



ABC &-NEWS

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

Governor Vetoes Unemployment Bill



On July 6, Governor Roy Cooper vetoed [Senate Bill 116](#) (Putting North

[Carolina Back to Work Act](#)), legislation that would have ended enhanced federal benefits (\$300 per week) for North Carolinians on unemployment.

[Read Governor Cooper's veto statement here.](#)

The NCAABCs is tracking the bill but has no position on SB116 however many mixed beverage customers in the service sector were asking for the legislation as it faces a severe employee shortage. NCAABC recognizes the complex debate about why there is an employee shortage.

According to data from the US Census, Americans spent a record-break \$67.2 billion in bars and restaurants in May 2021 compared to \$66.3 billion in May 2020.

Some bars and restaurants are offering signing bonuses to prospective employees while others are cutting back hours of operation and in-store dining options to adapt to the shortage.

NC ABC Commission Meeting Notes on July 14

NCAABC Board lobbyist and attorney Skye David attended the virtual meeting of the NC ABC Commission on Wednesday and provided the following notes.

I. Hearing Cases - 50: Stacey Carter-Colley noted that there was one contested case and an order by an administrative law judge, and staff recommended that the Commission accept the judge's ruling. The recommendation was accepted.

All other offers in compromise were accepted.

II. Exemption Request Pursuant to N.C.G.S. §18B-1116(b) - Trolley Barn Brewery, LLC and Legion Brewing Company, LLC: This was requested to move to the next agenda meeting (August).

III. ABC Store Location - Catawba County ABC Board (7856 Village Center North, Sherrills Ford, NC)

There is a request from Catawba ABC Board to purchase property and relocate an ABC store to replace a current store. The zoning was verified. The nearest school is 2.7 miles away and the nearest church is .5 away. The nearest ABC Store is 4.9 miles away. Staff recommended approval. The recommendation was accepted.

IV. ABC Store Location - Pitt County ABC Board (East Marlboro Road/ US-264 ALT, Farmville, NC)

There is a request from Pitt County ABC Board to relocate an ABC store to replace a current store (from 1500 square feet to 5000 square feet). The zoning was verified. The nearest school is 2.7 miles away and the nearest church is a mile away. The nearest ABC Store is 1.4 miles away. Staff recommended approval. The recommendation was accepted.

V. ABC Store Location - Ramsey ABC Board (103 and 105 South Brady Street, Ramsey, NC)

There is a request from Ramsey ABC Board to purchase property and relocate an ABC store to replace a current leased store approximately .3 of a mile away. The new store will have 39% more space. The zoning was verified. The nearest school is .1 mile away and the nearest church is located directly behind the location. The nearest ABC Store is operated by the Liberty ABC Board. Staff recommended approval. The recommendation was accepted.

VI. Other Business: August meeting will be virtual, and probably September as well until the roof is replaced.