

North Carolina Sheriffs' Association

Proudly Serving the Sheriffs and Citizens of North Carolina since 1922



Weekly Legislative Report

April 24, 2020

The North Carolina General Assembly will begin the 2020 legislative session next Tuesday, April 28. This session will certainly be unique with only legislators, staff and some news media allowed into the legislative buildings. And, those who are allowed in the buildings will no doubt be practicing “social distancing,” a term that none of us had heard of until the arrival of the COVID – 19 pandemic.

For the last several weeks, four separate House “working groups“ have been having telephone conference call meetings, open to the public, to discuss issues related to COVID-19 that are deemed to be time sensitive requiring immediate action upon the legislature’s return next week. The Senate has been going through a similar process among its members but has not utilized the committee process.

It is widely understood that the legislature will be in session for only as many days as is necessary to approve urgent, non-controversial and bipartisan legislation to address the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on our State. It is likely that once those matters are dealt with, the legislature will adjourn and not reconvene for other 2020 business until later this summer.

For those that complain about the “normal” legislative process, they very well may welcome it back after dealing with the process during the pandemic. This certainly will be a “historic” legislative session that will test everyone’s flexibility, patience and ingenuity in providing governance during a pandemic.

As always, every Friday during the legislative session we will publish the Association’s Weekly Legislative Report explaining all bills introduced and other activities of interest to the sheriffs, law enforcement and criminal justice community in North Carolina.

If you would like a copy of any of the legislation introduced or considered by this year’s General Assembly, copies are available on the General Assembly’s website: www.ncleg.net.

You may also receive one copy of as many bills as you are interested in, free of charge, by calling the General Assembly’s Printed Bills Room at (919) 733-5648. They will need to know if it is a House bill or a Senate bill and the bill number (for example, Senate Bill 8).

The **Weekly Legislative Report** is provided at no charge as a service to the sheriffs, criminal justice community and citizens of North Carolina.

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