



ABC &-NEWS

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

Veto Override Votes Fail

The General Assembly returned to Raleigh on Wednesday to try and override a six of nine bills vetoed by Governor Roy Cooper in the last two weeks, including a group of "reopen" bills passed by the General Assembly in the last week of June.

The General Assembly needed three-fifths of legislators present to agree to the override which would have required Democrats to vote with Republicans and against Governor Cooper.

The unsuccessful override votes taken yesterday included a vote of 63-51 on [House Bill 806: Open Exercise & Fitness Facilities](#); a vote of 26-21 on [Senate Bill 105: Clarify Emergency Orders](#); and a 26-21 vote in the Senate to override [Senate Bill 599: Open Skating Rinks/Bowling Alleys](#). (A state judge ruled on Tuesday that bowling alleys are allowed to open while a hearing on the case is pending.)

[House Bill 686 \(Freedom to Celebrate the Fourth of July\)](#) and [\(House Bill 258: Open Amusement Parks/Arcades/Venues\)](#) were both on the calendar yesterday but never received a vote and was instead sent to a committee, where the pair is likely to die.

General Assembly Waives ABC Fees During COVID19

The General Assembly passed [Senate Bill 226 \(Delay Certain ABC Permit Renewal Payments\)](#) on Wednesday.

The legislation allows businesses required to close due to executive orders

to delay the renewal of ABC permits. Businesses would be allowed to renew ABC permits 90 days after the time in which they are allowed to reopen. For businesses that have already paid the ABC permit renewal fee, they can request a temporary refund.

"This legislation is plain and simple, common sense," said Senator Don Davis (D-Pitt), who conferred with NC Association of ABC Boards President Miles Davis and lobbyist Brian Lewis before the Independence Day holiday on pushing the legislation in the Senate. "These permits can be expensive for businesses already struggling, and likely closed, because of the pandemic."

The bill passed both the House and Senate by a unanimous vote of 102-0 in the House and 46-0 in the Senate. The bill is supported by the NC Association of ABC Boards.

Senate Bill 226 was initially a bill that limits advertising of child adoption services. The bill passed the Senate in its original form in May and languished in the House. The bill was revived this past week in the House Rules Committee, and transformed into the current ABC bill.



NC ABC Boards E-News Resumes In August

With the General Assembly on hiatus until September 2 and a tastings ruling not due until August, the NC Association of ABC Boards e-newsletter will temporarily suspend publication until next month unless there is breaking news relevant to North Carolina's ABC Boards and stores.

NC Association of ABC Boards can continue to follow the association's Twitter page at twitter.com/nc_boards.