



LEGISLATIVE *Update*

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House deadline sees 370 bills filed in one week

Almost 370 bills were filed in the N.C. House of Representatives ahead of Thursday's deadline, bringing the total number of bills filed in the House this session to an impressive total of 942. The Senate deadline passed last week with a total of 724 bills.

Each bill filed must be "read in" to the record by the clerk and assigned to a committee, a process that took up considerable time in the General Assembly.

The next big milestone for this legislative session is the "crossover deadline" on May 16. This is the date by which a bill must pass both in committee and on the floor of the House or Senate in order to stay alive for consideration in the other.



SEANC Lobbyist Chuck Stone (standing) speaks with legislators at a recent House committee meeting.

With so many bills having been filed and a crossover deadline only one month away, the next few weeks in the General Assembly are sure to be hectic. SEANC's Legislative Affairs team is closely monitoring the progress of several bills important to state employees, and will not hesitate to call on members for action when needed.

At this time, the staff is still assessing the enormous number of bills filed this week and will report early next week on which bills have a possible effect on state employees.

Commerce Privatization

Gov. Pat McCrory announced on Monday his intent to restructure and privatize parts of the Department of Commerce. The Division of Employment Security would not be privatized under the proposal, as had been rumored.

To accomplish Gov. McCrory's goal, House Bill 640, the Public Private Partnership for Economic Development, was filed this week.

Budget Schedule

The Senate releases its budget first this year. Sen. Pete Brunstetter (R-Forsyth), the senior budget chair, told the press that the Senate would not release its budget before early to mid-May.

In preparation for the budget debate, SEANC lobbyists met with numerous lawmakers this week to emphasize the importance of maintaining vital public services and the people who provide them.

“SEANC is here to make sure state employees and retirees are represented in the budget process,” said SEANC President Sidney M. Sandy. “We will continue to work with Senate and House leadership as they prepare their budget proposals.”

SEANC members who have specific concerns about pending legislation should contact the SEANC office at 919-833-6436 and ask to speak to a member of the legislative affairs team.

The SEANC Legislative Update is published when the N.C. General Assembly is in session by SEANC's Legislative Affairs Department. For more information, contact Legislative Affairs Director Ardis Watkins at awatkins@seanc.org.