



[Representative Rodney W. Moore](#)

N. C. House Of Representatives
Legislative Office Building
Raleigh, NC 27603-5925
(919) 733-5606
Rodney.Moore@ncleg.net
Mecklenburg County



For Immediate Release
March 16, 2015

REPRESENTATIVE RODNEY W. MOORE'S RALEIGH REPORT

Now that the 2015-16 session is underway, I would like share the committees that I have been appointed to and those where I am the Vice Chair. I have been appointed to Banking, Commerce and Job Development – Vice Chair, Education – Universities, Finance – Vice Chair, Public Utilities and Energy, Regulatory Reform and Transportation.

I would also like to share with you some of the bills that are coming through the legislature. This list of House bills is not comprehensive, but should give you an idea of what is happening. I welcome any thoughts or ideas you may have, and as always, I appreciate your interest in state government and the House of Representatives.

ON THE FLOOR

This week, the Senate passed [S 60](#), No Contact Order/No Expiration; [S 82](#), Vital Records Integrity Act; [S 53](#), Cities/Overgrown Vegetation Notice; [S 78](#), Off-Duty Correctional Officers/Conceal Carry; [S 89](#), Disqualification Notice/Pistol Sale Permit; [S 181](#), Wake County Commissioner Districts; [S 232](#), Honor Girl Scouts and [S 36](#), Greensboro City Council Changes.

The House passed [H 31](#), 0.00 Alcohol Restriction-All DWI; [H 32](#), Amend Habitual DWI; [H 59](#), Clarify Report Admissibility; [H 41](#), Revenue Laws Technical Changes; [H 43](#), Winston-Salem/Parking Meters; [H 55](#), Public Exhibit of Fireworks/NCSU; [H 58](#), Certain Counties Sheriff/Food Purchases; [H 71](#), Clarify County Comm Oath Filing; [H 79](#), Contempt for 50C/Scope of Stay for Appeals; [H 134](#), Soliciting Prostitution/Immunity for Minors and [H 157](#), Amend Environmental Laws.

IN THE NEWS

[Racial Profiling Ban Filed in the NC House](#)

Last week I filed a proposal for a state ban on racial profiling by law enforcement agencies. Racial profiling is already illegal under federal law as a violation of the 14th Amendment of the Constitution. The bill would add to state law a prohibition against "investigation, detention, or arrest based on the person's real or perceived race, ethnicity, national origin, disability, religion, sexual orientation, or gender identity, rather than on the person's behavior or on information identifying the person as having engaged in criminal activity." House Bill 193 would also give "citizen review boards" wide-ranging investigative powers to handle complaints of racial profiling and would have the power to discipline or even fire officers found to have engaged in the practice.

-

Lawmakers Critique Governor's Budget

State Highway Patrol troopers would get a scheduled 5 percent step increase in the budget. But Sen. Joel Ford, a Charlotte Democrat, noted that the raises address a pending lawsuit from troopers who say they haven't gotten the promised increases. [Budget Director Lee] Roberts said the budget addresses the concern but declined to speculate on the lawsuit. "Whether that results in a settlement of their legal action, we don't know," he said. While the budget would increase K-12 spending by \$291 million next year, Sen. Floyd McKissick, a Durham Democrat, said he's still concerned about schools the state has labeled as failing. "One thing I noticed was missing from the budget, and that's money specifically targeted to the failing schools in the state," McKissick said.

McCrory Amends Ethics Forms; Discloses Additional \$13,000

Governor Pat McCrory has amended a state ethics form to include travel expenditures that were previously omitted. The form, submitted on Friday and officially filed Monday, shows seven trips valued at more than \$13,000. The trips were paid for by outside groups and include National Governors Association (NGA), Republican Governors Association (RGA) and Southern Governors Association (SGA) Events. All the travel occurred in 2013. McCrory had not previously disclosed these trips on his statement of economic interest. This amended disclosure follows a week of pressure from Progress NC Action.

Will \$21.5 Billion Leave Veteran Teachers Behind?

Principals, students and an advocacy group are concerned about Governor Pat McCrory's \$21.5 billion budget. The budget includes \$12 billion for K12 education. That includes a \$2,000 raise for first year teachers but doesn't include significant raises for veteran teachers. "Take care of these people who have devoted their lives to our children," Myers Park High School Principal Mark Bosco said. Bosco told WBTV that Myers Park has about 55% veteran teachers, but he says that number is shrinking. "I have a teacher right now," Bosco said, "Who is an absolute asset to us. He teaches chemistry. He can't make ends meet, so he is going to Grad School UNC Charlotte to try to become an engineer.

Senate Rejects House Gas Tax Changes

The state Senate, as expected, has rejected the House's changes to Senate Bill 20, which focuses foremost on the state's motor fuels tax. The 39-4 vote Monday night against – with no Republicans in favor of accepting changes – sets the stage for a conference committee to come up with a new version of the bill. To further complicate the matter, House Bill 203 was introduced Tuesday by four Republican sponsors with the goal of replacing the motor fuels tax

with a transportation usage fee of \$201 annually, to be collected by the N.C. Division of Motor Vehicles.

Criminal Charges Against Duke Energy Under Review

A judge will review criminal cases this week involving Duke Energy. Some of the charges are linked to the company's Rockingham County coal ash spill. Last month, The U.S. Department of Justice filed criminal charges against Duke Energy for violating the federal Clean Water Act at coal ash sites across North Carolina. Four of those criminal violations are connected to the spill at the retired Dan River Steam Station near Eden. The News & Record reports a "status conference" reserved for lawyers involved in the case is scheduled for Wednesday at 11 a.m., before U.S. District Judge Malcolm Howard in his Greenville chambers.

Senate Delays Economic Development Bill

A House bill that would plow millions of dollars into economic development efforts doesn't seem poised to move quickly through the Senate. House Bill 117, the N.C. Competes Act, carries a number of measures favored by Gov. Pat McCrory, including changes to a program designed to lure big manufactures to the state that could issue \$900 million in rebates over the next 15 years. The same bill would also expand tax breaks on electricity purchases for data centers and continues a tax break on jet fuel for airlines. The measure passed the House 88-29, with a bipartisan mix of lawmakers on both sides of the vote. When the bill came to the Senate on Monday night, leaders sent it to the Rules Committee. A trip to Rules can sometime be an indication that a measure is on the fast track, but for other bills, the committee is a place to languish unheard.

Political Opposites Attract in NC

When some of the more liberal and more conservative advocacy groups and think tanks in North Carolina agree on a contentious issue in state government, it's worth noting. It doesn't happen all that often. But that's the case with two issues raised in this young 2015 legislative session – independent redistricting and economic incentives. Conservative and liberal groups support a new way of drawing state and federal legislative districts to try to rid the state of the gerrymandering that has plagued the process under both Democratic and Republican rule.

State Board of Education Votes to Revoke Schools' Charters

For just the third time in North Carolina's history, the State Board of Education voted Thursday to revoke the charter of a public charter school. Entrepreneur High School in Charlotte closed in mid-January, but administrators were trying to keep the charter, in hopes of re-opening in the fall. But the NC Division of School Business projected the school would end the fiscal year with a budget shortfall in excess of \$400,000. "If a school cannot pay its teachers, cannot pay its principal, cannot pay to keep the school operating, then the board really has very little choice because you can't operate a school without having funds to operate that school," said State Superintendent June Atkinson.

For North Carolina Charters, a Spotty Record on Fulfilling Promises

North Carolina's charter schools are accountable to the State Board of Education for ensuring compliance with the provisions of their charters and applicable laws. But how well are they delivering on the promises that earned them the right to spend more than \$380 million taxpayer dollars each year? Our analysis shows many charters are not making the grade. We

reviewed the charter applications of all 100 charter schools operating in North Carolina during the 2010-2011 school year, just before the General Assembly removed the cap of 100 schools. (There are now 147 charter schools). Using information on school websites, in parent handbooks and in some cases telephone calls, we compared schools' performance during that year to the commitments they made in their initial charter applications.

[Protesting NC's New "Speaker Ban"](#)

At the most recent UNC Board of Governors' meeting, after intentionally retreating to a room too small to accommodate members of the public, the Board voted unanimously to discontinue the work of the Center on Poverty, Work and Opportunity at UNC Chapel Hill, the Institute for Civic Engagement and Social Change at N.C. Central University and the Center for Biodiversity at East Carolina University, and adopted restrictive rules governing "advocacy" by University employees. These decisions are meant to suppress criticism of the recent rightward tilt in North Carolina politics, an ideological shift that has produced a University governing board willing to enact a modern-era Speaker Ban Law.

COMMITTEES

Joint Appropriations Committee

The Committee met on Tuesday, March 10, for an overview of the Governor's 2015-17 recommended budget. State Budget Director Lee Roberts walked members through the proposed spending plan and addressed questions and concerns. Most of the questions from members centered around pay raises for teachers and other state employees. The House will now begin its formal budget process, holding subcommittee meetings and releasing its version later this spring.

Joint Appropriations Subcommittee Meetings

The House and Senate continued with joint appropriations subcommittee meetings as they work towards putting together a budget for this year. Individual subcommittees met this week and reviewed specific budget areas such as Transportation, Health and Human Services, Education, Public Safety, General Government and Information Technology. These committees took this time to review the current budget and identify key priorities for the upcoming year. Members will continue their work when they return next week.

House Transportation Committee

The Committee met on Tuesday, March 10 to address two bills. [H 102](#), Utility Vehicles/Law Enforcement, authorizes law enforcement officers, emergency personnel and certain county and municipal employees to operate utility vehicles on some public highways. The bill received a favorable report in committee and is up for third reading on March 16.

[H 136](#), Speed Limit/Highway Work Zone, would change the law so that drivers speeding through a work zone would only be fined if workers are present and actively working. The bill was up for discussion only and will remain in Committee.

House Environment Committee

The Committee met on Tuesday, March 10, and agreed to a proposed committee substitute to [H 157](#), Amend Environmental Laws. The Committee approved the bill, which seeks to amend various environmental laws including clarifying an Environmental Management Commission rule-making directive. The EMC now shall adopt rules for the regulation of toxic air emissions from drilling operations, if it determines that the State's current air toxics program and any

federal regulations governing toxic air emissions from drilling operations to be adopted by the State by reference are inadequate to protect public health, safety, welfare and the environment.

House Rules Committee

The Committee met on Wednesday, March 11, and agreed to a proposed committee substitute to H 157 that removed all finance related provisions. The Committee approved the updated bill.

House Health Care Committee

The Committee met on Wednesday, March 11, and approved [H 158](#), Jim Fulghum Teen Skin Cancer Prevention Act. H 158 would prohibit persons under the age of 18 from using tanning equipment.

House Finance Committee

The Committee met on Thursday, March 12, and quickly approved two bills. [H 5](#), Military Veterans Special Plate, would reauthorize the Division of Motor Vehicles to produce a special registration for military veterans and remove a requirement for a minimum number of applications before issuing the plate. [H 73](#), Cary Annexation, would annex certain property in the Holly Brook subdivision into the Town of Cary.

Senate Redistricting Committee

The Committee met on Tuesday, March 10, to hear two bills aimed at changing the political boundaries of two local governments. [S 181](#), Wake County Commissioner Districts, would add two commissioners to the current seven member board and align the districts with the Wake County School Board districts. The new districts would take effect in 2018. S 181 received a favorable report in Committee and was approved by the full Senate.

[S 36](#), Greensboro City Council Changes, takes the number of seats on the council from nine to seven, eliminates at-large members, creates four year terms and takes away the mayor's vote. The bill received a favorable report in Committee and was approved by the full Senate.

Senate Health Care Committee

The Committee met on Tuesday, March 10, and approved [S 7](#), Allow Seating for Food Stand Customers, and [S 114](#), Custodial Parent/Party Cooperate with Child Support. S 7 seeks to allow food stands to provide tables and chairs for customers to use while consuming drinks or food upon the premises. S 114 would require DHHS and Division of Social Services to develop a plan requiring custodial parent or other relative of a child receiving child care subsidy payments to cooperate with county child support services programs in order receive the subsidy.

Senate Finance Committee

The Committee met on Wednesday, March 11, with no bills on the agenda. Instead, the Committee continued hearing presentations from legislative staff about the structure of the State's tax system and economic arguments with respect to tax reform.

Senate Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources Committee

The Committee met twice this week. On Wednesday, March 11, the Committee invited DENR Secretary Don van der Vaart to introduce his team and give updates on a variety of DENR

matters. On Thursday, March 12, the Committee approved [H 157](#), Amend Environmental Laws.

CALENDAR

Tue, March 17, 2015

8:30 AM	Appropriations, Transportation (Joint)	🔊 1228/1327 LB
8:30 AM	Joint Appropriations on Department of Transportation	🔊 1228/1327 LB
8:30 AM	Joint Appropriations on Justice and Public Safety	🔊 415 LOB
8:30 AM	Appropriations, Education (Joint)	423 LOB
8:30 AM	Joint Appropriations on Education/Higher Education	423 LOB
8:30 AM	Appropriations, General Government (Joint)	425 LOB
8:30 AM	Joint Appropriations on General Government and Information Technology	425 LOB
8:30 AM	Appropriations, Health and Human Services (Joint)	🔊 643 LOB
8:30 AM	Joint Appropriations on Health and Human Services	🔊 643 LOB
15 MINUTES AFTER SESSION	University Board of Governors Nominating (House)	🔊 1228/1327 LB
10:00 AM	Judiciary I (Senate) Custodial Parent/Party Cooperate w/Child Supp. (S114)	1027/1128 LB
10:00 AM	Judiciary II (Senate)	1124/1224 LB
10:00 AM	Education - K-12 (House) Amend School Health Assessment Requirement. (H13) Technical Changes to Courses of Study Statute. (H29) Arts Education Requirement. (H138)	🔊 643 LOB
11:00 AM	Education - Community	🔊 643 LOB

[Colleges --](#)
[CORRECTED](#)(House)
High Achieving Tuition
Scholarships. ([H129](#))
Trustee
Appointments/Isothermal
Comm. Coll. ([H188](#))

- 12:00 PM [Transportation](#) (House) [643 LOB](#)
RiverLink Plate Background.
([H80](#))
Insurance and Safety
Inspection/Mopeds. ([H148](#))
Limit Motor Vehicle Emissions
Inspections. ([H169](#))
Repeal Map Act. (Information
Only) ([H183](#))
- 1:00 PM [Judiciary II](#) (House) 421 LOB
Lottery Act Clarified. ([H109](#))
Omnibus Criminal Law Bill.
([H173](#))
- 1:00 PM [Finance](#) (Senate) [544 LOB](#)
- 1:30 PM [North Carolina General
Statutes Commission, Trusts
Drafting Committee](#) Rm 5003, UNC Law School, 60 Ridge Road

Wed, March 18, 2015

- 8:30 AM [Appropriations,
Transportation \(Joint\)](#) [1228/1327 LB](#)
- 8:30 AM [Joint Appropriations on
Department of Transportation](#) [1228/1327 LB](#)
- 8:30 AM [Joint Appropriations on
Justice and Public Safety](#) [415 LOB](#)
- 8:30 AM [Appropriations, Agriculture
and Natural and Economic
Resources \(Joint\)](#) 421 LOB
- 8:30 AM [Joint Appropriations on
Natural and Economic
Resources](#) 421 LOB
- 8:30 AM [Appropriations, Education
\(Joint\)](#) 423 LOB
- 8:30 AM [Joint Appropriations on
Education/Higher Education](#) 423 LOB
- 8:30 AM [Appropriations, General
Government \(Joint\)](#) 425 LOB

8:30 AM	Joint Appropriations on General Government and Information Technology	425 LOB
8:30 AM	Appropriations, Health and Human Services (Joint)	643 LOB
8:30 AM	Joint Appropriations on Health and Human Services	643 LOB
10:00 AM	Health (House) PED Recs/Publicly Funded Substance Abuse Svcs. (H119)	643 LOB
11:00 AM	Alcoholic Beverage Control (House)	423 LOB
11:00 AM	Commerce and Job Development (House) Site and Building Development Fund. (H108)	643 LOB
12:00 PM	Workforce and Economic Development (Senate)	544 LOB
12:30 PM	Judiciary I (House) Davie County/Food for Detention Facilities. (H130) Amend Advance Health Care Directives Laws. (H146)	415 LOB

Thu, March 19, 2015

8:30 AM	Appropriations, Transportation (Joint)	1228/1327 LB
8:30 AM	Joint Appropriations on Department of Transportation	1228/1327 LB
8:30 AM	Joint Appropriations on Justice and Public Safety	415 LOB
8:30 AM	Appropriations, Agriculture and Natural and Economic Resources (Joint)	421 LOB
8:30 AM	Joint Appropriations on Natural and Economic Resources	421 LOB
8:30 AM	Appropriations, General Government (Joint)	425 LOB
8:30 AM	Appropriations, Health and Human Services (Joint)	643 LOB
8:30 AM	Joint Appropriations on	643 LOB

[Health and Human Services](#)

- 10:00 AM [Environment](#) (House) [544 LOB](#)
- 12:00 PM [Banking](#) (House) [1228/1327 LB](#)
Eliminate Audited Financial
Statement Req. ([H104](#))
Reduce Mortgage Lender
Surety Bonds. ([H105](#))
Expand Banking Commission
Membership. ([H106](#))
- 12:00 PM [Homeland Security, Military,
and Veterans Affairs](#) (House) 421 LOB

Tue, March 24, 2015

- 10:30 AM Rep. Adcock - Press
Conference [Press Room LB](#)
- 1:30 PM Speaker Tim Moore - Press
Conference [Press Room LB](#)

Wed, April 01, 2015

- 12:30 PM Rep. Gill - Press Conference [Press Room LB](#)

Please remember that you can listen to committee meetings and press conferences on the General Assembly's website at www.ncleg.net. Once on the site, select "Audio," and then make your selection – House Chamber, Senate Chamber, Appropriations Committee Room or Press Conference Room. A schedule of committee meetings and other events is also available on the website.

2 Attached Images



