

Government and Community Affairs Updates

*Geoff Coltrane, Senior Director of Government Affairs and Strategy
Office of Government Affairs*

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Legislative Updates

- Senate and House convened on July 27
 - Senate held voting sessions on July 28-29
 - House is holding voting sessions on August 4-5
- Anticipating House and Senate will adjourn on August 6 and plan to reconvene on the following dates:
 - August 31-September 2
 - September 28-30
 - October 26-28
 - November 16-19
 - November 30-December 18

Bills to Watch: Budget Technical Corrections- Part II.

- Pre-negotiated bill, [HB 268](#), was approved in Senate on 7/29 and sent to House for final votes this week.
- *Includes various K-12-related provisions (mostly technical corrections), including the following:*

☐ **Sec. 3.15: Remove Deadline for Educator Preparation Program Rule Adoption —**

- Repeals various deadlines in law for EPP accountability rule adoption.
- Requires the State Board of Education, in consultation with DPI, the UNC System, Community Colleges system office, and the NC Independent Colleges and Universities, to report to the JLEOC by October 15, 2026, on “recommendations for an educator preparation program accountability model, including any necessary changes to State law that would be required to implement the accountability model.”
- **NOTE**: This provision is also included in [S445: Regulatory Reform Act of 2026](#), which was approved on 7/29 in Senate and sent to House for vote this week.

Bills to Watch: Budget Technical Corrections- Part II.

□ Sec. 3.12: North Carolina High School Redesign Commission –

- Establishes Commission that will be located administratively within DPI but exercise its powers independently of DPI.
- Commission membership shall include:
 - Two members appointed by the General Assembly upon recommendation of the Speaker of the House of Representatives
 - Two members appointed by the General Assembly upon recommendation of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate
 - One member appointed by the Governor
 - The State Superintendent of Public Instruction or his or her designee
 - The President of The University of North Carolina or his or her designee
 - The President of North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities or his or her designee
 - The President of the North Carolina Community College System or his or her designee
 - The chief executive officers of each of the following organizations, or their designees: MyFutureNC, the North Carolina Chamber of Commerce, BESTNC, and SparkNC
 - One chief administrative officer or president of a community college and one superintendent of a local school administrative unit participating in a program, project, or initiative developed pursuant to this act

Bills to Watch: Budget Technical Corrections- Part II.

□ Sec. 3.12: North Carolina High School Redesign Commission (continued) –

- Commission shall examine promising practices in North Carolina and nationally, including at a minimum considering the following:
 - Flexible requirements for high school diplomas that are relevant to the knowledge, skills, and abilities students will need for success in the future workforce;
 - Access to apprenticeships, internships, clinical experiences, and other high-quality, work-based learning experiences while in high school;
 - Opportunities for students to earn industry recognized credentials while in high school;
 - Partnerships between public school units and public and private colleges and universities;
 - Personalized pathways for students to satisfy core graduation requirements;
 - Modular credit-bearing alternatives to semester or yearlong courses;
 - Competency-based alternatives to time bound courses;
 - Strategies for extending learning beyond school walls at scale via community connected experiences, including incorporating incentives for local businesses to partner with schools;

Bills to Watch: Budget Technical Corrections- Part II.

□ Sec. 3.12: North Carolina High School Redesign Commission (continued) –

- Uses of artificial intelligence to expand student opportunities to engage in career exploration and work-based learning experiences;
- Alternative funding models to enable the development of a statewide learning ecosystem that encourages the activities listed above;
- Career exploration opportunities for students in middle school and the first two years of high school that prepare students to engage successfully in a redesigned high school experience.
- Evaluation of the programs, projects, and initiatives established by this act, and any other competency-based education (CBE) programs or high school redesign efforts taking place in the State.
- Commission meetings will be organized and facilitated by MyFutureNC, the North Carolina Chamber, BEST NC, and/or SparkNC upon the recommendation of the Commission chair.
- Commission's first report is due April 30, 2027 and annually thereafter.
- Commission shall terminate by June 30, 2031.

Questions and Discussion

