



# ABC &-NEWS

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

## Mecklenburg Co ABC Board Grants \$750K

The Mecklenburg County ABC Board announced this week it was awarding \$750,000 to area nonprofits for fiscal year 2021 to support work in alcohol and substance abuse education, prevention and treatment.

If a local ABC Board has announcement, please email it to [brian@new-frame.com](mailto:brian@new-frame.com) so the NC Association of ABC Boards can share it in this e-newsletter and on social media. Please include a photo of your local ABC Board and/or stores.

## House Bill to Regulate Alcohol Consumables

Rep. Jamie Boles (R-Moore) wants to use a [HB1082](#) | ABC Admin. Penalties/Alcohol Consumables to crack down on retail stores that are selling frozen alcoholic treats such as ice cream without checking a customer's ID.

HB 1082 passed the House on Wednesday after it was amended to include Rep. Bole's regulatory language. The bill originally carried recommendations from the legislature's Program Evaluation Division for how the ABC Commission should handle penalties for alcohol sales violations.

The bill now goes to the Senate.

## NC Association of ABC Boards's Board Meeting

The NC Association of ABC Boards' Board of Directors met Wednesday via video and worked through a full agenda, including the approval of a budget, discussion of the bylaws rewrite, committee reports, updates from the lobbying and legal teams, and the future of in-person meetings.

The Board also discussed the cancellation of the NC Association of ABC Boards 2020 Annual Meeting at the Embassy Suites in Concord.

"It was a number of factors that centered around COVID-19 and the effect it has had on the hotel, especially its staffing levels," said NC Association of ABC Boards President Miles Davis. "While I am disappointed in this decision, it was the right thing to do for our members, the speakers, and our guests."

In addition to committee reports, Association attorneys Skye David and Jon Carr spoke about the Proposed Tastings rules proposed by the ABC Commission, and their aligning work with the NC Spirits Association, Distillers Association of NC, and the Distilled Spirits Association of the US.

David had a call last week with Walker Reagan, who works as the Rule-making Chair of the ABC Commission. After discussing the Association's proposed changes to the rule and local boards' concerns, the Commission stated its willingness to address concerns. Reagan asked for local boards to have a roundtable discussion about particular issues with the Tasting Rules to ensure that those issues are taken care of.

If any local ABC Board would like to represent its board and discuss issues at the roundtable, please contact Skye David at [skye@new-frame.com](mailto:skye@new-frame.com).

Lobbyists Brian Lewis, Jason Joyner, and Jon Carr gave the Board a Directors a synopsis of the Association's work at the General Assembly, including the status of various bills affecting NC ABC Boards.



*From her downtown Raleigh office, NC Association of ABC Boards attorney/lobbyist Skye David discussed the NC ABC Commission's proposed tasting rule with the Association's Board of Directors.*