

North Carolina Legislative Update, June 7, 2019

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After the Senate's passing of the budget last week, key negotiators from each chamber have begun working behind closed doors on a final version. Legislators also considered a number of various bills this week.

Wind Ban ([S377](#))

A bill that could have resulted in banning wind farms in much of eastern North Carolina was amended in the Senate Finance Committee this week to reduce the ban to a three-year moratorium on such facilities. Bill supporters argue that this is a necessary measure to preserve airspace around military installations. Senator Jim Perry (R-Lenoir), a leader on this issue, indicated that moratorium provision may be removed as the bill continues to move.

Fantasy Sports Regulation ([H929](#))

A bill that would have created a new regulatory structure for fantasy sports games such as FanDuel and DraftKings failed to advance this week in the House Judiciary Committee. Supporters of the bill argued that it would have put in place regulations for games already being played, while opponents argued that it would encourage gambling. A similar proposal failed during the 2018 session.

Landfill Ban on Electronics ([S553](#))

The Regulatory Reform Act passed the Senate Rules Committee this week. A sponsor of the bill—Senator Andy Wells (R-Catawba)—indicated that a provision that would have lifted the ban on disposing discarded computers and televisions in landfills will be removed by an amendment on the Senate floor next week.

Hemp Regulation ([S315](#))

The 2019 Farm Bill moved through the Senate Agriculture, Environment, and Natural Resources Committee this week. Among other things, the bill includes provisions on the regulation of hemp. The bill will next be heard in the Senate Finance Committee.

Alcohol at College Sports Events ([H389](#))

A bill that would permit individual boards of trustees at University of North Carolina schools to approve beer and wine sales at athletic facilities passed the Senate Education/Higher Education Committee on Wednesday. It now goes to the Senate Commerce and Insurance Committee. The bill has already passed the House. Bill proponents noted that a number of schools in other states already permit such sales and the bill would allow UNC campuses to control it. The bill does not change State laws prohibiting sales to underage purchasers.

Budget Conferees

As both chambers come together to negotiate the final version of the 2019 state budget, leaders from each chamber appoint members to sit on the conference committee, those appointed are:

House

Rep. Linda P. Johnson (Senior Chair)

Rep. Donny Lambeth (Senior Chair)

Rep. Jason Saine (Senior Chair)

Rep. Dean Arp (Chair)

Rep. William D. Brisson (Chair)

Rep. Josh Dobson (Chair)

Rep. John Faircloth (Chair)

Rep. Chuck McGrady (Chair)

Rep. Jimmy Dixon

Rep. Kyle Hall

Rep. Pat McElraft

Rep. Larry C. Strickland

Rep. Jon Hardister

Rep. Kelly E. Hastings

Rep. Jeffrey Elmore

Rep. John A. Fraley

Rep. D. Craig Horn

Rep. Pat B. Hurley

Rep. John Sauls

Rep. George G. Cleveland

Rep. Dennis Riddell

Rep. Gregory F. Murphy, MD

Rep. Larry W. Potts

Rep. Donna McDowell White

Rep. Destin Hall

Rep. Brenden H. Jones

Rep. James L. Boles, Jr.

Rep. Ted Davis, Jr.

Rep. Allen McNeill

Rep. Rena W. Turner

Rep. Frank Iler

Rep. Michele D. Presnell

Rep. Phil Shepard

Rep. John A. Torbett

Rep. David R. Lewis

Rep. John R. Bell, IV

Rep. Julia C. Howard

Rep. Mitchell S. Setzer

Rep. John Szoka

Rep. Elmer Floyd

Rep. Charles Graham

Senate

Sen. Harry Brown (Chair)

Sen. Kathy Harrington (Chair)

Sen. Brent Jackson (Chair)

Sen. Chuck Edwards

Sen. Rick Gunn

Sen. Andy Wells

Sen. Jim Davis

Sen. Tom McInnis

Sen. Deanna Ballard

Sen. Jerry W. Tillman

Sen. John M. Alexander, Jr.

Sen. Rick Horner

Sen. Dan Bishop

Sen. Joyce Krawiec

Sen. Danny Earl Britt, Jr.

Sen. Warren Daniel

Sen. Norman W. Sanderson

Sen. Ralph Hise

Sen. Paul Newton

Sen. Bill Rabon

For more information, contact a member of the Brooks Pierce Government Affairs Team, linked below.