

ALERTS

North Carolina Legislative Report - February 19, 2016

February 19, 2016

The General Assembly convened for the 2015 legislative long session on January 14 and adjourned September 30. Lawmakers will return to Raleigh for the short session April 25, 2016. The MVA Public Affairs Legislative Report on North Carolina will be distributed on a bi-weekly basis during the interim to keep you up to date on the latest legislative issues facing the state.

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Committees

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services

The Committee met on Tuesday, February 9. Secretary Rick Brajer gave some opening remarks on the recent Child & Family Services review by Children's Bureau and an update on the Office of Program Evaluation Reporting and Accountability. Joyce Jones, Committee Staff, and Norma Houston, UNC School of Government, gave an update on the contracting specialist & certification program, design & implementation study. Dave Richard, Deputy Secretary for Medical Assistance, and Courtney Cantrell, Director of the Division of Mental Health, gave an update on contracting for mental health services. Cantrell then gave an update on LME/MCO single stream funding. Shelley Carraway, Chief of the Division on Health Services Regulation, Dale Armstrong, Deputy Secretary for Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability Services, and Courtney Cantrell, presented an overview of the 2016 state medical facilities plan. Dr. Chris Conover of Duke University then discussed the economic benefits of less restrictive regulation of advanced-practice registered nurses in North Carolina. Wayne Black, Division of Social Services Director, and Sharon Moore, Work First Policy Consultant, gave an update on the implementation on drug testing for Work First Program Assistance. John Correllus, Director of the Government Data Analytics Center, and Kelly Fuller, Executive Director of the NC HIE Authority, gave an HIE implementation update.

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Medicaid and NC Health Choice

The Committee met on Tuesday, February 9. Secretary Rick Brajer gave some opening remarks and Dave Richard, Deputy Secretary for the Division of Medical Assistance, gave an update on Medicaid and NC Health Choice enrollment. Trey Suttan, Finance Director for the Division of Medical Assistance, and Joe Cooper, Chief Information Officer, then gave an update on the Medicaid and NC Health Choice budget forecast. Dee Jones, Director of Operations of the Division of Health Benefits reviewed the staffing status of the Division of

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Health Benefits and the current work plan for the Division of Health Benefits.

Revenue Laws Study Committee

The Committee met on Tuesday, February 9 and began with a presentation from Alan Woodard, Director of Examinations at the North Carolina Department of Revenue. Mr. Woodard provided information on the Department's efforts with respect to various tax compliance initiatives. Next, legislative staff provided a follow-up presentation and a legislation proposal with respect to market-based sourcing of sales for corporation apportionment purposes. Staff followed with a presentation dealing with issues related sales tax collection on Internet sales. Finally, staff provided information on the fiscal impact to the State and taxpayers of increasing the standard deduction for personal income tax purposes. Due to some technical difficulties with presentation equipment in their committee room, further planned presentations were delayed until the next meeting.

Environmental Review Commission

The Commission held its second meeting of the interim on Wednesday, February 10. After opening remarks from the Commission Co-Chairs, members heard presentations on the disposal of solar panels. Representatives from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), the NC Utilities Commission, NC Sustainable Energy Association and First Solar participated in the discussion. Tom Reeder, DEQ Assistant Secretary for the Environment, briefed the Commission on post-construction stormwater management measures, riparian buffer requirements for intermittent streams and nutrient management in reservoirs. Also participating in the nutrient management discussion was Forest Westall, Upper Neuse River Basin Association and Jim Wrenn with the Stormwater Utility of Granville County. The Commission will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, March 9 at 9:00 a.m.

Congressional Redistricting

Redistricting committees met throughout the week beginning Monday, February 15. The committees met in response to a federal court order requiring the General Assembly to redraw two Congressional districts by February 19. The districts were found to be unconstitutional due to an overreliance on race as a factor in drawing district lines. Highlights of committee meetings included:

- Senate Bill 2. The General Assembly adopted new district lines to take effect unless the Supreme Court of the United States reverses or stays the decision of the United States District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina holding the current district lines to be unconstitutional.
- House Bill 2. The General Assembly ratified legislation to move the primary for U.S. House of Representatives seats to June 7, 2016 (subject to the same contingencies discussed in Senate Bill 2) and made related changes with respect to this change in the primary date. All other primaries would remain on March 15. One of those changes would allow a person to run for separate offices in the March and June primaries (for example, a sitting legislator could run in the primary for his or her legislative seat in March and in the primary for a Congressional seat in June), but an individual who won both primaries would be required to withdraw from one of the races within one week after the certification of results for both primaries. In addition, this bill would eliminate the possibility of a second primary for an office, and instead

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provide that the winner of the primary was the individual receiving the most votes regardless of whether general law requirements were met with respect to receiving a minimum percentage of votes cast in the election.

In The News

Raleigh News & Observer: New NC congressional map, primary date get legislative approval

High Country Press: Rep. Jordan, Rep. Fraley to Chair House Committee on Education on Universities

Charlotte Observer: Charlotte region should look to global trade, officials say

Raleigh News & Observer: Scalia's death could have quick impact on NC redistricting case

Calendar

Mon, February 22, 2016

9:00 AM- 11:00 AM

Joint Primary System and Secondary System Subcommittee, Select Committee on Strategic Transportation Planning and Long Term Funding Solutions (House)

544 LOB

10:30 AM

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Natural and Economic Resources

Tryon Place, 529 S. Front St, New Bern, NC

11:00 AM- NOON

Public Transportation/Aviation Subcommittee, Select Committee on Strategic Transportation Planning and Long Term Funding Solutions(House)

544 LOB

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Ports/Rail Subcommittee, Select Committee on Strategic Transportation Planning and Long Term Funding Solutions (House)

544 LOB

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1:00 PM

Blue Ribbon Commission to Study the Building and Infrastructure Needs of the State (2013)

643 LOB

2:00 PM

Select Committee on Strategic Transportation Planning and Long Term Funding Solutions (House)

544 LOB

Wed, February 24, 2016

10:00 AM

Select Committee on Achievement School Districts (House)

423 LOB

2:00 PM

Select Committee on Education Strategy and Practices (House)

415 LOB

2:00 PM

Select Committee on Step Therapy -- CORRECTED (House)

544 LOB

Thu, February 25, 2016

9:00 AM

Joint Legislative Program Evaluation Oversight Committee, PED Subcommittee on Economic Development

421 LOB

9:00 AM

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services, Subcommittee on Statewide Early Education and Family Support Programs

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544 LOB

9:30 AM

Select Committee on Education Strategy and Practices (House)

415 LOB

1:00 PM

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services, Joint Study of Justice and Public Safety and Behavioral Health

544 LOB

Tue, March 01, 2016

9:30 AM

Joint Legislative Administrative Procedure Oversight Committee

544 LOB

10:00 AM

Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee

643 LOB

1:00 PM

Joint Legislative Commission on Energy Policy

544 LOB

1:00 PM

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Medicaid and NC Health Choice

643 LOB

1:30 PM

Joint Legislative Workforce Development System Reform Oversight Committee -- CORRECTED

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1228/1327 LB

Thu, March 03, 2016

1:00 PM

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Information Technology

544 LOB

Fri, March 04, 2016

9:00 AM

Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee

1228/1327 LB

Tue, March 08, 2016

8:30 AM

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services

643 LOB

Wed, March 09, 2016

10:00 AM

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety, Subcommittee on Indigent Defense Services and the Innocence Inquiry Commission

1228/1327 LB

10:00 AM

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety, Subcommittee on Probation/Parole Vehicles

414 LOB

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1:00 PM

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety, Subcommittee on Body-Worn Cameras

423 LOB

Thu, March 10, 2016

11:00 AM

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety, Subcommittee on IDS Fees

414 LOB

Mon, March 14, 2016

9:00 AM

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on General Government

544 LOB

Thu, March 17, 2016

10:00 AM

North Carolina Courts Commission

643 LOB

Wed, March 23, 2016

1:00 PM

Select Committee on Step Therapy (House)

544 LOB

Mon, April 25, 2016

7:00 PM

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Session Convenes (House)

House

7:00 PM

Session Convenes (Senate)

Senate