



# ABC &-NEWS

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

## ABC Omnibus Bill Filed in the House

HB890 (ABC Omnibus Legislation) was filed by House ABC Committee Chairman Tim Moffitt (R-Henderson) on Wednesday with just over a week before the crossover deadline.

NCAACB lobbyists, who knew a version of an omnibus bill was coming prior to its filing, immediately read through the nine-page bill to flag concerns. On Friday morning, a meeting occurred between lobbyists Jon Carr and Skye David and NCAACB Legislative Committee Chair Lucius Jones and Board President Miles Davis.

The bill will likely be heard in the House ABC Committee on Tuesday. The bill must crossover from the House to the Senate by Thursday to be eligible for enactment this biennium.

NCAACB lobbyists sent a three-page memo to the House ABC Committee members this afternoon highlighting specific concerns about provisions that allows retail sales of liquor by suppliers; brokers and distilleries to sales of their product at festivals, shopping malls; and more.

NCAACB lobbyists will committee members in person beginning on Monday when legislators return to Raleigh.

## HB278 in House Pensions Committee on Tuesday

HB 278 (Sunset ABC Board Participation in LGERS), sponsored by Rep. Allen McNeill (R-Moore/Randolph), unanimously passed the House Wednesday and now sits in the Senate Rules Committee as both chambers deal with the crossover deadline that is coming up on Thursday, May 13. Crossover is the day policy bills must pass one chamber in order to be eligible for enactment in the legislative biennium.

NCAACBs and the Town of Youngsville made a stand in the House Pensions and Retirement Committee on Tuesday.

NCAACB lobbyist Jon Carr (right) spoke for the Association and his comments to the committee [can be seen here](#).



The legislation sunsets ABC Boards' eligibility for participation in the Local Governmental Employees Retirement System (LGERS) on July 1. As the bill is currently written, an ABC Board that is not in the state retirement system on June 30, 2021 would be ineligible to join at a later date.

NCAACB President Miles Davis said he was disappointed in the House vote and encourages the Senate to make reasonable accommodations for ABC Boards that want to apply to get in the state retirement system.

The Senate is likely to refer HB278 to the Senate Pensions and Retirement and Aging Committee after the crossover deadline.

## House ABC Committee Discusses Distribution

On Tuesday, the House ABC Committee heard the pros and cons of House Bill 669 (Distribute Alcohol Without Discrimination), legislation that is intended to address the misconception that the ABC Commission and distributors are discriminating against certain ABC Boards when it comes to certain liquors.

The bill is sponsored by House ABC Committee Chairman Tim Moffitt (R-Henderson). Chairman Moffitt said the bill was for discussion-only on Tuesday, because he is continuing to have conversations with the ABC Commission and the bill is likely to change. No voters were taken on the bill.

Rep. Shelly Willingham (D-Edgecombe/Martin), a bill sponsor, explained to the committee the complexity of liquor distribution to ABC stores.