

2020 Legislative Bills Watching

HB1111 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR GOVERNMENT IN THE SUNSHINE BY AMENDING THE NORTH CAROLINA CONSTITUTION

<https://www.ncleg.gov/BillLookup/2019/HB1111>

If passed, this would require that any internal meeting at which official acts are to be taken or at which public business of such body is to be transacted or discussed, shall be open and noticed to the public. However, all laws that are in effect on January 1, 2021, that limit public access to records or meetings shall remain in force until amended or repealed.

HB1112 AN ACT MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CURRENT OPERATIONS OF STATE GOVERNMENT AND OTHER CHANGES IN THE BUDGET OPERATIONS OF THE STATE

<https://www.ncleg.gov/BillLookup/2019/HB1112>

This is currently just a shell bill.

HB1114 AN ACT MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CURRENT OPERATIONS OF STATE GOVERNMENT AND OTHER CHANGES IN THE BUDGET OPERATIONS OF THE STATE

<https://www.ncleg.gov/BillLookup/2019/HB1114>

This is currently just a shell bill.

Session Law 2020-41

HB1218 AN ACT TO MAKE ADJUSTMENTS TO THE STATE EMPLOYER SALARY-RELATED CONTRIBUTIONS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE STATE'S DEBT SERVICE OBLIGATIONS

<https://www.ncleg.gov/BillLookup/2019/HB1218>

Reduces the State's employer contribution rate for various items, including retiree health benefits from 6.82% to 6.68%. Effective July 1, 2020, the maximum annual employer contributions, payable monthly, by the State for each covered employee or retiree for the 2020-2021 fiscal year to the State Health Plan for Teachers and State Employees are (i) for Medicare-eligible employees and retirees, five thousand ~~one hundred sixty-five dollars (\$5,165)~~ sixty-one dollars (\$5,061) and (ii) for non-Medicare-eligible employees and retirees, six thousand ~~six hundred forty-seven dollars (\$6,647)~~ five hundred twelve dollars (\$6,512).

Session Law 2020-48

SB719 AN ACT TO MAKE TECHNICAL CHANGES TO THE STATUTES GOVERNING THE . . . THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE HEALTH PLAN FOR TEACHERS AND STATE EMPLOYEES

<https://www.ncleg.gov/BillLookup/2019/SB719>

Revises volunteer firefighter eligibility. Strengthens the position that local government participation is irrevocable once elected. Allows for an amount determined by the State Treasurer, subject to approval by the Board of Trustees, that does not exceed twenty-five percent (25%) of any unencumbered balance remaining after providing for incurred but unrepresented claims to be transferred to the Retiree Health Benefit Fund, established under G.S. 135-7(f).

SL2020-29

SB379 AN ACT TO MAKE CLARIFYING AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES TO LAWS RELATING TO THE STATE TREASURER

<https://www.ncleg.gov/BillLookup/2019/SB379>

Strengthens our authority to conduct background checks. provides for the purchase of creditable service in various situations. However, this does not change membership service, which is what we/retirement use along with a member's first hired date to determine the category of eligibility for retiree health benefits. In the context of a discontinued service retirement, adds a new calculation to include an amount to be deposited in the Retiree Health Benefit Fund.

Session Law 2020-45

SB818 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE COMPENSATION OF CERTAIN PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES

<https://www.ncleg.gov/BillLookup/2019/S818>

SECTION 8.1.(a) Section 3.15(e) of S.L. 2019-209 reads as rewritten: "SECTION 3.15.(e) Effective July 1, 2020, the maximum annual employer contributions, payable monthly, by the State for each covered employee or retiree for the 2020-2021 fiscal year to the State Health Plan for Teachers and State Employees are (i) for Medicare-eligible employees and retirees, five thousand ~~one hundred sixty five dollars (\$5,165)~~ twenty-one dollars (\$5,021) and (ii) for non-Medicare-eligible employees and retirees, six thousand ~~six hundred forty seven dollars (\$6,647)~~ four hundred sixty-one dollars (\$6,461).

" SECTION 8.1.(b) If House Bill 1218, 2020 Regular Session, becomes law, then subsection (a) of this section is repealed.

SECTION 8.1.(c) If House Bill 1218, 2020 Regular Session, becomes law, then Section 3.15(e) of S.L. 2019-209, as amended by Section 1(d) of House Bill 1218, 2020 Regular Session, reads as rewritten:

"SECTION 3.15.(e) Effective July 1, 2020, the maximum annual employer contributions, payable monthly, by the State for each covered employee or retiree for the 2020-2021 fiscal year to the State Health Plan for Teachers and State Employees are (i) for Medicare-eligible employees and retirees, five thousand ~~sixty-one dollars (\$5,061)~~ four thousand nine hundred sixteen dollars (\$4,916) and (ii) for non-Medicare-eligible employees and retirees, six thousand ~~five hundred twelve dollars (\$6,512)~~ three hundred twenty-six dollars (\$6,326)."

SECTION 8.2. No later than August 15, 2020, the Office of State Budget and Management shall adjust the appropriations for State Health Plan contributions of all applicable agencies, departments, or institutions to reflect the changes implemented in Section 8.1 of this act, representing a decrease in General Fund net appropriations totaling forty-seven million two Senate Bill 818-Ratified Page 7 hundred twenty-seven thousand seven hundred twenty-eight dollars (\$47,227,728) in recurring funds for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. It is the intent of the General Assembly to restore employer contribution rates for Retiree Health and to the State Health Plan to the amounts in S.L. 2019-209, as originally enacted on August 30, 2019, in the event the federal government provides additional relief funds or additional flexibility on existing relief funds that can be used to support the General Fund.

SB231 AN ACT ENACTING AGENCY POLICY DIRECTIVES FOR THE 2019-2021 FISCAL 3 BIENNIUM

<https://www.ncleg.gov/BillLookup/2019/SB231>

Repeals the Plan's requirement to submit an annual report on Coordination of Diabetes Programs, G.S. 130A-221.1(b), and Coordination of Chronic Care Initiatives, G.S. 130A-222.5(3).

Requires the Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM) in conjunction with State agencies to report on the use of lapsed salary funds at the end of each fiscal year, including all of the following: (1) The total amount of accrued lapsed salary funds by funding source. (2) The total number of full-time equivalent positions comprising the lapsed salary funds. (3) The total expenditure of lapsed salaries by purpose. (4) The legal authorization to expend lapsed salary funds.

Session Law 2020-39

SB866 AN ACT TO APPOINT PERSONS TO VARIOUS PUBLIC OFFICES UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND THE MAJORITY

Updated 7/9/2020

AND MINORITY LEADERS OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

<https://www.ncleg.gov/BillLookup/2019/SB866>

SECTION 2.40. Effective July 1, 2020, Dr. Donald L. Martin, Jr., of Forsyth County is appointed to the Board of Trustees of the State Health Plan for Teachers and State Employees for a term expiring on June 30, 2022.

Session Law 2020-82

SB361 AN ACT TO ENACT . . . ENSURE THE PROPER ADMINISTRATION OF STEP THERAPY PROTOCOLS

<https://www.ncleg.gov/BillLookup/2019/S361>

Makes several revisions to G.S. 58-3-221, Access to nonformulary and restricted access prescription drugs. An insurer, or a pharmacy benefits manager under contract with an insurer, shall require that its pharmacy and therapeutics committee either meet the requirements for conflict of interest set by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services or meet the accreditation standards of the National Committee for Quality Assurance or another independent accrediting organization. Establishes an Exception Process. – Each insurer shall establish and maintain an expeditious process or procedure, published on either the insurer's Web site or in policies provided to health care providers, that allows an enrollee or the enrollee's prescribing provider acting on behalf of the enrollee to obtain, without penalty or additional cost-sharing beyond that provided for in the health benefit plan, coverage for a specific nonformulary drug or device or the drug requested by the prescribing provider, if it is determined to be medically necessary and appropriate by the enrollee's prescribing provider and the prescription drug is covered under the current health benefit plan.

Session Law 2020-80

HB1023 AN ACT TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL AND REVISED USES FOR FEDERAL CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDS . . .

<https://www.ncleg.gov/BillLookup/2019/H1023>

Provides funding to for the Health Information Exchange for certain COVID-19 related data projects.