



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



*An update from the North Carolina House*

*May 16, 2011*

**Raleigh, North Carolina** – The halls of the General Assembly continue to be busy even though the House has passed their budget. We now find ourselves busy in committee meetings hearing and debating bills which must be passed out of committee and onto the House floor for a vote prior to the crossover deadline on June 9<sup>th</sup>. This week I found myself scheduled for my committee meetings while at the same time taking my bills to other committees to explain them and hope for a favorable vote. Many of these meetings run during the same time block so it is extremely challenging to be in both committees at the same time but somehow, I get it done.

This week HB 845, Annexation Reform Act of 2011 was debated on the House floor and passed its second reading with an overwhelming 102 votes. This bill will curb forceful annexation by municipalities by requiring them to cease any annexation attempt for a period of three years if 60% of the affected property owners oppose the annexation. Finally, citizens will have a say as to whether or not they wish to be annexed.

Several bills relating to public safety were passed this week in the House. HB 271, a bill I filed which allows probation officers to carry a concealed weapon while off duty without having a concealed carry permit has passed the House. With the exception of probation officers, all law enforcement officers have enjoyed this privilege for many years. The extensive firearms training and certification these officers must receive each year in order to carry a service revolver on the job is much more encompassing than the training required for the concealed carry permit and the bill passed with 107 members voting in favor of the bill. This bill will now be sent to the Senate for consideration. HB 483, DNA Samples/Additional Felonies also passed its third reading this week by a vote of 83-34. This bill simply expands the list of felonies for which law enforcement officials may collect DNA samples upon arrest. Last year a bill was passed allowing for the collection of DNA samples for certain felonies and this bill just expands that list. This bill will now go to the Senate. Several other bills passed a second reading this week and will be subject to a third reading next week. I will update these bills upon their affirmative vote in the House.

The House also passed SB244, Fire and Rescue/Survivor's Benefit this week. This bill will extend the survivor's alternate benefit to survivors of firefighters and rescue squad workers who are members of

the local governmental employee's retirement system and are killed in the line of duty. The bill has been sent to the Governor for signature and will become effective on July 1, 2011.

Rep. Craig Horn was the primary sponsor for HB881, Stimulate Economy and Manufacturing and I was honored to be a primary co-sponsor for this bill. This is a bill to stimulate the economy by exempting from income tax, income derived from manufacturing and by exempting manufacturing corporations from the franchise tax and if passed would become effective for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2012. With the loss of many thousands of manufacturing jobs across North Carolina over the past decade and the high corporate tax rate we see in our state, this bill will help stimulate the economy by eliminating the corporate income tax on all goods manufactured in North Carolina thereby producing jobs in our state.

Several people from the district came by the office this week and it was great to see them all and be able to spend time in the office talking with them regarding their legislative concerns. Bob Bednarek from Transylvania Regional Hospital was in the office with several other hospital administrators from Western North Carolina. Also, Sheriff David Mahoney from Transylvania County and Sheriff Don Hill from Polk County were by the office to visit and discuss their legislative concerns.

It has been a great week in Raleigh and I appreciate all of the correspondence I have received from throughout the district concerning various legislative matters. While home this weekend, I saw many of you and was able to talk about various issues of concern to those of you who I was fortunate enough to encounter as I went throughout the district. I continue to thoroughly enjoy the opportunity to serve each of you in the General Assembly.

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

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