## August 24-28, 2020



## ABC **E**-NEWS

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

## Association Board & Leadership Re-elected

The NC Association of ABC Boards membership voted this summer to extend the current

Board of Director's terms for another one-year term.

The newly extended <u>Association's Board of Directors</u> met this past Thursday and voted to retain the current officers, including President Miles Davis (Bertie County), Treasurer Lucius Jones (Wake County), and President-elect Nancy Gooch (Siler City).

"I am humbled to serve this Association as its President and I look forward to working with every ABC Board across the state in serving their communities," said Davis. "We have implemented many positive changes over the last year, including the start of this enewsletter, and I look forward to seeing those changes fully integrated into our Association."

Ballots were mailed to all members of the Association in July and were returned by August 17. Of the nearly 2/3 of members voting, it was unanimous to retain the current Board of Directors.

<u>Click to view the Association</u> <u>Board of Directors.</u>

## General Assembly Returns to Raleigh Next Week



The General Assembly returns to Raleigh for a special COVID-19 legislative session that may not be as special as initially hoped for by budget writers and Governor Roy Cooper.

State policymakers were hoping that Congress would take action and loosen up restrictions on federal CARES Act money that is specific to certain needs within the state, but gives no authority to fill in state budget holes predicted to be as high as \$4.2 billion (out of a \$25 billion annual budget.)

"The state's revenue picture is very muddy right now and the General Assembly's Fiscal Research staff has even passed on issuing a revenue forecast for the coming year," said NC Association of ABC Boards President Miles Davis. "This uncertainty is even more so for local governments and our work in these communities is more important than ever."

While both the executive and legislative branch agree that Congress should help North Carolina fill in budget gaps, politics are an underlining theme going into the COVID-19 special session next week as Governor Cooper released spending priorities on Wednesday, including money for public education, unemployment insurance, Medicaid expansion, and capital bond package.

The General Assembly leadership reacted negatively to Governor Cooper's proposal and indicated that it was likely dead-on-arrival.

Legislative leaders are planning on addressing a few issues in the session set to begin Wednesday afternoon, including enhancing unemployment assistance, easing day care restrictions, education, health care, and broadband.

NC Association of ABC Boards lobbyists will be at the General Assembly for the entire session on behalf of its members. Follow the <u>NC Association of</u> <u>ABC Boards of Twitter</u> for real-time updates from the General Assembly next week. Visit <u>twitter.com/nc\_boards</u>.

