On Thursday, May 14th Representative Ken Goodman read the Resolution below in the House of Representatives recognizing all law enforcement officers in honor of National Police Week and Peace Officers Memorial Day. Numerous other legislators also spoke about the importance of law enforcement officers in their own lives and to our citizens.

Representative Goodman’s father, Raymond W. Goodman, served as sheriff of Richmond County for 44 years from 1950 until 1994, making him the longest serving sheriff in North Carolina history.

**HONORING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY**

WHEREAS, the well-being of all individuals in the United States is preserved and enhanced as a direct result of the vigilance and dedication of law enforcement officers; and

WHEREAS, more than 900,000 law enforcement officers greatly risk their personal safety to serve individuals in the United States as guardians of the peace; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, on average, one law enforcement officer is killed in the line of duty in the United States every 58 hours; and

WHEREAS, since the first recorded death in 1791, over 22,000 federal, state, and local law enforcement officers have lost their lives in the line of duty while protecting the citizens of the United States, including more than 530 law enforcement officers in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, in 1962, Congress approved a joint resolution authorizing and requesting the President to designate May 15 of each year as "Peace Officers Memorial Day" and the week in which that date falls as "Police Week," now known as "Law Enforcement Officers Week;" and

WHEREAS, throughout the year and especially during Law Enforcement Officers Week, all North Carolinians are urged to show their gratitude to law enforcement officers for the role that they play in protecting our lives and property;

Now, therefore, to commemorate and acknowledge the dedication and sacrifice of the federal, state, and local law enforcement officers who have been killed or injured in the line of duty, May 15, 2015, should be observed as "Peace Officers Memorial Day" and May 11 through May 15, 2015, should be observed as "Law Enforcement Officers Week" with appropriate ceremonies, solemnity, appreciation, and respect.
The House and Senate adjourned on Thursday and will reconvene on Monday.

BILL STATUS

**HOUSE BILL 71**, Clarify County Comm Oath Filing, has been approved by the General Assembly and sent to Governor Pat McCrory for his signature.

**HOUSE BILL 79**, Contempt for 50C/Scope of Stay for Appeals, has been approved by the General Assembly and sent to Governor Pat McCrory for his signature.

**HOUSE BILL 82**, Execution/Nonsecure Custody Order/Child Abuse, has passed the Senate Judiciary II Committee with amendments, and was passed by the Senate and returned to the House for consideration of the Senate changes. If the House does not accept the Senate changes, members from both the House and Senate will be appointed to attempt to reach an agreement on the bill. This bill was amended to provide that a court would be able to authorize a law enforcement officer, if required by exigent circumstances, to make a forcible entry into property at any hour of the day to take physical custody of a juvenile under a nonsecure custody order. The previous version of the bill required that the officer have reason to believe that the child was being abused at the time the officer executes the nonsecure custody order.

**HOUSE BILL 91**, Study Misuse of Handicapped Parking Placards, has been approved by the General Assembly and was signed into law by Governor Pat McCrory.

**HOUSE BILL 102**, Utility Vehicles/Move-Over Changes, has been approved by the General Assembly and sent to Governor Pat McCrory for his signature.

**HOUSE BILL 292**, Beach Bingo Licenses.-AB, has passed the House and has been sent to the Senate for their consideration.

**HOUSE BILL 350**, Restore Driving Privileges/Competency, has passed the Senate Committee on Transportation with amendments, and has been reassigned to the Senate Judiciary I Committee.

**HOUSE BILL 595**, Military Experience/LEO Cert. Requirements, has passed the Senate Judiciary II Committee with amendments. This bill was amended to expand the training required of military police officers who apply for certification as a law enforcement officer through the North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission (Commission). In addition to the standards previously set out in the bill for military police officers whose training and experience is, and is not, substantially equivalent to those of a Commission-certified law enforcement officer, the military police officers would also have to complete 24 hours of training in the service of civil process in a Commission approved Basic Law Enforcement Training Course.

**HOUSE BILL 615**, Probation Violation Court Costs, has passed the House Judiciary I Committee with amendments, and has been reassigned to the House Committee on Finance.
HOUSE BILL 759, Retirement System COLAs, has passed the House Committee on Pensions and Retirement with amendments, and has been reassigned to the House Committee on Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House.

This bill was amended to remove the proposed cost-of-living increase for members of the Local Governmental Employees’ Retirement System. However, House Bill 616 includes a cost-of-living increase for members of the Local Governmental Employees’ Retirement System and it has passed the House and been sent to the Senate for their consideration.

The bill was also amended to decrease the cost-of-living increase from 2% to 1% for members of the Teachers’ and State Employees’ Retirement System, the Legislative Retirement System, and the Consolidated Judicial Retirement System.

HOUSE BILL 879, Juvenile Code Reform, has passed the Senate with amendments, and was returned to the House for consideration of the Senate changes. If the House does not accept the Senate changes, members from both the House and Senate will be appointed to attempt to reach an agreement on the bill. This bill was amended to remove the provision which would have allowed for any person adjudicated delinquent for a minor offense (Class 1, 2, or 3 misdemeanor or contempt by a juvenile) to be able to file a petition for an expunction of his or her juvenile records related to the expunged offense.

SENATE BILL 90, Required Number of Operating Brake Lights, has passed the House, and was returned to the Senate for consideration of the House changes. A vote is scheduled in the Senate on Monday, May 18, 2015 to decide whether to approve the House changes. If the Senate does not accept the House changes, members from both the House and Senate will be appointed to attempt to reach an agreement on the bill.

SENATE BILL 116, Handicapped Parking Windshield Placard, has been approved by the General Assembly and will be sent to Governor Pat McCrory for his signature.

SENATE BILL 399, Joint Agency & Waste Authority/Tax Exemption, has passed the Senate Committee on Transportation with amendments, and has been reassigned to the Senate Committee on Finance. This bill would allow for the issuance of permanent registration plates for a motor vehicle that is owned and operated by a regional solid waste management authority.

SENATE BILL 445, Burt's Law, has been approved by the General Assembly and will be sent to Governor Pat McCrory for his signature.

SENATE BILL 513, North Carolina Farm Act of 2015, has passed the Senate Committee on Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources with amendments, has passed the Senate Committee on Transportation, and has passed the Senate Committee on Finance with amendments. This bill was amended to make various statutory changes of interest to criminal justice agencies. Among these changes, the bill:
1. Provides that any person may operate all-terrain vehicles or utility vehicles on a public street or highway while engaged in farming operations;

2. Amends the holding and advertising period for unclaimed livestock, impounded for running at large. The bill provides that if the owner is known and does not redeem the livestock within the specified timeframe, the impounder must notify the Sheriff’s Office and the Sheriff must post a notice and description of the livestock, stating the date, place, and time of sale on the Sheriff’s Office website. After ten days from the date of the posting, the impounder must sell the livestock at public auction.

   If the owner of the livestock remains unknown, then three days after the publication of the unknown owner notice required by statute, the impounder must notify the Sheriff’s Office and the Sheriff must post a notice and description of the livestock, stating the date, place, and time of sale on the Sheriff’s Office website. After ten days from the date of the posting, the impounder must sell the livestock at public auction; and

3. Establishes a farm winery permit for $150 and a farm winery on-premises unfortified wine permit for $100. A farm winery permit can be issued to any winery that produces at least 75% of its wine from honey, grapes, or other fruit or grain grown in this State and permits the holder to manufacture unfortified wine and to sell, deliver, and ship unfortified wine in closed containers to wholesalers or individual purchasers. A farm winery on-premises unfortified wine permit authorizes the retail sale of unfortified wine for consumption on the premises, either alone or mixed with other beverages, and the retail sale of unfortified wine in the manufacturer's original container for consumption off the premises.

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