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Subject: REP. RODNEY W. MOORE'S CAPITAL REPORT - July 8, 2013
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For Immediate Release

July 8, 2013

# **REP. RODNEY W. MOORE'S CAPITAL REPORT**

The action inside the State Legislature will resume this week after taking time off last week in observance of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday. Please feel free to contact me at any time to discuss any issue or concern you may have.

Redistricting Hearing

A three-judge panel on Monday upheld legislative and congressional districts drawn by the Republicandominated General Assembly in 2011, ruling unanimously that the maps were constitutional.

Democrats, the state NAACP and good-government groups had sued to invalidate the maps, saying they were improperly drawn based on racial considerations. The opponents also argued lawmakers too finely split the state, dividing so many local voting precincts that it would create confusion.

But the three Superior Court judges found that those challenging the maps had not showed "a violation of any cognizable equal protection rights of any North Carolina citizens, or groups thereof, will result."

SB 132, The Health Curriculum/Preterm Birth Bill:

The Republican Majority passed the Health Curriculum/Preterm Birth bill last week. This bill would force educators to tell their students that abortions increase the risks of preterm births later in life. The science backing this claim is far from settled. This bill would require educators to introduce the topic of abortion into seventh grade classrooms. It has the practical effect of forcing educators to purposefully

mislead their students in order to advance a conservative agenda. Abortion is a serious medical procedure that should be discussed between the pregnant woman and her doctor- not a public school teacher.

The NC General Assembly passed a continuing resolution to fund the government at 95 percent of 2012-2013 levels through July 30, while the Republican leadership continues to try and hammer out a tax and budget plan.

Both the House and Senate tax bills provide tax cuts to our wealthiest citizens and corporations at the expense of our middle-class citizens, our children, our education system, and our community services. The Senate bill would cost the state more than \$850 million in lost revenue over the next 2 years while the House bill would cost more than \$500 million. In order to pay for these new tax cuts for corporations and our state's wealthiest citizens, both bills propose cutting teacher assistants, cutting more than \$47 million from the UNC School System, increasing tuition, closing prisons and youth centers, cutting economic development investments targeted at low-income and rural populations, and cutting funding to the NC Biotech Center.

Moral Monday Protestors Go to Court ahead of Most Recent Rally

The first round of protesters arrested in the NAACP-led "Moral Monday" demonstrations at the North Carolina legislature have already gone to court and had their cases continued.

The 17 protesters due in court Monday were expected to plead not guilty to misdemeanor charges of trespassing, failure to disperse and breaking legislative building rules. The other approximately 600 protesters arrested in nine weeks of demonstrations face similar charges. This week marks the 10<sup>th</sup> round of people to be arrested. Expected crowds are to double previous crowds due to the outcry over SB 132 the preterm birth bill. The vote was taken by the Senate last Tuesday night and was not expected by the Democrat Senators. Groups immediately started organizing that night and were approximately 1000 people at the Legislature on Wednesday morning.

ON THE FLOOR

# H 94 Amend Environmental Laws

7/2/2013 Amendments Adopted, Passed 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading

# H 476 Rewrite Underground Damage Prevention Act

7/2/2013 Reported Favorable Committee Substitute, Committee Substitute Adopted, Re-referred to Committee on Finance

# H 998 Tax Reduction Act

Figure a character to the series of the

## COMMITTEE

#### Senate Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources Committee

The Senate Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources Committee passed out two bills this week. <u>H 15</u>, Various Emergency Management Changes, seeks to make various changes to the emergency management laws of this state. <u>H 321</u>, Amend Local Solid Waste Planning, seeks to repeal the requirement that local governments develop and maintain a solid waste management plan.

#### Senate Commerce Committee

On Tuesday, July 2, the Senate Commerce Committee met and approved five bills. <u>H474</u>, Redeposit Gov't Funds Into Ins. Deposit Acct., would authorize local governments, community colleges, and the State Treasurer to invest idle funds in insured demand, money market, and NOW deposit accounts through a deposit placement service. <u>H476</u>, Rewrite Underground Damage Prevention Act, would make substantial modifications to current State law with respect to notification and location of underground utilities. <u>H616</u>, Transitional Mortgage Loan Originator, would allow for temporary transitional licensing for a certain type of mortgage loan originator who is either licensed in another state or registered in this State. <u>H761</u>, Exempt Well K'ors/Electrical K'ors Lic Req, would exempt certain electrical work associated with wells from the requirements of the electrical contractor statute and would require new well contractors to have some education, experience, and knowledge of electrical work associated with wells. <u>H796</u>, Exempt Certain Columbariums/Cemetery Act, would provide a temporary exemption from the Cemetery Act for a columbarium that is on the grounds of and funded by the residents of a private, self-contained retirement community in a county where no commercially available columbarium exists.

#### Tax Reform

Tax reform kicked back into high gear last week at the General Assembly. On Monday, the Senate Finance Committee unveiled a new proposal with respect to comprehensive tax reform. With a few minor changes, the bill that emerged from Committee was later approved by the full Senate on Tuesday and Wednesday. The bill will now head back to the House. While the bill appears to represent a middle ground between earlier Senate proposal and the bill approved in the House three weeks, there does not yet appear to be agreement between the two bodies - setting up the likelihood of a conference report. Major components of the bill include:

- I. A reduction of the personal income tax rate with the maintenance of an exemption for Social Security payments and some itemized deductions.
- II. The creation of a business privilege tax that applies to all limited liability entities other than C corporations, coupled with the elimination of annual filing fees for these entities.
- III. A reduction in the corporate franchise tax rate coupled with an increase in the statutory minimum amount of tax due.
- IV. The extension of the low-income housing tax credit, but in a more restricted form.

- V. The elimination of some sales and use tax exemptions.
- VI. A cap on the amount of a sales and use tax refund available to a nonprofit entity.
- VII. The imposition of a State sales and use tax at the rate of 7% on most sales of electricity and piped natural gas. The exemptions for manufacturers and other entities are maintained.
- VIII. The imposition of State and local sales and use tax on amusements and entertainment in lieu of current privilege taxes on these activities.
- IX. The imposition of a State and local sales and use tax on service contracts.
- X. The elimination of the estate tax.
- XI. The elimination of earmarks of certain tax proceeds for specific purposes.
- XII. The elimination of the discount on the cigarette and other tobacco products excise taxes.

Senate

## LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

## Sunday, July 7, 2013

7:00 PM Session Convenes (Senate)

## Monday, July 8, 2013

7:00 PM Session Convenes (House) House

## <u>Tuesday, July 9, 2013</u>

10:00 AM	Health and Human Services (House)	544 LOB
	LME/MCO Enrollee Grievances & Appeals.	( <u>S553</u> )
12:00 PM	State and Local Government (Senate)	1124/1224 LB
	Apex Land Use Changes. ( <u>H538</u> )	
12:00 PM	Transportation – CORRECTED (House)	643 LOB
	Vintage Auto Inspections. (S344)	
	Omnibus County Legislation. ( <u>S372</u> )	

Registration of Petroleum Device Technicians.-AB (<u>S454</u>) Clarify ATV Definition. (<u>S501</u>) DOT/Oversight Standards for Greenways. (<u>S653</u>)

# Wed., July 10, 2013

10:00 AM Judiciary Subcommittee A (House) 1228/1327 LB

Roofing Contractors/Consumer Protection. (H880)



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2 Attached Images



