



ABC &-NEWS

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

NC ABC Chair Now Chairs NABCA

The NC Association of ABC Boards congratulates NC ABC Commission Chairman



A.D. "Zander" Guy, Jr. on his new role as the Board Chairman of National Alcohol Beverage Control Association.

NC Association of ABC Boards President Miles Davis noted that North Carolina has not had someone in this position for a very long time and was confident that Chairman Guy will represent North Carolina's ABC System well at the national level.

"Zander and the NC ABC Commission is a partner with our Association and the ABC Boards across North Carolina," said Davis. "Not only is his service to NABCA an honor for him professionally, but it is an honor for all of North Carolina."

Guy was appointed by Governor Roy Cooper to serve as Chairman of the NC ABC Commission in March 2017. Chairman Guy previously had served on the NC ABC Commission from 2009 to 2013 and was Chairman from February 2012 to February 2013.

ABC Bills Filed by Legislators in First Week Back

A trio of Democratic state senators wasted no time filing ABC related legislation in their first week back in Raleigh for the short session. Below are the bills the NC Association of ABC Boards is tracking so far.

Expand Mixed Beverage Sales During Pandemic (S748) was filed by Senators Harper Peterson (D-New Hanover) and Jay Chaudhuri (D-Wake). This bill is essentially the same language in the House COVID-19 session bill, but left out in the final bill passed by both the House and Senate. at the beginning of the month. The bill allows mixed beverage takeout sales at restaurants during the pandemic. The NC Association of ABC Boards is neutral on the legislation, but is closely monitoring the bill.

Mixed Beverage Permit Fees/Reimburse Portion (S770) was filed by Senators Michael Garrett (D-Guilford), Harper Peterson (D-New Hanover), and Jay Chaudhuri (D-Wake). This bill appropriates \$1.6 million to fund the reimbursement of prorated permit fees for mixed beverage permittees for the period during the pandemic.

Save Our Restaurants Act (S788) was filed by Senators Jay Chaudhuri (D-Wake) and Harper Peterson (D-New Hanover) and appropriates \$125 million for restaurants and various other measures to help the restaurant industry. A section of the bill caught the attention of the NC Association of ABC Boards lobbyists:

Section 4(a): "A local ABC board that chooses to purchase from a mixed beverage permittee any unopened bottle of spirituous liquor, which were purchased by the MBP on or after January 1, 2020, shall remit to the MBP the full purchase price of the spirituous liquor pursuant to G.S. 18B-804(b), including the mixed beverage tax assessed pursuant to G.S. 18B-804(b)(8), plus the amount of sales tax collected pursuant to G.S. 105-164.4(a)(7). The sales tax may be remitted to the mixed beverage permittee as a credit on the permittee's account with the local ABC Board."

NC Association of ABC Boards lobbyist Brian Lewis spoke with Sen. Chaudhuri (photo) about S788 (and all of the ABC bills he filed) on Monday. Lewis discussed the NC Association of ABC Boards recommendation that local ABC Boards implement a buyback program in April, and that the program was nearly universal across the state. Lewis also requested that any tax rebate be funded by the General Assembly as taxes on the sale of alcohol are forwarded to the state. Sen. Chaudhuri committed to working with the Association to improve the bill if it moves in the Senate.

