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Legislative Updates from the Office of Rep. Nasif Majeed

Representative Nasif Majeed [majeedla@ncleg.net]

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Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 6:01 PM

To: Steve Johnston

May 14, 2020

Representative Nasif Majeed

Representing District 99 Mecklenburg County

COVID-19 UPDATES

Peace. According to the Department of Health and Human Service's official count as of May 14, North Carolina has 16,507 cases. There are 507 people hospitalized with COVID-19 with 615 confirmed deaths. Mecklenburg County has 2,320 confirmed cases and 62 deaths.

You can visit the state's COVID-19 dashboard to see how we are doing on the important benchmarks we need to meet to ease stay-at-home restrictions and see demographic data, zip code counts, and other info:

<https://www.ncdhhs.gov/covid-19-case-count-nc>

General Assembly Set to Return to Legislative Session Next Week

The General Assembly returns to legislative session on Monday. There is a lot of important work to do.

Here is a list of bills I have co-sponsored that need to be acted on:

H1040

[Healthcare for Working North Carolinians](#)

Referred to Committee on Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

H1046

[COVID-19 Paid Sick Leave](#)

Referred to Committee on Finance, if favorable, Commerce, if favorable, Health, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

[H1034](#)**[Small Business Emergency Loans](#)**

Re-referred to Committee on Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

[H1035](#)**[Education Omnibus/COVID-19](#)**

Re-referred to Committee on Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

[H1037](#)**[COVID-19 Health Care Working Group Policy Rec](#)**

Re-referred Committee on Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

[H1038](#)**[Omnibus COVID-19 Response Funds](#)**

Re-referred to Committee on Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

[H1039](#)**[COVID-19 Response Act - Economic Support](#)**

Re-referred to Committee on Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

[H1056](#)**[WC/COVID-19/Cover Essential Workers](#)**

Referred to Committee on Health, if favorable, Judiciary, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

[H1057](#)**[WC/COVID-19 Front Line Coverage/Funds](#)**

Referred to Committee on Health, if favorable, Judiciary, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

[H1068](#)**[Emergency Arts Council Funding](#)**

Referred to Committee on Appropriations, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

Returning to Work and How It Impacts Unemployment

As North Carolina enters Phase 1 of Governor Cooper's plan to ease COVID-19 restrictions, more businesses will be reopening, and more people will be returning to work.

The Division of Employment Security (DES) is providing the following information for individuals and employers about how returning to work may impact unemployment benefits.

Refusing to return to work when your employer calls you back typically makes you ineligible to receive unemployment benefits. When you return to work, you should stop filing your Weekly Certifications for unemployment.

DES will consider that you have good cause to refuse to return to work, and may continue to be eligible for unemployment benefits, if you refuse due to one of these COVID-19 related reasons:

1. You have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 and have been advised by a medical professional to not

attend work.

2. A member of your household has been diagnosed with COVID-19 or you are providing care for a family member or a member of your household who has been diagnosed with COVID-19.
3. You are at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) defines a high-risk individual as a person 65 years of age or older, or a person of any age, who has serious underlying medical conditions including being immunocompromised, or has chronic lung disease, moderate-to-severe asthma, serious heart conditions, severe obesity, diabetes, chronic kidney disease and undergoing dialysis, or liver disease.
4. You are the primary caregiver of a child or person in your household who is unable to attend school or another facility that is closed as a direct result of the COVID-19 public health emergency, and the school or facility is required for you to work.
5. You are unable to reach your place of employment because of a quarantine imposed as a direct result of the COVID-19 public health emergency or you have been advised by a health care provider to self-quarantine due to concerns related to COVID-19.
6. In order to comply with any governmental order regarding travel, business operations and mass gatherings, you must refuse a recall to your former employment or an offer of suitable work.
7. You reasonably believe there is a valid degree of risk to your health and safety due to a significant risk of exposure or infection to COVID-19 at your employer's place of business due to a failure of the employer to comply with guidelines as set out by the CDC, other governmental authorities or industry groups as may be found in CDC guidance, the Governor's Executive Orders, or other binding authority; or due to objective reasons that the employer's facility is not safe for the claimant to return to work.

[Frequently Asked Questions](#) about returning to work.

Governor Cooper Proclaims May Mental Health Awareness Month

Governor Roy Cooper proclaimed May as Mental Health Awareness Month in North Carolina. Nationally this month is used to reduce the stigma regarding mental health and encourage individuals to seek the medical help they may need.

One in five adults struggle with mental health challenges in a given year, and during this month people are encouraged to hold open conversations that support and respect individuals living with mental illness. The majority of

individuals with mental illness do not receive the treatment they need.

During the COVID-19 pandemic it is important that all North Carolinians pay attention to their physical and mental well-being. While activities many perform as part of their daily lives have been limited, people are encouraged to practice safe, socially distant outdoor exercise and meditation. There are also newly expanded opportunities to safely receive mental health services through telehealth during the course of the pandemic.

North Carolinians can call Hope4NC at 1-855-587-3463 for mental health support.

Visit covid19.ncdhhs.gov/hope for more wellness resources.

I will be sending updates as often as I can, but please make sure any information you are getting about COVID-19 is coming directly from reliable sources like the CDC and NCDHHS.

PEACE,

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Representative Nasif Majeed, District 99 | Legislative Building, 16 W. Jones Street, Room 1008,
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