



# Legislative Update

*Week of May 17, 2021*

Roy Cooper, Governor

Erik A. Hooks, Secretary

This was a quiet week at the General Assembly. A handful of committees met to hear bills, but most members experienced a reprieve. Although it was rumored that the much-anticipated Senate Budget would be released, that was not the case. The biggest news of the week came from Governor Cooper, who announced that North Carolina will receive \$5.7 billion in federal funds through the American Rescue Plan (ARP), which he proposed using to assist families most impacted by the pandemic, upgrade water-sewer infrastructure, and promote business development and innovation, among other priorities.

On Wednesday, in Senate Rules and Operations, House Bill 395, *HIE Deadline Extension & Patient Protection*, passed unanimously, after an amendment was made to extend connection deadlines until January 2023. In addition, on Thursday, the House Appropriations Committee thoroughly discussed then unanimously passed Senate Bill 172, *Additional COVID-19 Responses & Relief*.

We anticipate that for next week, the focus will be the release of the Senate Budget.

## **DPS Bills with Action this Week**

**(Note: Click on the bill title to view the most current version of the bill)**

Division(s) Impacted	Sponsor(s)	Bill #	Short Title	Action
SBI	Arp, B. Jones, Szoka, and Winslow	H 217	<a href="#">Utilities Comm'n Tech. and Add'l Changes.</a>	Signed by Gov. 5/17/2021
AC	Sasser	H 395	<a href="#">Extend Deadlines for Mandatory HIE Particip.</a>	5/20/2021 Senate Passed 3rd Reading
Department-Wide	B. Jackson, Harrington, and Hise	S 172	<a href="#">2021 COVID-19 Response &amp; Relief.</a>	Pres. To Gov. 5/20/2021

*If you have any questions or comments, please contact Susanna Davis at [Susanna.Davis@ncdps.gov](mailto:Susanna.Davis@ncdps.gov).*