

NCRGEA Government Relations Update #21-13 April 13, 2021

General Assembly Takes Spring Break

While the Senate and House did not take any formal votes last week, more than 300 bills were filed. The Senate filed 268 bills, while the house filed 46. The big push to file bills in the Senate was due to their bill filing deadline of April 6th. This meant that all Senate bills for the session had to be introduced by April 6th. The House has extended its bill filing deadline to May 11th. This gives House members another month to get their bills drafted and filed.

Once bill filing deadline has passed, the next important date on the legislative calendar is the Crossover deadline which is May 13, 2021. This is a significant date for all non-budget and non-finance bills. The substantive (non-money) House and Senate bills must pass through either the House or Senate in order to remain eligible for consideration. For example, a Senate or House bill must go through committee(s) and pass 2nd and 3rd readings to remain eligible for further consideration during the 2021-2022 legislative session.

Bills Introduced Last Week

As a result of last week's bill introductions, we have added more than a dozen bills to our bill tracking list. Newly introduced bills include, the Governor's Budget (S622), and several broadband expansion bills (H 384, S547, H 476, S517, S523). Senators Woodard of Durham County and Senator Waddell of Mecklenburg County are the primary sponsors for <u>Senate Bill 479 - 2% COLA for State Retirees</u>.

Local government retirees, we continue to work with legislators to get legislation introduced to address local government retirees' pension value.

Below is a partial list of newly introduced bill from last week. Attached is our 2021-2022 bill tracking list for as of April 9, 2021.

<u>SB 337 TAX RELIEF AND RECOVERY ACT.</u> <u>H 384 FIBER NC ACT.</u> <u>SB 400 RESTORE BENEFITS TO EDUCATORS/STATE EMPLOYEES.</u> <u>H467 BROADBAND CONSUMER PROTECTION.</u> <u>SB 479 2% COLA FOR STATE RETIREES.</u> <u>SB 517 INNOVATIVE STATEWIDE BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE.</u> <u>SB 523 BROADBAND AFFORDABILITY PROG./DIGITAL EQUITY.</u> <u>SB 622 2021 GOVERNOR'S BUDGET.</u> <u>SB 668 ANTI-PENSION SPIKING AMDS & AMP LITIG. MORATORIUM</u>

Thanks to the General Assembly and UNC School of Government for making available their bill tracking services. If you would like to see our current bill tracking list. Click here <u>NCRGEA Bill Tracking April 9. 2021</u>

Check out our video update https://youtu.be/RwvaDhDN3hU

Stay Tuned!!!

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