

North Carolina Chapter of the Appraisal Institute

Legislative Report July 3, 2020

Governor Roy Cooper vetoed three reopening bills on Thursday that the legislature passed to lift coronavirus-related restrictions faster than the Governor's executive orders. The vetoed bills would have reopened gyms, fitness centers, skating rinks, bowling alleys, amusement parks and entertainment venues. The bills are Senate Bill 599, Open Skating Rinks/Bowling Alleys, House Bill 806, Open Exercise & Fitness Facilities, House Bill 258, Open Amusement Parks/Arcades/Venues. Senate Bill 599 would have also increased restaurant outdoor seating and allowed outdoor seating at baseball stadiums for food service at 10% of the stadium capacity. Governor Cooper said in a statement that the reopening bills would tie the hands of public health officials and called them "dangerous, especially when case counts and hospitalizations are rising."

Governor Cooper also vetoed House Bill 686, Freedom to Celebrate the Fourth of July, which would have prevented the governor or local governments from prohibiting fireworks displays and parades to celebrate Independence Day. And the Governor vetoed Senate Bill 105, Clarify Emergency Powers, which would require agreement from the rest of the Council of State, made up of statewide elected officials, for some orders.

Members of the House of Representatives were told Thursday that they should expect to be in session for three days next week as the legislature addresses veto override votes and perhaps other matters. During Thursday's skeletal session, House Rules Chairman David Lewis (R-Harnett) said that "members should plan on being here Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of next week," with override votes set for Wednesday and Thursday. Several of the Governor's vetoes issued Thursday have already been calendared for a Wednesday session. Senate leader Phil Berger said last week that he anticipated the remaining voting sessions before a July 11 adjournment would be primarily for veto overrides, but he also said it is possible lawmakers could address an exemption to an old ban on face masks in public, which is due to expire in August.

BILL STATUS

House Bill 308, Regulatory Reform Act of 2002, which extends the August 1, 2020 expiration of the emergency video notary, emergency video witness, and good fund settlement act provisions in the COVID-19 relief bill to March 1, 2021, was signed into law by Governor Cooper. Session Law 2020-74.

<u>House Bill 902, P&C Changes/Glob. Tranp./Prison Pilot,</u> among other things, amends Chapters 47C and 47F to provide that a unit owners association may impose reasonable charges in

connection with the preparation of statements of unpaid assessments, which must be furnished within 10 business days after receipt of the request, in an amount not to exceed \$200.00 per statement or request, and an additional expedite fee in an amount not to exceed \$100.00 if the request is made within 48 hours of closing, all of which charges may be collected by the association, its managers, or its agents. This provision, along with the other portions of the bill, were included for the first time in the conference report for House Bill 902 on June 26, were approved by the House and Senate and was the bill was ratified. **Effective: July 2, 2020. Session Law 2020-90.**

<u>House Bill 920, Condominium Association Changes</u>, was signed into law by Governor Cooper. The provision regarding judicial reformation of a declaration (Section 3(b)) is effective October 1, 2020. The remainder of the bill is effective June 30, 2020. **Session Law 2020-52.**

<u>House Bill 1072, GSC Technical Corrections 2020</u>, was signed into law by Governor Cooper. Effective: July 2, 2020. Session Law 2020-69.

<u>House Bill 1080, Revenue Laws Recommendations</u>, was signed into law by Governor Cooper. Effective: June 30, 2020. Session Law 2020-58.

Senate Bill 595, Change to Real Property Statutes, was signed into law by Governor Cooper. The estate planning provisions are effective June 30, 2020. The Register of Deeds technical changes are effective August 1, 2020. Session Law 2020-50.

For more information about legislation described in the legislative reports, feel free to contact me at dferrell@nexsenpruet.com or (919) 573-7421. Information is also available on the General Assembly's website: www.ncleg.gov.

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