



Representative W. David Guice
North Carolina House of Representatives
District 113



An update from the North Carolina House

June 20, 2011

Raleigh, North Carolina – As I sit writing my update this week, I am in the hospital bed recovering from surgery. Friday morning I had hip replacement surgery at Transylvania Regional Hospital. All is going well with my recovery and everyone here at the hospital is wonderful. This surgery fell at the end of a very long week at the General Assembly. In an effort to adjourn our long session by the end of the week, our sessions ran until midnight on some nights and our commit meetings were fast and furious! Unfortunately I had to leave session around 5:30 Thursday afternoon to return to Brevard for my surgery Friday morning. As a result, I was unable to attend session on Friday and Saturday but was able to keep up with most of what was going on from my hospital room thanks to all of the wonderful technology available today. The Senate adjourned early Saturday morning and the House was in session slightly longer and adjourned shortly after Noon on Saturday.

While this session moved very quickly and was often hectic, I will say that much was accomplished in record time. As I indicated last week, the budget was passed in time to be implemented by July 1st as it should be. Even with the governor's veto of the budget, the veto was overridden with bipartisan support enabling counties to have their numbers from the state budget in order to approve their own budgets knowing what they have to work with based on the state budget. This is a feat which hasn't been accomplished in over thirty years.

Almost two hundred bills were enrolled and sent to the governor this week and some of those bills have already been signed into law, one has been vetoed and the rest are awaiting action from the governor. Gov. Perdue now has 30 days to take action on these bills by either signing them, vetoing them or doing nothing and simply allowing them to become law at the end of the 30 day period.

I was able to get all of the bills I sponsored passed in both chambers and sent to the governor for signature with the exception of a couple which I chose not to move through the legislative process due to the inability of the parties involved to be able to compromise on their positions. To recap the bills I filed this session, H10 "Honor Transylvania County's 150th Anniversary" was adopted; H62 "Prohibit Boylston Creek Reclassification" became law; H269 "Reappoint Ex-Offender Study Commission" was rolled into a consolidation bill with other study commission bills; H270 "Amend Conditions of Probation" became law; H271 "Probation Officer/No Conceal Carry Permit" has been presented to the Governor; H335 "Maintenance of Prisons" has been sent to a conference committee to work out the

differences; H486 “Tryon Deannexation” became law; H629 “Substance Abuse Treatment” has been presented to the Governor; H641 “Certificate of Relief Act” has been presented to the Governor; H642 “Justice Relief Act” has been presented to the Governor. Also, H442 “Cornelius Build-Design” was passed with an amendment I offered which allowed that Transylvania County be added for the purpose of building the animal shelter should the county commissioners decide to move in that direction . This bill has also been sent to the Governor. Since there were so many bills moving through both chambers this week, I thought I would recap the bills I worked on over the past 5 months to move through the legislative process than going over other legislation that has passed. I hope that I will be able to recap some of that activity next week in my update which details more of the overall legislative session.

I was honored to have visitors from the 4-H program in Henderson County stop by my office this week. Denise Sherrill and three students, Rachel Goodson, Drue Stinnett and Daniel Torres came by the office while they were in Raleigh for a 4-H conference and I was able to pause what I was doing and spend some time talking with them. Tomorrow’s leaders and born from students such as these 3 young people who take time to invest in their community and extra-curricular activities and I applaud them for doing so.

As I indicated at the top of my update, session has adjourned and said adjournment was had upon the reconvening of a special session to begin at Noon on Wednesday, July 13th for the purpose of taking up redistricting. Every ten years, after the census is taken, legislatures must draw redistricting maps for the purpose of creating legislative districts for both US and State races. The districts which are adopted will remain in place for the next ten years. Public hearings were held across the state to offer and receive input on this process and the maps to be considered were released to the public on Friday. I plan to remain in the district recuperating from my surgery until I return to Raleigh on the 13th and can be reached at home during that time if you have legislative needs.

I would like to again thank you for allowing me to serve you in Raleigh. It is a true honor and privilege to be able to serve you in that capacity despite all of the extremely tough decisions I must make each day as I go about my legislative duties. May God continue to bless each of you in your daily lives just as He blesses me each day.

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