

North Carolina Sheriffs' Association

Proudly Serving the Sheriffs and Citizens of North Carolina since 1922



Weekly Legislative Report

March 31, 2023

Almost everyone at the General Assembly was focused on one of two issues this week: the repeal of the pistol purchase permit and the reveal of the House's proposed state budget. The Senate took the opportunity on Tuesday to test the strength of their supermajority and voted to override the Governor's veto of Senate Bill 41, Guarantee 2nd Amend Freedom and Protections. The House followed suit on Wednesday with a vote of 71-46 to override, with 4 members noticeably absent that could have prevented the override.

On Wednesday, House leaders unveiled their proposed state budget. Early on Thursday, committees focused on justice and public safety, health, education, and other areas met to receive an overview of the proposed budget from General Assembly fiscal staff. Later in the morning, the full House Appropriations Committee met to review the provisions of the bill. After lunch the full Committee met once again, this time to consider over 50 amendments, some of which proposed adding more spending provisions to the budget and some of which proposed removing provisions.

Among other things, this year's House budget contains directed grants for sheriffs' offices and local law enforcement agencies to assist with workforce development, officer safety and officer health, as well as raises for state employees and teachers. Next week's Weekly Legislative Report will contain a thorough summary of the provisions of interest to the criminal justice community.

The House plans to vote on the budget next week. Then, it will be the Senate's turn to propose their version of the budget before a final version of the bill receives a final vote from both chambers.

The House and Senate adjourned on Thursday and will reconvene on Monday, April 3, 2023.

BILLS OF INTEREST

[HOUSE BILL 495](#), Aggregation of Multiple Financial Crimes, would allow the aggregation for sentencing of "financial crimes," defined in the bill as acts of embezzlement, obtaining property by false pretenses, or exploitation of an older adult, based on the aggregate (total) amount of money or things of value at issue, if: (1) the person committed the financial crimes against more than one victim or in more than one county; and (2) the financial crimes are based on the same act or transaction or on a series of acts or transactions connected together or constituting parts of a common scheme or plan. **Introduced by Representatives Crutchfield, Greene and K. Baker,**

and assigned to the House Committee on Judiciary 2.

[HOUSE BILL 504](#), Remove Barriers to Labor Organizing, would allow employers and labor unions or labor organizations to enter into contracts where persons not members of the union or organization are denied the right to work for that employer or where membership in the union or organization is made a condition of employment. Currently, such contracts are void as against the public policy of the State.

The bill would also allow an employer to require a person to pay dues to a labor union or labor organization as a condition of employment. Currently, this is prohibited. **Introduced by Representatives Morey, Autry, Alston and Butler, and assigned to the Committee on Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House.**

[HOUSE BILL 508](#), Funds for Gates Co. Sheriff's Office, would appropriate \$300,000 in nonrecurring funds for the 2023-2024 fiscal year to provide a directed grant to Gates County to be used by the Gates County Sheriff's Office for: (1) purchasing and outfitting patrol vehicles; and (2) purchasing uniforms and other necessary equipment and upgrading technology and services. **Introduced by Representative Ward, and assigned to the House Committee on Appropriations.**

[HOUSE BILL 512](#), Forgivable Loans/HBCU Supplemental Funding, would legalize video gambling in North Carolina through the North Carolina Education Lottery in a manner substantially similar to Section 42.4 of [House Bill 430](#), Governor's Budget, which is summarized in the March 24, 2023 Weekly Legislative Report. Currently, video gambling is illegal in North Carolina. **Introduced by Representative Warren, and assigned to the House Committee on Appropriations.**

[HOUSE BILL 515](#), Funds for Camden Co. Sheriff's Office, would appropriate \$108,784 in nonrecurring funds for the 2023-2024 fiscal year to provide a directed grant to Camden County to be used by the Camden County Sheriff's Office for the purchase of three specific motor vehicles. **Introduced by Representative Ward, and assigned to the House Committee on Appropriations.**

[HOUSE BILL 521](#), Funds for NC Troopers Assoc. Caisson Unit, would appropriate to the North Carolina Department of Public Safety, State Highway Patrol Division, \$250,000 in nonrecurring funds for the 2023-2024 fiscal year to be used as a directed grant to the North Carolina Troopers Association Caisson Unit, Inc. for the upkeep and maintenance of its facilities, vehicles, and horses. **Introduced by Representatives Cotham, Bell, McNeely and Rudow, and assigned to the House Committee on Appropriations.**

[HOUSE BILL 523](#), First Responders Mental Health, would establish a supplemental insurance policy for first responders diagnosed with mental health conditions (the Plan). The Plan would be administered by the North Carolina Department of Insurance. Of interest to the criminal justice community, the bill would:

1. Define a “first responder” as a law enforcement officer, firefighter, 911 dispatcher, emergency medical technician, detention officer employed by a local government, or correctional or probation officer employed by the State.
2. Define a “law enforcement officer” as a sworn, certified law enforcement officer with the power of arrest, the sheriff of a county, a police dispatcher, police investigator, sheriff's deputy, bailiff, correction officer, detention officer, and jailer.
3. Define an “eligible mental condition” as stress, mental injury, or mental illness that is medically diagnosed as an anxiety disorder, conduct disorder, depressive disorder, obsessive-compulsive and related disorder, sleep-wake disorder, or trauma and stressor-related disorder.
4. Require the first responder to meet certain requirements, as set forth in the bill, in order to be eligible for the benefit.
5. Provide an eligible first responder reimbursement for up to \$5,000 per 12-month period for out-of-pocket expenses for an eligible mental condition.
6. Provide a salary benefit if a first responder’s treatment plan requires leave from employment that is the lesser of: (1) 75% of the first responder’s monthly salary; or (2) \$5,000 per month.
7. Provide a disability benefit for total disability resulting from the diagnosis of an eligible mental condition or for an eligible mental condition that precludes the first responder from serving as a first responder. The disability benefit would be paid monthly for no more than 36 months and, for all first responders except for volunteer firefighters, would be the lesser of: (1) 75% of the first responder’s salary; or (2) \$5,000.

Introduced by Representatives Clampitt, White, Saine and Reeder, and assigned to the House Committee on Health.

[HOUSE BILL 524](#), WRC & Crime Lab/Increases/Positions/Study, would appropriate \$16.1 million dollars for each year of the 2023-2025 fiscal biennium to fund 30 new full-time positions and pay scales at the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, as detailed in the bill. The bill would also appropriate \$2.5 million dollars for each year of the 2023-2025 fiscal biennium to fund employee recruitment and retention at the North Carolina State Crime Laboratory. **Introduced by Representative Clampitt, and assigned to the House Committee on Appropriations.**

[HOUSE BILL 527](#), Highway Safety Omnibus/Addit'l Magistrates, would make various changes to the laws regarding highway safety. Of interest to the criminal justice community, the bill would:

1. Appropriate to the North Carolina State Highway Patrol \$960,429 in recurring funds for the 2023-2024 fiscal year and \$1 million in nonrecurring funds for the 2023-2024 fiscal year to be used to fund 12 full-time State Trooper positions.

2. Increase the minimum number of magistrates required for Mecklenburg County from 31.5 to 36.5.
3. Appropriate to the North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts \$373,930 in recurring funds for the 2023-2024 fiscal year and \$15,140 in nonrecurring funds for the 2023-2024 fiscal year to be used to hire five additional magistrates to serve in Mecklenburg County.
4. Increase the minimum fine for failing to stop for a properly marked and designated school bus from \$500 to \$1,000.
5. Increase the minimum fine for failing to stop for a properly marked and designated school bus and striking another person from \$1,250 to \$2,250.
6. Increase the minimum fine for failing to stop for a properly marked and designated school bus and striking another person resulting in that person's death from \$2,500 to \$3,500.
7. Provide that whenever evidence is presented in any court or administrative hearing that a vehicle failed to stop for a properly marked and designated school bus it shall be prima facie evidence that the vehicle was operated by its registered owner at the time of the violation.
8. Provide that North Carolina Department of Transportation (Department) highway camera recordings are not public records but that they may be disclosed (shown) by the Department upon written request to: (1) a person whose image or voice is in the recording; (2) a personal representative of an adult person whose image or voice is in the recording, if the adult person has consented to the disclosure; (3) a personal representative of a minor or of an adult person under lawful guardianship whose image or voice is in the recording; (4) a personal representative of a deceased person whose image or voice is in the recording; or (5) a personal representative of an adult person who is incapacitated and unable to provide consent to disclosure.
9. Define "highway camera" as a Department video or digital camera, located on a highway right-of-way, for the purpose of monitoring vehicle traffic.
10. Prohibit the release (copying) of highway camera recordings without a court order in most instances.
11. Require a court considering the release of a highway camera recording to consider certain factors, as set forth in detail in the bill, and require that (1) the head of the Department, (2) any law enforcement personnel whose image or voice is in the recording and the head of that person's employing law enforcement agency, and (3) the district attorney be notified of any proceeding to consider the release of a highway camera recording and given an opportunity to be heard.

12. Require the Department to disclose or release a highway camera recording to a district attorney: (1) for review of potential criminal charges; (2) in order to comply with discovery requirements in a criminal prosecution; (3) for use in criminal proceedings in district court; or (4) for any other law enforcement purpose.
13. Allow the Department to disclose or release a highway camera recording for suspect identification or apprehension or to locate a missing or abducted person.
14. Prohibit the use of highway camera recordings for fines or private investigations.

Introduced by Representatives Logan, Belk, Carney and Hawkins, and assigned to the House Committee on Appropriations.

[HOUSE BILL 533](#), Human Life Protection Act of 2023, would make knowingly performing, inducing, or attempting an abortion a Class B1 felony if it causes the death of an unborn child and a Class B2 felony in any other circumstance unless certain exceptions apply, as set forth in detail in the bill. **Introduced by Representatives Kidwell, Moss and Goodwin, and assigned to the Committee on Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House.**

[HOUSE BILL 534](#), Protecting School Employees, would increase to a Class G felony the punishment for a person who commits a second or subsequent offense of assaulting a school employee or school volunteer when the employee or volunteer is discharging or attempting to discharge their duties as an employee or volunteer. Currently, it is a Class A1 misdemeanor for a person to assault a school employee or school volunteer while the person is discharging or attempting to discharge their duties, regardless of whether the person has committed the offense previously. **Introduced by Representatives N. Jackson, Carson Smith, Stevens and Biggs, and assigned to the House Committee on Judiciary 2.**

[HOUSE BILL 540](#), Fiona Mae Wagglebottom's Act, would make depriving an animal of "adequate shelter" chargeable as misdemeanor cruelty to animals. The bill would also prevent the use of a dog in a lawful hunt from being charged as cruelty to animals.

"Adequate shelter" would be defined in the bill to mean shelter: (1) suitable for the species and condition of the animal; (2) that protects the animal from weather; (3) that is properly cleaned; (4) that enables the animal to remain clean and dry; (5) that is properly shaded and not readily conductive of heat on days above 85° Fahrenheit; (6) that provides a windbreak at its entrance; and (7) that provides bedding material promoting the retention of body heat on days below 32° Fahrenheit. The bill would also include additional requirements, as set forth in the bill, for shelters with wire, grid, or slat floors and shelters for cats and dogs.

"Adequate shelter" would not include outdoor tethering during periods of extreme weather. The bill would define "extreme weather" as any period above 85° Fahrenheit, any period below 32° Fahrenheit, the effective period of any hurricane, tropical storm, or severe weather warning issued by the National Weather Service (NWS), or the effective period of a heat advisory issued by a local or State authority.

Currently, depriving an animal of adequate shelter is not clearly chargeable as cruelty to animals and the use of a dog in a lawful hunt is not explicitly excluded from being considered as cruelty to animals. **Introduced by Representatives Dahle, Ward, Longest and Harrison.**

[SENATE BILL 370](#), [Mobile Drivers License](#), would authorize the North Carolina Commissioner of Motor Vehicles to issue, upon request, a “mobile drivers license” to a person with an existing valid drivers license. A “mobile drivers license” would be defined as a supplemental digital version of a valid drivers license that can be displayed on the mobile device owned by the person to whom the valid drivers license is issued and it would be treated as the legal equivalent of a valid drivers license. **Introduced by Senators Johnson and Moffitt, and assigned to the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate.**

[SENATE BILL 381](#), [Fire Invest'n Law/Backgrd. Check Revisions](#), would grant the North Carolina Commissioner of Insurance (Commissioner), through the Office of the State Fire Marshal, the authority to also supervise and direct fire investigations. Currently, only the Director of the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) has the authority to supervise and direct fire investigations when the Director deems it appropriate.

The bill would give the Director of the SBI the exclusive right to supervise and direct fire investigations in cases involving death or serious bodily injury, first- or second-degree arson, buildings owned or occupied by State or local government, buildings owned or occupied by educational institutions, and churches or other religious buildings.

The bill would also grant the Commissioner the authority to take testimony, compel the attendance of witnesses, administer oaths and affirmations, issue subpoenas, and conduct premises inspections in fire investigations. Currently, only the Director of the SBI has this authority.

The bill would also provide that the criminal history record check for applicants for paid or volunteer positions providing fire-fighting or prevention services could be conducted through the office of the clerk of superior court or a third-party vendor if the applicant has been a resident of North Carolina for 5 years or more and did not report any charges or convictions on their application.

Currently, all required criminal history records checks for applicants to fire departments must be conducted by the North Carolina Department of Public Safety.

The bill would also exempt junior members of fire departments under the age of 18 from being subjected to a criminal history record check. Currently, all applicants for positions providing fire-fighting or prevention services must have a criminal history record check performed upon them, regardless of age. **Introduced by Senators Johnson, Sawyer and Britt, and assigned to the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate.**

[SENATE BILL 387](#), [Revise Motor Vehicle Emissions Laws](#), would prohibit a person from modifying a diesel-powered motor vehicle with a device that temporarily or permanently enables the vehicle to emit visible air contaminants equal to or darker than the shade or density designated as No. 1 on the Ringelmann Chart, equal to or darker than a shade or density of 20% opacity, or

that enables the vehicle to perform “coal rolling.”

“Coal rolling” would be defined as operating a diesel-powered motor vehicle in a manner that causes emission of visible air contaminants with the intent to do any of the following: (1) cause a reasonable person to feel harassed, annoyed, or alarmed; (2) obstruct or obscure any person’s view of the roadway, other users of the roadway, or a traffic control device; or (3) create a hazard to a motor vehicle operator, bicyclist, or pedestrian. The bill would make “coal rolling” punishable as a Class A1 misdemeanor.

The bill would also require any safety and emission inspection required under law to include a determination that the inspected vehicle has not been modified to perform “coal rolling.”

The bill would require both the North Carolina Sheriffs’ Education and Training Standards Commission and the North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission to develop 8 hours of required annual training to identify emissions violations. **Introduced by Senators Marcus, Garrett and Mayfield, and assigned to the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate.**

[SENATE BILL 401](#), [Ensure Same-Sex Domestic Violence Prot. Order](#), is identical to [House Bill 355](#), [Ensure Same-Sex Domestic Violence Prot. Order](#), which is summarized in the March 17, 2023 Weekly Legislative Report. **Introduced by Senators Murdock and Meyer, and assigned to the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate.**

[SENATE BILL 403](#), [Prohibit Weapons at Voting Place](#), would make it a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person to possess or carry, whether openly or concealed, any dangerous weapon (i.e., handgun, rifle, explosives): (1) at a location used as a voting place; (2) within 100 feet of the entrance to a voting place; or (3) while in line to vote at a location used as a voting place.

The bill would create an exception for a law enforcement officer acting in discharge of the officer’s official duties. **Introduced by Senators Marcus, Mayfield and Grafstein, and assigned to the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate.**

[SENATE BILL 409](#), [Increase Punishment for Cargo Theft](#), would make various changes to the offense of breaking or entering into or breaking out of railroad cars, motor vehicles, trailers, aircraft, boats, or other watercraft (conveyance). Of interest to the criminal justice community, the bill would:

1. Make it a Class H felony if the goods, wares, freight, or other things of value inside the conveyance have a value of more than \$1,500 but no more than \$20,000, aggregated over a 90-day period.
2. Make it a Class H felony if: (1) the conveyance is owned or operated by any law enforcement agency, the North Carolina National Guard, or any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States; (2) the person knows or reasonably should know that the conveyance is owned or operated by any law enforcement agency, the North Carolina National Guard, or any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States; and (3) the offense

does not involve the taking of goods, wares, freight, or any other thing of value that would be punishable as a Class G, F, or C felony as specified below.

3. Make it a Class G felony if the goods, wares, freight, or other things of value inside the conveyance have a value of more than \$20,000 but no more than \$50,000, aggregated over a 90-day period.
4. Make it a Class F felony if the goods, wares, freight, or other things of value inside the conveyance have a value of more than \$50,000 but no more than \$100,000, aggregated over a 90-day period.
5. Make it a Class C felony if the goods, wares, freight, or other things of value inside the conveyance have a value of more than \$100,000, aggregated over a 90-day period.
6. Make it a Class I felony for any other offense of breaking or entering into or breaking out of railroad cars, motor vehicles, trailers, aircraft, boats, or other watercraft that is not specifically referenced above.
7. Provide that any conveyance used in the commission of an offense of breaking or entering into or breaking out of railroad cars, motor vehicles, trailers, aircraft, boats, or other watercraft is subject to forfeiture.

Currently, all violations of breaking or entering into or breaking out of railroad cars, motor vehicles, trailers, aircraft, boats, or other watercraft are punished as Class I felonies, unless the conveyance is owned or operated by a law enforcement agency, the North Carolina National Guard, or any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States, in which case it is a Class H felony. **Introduced by Senators Britt, McInnis and Craven, and assigned to the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate.**

[SENATE BILL 415](#), [NC State Highway Patrol Retention Act](#), would appropriate \$55.8 million in each year of the 2023-2025 fiscal biennium to provide raises and establish pay scales, as detailed in the bill, for law enforcement officers of the North Carolina State Highway Patrol. **Introduced by Senators Britt, Perry and Lee, and assigned to the Committee on Appropriations/Base Budget of the Senate.**

[SENATE BILL 422](#), [Homes for Heroes](#), would require the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency (Agency) to create a Homebuyers' Assistance Program operating under the Homeownership Assistance Fund for first time homebuyers who work as public servants. Of interest to the criminal justice community, the bill would:

1. Define a "public servant" as an active-duty member or veteran, or a law enforcement officer, teacher, firefighter, or emergency medical services personnel employed in this State.

2. Define a “law enforcement officer” as an individual employed by the State or a local government in this State as a sheriff, deputy sheriff, police officer, or member of the State Highway Patrol.
3. Require the Agency to establish a program to provide assistance to first-time homebuyers that are employed full-time as public servants in the State, in the form of reimbursement or direct payment, to be used for down payment assistance and to offset mortgage insurance premiums.
4. Limit the assistance provided by the program to the lesser of \$25,000 or 10% of the purchase price.
5. Allow the Agency to provide mortgage insurance payment assistance at least monthly, but for no longer than 60 months for any single first-time homebuyer.
6. Appropriate to the Homeownership Assistance Fund \$200 million dollars in recurring funds for the 2023-2024 fiscal year to be used for the purposes described in the bill.

Introduced by Senators Batch, Garrett and Smith, and assigned to the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate.

[SENATE BILL 437](#), Hate Crimes Prevention Act, would make various changes to the laws governing hate crimes. Of interest to the criminal justice community, the bill would:

1. Expand the categories under which a crime would be increased to a higher-level offense as a hate crime. In addition to the categories of race, color, religion, nationality or country of origin, the bill would include crimes committed because of the victim’s perceived race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, gender expression, disability, or sexual orientation.

The bill would increase Class 2 or Class 3 misdemeanors committed for these reasons to a Class 1 misdemeanor and would increase Class A1 or Class 1 misdemeanors committed for these reasons to a Class H felony.

2. Expand the categories covering the crime of ethnic intimidation to include perceived race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, gender expression, disability, and sexual orientation. Currently, this offense is committed if an offender assaults another person or damages or defaces the property of another person because of their race, color, religion, nationality or country of origin.
3. Expand the categories included in the aggravating factor for felony sentencing purposes to include situations where the defendant committed the offense based on the victim’s perceived race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, gender expression, disability, and sexual orientation. Currently, an aggravating factor applies at sentencing if the defendant committed the offense against the victim due to the victim’s race, color, religion, nationality or country of origin.

4. Create the new criminal offense of “Felonious assault as a hate crime,” making it a Class F felony to assault or attempt to assault someone and inflict serious bodily injury on the person because of the victim’s race, ethnicity, color, religion, nationality, country of origin, disability, gender, gender identity, or sexual orientation. The bill would make it a Class E felony if the victim dies because of the assault, or if the crime involved kidnapping, forcible rape or a forcible sex offense.
5. Allow a victim of any of these offenses to request the court to order the defendant to attend a “restorative justice session” with the victim following conviction of the crime. The bill does not establish what specifically would occur during the restorative justice session, but does specify that the session would be administered by a member of the Human Relations Commission, an attorney, a mediator, or an alternative dispute resolution professional that has training in “racial equity education.” The bill would require the defendant to pay for the restorative justice session.
6. Require the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) to establish a Hate Crimes Statistics Database (HCSD) to collect, analyze and disseminate information related to the commission of hate crimes. The types of information collected would include but not be limited to the total number of offenses committed, the characteristics of the person who committed the offense and the victim of the offense (such as age and sex), and the disposition of each criminal case.

State and local law enforcement agencies would be required to report this information to the SBI monthly for offenses committed during the preceding month. The bill would require the SBI to share information contained in the HCSD with a requesting local law enforcement agency, unit of local government, or State agency.

7. Require law enforcement training to be developed by the North Carolina Justice Academy on how to identify, respond to, and report on a hate crime. The bill would also require the North Carolina Sheriffs’ Education and Training Standards Commission and the North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission to include hate crime training as part of in-service training and minimum training standards.
8. Appropriate to the SBI \$1.8 million in nonrecurring funds for the 2023-2024 fiscal year for the establishment of the HCSD. The bill would also appropriate to the SBI \$530,000 in recurring funds for the 2023-2024 fiscal year to hire an additional employee to manage the HCSD.

Introduced by Senators Chaudhuri, Waddell and Mohammed.

[SENATE BILL 450](#), Seized Weapons Security Act, is identical to Sections 1, 2, and 3 of [House Bill 284](#), Law Enforcement/Destroy Certain Firearms, which is summarized in the March 10, 2023 Weekly Legislative Report. **Introduced by Senators Garrett, Robinson and Chaudhuri.**

BILL STATUS

[HOUSE BILL 10](#), Require Sheriffs to Cooperate with ICE, which is summarized in the January 27, 2023 Weekly Legislative Report, has passed the House and has been sent to the Senate for consideration. The bill has been amended in the House to appropriate \$278,994 in nonrecurring funds for each year of the 2023-2025 fiscal biennium to the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health Services, to be used to hire two full-time Jail Inspectors.

[HOUSE BILL 76](#), Access to Healthcare Options, which is summarized in the February 17, 2023 Weekly Legislative Report, has been signed into law by Governor Roy Cooper, with most provisions becoming effective when an appropriations act (i.e. budget bill) for the 2023-2024 fiscal year becomes law.

This bill was supported by the North Carolina Sheriffs' Association, will expand Medicaid eligibility, and hopefully reduce the number of individuals who commit crimes due to mental health issues, physical health issues, or substance abuse issues because these individuals will have better access to healthcare through Medicaid expansion.

[HOUSE BILL 142](#), Protect Our Students Act.-AB, which is summarized in the February 24, 2023 Weekly Legislative Report, has passed the House and has been sent to the Senate for consideration.

[HOUSE BILL 168](#), DNCR Agency Bill.-AB, which is summarized in the February 24, 2023 Weekly Legislative Report, has passed the House and has been sent to the Senate for consideration.

[HOUSE BILL 190](#), Dept. of Health and Human Services Revision.-AB, which is summarized in the February 24, 2023 Weekly Legislative Report, has passed the House and has been sent to the Senate for consideration.

[HOUSE BILL 347](#), Sports Wagering, which is summarized in the March 17, 2023 Weekly Legislative Report, has passed the House and has been sent to the Senate for consideration. The bill has been amended in the House to also make it a Class I felony for an applicant for a sports wagering supplier license to willfully furnish, supply, or give false information on the application.

[HOUSE BILL 411](#), General Assembly Appointments, which is summarized in the March 24, 2023 Weekly Legislative Report, has been approved by the General Assembly and is effective immediately without the Governor's signature.

[SENATE BILL 41](#), Guarantee 2nd Amend Freedom and Protections, which is summarized in the February 3, 2023 Weekly Legislative Report, has been enacted into law by the General Assembly. The bill was vetoed by Governor Roy Cooper on March 24, 2023. On March 29, 2023, the veto was overridden by the General Assembly. The bill eliminates, effective immediately, all pistol purchase permit laws in North Carolina. Most of the remaining provisions of the bill become effective July 1, 2023.

[SENATE BILL 51](#), Kayla's Act: Protecting Dom. Violence Victims, which is summarized in the February 3, 2023 Weekly Legislative Report, has passed the Senate and has been sent to the House for consideration.

[SENATE BILL 90](#), Searches of Student's Person, which is summarized in the February 10, 2023 Weekly Legislative Report, has passed the Senate and has been sent to the House for consideration.

The bill has been amended in the Senate to allow the governing body of a public school unit to adopt a policy providing that searches conducted with a walk-through metal detector, handheld wand, or other similar minimally intrusive device designed to detect weapons and regularly used for security scanning may be conducted in public and/or by a person of the opposite sex as the student searched.

[SENATE BILL 206](#), Stop Counterfeit Pills Act, which is summarized in the March 10, 2023 Weekly Legislative Report, has passed the Senate and has been sent to the House for consideration.

[SENATE BILL 246](#), Property Owners Protection Act, which is summarized in the March 10, 2023 Weekly Legislative Report, has passed the Senate and has been sent to the House for consideration. The bill has been amended in the Senate to delete and replace the entire contents of the bill.

The bill, as amended, would make second degree trespass a Class 2 misdemeanor if a person enters and remains on the curtilage of a dwelling of another person between 12:00 midnight and 6:00 AM. Currently, any form of second degree trespass is a Class 3 misdemeanor.

[SENATE BILL 267](#), Restrict Detached Catalytic Purchases, which is summarized in the March 10, 2023 Weekly Legislative Report, has passed the Senate and has been sent to the House for consideration.

[SENATE BILL 276](#), Union County/Use Wheel Locks, which is summarized in the March 10, 2023 Weekly Legislative Report, has passed the Senate and has been sent to the House for consideration.

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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