



# ABC &-NEWS

A weekly newsletter on North Carolina policy and political news relevant to the North Carolina's ABC Boards

## General Assembly Backin Raleigh



The North Carolina General Assembly began its two-year biennium on Wednesday afternoon with a ceremonial swearing-in ceremony for the 170 members and the election of chamber leaders.

As expected, Sen. Phil Berger (R-Rockingham/Caswell/Surry/Stokes) was elected to a sixth term as Senate President Pro Tem and Rep. Tim Moore (R-Cleveland) was elected to a fourth term as House Speaker. However, in a conciliatory move that was not predicted, both Senator Berger and Speaker Moore were elected unanimously.

The General Assembly will take nearly two weeks off and return to work on January 27.

"The North Carolina Association of ABC Boards is excited about the new legislative biennium and we look forward to getting to work on behalf of the communities we serve, provide funding to, and help keep safe," said NCAACB President Miles Davis.

## Rep. Tim Moffitt to Chair House ABC Committee

House Speaker Tim Moore named Rep. Tim Moffitt, a Henderson County Republican, as the sole chair the House Alcoholic Beverage Control Committee on Wednesday.

Rep. Moffitt succeeded former Representative Chuck McGrady, who was an ABC privatization champion.

Rep. Moffitt also served in the House from 2011-2014 when he represented parts of Buncombe County. He was defeated in 2014 by Rep. Brian Turner, a Democrat, who still serves in the House. Since 2014, Rep. Moffitt moved to Henderson County and we elected to the House in November.



While NCACB has yet to have a formal conversation with Rep. Moffitt's regarding views on privatization, NCAACB lobbyist Brian Lewis reports that Rep. Moffitt is a very matter-of-fact legislator who expects the same from lobbyists. Lewis spoke to Rep. Moffitt in the fall after he was appointed to the seat Rep. McGrady vacated so that he could serve on the NC Board of Transportation.

"I liked working with Rep. Moffitt and found him to be an effective legislator who brings very consistent, conservative values to the General Assembly," said Lewis. "He believes in the private marketplace but also has an appreciation for public safety and health."

Lewis said he is working to get NCAACB on Rep. Moffitt's calendar later this month.

NCAACB notes that Rep. Jamie Boles (R-Moore) was elevated to a higher appropriations position within the General Assembly and will serve as Senior Appropriations Chairman of Justice and Public Safety.



NCAACB President Miles Davis said he is thankful for the leadership of Rep. Boles during his tenure as Chairman of the ABC Committee. "Rep. Boles understands the unique role the North Carolina ABC System plays in public safety and we look forward to continuing our work together as he chairs the Justice and Public Safety Appropriations Committee," Davis said.