

# ALERTS

## North Carolina Legislative Report - May 8, 2015

May 8, 2015

The General Assembly convened for the 2015 legislative session on January 14. Lawmakers returned to Raleigh on January 28 to begin the session in earnest. The MVA Public Affairs Legislative Report on North Carolina will be distributed on a weekly basis to keep you up to date on the latest legislative issues facing the state.

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### *On The Floor*

For legislative action lookup by day, click below:

- [Bills with House Action by Day](#)
- [Bills with Senate Action by Day](#)

### *Committees*

#### **House Transportation Committee**

The Committee met on Tuesday, May 5, to discuss H 927, Reestablish NC as the "Good Roads State". H 927 sets out a plan to improve long term transportation funding in the State. The bill proposes to temporarily reduce the gas tax by five cents until 2017, when it would be adjusted based on population growth and inflation; to raise the highway use tax from three to four percent; and increases fees on licenses, registrations and titles. The bill also phases out the annual transfer from the Highway Trust Fund to the General Fund and appropriates an additional \$300 million in transportation funding in the upcoming fiscal year. During the discussion, the bill sponsor agreed to remove a provision that would impose a six and half percent tax on auto insurance contracts. The Committee could take action on a revised version of H 927 as early as next week.

#### **House Commerce and Job Development Committee**

The Committee met on Wednesday, May 6, and approved S 105, Include No. Veterans Employed/Annual Report. The bill would require corporations and limited liability companies to include information on the number of veterans they employ in annual reports to the Secretary of State.

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**House Finance Committee**

The Committee met on Thursday, May 7, and approved three bills. H 182, Property Insurance Fairness, would a) make certain property insurance data public; b) create the North Carolina Recovery Finance Authority (Authority) as a new public agency; c) authorize the Authority to finance deficits of the North Carolina Insurance Underwriting Association related to catastrophic events, including the authority to issue tax-exempt revenue bonds as a municipality; d) require notice when seeking consent to rate policies; e) modify the catastrophe modeling used for property rate-making purposes; and f) create the Joint Legislative Study Committee on Property Insurance Rate Making. H 289, NC Money Transmitters Act.-AB, would enact a new Money Transmitters Act (MTA) as requested by the Office of the North Carolina Commissioner of Banks. H 430, County Omnibus Legislation, would reestablish the State Payment in Lieu of Taxes Study Commission, direct the Environmental Review Commission to study statewide approaches to control invasive aquatic noxious weeds, direct the Revenue Laws Study Committee to study the financial impacts on local governments of exempting previously taxable properties from the property tax base when acquired by nonprofits, and explicitly authorize counties to establish residential recyclable materials collection programs.

**Senate Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources Committee**

The Committee met on Wednesday, May 6, and approved three bills. H 65, Wilkes Fox Trapping, seeks to establish a season for trapping foxes in Wilkes, Cherokee and New Hanover Counties. H 601, Sale of Deer Skins, would provide for the lawful sale of deer skins subject to tagging and reporting requirements and season limits. H 706, Building Code/Rustic Cabins, would require the Building Code Council to amend the North Carolina building code to exempt open air camp cabins from certain requirements of the code.

**Senate Education/Higher Education Committee**

The Senate Education/Higher Education Committee approved two bills on Wednesday, May 6. H 358, School Performance Grade Scale, would extend the use of the fifteen-point scale for assignment of school performance grades for the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 school years only. H 393, Tri-County CC/Bd. Of Trustees, seeks to change the manner of selection of members of the Tri-County Community College Board of Trustees.

***In The News***

Raleigh News & Observer: Revenue surplus colors NC House budget talks

Raleigh News & Observer: Senate approves keeping 15-point scale for A through F school grades

Raleigh News & Observer: NC Supreme Court sets August hearing in challenge to redistricting

Triangle Business Journal: N.C. budget surplus could trigger corporate tax rate cuts

Raleigh News & Observer: House OKs freeze on renewable energy goals

## NORTH CAROLINA LEGISLATIVE REPORT - MAY 8, 2015

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Raleigh News & Observer: House Speaker Tim Moore says bond vote should wait

### *Calendar*

#### Mon, May 11, 2015

4:00 PM

Session Convenes (House)

House

7:00 PM

Session Convenes (Senate)

Senate

#### Tue, May 12, 2015

8:30 AM

Finance (House)

Sheriffs' Supp. Pension Fund Changes. (H385)

Beach Bingo Licenses.-AB (H292)

Allow Overnight Respite/Adult Day Facilities. (H910)

Modify PUV Exceptions to Disqualification. (H533)

544 LOB

10:00 AM

Pensions and Retirement (House)

Retirement System COLAs. (H759)

415 LOB

10:00 AM

Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources (Senate)

North Carolina Farm Act of 2015. (S513)

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544 LOB

11:00 AM

Education - Universities (House)

Recruit CC Students to Teach/Pilot. (H602)

STEM Teacher Forgivable Loan Program. (H844)

643 LOB

12:00 PM

State and Local Government -- CORRECTED (Senate)

Clarify County Comm Oath Filing. (H71)

Cherokee/Rutherford Bds. of Ed. Elections. (H110)

Caswell Beach/Quick Take Eminent Domain. (H204)

Certain Counties/Purchasing Exemption. (H236)

Local Mod: Economic Development Commissions. (H243)

Yanceyville Annexation. (S93)

Waynesville Annexation/Referendum. (S141)

Cary Annexation. (H73)

Stanly Co. Bd. of Ed. Recall. (H111)

Stanly Co Bd of Ed Election Method. (H112)

423 LOB

12:00 PM

Transportation (House)

Required Number of Operating Brake Lights. (S90)

Handicapped Parking Windshield Placard. (S116)

Motor Vehicle Service Agreement Amendments. (S195)

DOT/Purchase of Contaminated Land.-AB (S301)

643 LOB

1:00 PM

Judiciary II (House)

Uniform Fraudulent Transfer Act. (S123)

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421 LOB

**Wed, May 13, 2015**

10:00 AM

Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources (Senate)

Opossum Exclusion From Wildlife Laws. (H574)  
Strengthen Oyster Industry. (S573)

544 LOB

12:30 PM

Judiciary I (House)

Probation Violation Court Costs. (H615)

415 LOB

**Mon, May 18, 2015**

3:00 PM

Joint Legislative Program Evaluation Oversight Committee

544 LOB

**Tue, May 19, 2015**

11:15 AM

Senator Brown Press Conference

Press Room LB