



North Carolina Chapter of the Appraisal Institute

Legislative Report
March 3, 2017

The effort to find a solution to the House Bill 2 issue remained front and center at the legislature this week. House Bill 186 was filed last week by several Republican and Democratic House members. It would repeal HB2 and allow cities and counties to adopt their own anti-discrimination protections, as Charlotte did a year ago, before HB2 blocked that ordinance. Under House Bill 186, however, local governments would not be able to extend anti-discrimination protections to privately owned restrooms, only to city-run facilities. The new bill would allow opponents of extended protections to vote on them through referendum elections if they collect enough voter signatures. Governor Cooper issued a statement opposing the referendum provision.

The House and Senate adjourned on Thursday and will reconvene Monday evening.

BILLS OF INTEREST

House Bill 181, First Responders Act of 2017, would among other things provide a property tax homestead exclusion for surviving spouse of qualifying “emergency personnel”, which would include firefighting, search and rescue, or emergency medical services personnel or any employee of any duly accredited State or local government agency possessing authority to enforce the criminal laws of the State who (i) is actively serving in a position with assigned primary duties and responsibilities for prevention and detection of crime or the general enforcement of the criminal laws of the State and (ii) possesses the power of arrest by virtue of an oath administered under the authority of the State. **Introduced by Representatives Warren, Clampitt, Ford and Potts and referred to the House Finance Committee, if favorable to House Judiciary III Committee, and if favorable, to House Transportation Committee.**

For more information about legislation described in the legislative reports, feel free to contact me at dferrell@vanblk.com or (919) 754-1171. Information is also available on the General Assembly’s website: www.ncga.state.nc.us.

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