



North Carolina
**Retired
Governmental
Employees'**
Association



**LEGISLATIVE
— REPORT —**

Legislative Update #19-14 May 9, 2019

This week the House and Senate managed to take more than 1,300 actions on House and Senate bills to meet the crossover deadline. 84 House bills crossed over to the Senate and 79 Senate bills crossed over to the House.

Budget will emerge from the Senate Sooner than Later

[H 966 - 2019 Appropriations Act](#) is now in the hands of the Senate and they are not expected to sit on it very long. The Senate will begin its appropriations subcommittee work next week. We can expect the Senate to move quickly in its budget development.

The House left \$605,000,000 dollars of unallocated revenues on the table. The House and Senate have agreed on a spending limit of \$29.9 Billion for 2019. **The House budget has met that limit and did not provide any additional retirement benefit to the retirees.** The General Assembly must recognize the needs of state retirees and keep the promise of maintaining the value of retiree pensions by funding a COLA.

Legislators continue to be unwilling to address the COLA needs of local government retirees with state dollars and cities and counties continue to oppose efforts to introduce legislation that provide an LGERS COLA. We will continue to encourage legislators and local governments to support you by enacting an LGERS COLA. All local government retirees are encouraged to talk with their local elected officials about the need for a COLA.

Please call your Senator to let them know there are no COLA or Bonus funds for state and teacher retirees in the House budget in calendar year 2019 (Fiscal Year 2019-2020).

To get the contact information for your member of the NC Senate, go to www.ncleg.net, click on **SENATE**, then click on **Member List** (for alphabetical list by last name), or click on **Representation by County**. You can get office phone numbers and email addresses.

Your NCRGEA legislative team is still working to get a COLA for our state and local government retirees.

Stay Tuned!!

Richard Rogers
NCRGEA Executive Director