



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



An update from the North Carolina House

March 28, 2011

Raleigh, North Carolina – The General Assembly continues to be a very busy place this week. The days I spend in my office seem to be getting longer and longer as this session progresses. It was great to see a large group of people from the district this week who came down to talk to me and other legislative members about Smart Start. My office was full of staff, parents and children themselves.

On Friday, Governor Perdue issued Executive Order #85 which she says will set government straight for the people of North Carolina and save taxpayer dollars in the process. This plan calls for the consolidation of thirteen state agencies into eight. As part of the budget process, much emphasis is being given to providing ways to streamline government to be more efficient and effective. In this process, the appropriation sub-committees have already begun to evaluate and review ways to effectuate this measure through consolidation of state agencies and other means. Gov. Perdue's executive order will not take effect until 2012 when the General Assembly adjourns sine die unless either body votes to reject this measure.

House Bill 62 passed the Senate this week and has been sent to the Governor's desk for ratification. This bill is the Boylston Creek bill which prevented the reclassification of Boylston Creek from taking effect on July 1st of this year. While many people see this bill as an attack on the environment, the residents who live along Boylston Creek and own property there are happy to finally see resolution on this issue.

House Bill 215, "Unborn Victims of Violence Act", also known as "Ethen's Law" was passed in the House this week and has been sent to the Senate. This bill creates criminal offenses for acts which cause the death or injury of an unborn child. In the past, if a pregnant woman is murdered, the perpetrator could not be charged with killing the unborn child if the unborn child did not survive the attack. The bill also indicates that the charges can be levied against the perpetrator whether or not he has knowledge that the victim was pregnant at the time of the attack.

A Joint Committee on Regulatory Reform has been established and has begun holding meetings across the State. This committee is hearing suggestions from citizens across the state concerning burdensome rules and regulations on individuals and business which gives our citizens a chance to voice their concerns regarding the over-regulation of many state agencies in various areas. This committee is being

chaired by Sen. Harry Brown, Sen. David Rouzer, Rep. Marilyn Avila and Rep. Pat McElraft and is tasked with scrutinizing state regulations on the private sector and targeting outdated rules and regulations that should be eliminated. The public meeting in our area will be held on Friday, April 15th from 1:00 – 3:00 in the Thomas Auditorium at Blue Ridge Community College at the Hendersonville campus. Please make every effort to attend this meeting so your voice can be heard on these regulatory rules and regulations which so many of you have voiced opposition to in the past. Now is your chance to be heard and make a difference. If you would like to learn more about the committee, a website has been launched at www.ncleg.net/regreform. The website includes a form to submit public input, as well as an e-mail address for those that cannot attend meetings but would still like to send comments (or for those who do attend and want to submit additional comments or materials). The public e-mail address is regreform@ncleg.net. Written comments may also be mailed to Regulatory Reform Comments, 15 West Jones Street, Room 2007, Raleigh, NC 27601. Again, I cannot emphasize enough how important it is for you to be a voice in this matter. If you have any questions regarding this meeting or the comment process, please do not hesitate to contact me.

The Senate and House Redistricting Committees are also planning public hearings around the state beginning in April. The tentative plans for these hearings allow for a hearing to be held in Buncombe County with the possibility of teleconferencing through the community college system. If you would like to participate in this public hearing and would like to see a teleconference at Blue Ridge Community College, please send me an e-mail at david.guice@ncleg.net so that I can determine if there is enough interest from our district for the committee to justify setting up the teleconference there. Again, this public hearing is another opportunity for you to participate and voice your opinion and I would encourage each of you to participate if possible.

I continue to be amazed in the confidence you have shown in me by allowing me to serve you here in Raleigh. Many times you may not always agree with me but I am here to listen to each of you and to be your voice. Please remember that I represent everyone in the District and there are always both proponents and opponents on every issue and I am working to weigh all of the issues on legislative matters so that the outcome benefits the majority of those I represent. We have another busy week ahead of us and I look forward to seeing many of you from our district coming to Raleigh for various conferences and meetings who have scheduled appointments to come by my office. If you are ever in the Raleigh, I invite you to stop in as well.

Representative W. David Guice
Legislative Office Building, Room 528
300 North Salisbury Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603
(919) 715-4466
David.Guice@ncleg.net

###