

# North Carolina Sheriffs' Association

Proudly Serving the Sheriffs and Citizens of North Carolina since 1922



Weekly Legislative Report

July 10, 2020

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The North Carolina General Assembly returned to session on Monday of this week and concluded all of their business on Wednesday of this week.

On Saturday, July 11<sup>th</sup> the General Assembly will have a limited session with no votes on legislation and then will adjourn until they reconvene on September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 12 noon.

The session that is scheduled to begin on September 2<sup>nd</sup> is now scheduled to adjourn on September 3<sup>rd</sup> and should be limited primarily to appropriation of federal funds received in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The current plan is that the General Assembly will then adjourn for the remainder of the year to convene the 2021 Session in early 2021.

By the end of this month, we will publish the 2020 **Final Legislative Report** that will summarize all of the important criminal justice legislation enacted into law by this year's General Assembly.

Each year during the Fall, we conduct training sessions around the State providing a legislative update class. We are evaluating our ability to do that in person this year, or to do it via video conferencing. As developments occur regarding the Governor's Executive Orders related to the COVID-19 pandemic, a final decision will be made on the format of our annual Legislative Update Training classes, and you will be notified.

Publication of the NCSA Weekly Legislative Report will resume every Friday once the legislature convenes the 2021 Session next year.

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## BILL STATUS

[SENATE BILL 232](#), Tracking Outcomes of Veterans Programs, which was filed on March 12, 2019, has been amended in the House to change the entire content of the bill and to rename the bill "Repeal Death Invest Conf/Masks/Health & Safety." The bill has been approved by the General Assembly and sent to Governor Roy Cooper for his signature.

The bill, as amended, would permanently authorize a person to wear a mask in public and on private premises (such as in a shopping mall) for the purpose of ensuring the physical health or safety of the wearer or others.

The bill would require the person wearing a mask for health or safety reasons to remove the mask upon the request of a law enforcement officer during a traffic stop (including at a checkpoint or roadblock) or criminal investigation.

Currently, the ability of the general public to wear a mask in public for health and safety reasons is temporary in nature and is set to expire on August 1, 2020.

### GOVERNOR'S VETOES

On July 2, 2020 Governor Cooper vetoed several "reopening bills" and a firearms bill that were approved by the General Assembly and sent to Governor Cooper for his signature. Those bills are:

1. [HOUSE BILL 258](#), Open Amusement Parks/Arcades/Venues
2. [HOUSE BILL 652](#), 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Protection Act
3. [HOUSE BILL 686](#), Freedom to Celebrate the Fourth of July
4. [HOUSE BILL 806](#), Open Exercise & Fitness Facilities
5. [SENATE BILL 599](#), Open Skating Rinks/Bowling Alleys

On July 8, 2020, the House voted on whether or not to override Governor Cooper's vetoes of [House Bill 652](#), [House Bill 686](#) and [House Bill 806](#) but failed to override the veto of each bill. The Senate also voted on whether or not to override the veto of [Senate Bill 599](#) on July 8 and also failed to override the Governor's veto. Therefore, these bills are not law and will not be considered further this legislative session.

The General Assembly did not vote this week on whether or not to override [House Bill 258](#), Open Amusement Parks/Arcades/Venues. That bill has been referred to the Committee on Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House, and it is unlikely to be considered any further this year.

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

North Carolina Sheriffs' Association, Inc.

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