



ABC &-NEWS

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

August 11 ABC Commission Notes

NCAACB lobbyist and attorney Skye David attended the NC ABC Commission meeting on August 11 and reports that there was one case that an administrative judge ordered a \$500 penalty for an after hours violation. The Commissioners agreed to the order and there was no opposition.

Chairman Zander Guy brought up the new warehouse contract and that the ABC Boards have suffered from the delays and recommended that the Commission reduce the bailment charge from \$2.75 to \$1.50 for 120 days- this change would start July 1st. He said the Boards have not been charged for July yet. The motion was approved.

There were a couple of contract amendments with LB&B. The first amendment was to propose to reduce the price; this would be a fee reduction from \$2350 to \$2150.

The Commission recommended that these changes be approved and sent to DPS. The second was for the Boards who pick up themselves reduced to \$2000 a load.

These were made to "reduce the load on ABC Boards." This motion was approved.

Omnibus ABC Bill to Move in Senate

NCAACB lobbyists are preparing for House Bill 890 (ABC Omnibus Legislation) to start moving in the Senate this coming week. The legislation passed in the House in the spring.

The bill is sponsored by House ABC Chairman Tim Moffitt (R-Henderson) (photo right) and Reps. Jamie Boles (R-Moore), Shelly Willingham (D-Edgecombe/Martin), and Rep. Jason Saine (R-Lincoln).



NCAACB lobbyists met with Sen. Todd Johnson (R-Union) (lower photo) right after House Bill 890 passed the House to discuss concerns held by NC ABC Boards, specifically the authorization of selling spirituous liquor at special events and the creation of a NC Spirituous Liquor Council in House Bill 890.



"The Association's lobbyists have been working on this issue since the spring and I feel optimistic that House Bill 890 will have a favorable outcome for our industry," said NCAACB President Nancy Gooch. "Rep. Tim Moffitt has been particularly helpful and has listened to our continued concerns. We appreciate the collaborative spirit in which he works with this Association."

Sen. Johnson and Sen. Danny Britt (R-Robeson/Columbus) will likely handle HB890 in the Senate along with the bill sponsor Rep. Tim Moffitt (R-Henderson) in committee hearings.

Sen. Johnson and Sen. Britt, along with Sen. Kirk deViere (D-Cumberland) sponsored SB453 (Modernize ABC Controls), but the bill was never heard on the Senate floor because of concerns by key senators.

If the bill moves in the Senate this week, the bill will likely start in the Senate Commerce and Insurance Committee, where it has been sitting since July 22. The committee is chaired by Sen. Johnson, and Sens. Chuck Edwards (R-Henderson/Buncombe/Transylvania) and Tom McInnis (R-Richmond/Anson/Moore/Scotland).

A favorable report by the Senate Commerce and Insurance Committee will likely lead to a referral to the Senate Rules Committee chaired by Sen. Bill Rabon (R-Bladen/Brunswick/New Hanover/Pender). From the Senate Rules Committee it would likely go to the Senate floor.