

North Carolina Sheriffs' Association

Serving the Sheriffs and Citizens of North Carolina since 1922



Weekly Legislative Report

June 11, 2010

While the House and Senate members who will be putting together the State Budget Bill in the next few weeks have begun their discussions, the first step has been an attempt to agree on how much money is available for them to spend. Now the real challenges begin as they determine what to include in the budget and what to leave out or to reduce.

The various committees of the House and Senate are meeting regularly and dealing with various legislative issues, most of which are rather routine and noncontroversial. It is likely that later in this legislative session some controversial legislation will be debated, but right now the members are concentrating on getting their very important, but more routine bills through the process.

The House and Senate adjourned on Thursday to reconvene on Monday evening.

BILL STATUS

HOUSE BILL 1260, Conform State Law/Firearm Disentitlement, (clarify Britt case) has been referred to a conference committee of House and Senate members to review the pending version, consider all relevant issues, and it is likely that the conference committee will agree upon a final version of this bill.

HOUSE BILL 1691, Use of 911 Funds, was considered and approved in the House Public Utilities Committee this week and referred for further consideration to the House Finance Committee. This legislation has generated a lot of interest and input, but it now seems that the interested parties are getting closer to a final version of the bill that will be acceptable and that can be enacted into law during this legislative session.

HOUSE BILL 1696, Watauga/Sunday Bow Hunting Exemption, passed the House and has been sent to the Senate for further consideration.

HOUSE BILL 1714, Suspension and Revocation of Fishing Licenses, has passed the House and been sent to the Senate for further consideration.

HOUSE BILL 1716, Allow Hamlet to Operate Motorized ATVs, passed the House and has been sent to the Senate for further consideration.

HOUSE BILL 1717, Modernization of the State ABC System, involves a significant rewrite of the authority of the State ABC Commission. This bill was considered in the House Alcoholic Beverage Control Committee, received a favorable report, and was referred to the House State Government/State Personnel Committee. Only a few of the proposed changes in this legislation impact the provision of law enforcement services to enforce ABC laws, and it appears that all of the changes requested by the various law enforcement associations have been incorporated into the most current version of this bill.

HOUSE BILL 1729, Motor Vehicles Law Changes, was approved this week by the House Finance Committee and is scheduled for consideration by the full House next week. This bill contains numerous changes, mostly technical in nature, to the motor vehicle laws.

HOUSE BILL 1753, School Bus Railroad Crossing Exception, is scheduled for consideration by the full House next week.

HOUSE BILL 1812, Domestic Violence Cases/Review Criminal Record, was approved by the House Judiciary I Committee and has been referred to the House Ways and Means/Broadband Connectivity Committee for further consideration.

SENATE BILL 140, Protect Victims/Domestic Violence Shelters, would make it a felony for a person who is the subject of a valid protective order to trespass on property where the protected person resides when that property is operated as a safe house or haven for domestic violence victims.

SENATE BILL 992, Pyrotechnics Operator's License, is a bill that was originally introduced with a different title and subject matter and the original contents of the bill have been removed and replaced with new laws clarifying the Pyrotechnics Training and Permitting Act. This legislation would make various changes in the Pyrotechnics Training and Permitting Act to include establishing guidelines for (1) individuals assisting a display operator engaged in pyrotechnics; and (2) individuals seeking to obtain a display operator's license or other relevant pyrotechnics licenses. This bill was approved by the House State Government/State Personnel Committee and referred to the House Judiciary I Committee for further consideration.

SENATE BILL 1136, Regulate Towing From Private Lots, has passed the Senate and been sent to the House for further consideration.

SENATE BILL 1214, Highway Patrol Motor Carrier Fines and Fees, has been approved by the Senate Transportation Committee and referred to the Senate Finance Committee for further consideration.

If you would like a copy of any of the legislation introduced or considered by this year's General Assembly, copies are available on the General Assembly's World Wide Web site: www.ncleg.net.

You may also receive one copy of as many bills as you are interested in, free of charge, by calling the General Assembly's Printed Bills office at 919/733-5648. They will need to know if it is a House bill or Senate bill and the bill number. (For example, Senate Bill 8).

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