



Legislative Update

Week of October 7, 2019

Roy Cooper, Governor

Erik A. Hooks, Secretary

This week at the General Assembly, lawmakers continued work on mini-budgets and select non-controversial bills, as leadership worked to establish an end date for this legislative session. Although speculation lingers, it appears as though the legislature will remain in session through the end of October.

On Wednesday, Governor Cooper signed House Bill 283, *Conner's Law*. The bill is named for Trooper Kevin Connor, who was killed in the line of duty. It enhances criminal penalties for assaults on law enforcement and other public safety personnel, and also increases the death benefit for those killed in the line of duty. In addition, Senate Bill 579, *Prison Reform Act of 2019*, directing the Program Evaluation Division to study alternative organizational and management structures for the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice, passed the House by a unanimous vote. The bill now moves to the Senate for a vote to concur.

There was movement on another significant piece of legislation this week as well. House Bill 1001, *Raise the Age Funding*, was approved unanimously by the Senate and has been presented to the Governor for signature. Under the bill, DPS will receive \$30,915,431 for fiscal year 2019-2020 and \$43,538,704 in fiscal year 2020-2021 to assist with the implementation of Raise the Age. The funds will be allocated as follows:

1. To create 5 staff training positions, 2 statistician positions, 3 information technology positions, and two 2 human resources positions.
 - FY 19-20: \$1,420,053 R; \$200,000 NR
 - FY 20-21: \$1,893,404 R
2. To create 1 facility management position and 6 field support specialist positions to support operations at the juvenile detention centers, youth development centers, and other Juvenile Justice facilities throughout the State.
 - FY 19-20: \$500,000 R; \$40,000 NR
 - FY 20-21: \$500,000 R
3. To create 15 transportation positions and purchase 29 vans.
 - FY 19-20: \$593,984 R; \$1,044,000 NR
 - FY 20-21: \$890,976 R
4. To increase bed capacity at juvenile detention centers and support operations at juvenile detention centers across the State.
 - FY 19-20: \$4,500,000 R
 - FY 20-21: \$6,700,000 R

5. To create 38 positions and cover certain operating expenses for the C.A. Dillon Youth Development Center in the Town of Butner.
 - FY 19-20: \$1,535,486 R; \$322,000 NR
 - FY 20-21: \$2,300,000 R

6. To create 4 new school counselor positions that will provide reentry and placement services, career planning, vocational training, and other services for juveniles who are preparing to exit secure custody.
 - FY 19-20: \$350,000 R; \$24,914 NR
 - FY 20-21: \$500,000 R

7. To support contracts for Level II community-based and residential programs for juveniles who have been adjudicated delinquent, and create 1 contract management position.
 - FY 19-20: \$6,500,000 R; \$350,000 NR
 - FY 20-21: \$11,100,000 R

8. To create 5 positions in the Community Programs section to provide administrative support and technical assistance and to monitor programmatic quality and fiscal accountability for Juvenile Crime Prevention Council programs.
 - FY 19-20: \$250,000 R; \$80,000 NR
 - FY 20-21: \$400,000 R

9. To support county-level Juvenile Crime Prevention Councils.
 - FY 19-20: \$4,250,600 R
 - FY 20-21: \$6,661,930 R

10. To create (and phase in over the 2019-2020 fiscal year) 97 Juvenile Court Counselor positions that will act as the primary point of contact for juveniles and their families as the juveniles move through the juvenile justice system.
 - FY 19-20: \$3,082,600 R; \$1,980,000 NR
 - FY 20-21: \$8,700,000 R

11. To annualize 65 positions received in last year's budget for the Court Services section of Juvenile Justice.
 - FY 19-20: \$3,892,394 R
 - FY 20-21: \$3,892,394 R

Further of note, the Senate Select Committee on Prison Safety is scheduled to meet on Monday, October 21, 2019, at 3:00 pm. The committee intends to discuss the suspension of operations at Hoke Correctional Institution, Tyrrell Prison Work Farm, and Odom Correctional Institution.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Susanna Davis at 919-825-2717 or Susanna.Davis@ncdps.gov.

DPS Bills with Action this Week

(Note: Click on the bill title to view the most current version of the bill)

Division(s) Impacted	Sponsor(s)	Bill #	Short Title	Action
Law Enforcement	Jones, Bell, Moore, and Hastings	H 283	Conner's Law	Signed by Gov. 10/9/2019
JJ	Boles, Murphy, and C. Smith	H 1001	Raise the Age Funding	Pres. To Gov. 10/11/2019
EM	Ford and Bishop	S 312	Relief to Ocracoke School/Hurricane Dorian	10/9/2019 House Passed 3rd Reading 110-0
ACJJ	Steinburg, McKissick, and Sanderson	S 579	Prison Reform Act of 2019	10/9/2019 House Passed 3rd Reading 110-0