



NORTH CAROLINA BURGLAR AND FIRE ALARM ASSOCIATION

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

MARCH 7, 2007

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INTRODUCTION

The General Assembly was extremely busy last week with most of the Appropriations Subcommittees meeting twice a day to review the Governor's budget proposal. The subcommittees also heard from state agencies with recommendations of funding projects that agencies want for the 2007-2008 budget years and heard a historical perspective from the legislative fiscal staff regarding past spending and potential funding issues. In addition, most of the committees are organized and are now scheduling meetings to review bills. On the Senate side, the local bill filing deadline is coming up this week so many of the bills being filed are local bills regarding funding for individual legislators' districts. The Senate bill filing deadline for public bills is only two weeks away, March 21, 2007, so the Senate will be done filing bills in late March. In contrast, the House's bill filing deadlines are not until April 18th and then they may also file bills into May that affect the budget or financing.

With the quick reaction to the Governor's budget by the subcommittees, it looks as though the House and the Senate would like to work on the budget and complete it before the end of the fiscal year which is June 30, 2007. Although this is the goal every session, in light of some of the controversy and ethical problems, we believe the Democrats in both the House and the Senate would like to show that their leadership will enable an efficient and well-run system which will enable the budget to be out on time. We still expect to see a great deal of legislation being introduced and it is our understanding that the legislative drafting office still has over 1,500 bills waiting to be filed or being worked on to be filed before the bill filing deadlines.

BILLS OF INTEREST

HOUSE BILL 367, Increase Criminal Penalty/Theft of Metals. This bill is identical to Senate Bill 201, summarized in the February 19th Legislative Report. **Introduced by Representative Current and referred to the House Judiciary II Committee.**

HOUSE BILL 414, Amend Metals Products Regulations, would require a secondary metals recycler to keep records of the driver's license of the vehicle delivering the metals or the delivery vehicle license plate number when the person delivering the metals does not have a driver's license. The recycler would be required to make receipts of the purchase of regulated metals available for pick up by the sheriff or the chief of police each workday. The bill would also require the recycler to



report any offers to sell metals that the recycler suspects are stolen and increases the punishment for a violation from a Class 1 to a Class A1 misdemeanor. **Introduced by Representative Braxton and referred to the House Commerce, Small Business, and Entrepreneurship Committee.**

HOUSE BILL 462, Modernize Corporate Income Tax Filing. This bill is identical to Senate Bill 244, summarized in the February 27th Legislative Report. **Introduced by Representative Luebke and referred to the House Finance Committee.**

SENATE BILL 357, Corporate Income Tax Exemption, would provide a corporate income tax exemption by providing a \$25,000 exemption for those whose income is up to \$100,000 and an exemption of \$12,500 for those whose income is between \$100,000 and \$200,000. **Introduced by Senator Smith and referred to the Senate Finance Committee.**

SENATE BILL 445, Study Bill for Property Tax Relief, would authorize the Property Tax Subcommittee of the Revenue Laws Study Committee to study whether to provide property tax relief and to review methods used by other states to provide tax relief to their citizens. **Introduced by Senator Jacumin and referred to the Senate Rules Committee.**

— Colleen Kochanek
NCB&FAA Legislative Counsel
Smith Moore LLP
colleen.kochanek@smithmoorelaw.com
www.smithmoorelaw.com