



Legislative Update #19-29 September 20, 2019

Mini budgets. Sudden adjournments. Lightening quick override votes. It's all new territory and bumpy territory at that.

There's always a lot of speculation on Jones Street and this week wasn't any different. Members of both chambers returned to their districts this week for an unusually and perhaps uniquely-timed week and a half break until September 30. As it quiets down in the Legislative Building, there are lots of questions about what's next to come once they return that remain unanswered.

Since the House successfully overrode Governor Roy Cooper's June 28 budget (HB 966) veto, many think Senate leadership now is working with their members to secure its own override. And while the budget and the impacts of that budget remain in limbo, several public sector groups must continue to wait and see what's next to come – including for retirees.

In the still-vetoed budget, a cost of living bonus also rests in a "mini-budget" bill (HB 426) that was pulled from the House floor last week and returned to the House Appropriations Committee. The bill is one of a series of min- budget bills that have passed both chambers. Some were vetoed by the Governor and others have been signed into law by Governor Cooper.

As both national (and even international) media outlets dropped stories about the North Carolina budget override, the override's process and reaction to it, there is much speculation on what can and cannot be substantiated. What we do know is if the Senate does override, the .5 percent bonus will pass. If there is no override, we have opportunity to get the bonus through with a mini-budget bill. Until we know which of these vehicles will carry us to a bonus, we're fighting to get you more.

Stay Tuned!!

Richard Rogers
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