



ABC &-NEWS

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

Bill Nixes Retirement Plan for New ABC Employees

HB278|Sunset ABC Board Participation – a bill that sunsets eligibility for participation in the Local Governmental Employees Retirement System – was filed on Thursday by Rep. Allen McNeill (R-Randolph/Moore) and Rep. Tim Moffitt (R-Henderson).

Rep. McNeill chairs the House Pensions and Retirement Committee and Rep. Moffitt chairs the House ABC Committee.

“This Association is opposed to House Bill 278 and we look forward to having positive conversations with legislators about why it is important to maintain the retirement plan for these essential employees,” said NCAACB President Miles Davis.

Davis wrote to the NCAACB Board of Directors and its Legislative Committee on Friday morning and committed to protecting the essential workers working at NC ABC Stores.

NCAACB lobbyists are continuing conversations with Treasurer Dale Folwell and his staff – the likely originators of HB278.

“I’ve asked our government relations team to develop a bill strategy in consultation with me and the Legislative Committee,” said Davis. “We will be prepared for this bill.”

House ABC Committee Votes to Regulate Spiked Ice Cream

The following article was published by CBS17 on March 11 about HB11|Regulate Alcohol Consumables, a bill the NCAACBs supports.

State lawmakers are looking to regulate food items that contain alcohol at grocery stores.

Lawmakers in North Carolina passed House Bill 11 through the Alcoholic Beverages Committee Wednesday and now it is heading to Judiciary Two. The bill would put regulations on “alcoholic consumables” like ice cream, popsicles and gelatin-containing alcohol.

Rep. Pat Hurley (R-Randolph), a sponsor of the bill, said there are no regulations whatsoever on these types of products currently. Anyone, regardless of age, could walk into a store and buy them.

“One of my colleagues came in last year and said ‘would you believe they have alcohol in ice cream now?’ And supposedly it’s in little boxes anywhere in the grocery stores,” said Hurley.

FOX 46 went to a major grocery chain and purchased two ice cream flavors containing alcohol, bourbon and Irish cream.

Parents FOX 46 spoke expressed concern when learning about the products.

“I think they should put more regulations on a lot of foods, cause no one reads the back on anything. But I have kids too and I don’t think that’s right. I wouldn’t buy it,” said Gina Marks, a shopper at Food Lion.

Hurley said it could also be damaging to teenagers.

“Anybody can get it, so there was no regulation and of course, we worry about young people,” she said.

Others disagreed and thought it was up to the companies to label their alcoholic products obviously.

“I think they should just have it labeled properly, just for safety measures have it labeled properly,” said Richie Velasquez, a shopper at Food Lion.

Another company selling food containing alcohol, Proof, sold ice cream with 7% percent alcohol content but was labeled obviously and was locked up in a box separate from other brands.

