

WEEKLY UPDATE: 6/15/2018
NORTH CAROLINA FISHERIES ASSOCIATION
"Serving the Commercial Fishing Families of North Carolina since 1952"
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NCFA BOARD MEETING POSTPONED!

NCFA's Board meeting that was scheduled for this coming Monday has been postponed due to scheduling conflicts including the wrap-up of the General Assembly. The new date to be announced.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Another busy week in Raleigh where the House went till midnight on Wednesday and Thursday. Since both the Senate and House did a veto override of the budget and the budget is now finished, they're scrambling to finish up. They'll be back next week and should adjourn by the end of the week.

It appears that any debate of the fisheries bills is finished, although that's never a safe statement till they leave, but here's an update. Keep in mind that just because you're told something as final, it doesn't mean it's final!

S-738, "Support Shellfish Industry" was filed on May 23rd. The bill number is now H-361.

The bill was passed by the Senate and sent to the House, where the House voted 113 – 0 to not concur with the Senate, meaning it went to a conference committee made up of House and Senate members to try to come to an agreement about what the bill contains. A conference report was agreed to and signed but not all of the conferees had signed the report.

On Friday morning, the Senate voted 28-9 to agree with the conference report, meaning they passed the Shellfish bill. All of the opposition was from Democrats with Democrats Clark and McKissick joining the Republicans in support.

On the House side, Speaker Tim Moore was wanting to put it on "today's calendar", meaning the Friday calendar, but Rep. Pricey Harrison, objected, so the bill was referred to Rules. That's the last time the bill was mentioned yesterday. It would appear that the bill is dead, but the resurrection process works well in the General Assembly.

The other two bills we've been watching, **H-1049, "Support Sustainable Fisheries Communities"**, and **H-1063, "Commercial Fishing License Reforms"**, are dead for this session. (See the notes above about resurrection, but it really is doubtful anything will happen to either.

NCFA is in support of H-1049 and opposed to H-1063.

CALENDAR

NCFA Board of Directors meeting; Date to be announced
July 18; 6:00pm; Southern Flounder FMP Advisors; DEQ Regional Office; Washington, NC