



Legislative Update

Week of February 15, 2021

Roy Cooper, Governor

Erik A. Hooks, Secretary

This week, legislative activity was limited due to crippling winter weather across portions of the state. The House and Senate held floor votes on only one day, and the most notable vote cast by members was whether to adopt a conference committee report on Senate Bill 37, *In-Person Learning Choice for Families*. The bill would require all local school administrative units to offer in-person instruction to K-12 students for the remainder of the current academic year. The conference report was approved by both chambers and was sent to Governor Cooper on Wednesday.

The steady stream of bill filing continued, as lawmakers filed an additional 71 bills this week. One bill of note, Senate Bill 100, *Police Funding Protection Act*, received much attention and was introduced to the public via press conference Monday afternoon. The bill would slash state funding to any city or county that reduces spending on law enforcement compensation or operating expenses by more than one percent of what's allocated to other city or county departments in those areas.

In addition, the General Assembly's Fiscal Research Division presented to legislators on the recently released Consensus Revenue Forecast. In summary, the forecast anticipates an over-collection of \$4.13B in revenues for the current fiscal year. Growth in revenues is projected for the FY 2021-23 biennium despite the uncertainty brought on by the pandemic. Still, legislators were warned that the state's pre-COVID economy may not return until mid-2022.

Appropriations subcommittees will begin to meet next week. The Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on Justice and Public Safety Committee is scheduled to meet about a dozen times through the end of March. Legislators will receive presentations on the various budgetary needs of DPS divisions during these meetings.

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
ABC	Moffitt, Boles, Bell, and Paré	H 4	Extend ABC Permit Renewal Fee Deferral.	Pres. To Gov. 2/17/2021

ABC	Moffitt, Lambeth, Goodwin, and Winslow	H 73	Temporarily Waive ABC Permit Renewal Fees.	2/15/2021 House Ref to the Com on Alcoholic Beverage Control, if favorable, Finance, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House
NCNG	Szoka, Bradford, Bell, and Wheatley	H 83	Eliminate Income Tax for Military Retirees.	2/16/2021 House Ref to the Com on Homeland Security, Military, and Veterans Affairs, if favorable, Finance, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House
EM	Lucas and Richardson	H 98	Hurricane Housing Recovery Grant.	2/16/2021 House Filed
AC	John	H 104	Judicial Discretion of FTA Release Conditions.	2/17/2021 House Filed
Law Enforcement/EM	Daniel	S 102	REACT/Plates/Siren.	2/17/2021 Senate Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate

2021 Bill Filing Deadlines

House of Representatives:

Drafts	To Bill Drafting By 4 PM	Filed in House By 3 PM
Bills recommended by Study Commissions	Wednesday, February 3	Friday, February 19
Bills recommended by State Agencies	Wednesday, February 10	Thursday, February 25
Local Bills	Wednesday, March 3	Thursday, March 25
Public Bills and Resolutions (Not Approps or Finance)	Wednesday, March 24	Tuesday, April 20
Public Bills (Approps or Finance)	Wednesday, March 31	Tuesday, April 27

Bills eligible to be filed in 2021 with no deadlines

- (1) Redistricting bills for House, Senate, Congress, or local entities.
- (2) Ratification of amendments to the Constitution of the United States.
- (3) Resolutions pertaining to the internal affairs of the House or adjournment resolutions.
- (4) Bills introduced on the report of the House Committees on Appropriations, Finance, or Rules.

Senate:

Drafts	Requested By 4 PM	Filed in Senate By 4 PM
Local Bills	Thursday, February 25	Thursday, March 11
Public Bills and Resolutions	Thursday, March 11	Tuesday, April 6

*** CROSSOVER DEADLINE***
Thursday, May 13, 2021

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Susanna Davis at
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