



Legislative Update

Week of May 31, 2021

Roy Cooper, Governor

Erik A. Hooks, Secretary

The pace at the General Assembly picked up this week although it was still less hectic than what one would expect for this time of year. Despite the calendar being ratcheted up, we continue to wait for the Senate’s version of a state budget. However, a comprehensive Senate spending plan may never materialize.

As indicated last week, various House appropriations subcommittees, including the Appropriations Committee Justice and Public Safety (JPS), met during the middle of this week. The JPS subcommittee will meet twice per week into the foreseeable future. The committee’s work will provide input into the House’s comprehensive budget should the House proceed without the Senate. This appears to be a likely scenario as the House has practically guaranteed they will have a comprehensive budget in some form or another. Alternatively, in the opposite chamber, Senate leaders have begun discussing the idea of piecemeal budgeting. If you recall, the Department received funding for expansion items via several *mini-budget* bills passed during the 2019 session. It is rumored the House prefers not to employ this method.

Next week, the House Appropriations Committee on Justice and Public Safety will meet on Tuesday, June 8th to discuss the budgetary needs of the Division of Adult Correction. It is anticipated other DPS agencies will be included on meeting agendas later this month. In the coming weeks, we also anticipate more movement of crossover bills by the respective opposite chambers.

DPS Bills with Action this Week

(Note: Click on the bill title to view the most current version of the bill)

Division(s) Impacted	Sponsor(s)	Bill #	Short Title	Action
ABC	McNeill	H 278	Sunset ABC Board Participation in LGERS.	6/1/2021 Senate Re-ref to Pensions and Retirement and Aging. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate
EM/NCORR	Bell	H 500	Disaster Relief and Mitigation Act of 2021.	6/1/2021 House Re-ref Com On Appropriations
Admin	Hardister	H 654	Statewide Contracts/Nonprofits for the Blind.	6/3/2021 House Passed 3rd Reading 106-2

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Susanna Davis at Susanna.Davis@ncdps.gov.