



# Legislative Update

*Week of May 24, 2021*

Roy Cooper, Governor

Erik A. Hooks, Secretary

This week at the legislature, we continue to await the Senate budget despite earlier predictions of its release prior to Memorial Day. The holdup seems to involve a lack of agreement between the House and Senate on overall spending. As a result, the Senate appears to have exhausted the patience of House appropriations chairs, which will move forward next week with developing a comprehensive budget, having scheduled half a dozen appropriations subcommittees to meet next Wednesday. In any event, the passage of a new state budget before the end of the current fiscal year is highly unlikely at this point.

For the second consecutive week, it was abnormally quiet on West Jones Street. There were no voting sessions in the Senate; the House held one voting session where it took action on only three bills. Among those bills was House Bill 395, *HIE Deadline Extension & Patient Protection*, which extends Health Information Exchange connection deadlines for healthcare providers to January 2023. The House concurred with changes made by the Senate and the bill was signed into law by Governor Cooper on Thursday. This legislation will benefit the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice, as the previous deadline was set to expire next week.

With Memorial Day approaching, we honor and remember the brave men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice while serving our country. We are forever grateful to those who gave their lives to protect our freedoms.

## **DPS Bills with Action this Week**

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

ABC/ALE	Boles, Moffitt, Hurley, and Willingham	H 11	<a href="#">Regulate Alcohol Consumables.</a>	5/27/2021 Senate Re-ref to Commerce and Insurance. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate
ACJJ	Sasser	H 395	<a href="#">Extend Deadlines for Mandatory HIE Particip.</a>	Signed by Gov. 5/27/2021
EM/NCORR	Bell	H 500	<a href="#">Disaster Relief and Mitigation Act of 2021.</a>	5/26/2021 House Re-ref to the Com on Environment, if favorable, Appropriations, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

*If you have any questions or comments, please contact Susanna Davis at [Susanna.Davis@ncdps.gov](mailto:Susanna.Davis@ncdps.gov).*