITS AUTISM PROGRAMS*.

Appropriates \$500,000 in recurring funds from the General Fund to the Department of Public Instruction for the 2025-26 to be allocated to Muddy Sneakers, Inc., to support its experiential learning programs to improve the science aptitude of fifth grade students.

Appropriates \$2.75 million from the General Fund to the Office of State Budget and Management for 2025-26 to provide a directed grant to St. Gerard House, a nonprofit organization, to be used to support its programs to treat autism.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Intro. by Johnson, Turner, Gable, Clampitt.

[APPROP](#)

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

H 722 (2025-2026) [ENACT CRIMINAL JUSTICE DEBT REFORM](#). Filed Apr 2 2025, *AN ACT TO PROMOTE CRIMINAL JUSTICE DEBT REFORM*.

Part I.

Amends GS 7A-304 concerning costs and fees in criminal actions, as follows. Requires in every criminal case where the defendant is convicted or enters a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, or when costs are assessed against the prosecuting witness, that the court determine the defendant's ability to pay any costs assessed and weigh that determination when assessing and collecting the costs listed in the statute (previously, the costs were assessed automatically without considering ability to pay). Removes the prohibition on the court waiving or remitting all or part of any court fines or costs without providing notice and opportunity to be heard by all government entities directly affected; makes conforming deletions. Decreases from \$200 to \$100 the cost assessed for support of the General Court of Justice by a defendant who fails to appear to answer the charge as scheduled, unless within 20 days after the scheduled appearance, the person either appears in court to answer the charge or disposes of the charge under GS 7A-146. Amends the costs for the following services that are charged under specified circumstances by specifying that instead of charging \$600, the amount charged must reflect the costs actually incurred for the services, not to exceed \$600: (1) services of the North Carolina State Crime Laboratory facilities; (2) services of any crime laboratory facility; (3) services of any private hospital performing toxicological testing under contract with a prosecutorial district; (4) services of the North Carolina State Crime Laboratory facilities; (5) services of any crime laboratory facility; (6) services of an expert witness employed by the North Carolina State Crime Laboratory who completes a chemical analysis, a forensic analysis, or a digital forensics analysis and provides testimony about that analysis in a defendant's trial; (7) services of an expert witness employed by a crime laboratory who completes a chemical analysis, a forensic analysis, or a digital forensics analysis and provides testimony about that analysis in a defendant's trial; and (8) services of an expert witness employed by a private hospital performing toxicological testing under contract with a prosecutorial district who completes a chemical analysis and provides testimony about that analysis in a defendant's trial. Deletes an outdated reporting requirement. No longer requires defendants paying costs using an installment plan to pay a \$20 setup fee. Adds that the court must consider the following minimum factors when determining whether a defendant can use an installment plan to pay court costs: (1) defendant's monthly income in relation to the relevant federal poverty guidelines for the defendant's household size; (2) whether the defendant receives public assistance; (3) the defendant's living arrangements and ability to afford or procure housing; (4) whether the defendant resides in a mental health or substance abuse treatment facility; and (5) any limits on the defendant's ability to secure employment.

Repeals GS 7A-350, which required the Administrative Office of the Courts to keep records of and report on criminal court cost waivers to the specified NCGA committees.

Part II.

Amends GS 15A-1364(a), which provides that when a defendant who has been required to pay a fine or costs defaults in payment or in any installment, the court may require the defendant to appear and show cause why he should not be imprisoned or may rely upon a conditional show cause order. Adds that the court must consider the following minimum factors: (1) defendant's monthly income in relation to the relevant federal poverty guidelines for the defendant's household size; (2) whether the defendant receives public assistance; (3) the defendant's living arrangements and ability to afford or procure housing; (4) whether the defendant resides in a mental health or substance abuse treatment facility; and (5) any limits on the defendant's ability to secure employment. Adds that (a) does not apply to a defendant who has received an active sentence in the same case in which the defendant has defaulted on the payment.

Amends GS 15A-1365, which allows the judge to order that the judgment be docketed when a defendant has defaulted in payment of a fine or costs. Provides that the clerk may not issue an execution on the docketed judgement if the fine or costs were imposed for an offense other than trafficking in controlled substances or conspiring to traffic in controlled substances and the defendant is serving an active sentence (was, the defendant elects to serve the suspended sentence, if any, or serve a term of 30 days, if no suspended sentence was imposed).

Part III.

Enacts new GS 20-24.3, prohibiting the Division of Motor Vehicles (Division) from revoking the drivers license of a person charged with an infraction, misdemeanor, or felony if revocation is solely due to failure to appear after proper notice when the case was called for a trial or hearing, and/or failure to pay a fine, penalty, or court costs ordered by the court.

Makes conforming repeals of (1) GS 20-24.1, which requires the Division to revoke the driver's license of a person upon receipt of notice from a court that the person was charged with a motor vehicle offense and either failed to appear after proper notice when the case was called for a trial or hearing; or failed to pay a court-ordered fine, penalty, or court costs, and (2) GS 20-24.2, which requires a court to report to the Division the name of any person charged with a motor vehicle offense under the Chapter who fails to appear to answer the charge as scheduled or fails to pay a fine, penalty, or costs within 40 days of the date specified in the court's judgment. Makes conforming changes to GS 15A-1116; GS 20-13.2; GS 20-19(k); GS 20-28.1; GS 20-217(g2); GS 50-13.12; and GS 110-142.2(f).

Further amends GS 20-217(g2), regarding the required withholding of the registration renewal of a motor vehicle registered to a person who fails to pay any fine or costs imposed pursuant to the statute for failing to stop for properly marked and designated school buses in certain instances. Directs the Division to continue to withhold the registration renewal until the clerk of superior court notifies the Division that the person has satisfied each of the four specified conditions applicable to the person's case, including (1) disposing of the charge in which the person failed to appear when the case was last called for trial or hearing; (2) demonstrating to the court that the person is not the person charged with the offense; (3) paying the penalty, fine, or costs ordered by the court; and/or (4) demonstrating to the court that the person's failure to pay the penalty, fine, or costs was not willful and that the person is making a good-faith effort to pay or that the penalty, fine, or costs should be remitted.

Further amends GS 50-13.12, which governs forfeiture of licensing privileges for failure to pay child support or for failure to comply with a subpoena issued pursuant to child support or paternity establishment proceedings. Clarifies that reinstatement of a drivers license under the statute is conditioned upon payment of the applicable restoration fees in addition to the specified requirements.

Similarly, further amends GS 110-142.2, which governs suspension and revocation of occupational, professional, or business licenses of obligors who are delinquent in court-ordered child support, or who are not in compliance with subpoenas issued pursuant to child support or paternity establishment proceedings. Clarifies that reinstatement of a drivers license under the statute is conditioned upon payment of the applicable restoration fees in addition to the specified requirements.

Effective October 1, 2025.

Part IV.

Amends GS 143B-1483 to explicitly provide that a judge can waive the \$250 fee required for participation in the community service program for good cause.

Part V.

Eliminates the court costs set forth for seat belt infractions in GS 20-135.2A; maintains the civil penalty for the infraction. Applies to costs and fees assessed on or after October 1, 2025.

Part VI.

Amends GS 15A-1343 to require a court to exempt a person from paying the \$40 per month fee for supervised probation when probation is extended for the sole purpose of complying with monetary obligations. Makes conforming changes. Applies to supervision fees incurred in the calendar month of the date the act becomes law and all subsequent supervision fees incurred in the same term of supervised probation.

Intro. by Alston, Buansi, Brockman, Charles Smith.

[GS 7A](#), [GS 15A](#), [GS 20](#), [GS 50](#), [GS 110](#), [GS 143B](#)

[View summary](#)

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

H 725 (2025-2026) [MOMNIBUS 3.0](#). Filed Apr 2 2025, *AN ACT TO ENACT THE NORTH CAROLINA MOMNIBUS ACT*.

Identical to [S 571](#), and filed on 3/25/25.

Includes whereas clauses.

Part I.

Requires the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to establish and operate a Maternal Mortality Prevention Grant Program (grant program) to award grants to eligible entities to establish or expand programs for the prevention of maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity among black women. Requires applicants to be community-based organizations offering programs and resources aligned with evidence-based practices for improving maternal health outcomes for black women. Requires DHHS, beginning July 1, 2025, to conduct outreach to encourage eligible applicants to apply and provide application assistance. Awards grants with amounts ranging from \$10,000 to \$50,000. Sets out criteria to be considered when awarding the grants. Sets out the types of technical assistance DHHS must provide. Requires DHHS to report to the specified NCGA committee and division by October 1, 2026, and October 1, 2027; sets out issues to be addressed in the report.

Appropriates the following from the General Fund to DHHS, Division of Public Health, for each year of the 2025-27 biennium: (1) \$93,513 in nonrecurring funds to establish a time limited, full-time Public Health Program Coordinator IV position to provide application assistance and technical assistance to recipients, and prepare the required report and (2) \$4,906,487 in nonrecurring funds to be allocated to the Maternal Mortality Prevention Grant Program. Allows up to 1% of these funds to be used for administrative purposes related to the grant program. Authorizes DHHS to hire one full-time, time-limited Public Health Program Coordinator IV position. Effective July 1, 2025.

Part II.

Enacts new GS 130A-33.62, providing as follows. Requires DHHS, in collaboration with (1) community-based organizations led by black women that serve primarily black birthing people and (2) a historically black college or university or other institution that primarily serves minority populations to create or identify an evidence-based implicit bias training program (training program) for health care professionals involved in perinatal care (the provision of care during pregnancy, labor, delivery, and postpartum and neonatal periods). Sets out 12 minimum components of the training program, including identification of previous or current unconscious biases and misinformation; identification of personal, interpersonal, institutional, structural, and cultural barriers to inclusion; corrective measures to decrease implicit bias at the interpersonal and institutional levels; and information about how to communicate more effectively across identities. Requires all health care professionals to complete the training program, specifying deadlines for completion depending on whether the individual is licensed before or after January 1, 2026. Requires proof of completion for license/registration/accreditation/certification renewal. Defines a health care professional as a licensed physician or other health care provider licensed, registered, accredited, or certified to perform perinatal care and regulated under the authority of a health care professional licensing authority. Encourages DHHS to seek opportunities to make the training program available to all health care professions and to promote

its use among four specified types of providers and programs. Requires DHHS to collect specified information related to maternal mortality to inform ongoing improvements to the training program.

Enacts GS 130A-33.63 specifying that a patient getting care at a perinatal care facility (a hospital, clinic, or birthing center providing perinatal care in the state) has six listed rights, including: to be informed of continuing health care requirements following discharge; to actively participate in decisions regarding the patient's medical care and the right to refuse treatment; and to receive care and treatment free from discrimination on the basis of age, race, ethnicity, color, religion, ancestry, disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, citizenship, nationality, immigration status, primary language, or language proficiency. Requires perinatal care facilities to provide patients upon admission with a written copy of the rights.

Effective October 1, 2025.

Appropriates \$2.5 million in recurring funds for each year of the 2025-27 biennium from the General Fund to DHHS, Division of Public Health, to establish and administer the training. Effective July 1, 2025.

Part III.

Appropriates \$3 million for each year of the 2025-27 biennium from the General Fund to the UNC Board of Governors for recruiting, training, and retaining a diverse workforce of lactation consultants in North Carolina by supporting the infrastructure and sustainability of lactation consultant training programs at Historically Black Colleges and Universities located within the State, to be distributed equally between Bennett College, Fayetteville State University, Johnson C. Smith University, North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University, and North Carolina Central University to cover costs of administering a lactation training program, including specified costs that include student aid. Requires DHHS to give technical assistance to those schools concerning developing training content, recruitment from historically marginalized populations to enroll, recruitment of historically underutilized providers to serve as teachers and preceptors, and identifying rural and medically underserved areas of the State experiencing a shortage of lactation consultants in order to recruit program graduates to work in these areas. Requires a report by May 1, 2028, to the specified NCGA committees on the benefits the state received due to the funding of the training programs. Sets out items that must be included in the report. Effective July 1, 2025.

Part IV.

Requires DHHS to establish a Perinatal Education Grant Program awarding competitive grants to eligible entities to establish or expand perinatal education programs in rural, underserved, or low-wealth areas of the State. Defines perinatal education program as one that operates for the primary purpose of educating pregnant women and their families about healthy pregnancy, preparation for labor and birth, breast feeding, newborn care, or any combination of these. Requires applicants to be community-based organizations that offer perinatal education and resources aligned with evidence-based practices for improving maternal health outcomes for black women. Requires DHHS to conduct outreach and application assistance beginning September 1, 2025. Requires outreach to give special consideration to eligible applicants who: (1) are based in, and provide support for, communities with high rates of adverse maternal health outcomes and significant racial and ethnic disparities in maternal health outcomes; (2) are led by black women; and (3) offer programs and resources that are aligned with evidence-based practices for improving maternal health outcomes for black women.

Requires individual grants to be no less than \$10,000 or more than \$50,000. Terminates the program on June 30, 2027.

Requires DHHS to submit a report to the specified NCGA committee and division by October 1, 2028, on the specified information. Appropriates \$3 million for each year of the 2025-27 fiscal biennium from the General Fund to DHHS for this grant program; allows DHHS to use up to 5% of these funds for administrative purposes. Effective July 1, 2025.

Part V.

Appropriates \$6.5 million for each year of the 2025-27 biennium from the General Fund to DHHS, Division of Public Health (DPH) to create a Momni-Bus Initiative to fund efforts to expand access to maternal and infant health care and parenting programs, supports, and services to families residing in geographic areas of the State where there is limited or no access to maternity care services, including obstetric providers, a hospital or birth center, prenatal care, or postpartum care. Requires funds to be allocated in specified amounts for (1) a directed grant to the March of Dimes, Inc., and (2) for directed grants on a competitive basis to nonprofit, community-based, and faith-based organizations that offer programs, supports, and services aligned with evidence-based practices for a healthy pregnancy through the postpartum period, infant health and care, and

parenting programs, supports, and services. Requires DPH to report to the specified NCGA committee and division by October 1, 2027, and October 1, 2028, on the grants that were awarded. Effective July 1, 2025.

Intro. by von Haefen, Hawkins, Alston, Johnson-Hostler.

APPROP, GS 130A

[View summary](#)

Government, Budget/Appropriations, State Agencies, UNC System, Department of Health and Human Services, Health and Human Services, Health, Health Care Facilities and Providers, Public Health

H 731 (2025-2026) **FUNDS FOR PAULI MURRAY CENTER**. Filed Apr 2 2025, *AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE PAULI MURRAY CENTER IN DURHAM*.

Identical to [S 288](#), and filed on 3/13/25.

Appropriates \$150,000 for 2025-26 from the General Fund to the Office of State Budget and Management for a directed grant to the Pauli Murray Center for History and Social Justice for the development of the Pauli Murray Center Green. Effective July 1, 2025.

Intro. by Alston, Hawkins, Jeffers, Morey.

APPROP

[View summary](#)

Government, Budget/Appropriations, State Agencies, Office of State Budget and Management

H 737 (2025-2026) **LICENSING COURSE REMOVAL/INSURANCE PRODUCERS**. Filed Apr 2 2025, *AN ACT TO ELIMINATE THE TRAINING COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR INSURANCE PRODUCER LICENSURE*.

Identical to [S 377](#), and filed on 3/20/25.

Prevents the Insurance Commissioner (IC) from requiring an applicant for an insurance producer license or a resident applicant for a Medicare supplement and long-term care supplementary license to complete any specific amount of instruction or specific course in GS 58-33-30. Specifies that any producer training course developed to prepare an applicant for the examination required under GS 58-33-30(e) must be approved by the IC. Makes technical and conforming changes. Modifies GS 58-33-32 (interstate reciprocity in producer licensing) to authorize required pre-licensing education in such instances.

Applies to licensure applications submitted on or after October 1, 2025.

Intro. by Humphrey, Balkcom.

GS 58

[View summary](#)

Business and Commerce, Insurance, Occupational Licensing

H 739 (2025-2026) **FUNDS FOR WILSON & NASH COUNTIES**. Filed Apr 2 2025, *AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR VARIOUS PUBLIC PURPOSES IN WILSON AND NASH COUNTIES*.

Appropriates \$61.3 million from the General Fund to the Office of State Budget and Management for 2025-26 to provide directed grants to

- the Town of Lucama for water infrastructure;
- the Town of Stantonsburg for water and sewer projects;
- Wilson County
 - for allocation to the County's volunteer fire departments,

- for school construction,
- for the construction of a new courthouse,
- for the Sheriff's Office Training Center,
- to provide Narcan for the Wilson County schools and libraries, and
- for the Wilson Ride Program;
- the Wilson Housing Authority; and
- the Town of Sharpsburg for the construction of a new Police Department.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Intro. by Pittman.

APPROP, Nash, Wilson

[View summary](#)

Courts/Judiciary, Education, Government, Budget/Appropriations, Public Safety and Emergency Management, State Agencies, Office of State Budget and Management, Health and Human Services, Health, Transportation

H 741 (2025-2026) **VETERANS REGISTRATION PLATE MODIFICATIONS**. Filed Apr 2 2025, *AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES TO ISSUE THE MILITARY VETERAN SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATE ON A PERSONALIZED BACKGROUND AND MODIFYING THE DESCRIPTION OF THE MILITARY VETERAN SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATE.*

Amends GS 20-63 to allow the Division of Motor Vehicles to issue a military veteran special plate on a personalized background.

Amends GS 20-79.4 by amending the design of the military veteran plate to specify where design elements are to be placed.

Effective October 1, 2025.

Intro. by Blackwell, Wheatley, Shepard, Iler.

GS 20

[View summary](#)

Government, State Agencies, Department of Military & Veterans Affairs, Department of Transportation, Transportation

H 745 (2025-2026) **FAIR COMPETITION STUDY ACT**. Filed Apr 2 2025, *AN ACT TO CONDUCT A STUDY FOR IMPROVEMENTS AND REFORM FOR FAIR COMPETITION IN NORTH CAROLINA'S ENERGY MARKET.*

Identical to [S 716](#), and filed on 3/25/25.

Contains whereas clauses.

Directs the Public Utilities Commission to conduct a study assessing (1) the costs and benefits of the current energy market in the state, (2) possible reforms to the Southeastern Energy Exchange Market, (3) the feasibility and costs/benefits of an energy imbalance market or regional transmission organization along with South Carolina, or in the Southeastern United States, and (4) what legal and procedural requirements would be required for establishing a market with South Carolina or an organization with a larger geographic grid. Provides relevant definitions for the terms used in the study.

Requires the Commission to initiate the study within 90 days of the effective date of the act, and to submit a written report to the Joint Legislative Energy Policy Commission within one year of the effective date. Allows the Commission to contract for professional and consultant services, and directs the Commission to seek federal funding to the extent available. Provides broader direction on the analysis for each of the four categories for the study.

Appropriates \$350,000 from the General Fund for the 2025-2026 fiscal year to the Public Utilities Commission to conduct the study.

Intro. by Moss, Harrison, Hawkins, Cervania.

[APPROP, STUDY](#)

[View summary](#)

[Environment, Energy, Public Enterprises and Utilities](#)

H 748 (2025-2026) [FUNDS/GREENSBORO WATER AND WASTEWATER](#). Filed Apr 2 2025, *AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE CITY OF GREENSBORO FOR WATER AND WASTEWATER IMPROVEMENTS*.

Appropriates \$5 million for 2025-26 from the General Fund to the Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Infrastructure, to the City of Greensboro for planning and preliminary work for water and wastewater extensions to economic development site at Piedmont Triad International Airport. Effective July 1, 2025.

Intro. by Clark, Blust, Branson, Quick.

[APPROP, Guilford](#)

[View summary](#)

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

H 749 (2025-2026) [GREENSBORO PUBLIC SAFETY FUNDS](#). Filed Apr 2 2025, *AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE CITY OF GREENSBORO FOR VARIOUS PUBLIC SAFETY NEEDS*.

Appropriates \$9,818,000 from the General Fund to the Office of State Budget and Management for 2025-26 to provide a directed grant to the City of Greensboro to construct a new fire station to serve the north side of the Piedmont Triad International Airport and to relocate, enhance, and operate the Police Department's Real Time Intelligence Center. Effective July 1, 2025.

Intro. by Clark, Blust, Quick, Harrison.

[APPROP, Guilford](#)

[View summary](#)

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

H 750 (2025-2026) [COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER GRANTS FOR LARCS](#). Filed Apr 2 2025, *AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH, TO PROVIDE GRANTS TO NONPROFIT COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS FOR THE PURCHASE AND DISTRIBUTION OF LONG-ACTING REVERSIBLE CONTRACEPTIVES*.

Identical to [S 352](#), and filed on 3/19/25.

Appropriates \$2.5 million in recurring funds from the General Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health for each year of the 2025-27 fiscal biennium to be used to award grants to nonprofit community health centers for the purchase and provision of long-acting reversible contraceptives for underserved, uninsured, or medically indigent patients. Defines long-acting reversible contraceptives to mean a drug or device that meets four specified criteria, including that the design is a temporary method of birth control that can be discontinued and is an FDA approved contraceptive. Effective July 1, 2025.

Intro. by Johnson-Hostler, Clark.

[APPROP](#)

[View summary](#)

**Government, Budget/Appropriations, State Agencies,
Department of Health and Human Services, Health and
Human Services, Health, Health Care Facilities and Providers,
Public Health**

H 756 (2025-2026) [FUNDS FOR HARMONY EMPOWERMENT LIFE CENTER](#). Filed Apr 2 2025, *AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE HARMONY EMPOWERMENT LIFE CENTER FOR EXPANSION OF ITS PROGRAM TO ADDITIONAL COUNTIES*.

Appropriates \$100,000 from the General Fund to the Office of State Budget and Management for 2025-26 for a directed grant to Harmony Empowerment Life Center for "Never Limit an Athlete's Mind" program as title indicates. Effective July 1, 2025.

Intro. by K. Brown.

[APPROP, Anson, Durham, Forsyth, Guilford, Mecklenburg,
Union, Wake](#)

[View summary](#)

**Government, Budget/Appropriations, State Agencies, Office of
State Budget and Management**

H 757 (2025-2026) [FUNDS FOR JOYFUL SOUL TREASURES](#). Filed Apr 2 2025, *AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO JOYFUL SOUL TREASURES, INC.*

Appropriates \$31,000 from the General Fund to the Office of State Budget and Management for 2025-26 to provide a directed grant to Joyful Soul Treasures, Inc., a nonprofit organization, to assist the organization with its campaign aimed at enhancing sexual health education and awareness among adolescents. Effective July 1, 2025.

Intro. by K. Brown.

[APPROP](#)

[View summary](#)

**Government, Budget/Appropriations, State Agencies, Office of
State Budget and Management, Health and Human Services,
Health**

H 758 (2025-2026) [FUNDS FOR MIND AND HEART HAVEN PROJECT](#). Filed Apr 2 2025, *AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE MIND AND HEART HAVEN PROJECT*.

Appropriates \$100,000 from the General Fund to the Office of State Budget and Management for 2025-26 to provide a directed grant to the Agency for Families in Distress, Inc., a nonprofit organization, to address the growing mental health crisis in Winston-Salem, Forsyth County, and North Carolina. Effective July 1, 2025.

Intro. by K. Brown.

[APPROP, Forsyth](#)

[View summary](#)

**Government, Budget/Appropriations, State Agencies, Office of
State Budget and Management, Health and Human Services,
Mental Health**

H 759 (2025-2026) [FAMILY AND COMMUNITY WELLNESS ACT/FUNDS](#). Filed Apr 2 2025, *AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO FORSYTH COUNTY TO SUPPORT THE FAMILY AND COMMUNITY WELLNESS INITIATIVE AND WORK-BASED LEARNING PARENT PROGRAM AND SERVICE-LEARNING PROJECT*.

Appropriates \$100,000 from the General Fund to the Office of State Budget and Management for 2025-26 to provide a directed grant to Forsyth County to be used to support the Family and Community Wellness Initiative by funding two mobile units to provide essential health, social services, and nutritional support to residents of Forsyth, Davidson, Davie, Guilford, Randolph, Stokes, and Yadkin Counties and to establish a work-based learning parent program and service-learning project for adult learners. Effective July 1, 2025.

Intro. by K. Brown.

APPROP, Davidson, Davie, Forsyth, Guilford, Randolph, Stokes, Yadkin

[View summary](#)

Government, Budget/Appropriations

H 766 (2025-2026) [EXPAND ACCESS TO TEEN MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID](#). Filed Apr 3 2025, *AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DIVISION OF CHILD AND FAMILY WELL-BEING, TO EXPAND ACCESS TO TEEN MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING.*

Includes whereas clauses.

Appropriates \$1,873,863 from the General Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child and Family Well-Being, for 2025-26 to expand access to Teen Mental Health First Aid training in North Carolina.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Intro. by Lofton, Lambeth, White, Cunningham.

APPROP

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Government, Budget/Appropriations, State Agencies, Department of Health and Human Services, Health and Human Services, Mental Health

H 769 (2025-2026) [NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE BANK](#). Filed Apr 3 2025, *A HOUSE RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO ENDORSE A NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE BANK.*

Includes whereas clauses.

Encourages the US Congress to pass HR 4052, or its equivalent, to create a National Infrastructure Bank to finance urgently needed infrastructure projects.

Intro. by Willingham.

HOUSE RES

[View summary](#)

Government, General Assembly

H 779 (2025-2026) [DESIGNATE CHILDREN'S DAY](#). Filed Apr 3 2025, *AN ACT DESIGNATING THE FIRST SUNDAY OF JUNE OF EACH YEAR AS CHILDREN'S DAY IN NORTH CAROLINA.*

Includes whereas clauses.

Enacts GS 103-19 as title indicates.

Intro. by Cervania, Schietzelt.

GS 103

[View summary](#)

Government, Cultural Resources and Museums

H 783 (2025-2026) [FUNDS FOR SIDEKICKS ACADEMY](#). Filed Apr 3 2025, *AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR SIDEKICKS ACADEMY, INC., FOR OPERATING EXPENSES.*

Appropriates \$100,000 from the General Fund to the Office of State Budget and Management for 2025-26 to provide a directed grant to Sidekicks Academy, Inc., to provide its program that helps empower marginalized students in the Durham Public Schools through the combination of the martial arts, character development, and community support. Funds will be used for training attire, safety equipment, an intra-school tournament, digital advertising, staff salary, and field and tournament trips. Effective July 1, 2025.

Intro. by Alston, Hawkins, Jeffers, Morey.

[APPROP, Durham](#)

[View summary](#)

[Government, Budget/Appropriations, State Agencies, Office of State Budget and Management](#)

H 791 (2025-2026) [WOMEN'S SAFETY AND PROTECTION ACT](#). Filed Apr 3 2025, *AN ACT TO DEFINE VARIOUS TERMS IN THE GENERAL STATUTES OF NORTH CAROLINA AND TO ENACT THE WOMEN'S SAFETY AND PROTECTION ACT.*

Identical to [S 516](#), filed 3/25/25.

Amends GS 12-3 (Rules for construction of statutes) to create new subsection (b), providing definitions applicable throughout the General Statutes for the following terms: (1) Biological sex or sex, (2) Boy, (3) Father, (4) Female, (5) Gender, (6) Girl, (7) Male, (8) Man, (9) Mother, and (10) Woman. Definition of “biological sex” excludes “an individual's psychological, chosen, or subjective experience of gender,” and definitions of “female” and “male” reference the specific reproductive systems associated with eggs and sperm, respectively. Definitions of “girl,” “woman,” and “mother” reference the female sex, and “boy,” “man,” and “father” reference the male sex.

Creates new GS Chapter 143, Article 81B (Women’s Safety and Protection Act), with the stated purpose of clarifying the meaning of terms biological sex and gender, and providing protections to women against sexual assault, harassment, and violence in correctional facilities, domestic violence centers, dormitories, restrooms, and other areas where women are traditionally afforded protection from biological men. Establishes definitions for the Article, including “covered facility,” which includes prisons, local confinement facilities, domestic violence and rape crisis centers, and public schools, that receive state funds. Directs that restrooms, changing facilities, and sleeping quarters at covered facilities may only be used by one designated biological sex at a time, and requires administrative rules or policies if the facilities are to be used by different sexes at any point in time. Provides an exemption to this restriction for family restrooms, changing rooms, and sleeping quarters. Prohibits students from sharing sleeping quarters with members of the opposite sex at any public school activity or event, unless they are a member of the same family and the public school has received approval from a legal guardian. Provides exceptions for custodial work, medical assistance, law enforcement, and disaster or emergency situations.

Specifies the standard of review under Article 81B is intermediate scrutiny, which is defined as forbidding discrimination but allowing for distinctions between biological sexes when there is an important governmental interest.

Provides a cause of action for individuals who encounter a person of the opposite biological sex in the restroom, changing facility, or sleeping quarters of a covered facility, if the facility gave the person permission to use the space or failed to take steps to prevent the person from accessing the space. Allows contractors who provide services at women’s covered facilities to bring an action against any state agency that directs them to violate the provisions of Article 81B. Grants a cause of action to any person retaliated against for asserting rights protected by the Article. Provides for appropriate relief, including damages and injunctive relief, for an action brought under the Article, and creates a three-year statute of limitations.

Removes the ability to request a change to the sex on an individual's birth record because of sex reassignment surgery in GS 130A-118(b) and makes corresponding changes to the subsection. Applicable to requests received on or after the date the act becomes law.

Requires that a driver's license application form request information on the applicant's sex "as reflected on the applicant's certificate of birth," and that a driver's license issued by the Division of Motor Vehicles contain the license holder's sex "as reflected on the applicant's certificate of birth" in GS 20-7. Applies to driver's licenses issued on or after the date the act becomes law.

Contains a severability clause.

Except for the birth certificate and driver's license provisions above, effective and applicable to acts and omissions on or after October 1, 2025.

Intro. by Balkcom, Stevens, Rhyne, Eddins.

[GS 12, GS 20, GS 130A, GS 143](#)

[View summary](#)

[Courts/Judiciary, Civil, Civil Law, Motor Vehicle, Criminal Justice, Corrections \(Sentencing/Probation\), Education, Elementary and Secondary Education, Higher Education, Government, State Government](#)

PUBLIC/SENATE BILLS

S 224 (2025-2026) [GABRIEL ESPARZA/SECRETARY OF DOA](#). Filed Mar 3 2025, *A SENATE RESOLUTION CONFIRMING GABRIEL J. ESPARZA AS SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION.*

Senate amendment to the 1st edition provides that the Senate confirms (was, Senate must consider whether to confirm) Gabriel Esparza as the Secretary of the Department of Administration. Removes the whereas clauses and makes conforming changes to the act's long title.

Intro. by Rabon.

[UNCODIFIED](#)

[View summary](#)

[Government, General Assembly, State Agencies, Department of Administration](#)

S 260 (2025-2026) [CONFIRM DR. DEVDUTTA SANGVAI/DHHS](#). Filed Mar 10 2025, *A SENATE RESOLUTION CONFIRMING DR. DEVDUTTA SANGVAI AS SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.*

Senate amendment to the 1st edition provides that the Senate confirms (was, Senate must consider whether to confirm) Dr. Devdutta Sangvai as Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services. Removes the whereas clauses and makes conforming changes to the act's long title.

Intro. by Rabon.

[UNCODIFIED](#)

[View summary](#)

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

ACTIONS ON BILLS

PUBLIC BILLS

H 15: SUPPORT PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS.

House: Regular Message Sent To Senate

Senate: Regular Message Received From House

Senate: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 50: LEO SPECIAL SEPARATION ALLOWANCE OPTIONS.

Senate: Regular Message Received From House

Senate: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 53: INCREASE ACCIDENT THRESHOLDS/SAFE DRIVER PLAN.

House: Reptd Fav

House: Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b)

House: Placed On Cal For 04/09/2025

H 67: INTERSTATE MEDICAL LICENSURE COMPACT.

Senate: Regular Message Received From House

Senate: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 71: RESPIRATORY CARE MODERNIZATION ACT.

Senate: Regular Message Received From House

Senate: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 83: REVISE LAWS GOVERNING MINORS.

House: Regular Message Sent To Senate

Senate: Regular Message Received From House

Senate: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 96: EXPEDITED REMOVAL OF UNAUTHORIZED PERSONS.

House: Regular Message Sent To Senate

H 123: CRIMINAL FALSIFICATION OF MEDICAL RECORDS.

House: Reptd Fav

House: Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b)

House: Placed On Cal For 04/09/2025

H 135: MISBRANDING/CELL-CULTURED MEAT/ENV. ASSESS.

House: Withdrawn From Com

House: Re-ref to the Com on Health, if favorable, Commerce and Economic Development, if favorable, Agriculture and Environment, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 141: THE JOE JOHN REMEMBRANCE ACT.

House: Regular Message Sent To Senate

Senate: Regular Message Received From House

Senate: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 149: SCHOOL FINANCIAL FLEXIBILITY PILOT PROGRAM.

House: Reptd Fav

House: Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b)

House: Placed On Cal For 04/09/2025

H 160: JOEL H. CRISP SUDEP AWARENESS LAW.

House: Reptd Fav

House: Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b)

House: Placed On Cal For 04/08/2025

H 171: EQUALITY IN STATE AGENCIES/PROHIBITION ON DEL.

House: Reptd Fav

House: Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b)

House: Placed On Cal For 04/08/2025

H 189: RED LIGHT CAMERA DELAY INTERVAL.

House: Regular Message Sent To Senate

Senate: Regular Message Received From House

Senate: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 206: MOD. GUN RETRIEVAL - DVOS/JUVENILE 911 CALLS.

House: Regular Message Sent To Senate

Senate: Regular Message Received From House

Senate: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 227: U.S. & N.C. FLAGS/MADE IN USA.

House: Reptd Fav

House: Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b)

House: Placed On Cal For 04/08/2025

H 231: SOCIAL WORK INTERSTATE LICENSURE COMPACT.

Senate: Regular Message Received From House

Senate: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 251: DISASTER RESPONSE FUNDING/NONDISCRIMINATION.

Senate: Regular Message Received From House

Senate: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 258: UTILITY WORKER PROTECTION ACT.

House: Reptd Fav

House: Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b)

House: Placed On Cal For 04/09/2025

H 266: ADOPT WOMEN VETERANS DAY.

House: Reptd Fav

House: Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b)

House: Placed On Cal For 04/08/2025

H 268: 2025 UNC SELF-LIQUIDATING CAPITAL PROJECTS.

Senate: Regular Message Received From House

Senate: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 295: REQ. DOT TO INSTALL PROP. CORNER MARKERS.

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

H 297: BREAST CANCER PREVENTION IMAGING PARITY.

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

H 298: LOCAL GOV'TS/SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT FEES.

House: Withdrawn From Com
House: Re-ref to the Com on Housing and Development, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 308: CRIMINAL LAW CHANGES.

House: Reptd Fav
House: Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b)
House: Placed On Cal For 04/09/2025

H 331: ADOPT OFFICIAL STATE RICE FESTIVAL.

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

H 354: CIVIL PROCEDURE/GATEKEEPER ORDERS/DATABASE.

House: Reptd Fav
House: Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b)
House: Placed On Cal For 04/09/2025

H 355: OSFM TO STUDY FUTURE OF RURAL FIREFIGHTING. (NEW)

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

H 357: CONTINUING CARE RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES ACT.-AB

House: Reptd Fav Com Substitute
House: Re-ref Com On Finance

H 358: MAINTAIN NAIC ACCREDITATION OF DOI.-AB

House: Reptd Fav
House: Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b)
House: Placed On Cal For 04/09/2025

H 370: GSC UNIFORM ACTS REGARDING CHILDREN.

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

H 377: CHANGES TO ESTATES AND TRUSTS STATUTES.

House: Reptd Fav
House: Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b)
House: Placed On Cal For 04/09/2025

H 382: ELK PERMIT AUCTION/RAFFLE.

House: Regular Message Sent To Senate
Senate: Regular Message Received From House
Senate: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 388: AMEND BUSINESS CORPORATIONS ACT.

House: Regular Message Sent To Senate

Senate: Regular Message Received From House

Senate: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 389: CHILD CARE WORKFORCE PILOT PROGRAM. (NEW)

House: Reptd Fav

House: Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b)

House: Placed On Cal For 04/09/2025

H 397: USE OF EPINEPHRINE NASAL SPRAY. (NEW)

House: Reptd Fav

House: Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b)

House: Placed On Cal For 04/09/2025

H 424: GAMING LAWS/ALLOW CERTAIN SOCIAL GAMES.

House: Withdrawn From Com

House: Re-ref to the Com on Judiciary 1, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 481: GSC TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS 2025 PART 2.

House: Reptd Fav

House: Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b)

House: Placed On Cal For 04/09/2025

H 577: PROTECT TOWERS AND TRUCKERS ACT.

House: Serial Referral To Finance Stricken

House: Serial Referral To Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House Stricken

House: Withdrawn From Com

House: Re-ref to the Com on Transportation, if favorable, Appropriations, if favorable, Finance, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 636: PROMOTING WHOLESOME CONTENT FOR STUDENTS.

House: Withdrawn From Com

House: Re-ref to the Com on Education - K-12, if favorable, Judiciary 1, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 663: LIVING DONOR PROTECTION ACT.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 664: ELIMINATE PET SCANNERS FROM CON REVIEW.

House: Passed 1st Reading

House: Ref to the Com on Health, if favorable, Regulatory Reform, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 665: DPI DISASTER PREPAREDNESS FUND.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 666: WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION TERM LIMITS.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 667: REDUCE BARRIERS TO COLLEGE COMPLETION.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 668: NC WORKING FAMILIES ECONOMIC RELIEF ACT.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 669: VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 670: WORKFORCE CREDENTIAL GRANT PROGRAM/CCP.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 671: COMPETITIVE SPEECH AND DEBATE GRANT PILOT.

House: Passed 1st Reading

House: Ref to the Com on Education - K-12, if favorable, Appropriations, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 672: PHYSICIAN ASSIST. OMNIBUS/TEAM-BASED/COMPACT.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 673: NEONATAL TRANSPORT ASSISTANCE.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 674: THE FIREARMS LIBERTY ACT.

House: Passed 1st Reading

House: Ref to the Com on Judiciary 2, if favorable, State and Local Government, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 675: EMT PERSONNEL CREDENTIALING MODIFICATIONS.

House: Passed 1st Reading

House: Ref to the Com on Emergency Management and Disaster Recovery, if favorable, Regulatory Reform, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 676: FUNDS FOR HAYWOOD COUNTY SCHOOLS.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 677: OPEN MOVIE CAPTIONING IN MOVIE THEATERS.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 678: ENSURE CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 679: FUNDS FOR SPRING LAKE PROJECTS.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 680: THE PROTECT CHILDREN FROM CANNABIS ACT.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 681: UPDATE OPIOID ABATEMENT TREATMENT PROG. RULES.

House: Passed 1st Reading

House: Ref to the Com on Health, if favorable, Regulatory Reform, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 682: PUBLIC SAFETY THROUGH FOOD ACCESS ACT.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 683: EXPAND DISABLED VETERAN PROP. TAX EXCLUSION.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 684: ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IN NORTH CAROLINA.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 685: RURAL NC REINVESTMENT ACT.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 686: SAFE COSMETICS ACT.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 687: CLARIFY LAWS REGULATING PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 688: FUNDS FOR INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUNDS.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 689: EXPANDING WORKFORCE AND EDUCATION ACT.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 690: THE CITIZENS SUPPORT ACT.

House: Passed 1st Reading

House: Ref to the Com on Judiciary 2, if favorable, State and Local Government, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 691: VOTER PROTECTION AND RELIANCE ACT.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 692: AEDS AND CPR IN SCHOOLS.

House: Passed 1st Reading

House: Ref to the Com on Education - K-12, if favorable, Appropriations, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 693: INTERSTATE MESSAGE COMPACT.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 694: STUDY WATER/WASTEWATER REGIONALIZATION.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 695: SUPPORT VIPER/ASSIST 911 OPERATIONS/DISPATCH.

House: Passed 1st Reading

House: Ref to the Com on Emergency Management and Disaster Recovery, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 696: HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONER TRANSPARENCY ACT.

House: Passed 1st Reading

House: Ref to the Com on Health, if favorable, Regulatory Reform, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 697: NC GENETIC COUNSELORS WORKFORCE ACT.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 698: CENTER FOR MISSING PERSONS TO HIGHWAY PATROL.

House: Passed 1st Reading

House: Ref to the Com on Emergency Management and Disaster Recovery, if favorable, State and Local Government, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 699: SHERIFF'S DEPUTIES/DISMISSALS.

House: Passed 1st Reading

House: Ref to the Com on Judiciary 1, if favorable, State and Local Government, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 700: THE PATIENTS' RESTORATION OF RIGHTS ACT.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 701: ADOPT LAFAYETTE DAY.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 702: CHIROPRACTIC EDUCATION CHANGES.

House: Passed 1st Reading

House: Ref to the Com on Health, if favorable, Regulatory Reform, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 703: MEMORIALS IN VETERANS CEMETERIES.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 704: ESTABLISH AAPI HERITAGE COMMISSION.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 705: STUDY CTE LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 706: CHANGE TO NEEDS-BASED CAPITAL FUNDING.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 707: DRONES/CERTAIN VENDOR PURCHASES PROHIBITED.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 708: IROBOT - INCREASING ROBOTICS OPPORTUNITIES.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 709: K-3 LITERACY AND IMPROVEMENT ACT.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 710: MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS UNIT PILOT FOR LSAUS.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 711: RECOVERY SUPPORT VIA REVENUE STABILIZATION.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 712: UNIVERSAL INCOME/PAY-IT-FORWARD FUND.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 713: UNIVERSAL FREE BREAKFAST AND LUNCH.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 714: UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 715: UNIVERSAL PRE-K.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 716: BAIL BOND OMNIBUS.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 717: AMEND NC PEO ACT.-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 718: BAIL BONDSMEN REVISIONS.-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 719: CONTINUING CARE RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES ACT.-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 720: INSURANCE GUARANTY ASSOCIATION ACT REVISIONS.-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 721: MUDDY SNEAKERS/ST. GERARD HOUSE.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 722: ENACT CRIMINAL JUSTICE DEBT REFORM.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 723: TECHNOLOGY COALITIONS STRATEGIC SUPPORT FUND.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 724: NC-FACT.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 725: MOMNIBUS 3.0.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 726: YOUTH MENTORING & ACADEMIC ENHANCEMENT COMM.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 727: MARRIAGE/FAMILY THERAPY MODS.

House: Passed 1st Reading

House: Ref to the Com on Health, if favorable, Regulatory Reform, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 728: SHARED INVESTMENT IN OUR HEROES ACT.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 729: FARMLAND PROTECTION ACT.

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 730: COMPREHENSIVE STATE COMMUNICATIONS.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 731: FUNDS FOR PAULI MURRAY CENTER.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 732: COMMON SENSE GUN REGULATIONS.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 733: THE EVERYBODY EATS ACT.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 734: MODERNIZE DEBT SETTLEMENT PROHIBITION.

House: Passed 1st Reading

House: Ref to the Com on Judiciary 1, if favorable, Finance, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 735: MODERNIZE STI TRANSIT FUNDING.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 736: PHARMACISTS/TEST AND TREAT.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 737: LICENSING COURSE REMOVAL/INSURANCE PRODUCERS.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 738: RESTORE WETLANDS PROTECTIONS.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 739: FUNDS FOR WILSON & NASH COUNTIES.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 740: CONSTITUENT PORTAL/CONTRACTOR LIABILITY LIMIT.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 741: VETERANS REGISTRATION PLATE MODIFICATIONS.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 742: HEALTHY AND HIGH-PERFORMING SCHOOLS.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 743: ALLOW LIVE-IN DSPS IN GROUP HOMES.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 744: FERTILITY PRESERVATION PILOT PROGRAM.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 745: FAIR COMPETITION STUDY ACT.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

House: Withdrawn From Com

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

H 746: LIMITED IMMUNITY/NURSES.

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 747: 2025 WILDLIFE RESOURCES CHANGES.-AB

House: Passed 1st Reading

House: Ref to the Com on Wildlife Resources, if favorable, Judiciary 1, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 748: FUNDS/GREENSBORO WATER AND WASTEWATER.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 749: GREENSBORO PUBLIC SAFETY FUNDS.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 750: COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER GRANTS FOR LARCS.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

House: Withdrawn From Com

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

H 751: UNIFORM ENERGY RATES FOR SEASONAL SERVICE.

House: Passed 1st Reading

House: Ref to the Com on Energy and Public Utilities, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H 752: TRANSPORTATION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUNDING.

House: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 764: ESTABLISH DEATH BY RECKLESS BOATING.

House: Filed

H 765: LOCAL GOV. DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS OMNIBUS.

House: Filed

H 766: EXPAND ACCESS TO TEEN MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID.

House: Filed

H 767: MARKET RATE TEACHER PAY STUDY.

House: Filed

H 768: CLARIFY RADIO COVERAGE EXEMPTIONS/BLDG CODE.

House: Filed

H 769: NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE BANK.

House: Filed

H 770: EST. PROCEDURE/COMPLEX FAMILY FINANCIAL CASES.

House: Filed

H 771: CRIMINAL LAW PROCEDURES.

House: Filed

H 772: NORTH CAROLINA STUDENT LIFELINE ACT.

House: Filed

H 773: SCHOOL PERFORMANCE GRADE CHANGES.

House: Filed

H 774: SCHOOL BREAKFAST FOR ALL.

House: Filed

H 775: CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECKS FOR SCHOOL POSITIONS.

House: Filed

H 776: NC RELIGIOUS FREEDOM RESTORATION ACT.

House: Filed

H 777: EXPRESSING FRENCH FRIENDSHIP.

House: Filed

H 778: EXPRESSING UK FRIENDSHIP.

House: Filed

H 779: DESIGNATE CHILDREN'S DAY.

House: Filed

H 780: ALL PRO DADS & RESPONSIBLE FATHERHOOD NC.

House: Filed

H 781: UNAUTHORIZED PUBLIC CAMPING & SLEEPING.

House: Filed

H 782: CIVIC CLUB REGISTRATION PLATE CLARIFICATION.

House: Filed

H 783: FUNDS FOR SIDEKICKS ACADEMY.

House: Filed

H 784: PROHIBIT ASSAULT WEAPONS.

House: Filed

H 785: SCHOOL FUNDING FLEXIBILITY STUDY.

House: Filed

H 786: WORKING FAMILIES ACT.

House: Filed

H 787: REVISE NC 529 PROGRAM.

House: Filed

H 788: FIX OUR DEMOCRACY.

House: Filed

H 789: MITIGATING FACTOR/PRETRIAL USE OF IID.

House: Filed

H 790: PROHIBIT VAPE/TOBACCO SHOPS NEAR SCHOOLS.

House: Filed

H 791: WOMEN'S SAFETY AND PROTECTION ACT.

House: Filed

S 101: PROTECT CERTAIN TAX-ADVANTAGED ACCOUNTS.

Senate: Passed 2nd Reading

Senate: Passed 3rd Reading

S 124: REDUCE BARRIERS TO STATE EMPLOYMENT.

Senate: Passed 2nd Reading

Senate: Passed 3rd Reading

S 224: GABRIEL ESPARZA/SECRETARY OF DOA.

Senate: Amend Adopted A1

Senate: Engrossed

Senate: Adopted

S 245: THE RAKIM SHACKLEFORD EMBALMING FLUID ACT.

Senate: Withdrawn From Com

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

S 254: ESTABLISH OFFENSE FOR POSS. OF EXPLOSIVE.

Senate: Passed 2nd Reading

Senate: Passed 3rd Reading

S 260: CONFIRM DR. DEVDUTTA SANGVAI/DHHS.

Senate: Amend Adopted A1

Senate: Engrossed

Senate: Adopted

S 307: INFO. RIGHTS OF ESTATE/DEATH OF LLC MEMBER.

Senate: Passed 2nd Reading

Senate: Passed 3rd Reading

S 321: ACCOUNTING WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ACT.

Senate: Passed 2nd Reading

Senate: Passed 3rd Reading

S 449: FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY AND K-20 TECH PLANNING.

Senate: Withdrawn From Com

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

S 639: NORTH CAROLINA FARM ACT OF 2025.

Senate: Withdrawn From Com

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

S 648: AOC AGENCY REQUESTS.-AB

Senate: Withdrawn From Com

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

S 711: ROD CODE OF ETHICS & AMP BREACH NOTICES/COSTS.

Senate: Withdrawn From Com

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

LOCAL BILLS

H 26: TOWN OF MADISON/SATELLITE ANNEXATION.

House: Reptd Fav

House: Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b)

House: Placed On Cal For 04/08/2025

H 63: TOWN OF ANDREWS/DEANNEXATION.

House: Reptd Fav

House: Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b)

House: Placed On Cal For 04/08/2025

H 143: MAYSVILLE OCCUPANCY TAX.

House: Reptd Fav

House: Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b)

House: Placed On Cal For 04/08/2025

H 147: ELIZABETH CITY AND KING/DEANNEXATIONS (NEW).

House: Reptd Fav

House: Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b)

House: Placed On Cal For 04/08/2025

H 173: WAKE COUNTY ETJ.

Senate: Regular Message Received From House

Senate: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 302: PITT CO. BD. OF ED. ELECT. PARTISAN.

Senate: Regular Message Received From House

Senate: Passed 1st Reading

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

H 352: MODIFY WATER AND SEWAGE PROJECT BID REQ. (NEW)

House: Regular Message Sent To Senate

Senate: Regular Message Received From House

Senate: Passed 1st Reading

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

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