

The

RETAILER

North Carolina Retail Merchants Association

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Wrap-Up
Part 3

2011 Legislative Wrap-Up – North Carolina Long Session — Part 3

The primary purpose of the North Carolina General Assembly's Long Session is to set the state's two-year budget and introduce legislation that may remain eligible for the two-year legislative cycle. The 2011 - 2012 session is significant not only because it is the first time since 1870 that Republicans control both the House and Senate, but also because of the added responsibility of redistricting the Congressional and Legislative Districts in North Carolina for the next decade.

NCRMA published part one of the 2011 Legislative Wrap-Up in our August 15 and part two in the September 1 issue. In this issue, we will include issues on Tax, Tax Incentives and Store Operations.



TAX ISSUES (con't)

Eliminate Tobacco Discount

SB 306: Senator Fletcher Hartsell (R-Cabarrus)
SB 721: Senator Eric Mansfield (D-Cumberland)

NCRMA Position: Oppose

Outcome: Did Not Pass, Fiscal Impact/Eligible in 2012

As a counterpart to Senate Bill 249, Senator Hartsell proposed **Senate Bill 306** that **does not impose an excise tax stamp requirement** but **repeals the discount** tobacco wholesalers receive for serving as the collecting and remitting agent for tobacco excise stamps for the state. **SB 721** does this as well but **goes a step further to also repeal the 2% discount Beer and Wine distributors receive for remitting their reports to DOR.**

North Carolina eliminated the tax stamp requirement in 1993 but maintained a **4% discount**. The discount was **repealed in 2003** but **reinstated in 2004** at **2%**. While the discount has been reduced from 4% to 2%, the total revenue from the discount has increased (due to the 5¢ per pack tobacco excise tax being increased to **45¢**). With more budget shortfalls projected into the next year of the biennium, the General Assembly may once again consider **reducing or**

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repealing the tobacco wholesalers' **2% discount** and apply those revenues toward budget deficits.

Tobacco Products Tax Increase

HB 341: Representatives Jennifer Weiss (D-Wake), Paul Luebke (D-Durham) and Rick Glazier (D-Cumberland)
SB 338: Senator Bill Purcell (D-Scotland)

NCRMA Position: Oppose

**Outcome: Did Not Pass,
Fiscal Impact/ Eligible in 2012**

HB 341 and SB 338 increase the tax per cigarette to 7.25¢ (currently 2.25¢) and increase the excise tax for tobacco products other than cigarettes to 41.25% (currently 12.8%). Additional funds realized by this increase would be directed to University Cancer Research Fund and the General Fund.

Tax Little Cigars

SB 376: Senator Josh Stein (D-Wake)

NCRMA Position: Monitor

**Outcome: Did Not Pass,
Fiscal Impact/ Eligible in 2012**

SB 376 expands the definition of cigarette to include a roll of tobacco wrapped in a substance containing tobacco that weighs less than 4.5 pounds per thousand and has an integrated filter.

Eliminate Double-Weighted Sales Apportionment

SB 752: Senator Eric Mansfield (D-Cumberland)

NCRMA Position: Monitor

**Outcome: Did Not Pass,
Fiscal Impact/ Eligible in 2012**

SB 752 modifies the apportionment formula for income tax by eliminating sales factor double weighting.



Taxpayer Action if No DOR Determination

SB 730: Senator Dan Clodfelter (D-Mecklenburg)

NCRMA Position: Monitor

**Outcome: Made Crossover,
Eligible in 2012**

SB 730 allows for a taxpayer to seek a court order compelling the NC Department of Revenue to issue a final determination on a tax dispute when the Department failed to do so within the required time.

Reduce Corporate Income Tax Rate

HB 323: Representative John Torbett (R-Gaston)

NCRMA Position: Support

**Outcome: Did Not Pass,
Fiscal Impact/ Eligible in 2012**

HB 323 reduces North Carolina's corporate income tax from **6.9% to 4.75%** effective January 1, 2012.

Consolidated Corporate Tax Returns

SB 739: Senator Thom Goolsby (D-New Hanover)

NCRMA Position: Monitor

**Outcome: Did Not Pass,
Fiscal Impact/ Eligible in 2012**

SB 739 allows corporations to choose to file a consolidated return and provides more guidance on consolidated corporate income tax returns.

21st Century Tax Modernization Plan

SB 658: Senator Dan Clodfelter (D-Mecklenburg)

NCRMA Position: Monitor

**Outcome: Did Not Pass,
Fiscal Impact/ Eligible in 2012**

SB 658 is an overhaul of North Carolina's tax system, revising the existing tax structure on a revenue-neutral basis by lowering all major tax rates while broadening the base to which taxes are applied.

Local Option Tax Menu

HB 861: Representative Mickey Michaux (D-Durham)

NCRMA Position: Oppose

**Outcome: Did Not Pass,
Fiscal Impact/ Eligible in 2012**

HB 861 authorizes three additional local option taxes: a meal tax, an occupancy tax, and an excise tax on conveyances of real property. The bill also authorizes counties and cities to impose certain impact fees on new community service facilities' construction within the city's corporate limits or extraterritorial planning jurisdiction.

Extend Temporary Sales Tax Increase 2 Years

HB 884: Representatives Garland Pierce (D-Scotland) and Larry Hall (D-Durham)

NCRMA Position: Monitor

**Outcome: Did Not Pass,
Fiscal Impact/ Eligible in 2012**

HB 884 extends the temporary sales tax rate increase (set to sunset June 30, 2011) for an additional two years.

Parity in Tax Paid by Small Businesses

HB 899: Representative John Torbett (R-Gaston)

NCRMA Position: Monitor

**Outcome: Did Not Pass,
Fiscal Impact/ Eligible in 2012**

HB 899 adjusts personal income tax rates in North Carolina and requires that a taxpayer's net business income from a small business for a taxable year may not exceed by more than 2% the rate imposed on a corporation. (*A small business is defined as one whose cumulative gross receipts from all business activity in a taxable year does not exceed \$850,000.*)

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Tax Reform Committee

HB 902: Representative Bert Jones (U-Rockingham), Jeff Collins (R-Nash), Tom Murry (R-Wake)

NCRMA Position: Monitor

Outcome: Did Not Make Crossover, Study/Eligible in 2012

HB 902 studies the state tax system in order to possibly eliminate and replace the income tax.

Equalize Income Tax Paid by Small Businesses

SB 719: Senator Eric Mansfield (D-Cumberland)

NCRMA Position: Monitor

Outcome: Did Not Pass, Fiscal Impact/ Eligible in 2012

SB 719 would equalize income taxes paid by small businesses and large corporations.

Roanoke Rapids 1 Cent Sales Tax Option

HB 369: Representative Angela Bryant (D-Halifax)

NCRMA Position: Monitor

Outcome: Did Not Pass, Fiscal Impact/ Eligible in 2012

HB 369 authorizes the city of Roanoke Rapids to levy a **1¢ local sales and use tax** for the purpose of repaying tax increment financing bonds used to finance the Randy Parton Theatre.

TAX INCENTIVES ISSUES

Encourage Investment to Retain Bill Lee Tax Credits

HB 751 (initially SB 345): Senator Linda Garrou (D-Forsyth) and Senator Austin Allran (R-Catawba)

NCRMA Position: Support

Outcome: Passed

Effective Date: Taxable years on or after January 1, 2009

HB 751 includes a provision to amend the expiration provision for substantial investment in other property and provides that the credit expires at the property if:

- The total number of employees is less than 200 at the property for

which the credit is claimed, or

- The taxpayer has failed to maintain at least 125 employees at the property and, within two years of the date the employment fell below 200, to invest at the property the greater of five million dollars or at least twice the value of the remaining installments of the credit.

Additionally, the taxpayer may take the portion of an installment that accrued in a previous year and carried forward to the extent permitted by statute; effective for taxable years beginning on/after January 1, 2009.

Energy Jobs Act

SB 709: Senators Bob Rucho (R-Mecklenburg), Harry Brown (R-Onslow), Tommy Tucker (R-Union)

NCRMA Position: Monitor

Outcome: Vetoed

SB 709, referred to as the “Fracking Bill” (shortened term for “Hydraulic Fracturing” – a method of extracting oil/natural gas from rock), intends to increase energy production in North Carolina by developing a secure and stable energy supply. The bill assigns future revenue from energy exploration, development and production of energy resources to preserve natural resources, cultural heritage, and quality of life. The bill passed the General Assembly but was vetoed by the Governor. The Senate overrode the veto, however, the House did not consider the vote due to the lack of a three-fifths majority necessary to override.

Balanced Budget Act of 2011/ Economic Development Fund Transfers

SB 13: Senators Richard Stevens (R-Wake), Pete Brunstetter (R-Forsyth) and Neal Hunt (R-Wake)

NCRMA Position: Monitor

Outcome: Vetoed

Governor Perdue and Senate Democrats sparred with Republican Senate leaders over portions of **SB 13** that would have **transferred dollars from economic development funds** as part of a larger effort **aimed at saving \$800 Million** in the current

fiscal year. SB 13 called for **generating \$400 Million in reversions** by having the governor hold back money from state agencies, with another **\$237 Million coming from a year-end credit balance**. Another \$142.4 Million would come by tapping various unspent reserves in state government, with more than half of the total coming from economic development-related funds.

SB 13 received Governor Perdue’s first veto of the new Republican legislative majority. Perdue said she **would be able to capture \$400 Million in savings without the legislation** and added that the remaining sections “were not necessary.”

Energy Star Sales Tax Holiday - Repeal

HB 200: Appropriations Act of 2011

NCRMA Position: Oppose

Outcome: Provision Did Not Pass

The initial version of the Senate finance package included a provision that would have **repealed the Energy Star Sales Tax Holiday**, beginning this year. **NCRMA met with House and Senate Finance Chairs** to explain that retailers participating in the holiday have **already ordered inventory** for this year, and added that studies have shown sales tax holidays are **economic boosts** due to the ancillary sales that are generated by consumers. In the new compromise budget package, the **Senate and House deleted this provision** which would have repealed the holiday.

Small Business New Job Incentive

HB 479: Representative Ken Goodman (D-Rockingham)

NCRMA Position: Support

Outcome: Did Not Pass, Fiscal Impact/Eligible in 2012

This bill creates a **tax credit for a small business (no more than 50 employees)** that hires additional **full-time employees**. The amount of the credit is based on an economic development tier, with higher credits for locating jobs in lower tiered (and less economically sound) counties.

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Small Business Tax Relief and Stimulus

HB 919: Representatives Michael Wray (D-Northampton), Jim Crawford (D-Granville), Bill Owens (D-Pasquotank)

NCRMA Position: Monitor

Outcome: Did Not Pass, Fiscal Impact/ Eligible in 2012

HB 919 provides tax and other economic incentives and relief to small businesses.

Small Business Tax Relief and Recruitment

HB 920: Representatives Michael Wray (D-Northampton), Jim Crawford (D-Granville), Bill Owens (D-Pasquotank)

NCRMA Position: Monitor

Outcome: Did Not Pass, Fiscal Impact/Eligible in 2012

This bill reduces the corporate income tax rate from 6.9% to 4.9%.

Exempt Pallets for Ag Use from Sales Tax

SB 211, SB 445: Senator Bill Rabon (R-Brunswick) and Senator Buck Newton (R-Wilson)

NCRMA Position: Monitor

Outcome: Did Not Pass, Fiscal Impact/Eligible in 2012

These bills **exempt pallets from the North Carolina sales and use tax when used for agricultural purposes**. This bill is most likely in violation of the Streamlined Sales Tax Agreement.

Remove Cap on Energy Credits

SB 645: Senator Dan Clodfelter (D-Mecklenburg)

NCRMA Position: Monitor

Outcome: Did Not Pass, Fiscal Impact/ Eligible in 2012

SB 645 removes the cap on energy tax credits.



Energy Independence and Job Creation in North Carolina

SB 694: Senators Josh Stein (D-Wake), Tom Apodaca (R-Henderson)

NCRMA Position: Monitor

Outcome: Did Not Pass, Fiscal Impact/Eligible in 2012

SB 694 establishes third-party sales from renewable energy facilities.

STORE OPERATIONS

Check Cashing Changes

SB 144: Senator Wesley Meredith (R-Cumberland)

NCRMA Position: Support

Outcome: Passed

Effective Date: December 1, 2011



NCRMA provided draft language to Senator David Rouzer

(R-Johnston) and Representative Jonathan Rhyne (R-Lincoln) to **address a slight change in the check cashing statute** requested by some small retailers who cash checks for customers. Both legislators worked to find a place for language to help relieve the additional regulation on small retailers who are essentially providing a customer service.

Currently, regulations are in place for businesses who cash checks for customers. The **intent of the law was targeted at payday lenders** who were cashing checks, not necessarily businesses that cashed checks as a customer service and charged a fee for it. However, **once the law is triggered (when more than \$2 is charged for the service), that business is required to have a license, maintain a separate bank account of \$50,000 for each entity, and separate books for the payroll portion of the business.** The North Carolina Banking Commission, who has authority over licensed Check Cashers, has **recently audited** some of these small retailers and “**red-flagged**” some due to the lack of a separate bank account for these transactions.

NCRMA

Has the Answers to Your Legislative Needs!

The Retailer's Handbook

Although no retail store owner or manager can be expected to know every aspect of retail and personnel law, he can and should be expected to know where to find the answers. That is why NCRMA created *The Retailer's Handbook*. Available to members for \$25.00 and to non-NCRMA members for \$50.00. Call today!

In working with these legislators, NCRMA was able to **insert language** so that a **retailer who derives less than 20% of gross annual revenues from check cashing will not be required to maintain separate accounts and records.**

Require Labels for Ethanol-Blended Gasoline

HB 187: Representatives Pat Hurley (R-Randolph), John Faircloth (R-Guilford) and Shirley Randleman (R-Wilkes)

NCRMA Position: Support

Outcome: Passed

Effective Date: March 31, 2011

HB 187 directs the Gasoline and Oil Inspection Board to **adopt rules for labeling dispensing pumps / devices that offer ethanol-blended gasoline for sale** in North Carolina. At a minimum, the labels must indicate

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whether the gasoline is less or greater than 10% ethanol by volume.

Required Signage on Charitable Collection Receptacles

SB 556: Senator Floyd McKissick (D-Durham)

NCRMA Position: Monitor

Outcome: Passed

Effective Date: October 1, 2011

SB 556 requires that collection bins used to **solicit donated items for resale** must provide on all sides (via **permanent sign or label**) the charitable organization or sponsor's **contact phone number or e-mail address**. This legislation does **not** apply to solicitations where the **contributions will be donated**.

Service Agreements / Allow Reserve Account

HB 575: Representative Jerry Dockham (R-Davidson); Senator Don Vaughan (D-Guilford)

NCRMA Position: Monitor

Outcome: Passed

Effective Date: July 1, 2011

HB 575 allows that in lieu of contractual liability insurance, a service contract provider may maintain a funded reserve account to meet its contracted financial obligations.

Portable Electronics Insurance Coverage

HB 617: Representative Jerry Dockham (R-Davidson)

NCRMA Position: Monitor

Outcome: Passed

Effective Date: January 1, 2012

This bill requires a **license to sell portable electronics insurance coverage** and requires a business selling this insurance to provide brochures / written materials to customers noting disclaimers and disclosures. The bill was written so as not to have an impact on retail operations.

Repeal Crossbow Permit Requirement

SB 358/SB 406: Senator Clark Jenkins (D-Edgecombe), Senator Andrew Brock (R-Rowan)

NCRMA Position: Monitor

Outcome: Passed

Effective Date: April 20, 2011

SB 406 deletes crossbows from the list of certain weapons that are forbidden without a permit, resulting in permits **no longer** being required for crossbow sales. SB 406 became effective April 20, 2011.

Cash Converters Must Keep Purchase Records

SB 144: Senator Wesley Meredith (R-Cumberland)

NCRMA Position: Amended

Outcome: Passed

Effective Date: December 1, 2011

Senator Meredith was requested by his **local law enforcement** to find a solution for **criminals taking stolen**

goods to cash converter stores rather than pawn shops in order to **avoid a paper trail**. The bill defines a "cash converter" as a person who **purchases merchandise from the public** at a **permanently located retail store** and **advertises this service**. The definition does not include pawnbrokers or persons who purchase directly from manufacturers or wholesalers for their inventories. SB 144 requires every cash converter to keep **consecutively numbered transaction records** and have reports **available for law enforcement inspection**.

NCRMA was able to work with Senator Meredith to limit the bill to companies who **only pay in cash and to exempt** resale businesses if the individual items are **purchased for less than \$50 each** and fall into these **specific categories: (1) used clothing; (2) children's furniture and children's products; and (3) sporting goods and sporting equipment**.

Zip+4 Requirement

SB 572: Senator Jim Davis (R-Macon)

NCRMA Position: Amended

Outcome: Made Crossover

HB 572 initially included a provision requiring a sales associate to request zip+4 from customers' shipping addresses for purchase delivery. The NC Association of County Commissioners, along with the NC Department of Revenue added this provision to their Omnibus County Bill, stating that some 5-digit zip codes cross county lines and NC DOR cannot determine which county should receive the local tax portion of the sales tax.

NCRMA met with Senator Davis to relay concerns and explained that this presents a huge operational expense and burden on retailers and that North Carolina would be the only state in the United States to require this of retailers. Senator Davis passed an amendment on the Senate floor to **remove the provision from the bill** as he does not want to place that kind of burden on business.

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Concealed Plastic Knuckles/ No Nonmetallic Knuckles

SB 149: Senator Ellie Kinnaird (D-Orange)

NCRMA Position: Monitor

Outcome: Made Crossover

This bill **adds plastic knuckles** to the list of illegal items (bowie knife, dirk, dagger, slung shot, loaded cane, metallic knuckles, razor, shurikin, stun gun, or other deadly weapon of like kind) that a person **cannot willfully and intentionally carry**, except on one's own property. It would be a **Class 1 Misdemeanor** to carry plastic knuckles openly or concealed or to aid a minor in carrying plastic knuckles openly or concealed. SB 149 passed the Senate and moved to the House for consideration in the 2012 Short Session.

Require Intrastate Motor Carriers

Markings

HB 261: Representative Danny McComas (R-New Hanover)

NCRMA Position: Amended

**Outcome: Made Crossover,
Eligible in 2012**

HB 261 requires extra identification on trucks used in intrastate commerce (i.e. only in North Carolina). The motor carrier's identification number would be required to be printed on each side of the vehicle (in letters not less than three inches in height) preceded by the letters 'USDOT' and followed by the letters 'NC.' The **original draft (which is incorrect)** sets a standard of a motor vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating of **more than 10,000 lbs**; however, the intent is to set that weight at **26,000 lbs**. The State Highway Patrol is pushing this legislation as a safety initiative. However, NCRMA learned that the bill filed is not the language that was requested.

The USDOT Number serves as a unique identifier when collecting and monitoring a company's safety information acquired during audits, compliance reviews, crash investigations, and inspections. The bill

sponsor, Representative McComas, owns an interstate transportation company, is very knowledgeable on trucking issues, and has assured us that NCRMA members were not the target of this bill.

Passage would require motor carriers operating solely in North Carolina and weighing over 26,000 lbs to register (free of charge) with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. The majority of states already require registrants of commercial motor vehicles (even intrastate and non-Motor Carrier registrants) to obtain a USDOT Number as a necessary condition for commercial vehicle registration.



Firearm in Locked Motor Vehicle/ Parking Lot

HB 63: Representatives Mark Hilton (R-Catawba), Phil Shepard (R-Onslow), George Cleveland (R-Onslow) and Jeff Barnhart (R-Cabarrus)

NCRMA Position: Amend

Outcome: Did Not Pass, Dead

HB 63 prohibits **employers** from banning **firearms** on their property out of sight in locked cars, and **provides for civil action** against employers who violate the law. Under the measure, **someone fired for storing a gun in a locked car** could **sue for lost wages, benefits and legal costs**. Someone injured or the survivors of someone killed (as a result of workplace violence) could **bring civil action** against an employer who did not allow for the storage of firearms on the premises.

NCRMA and the **business community** proposed **compromise language** (based on Tennessee law) that provides immunity from civil penalties and OSHA violations. The **bill sponsors** were open to the language but **feel strongly** that anyone with a concealed carry permit should have the ability to keep his firearm in his vehicle for his commute.

Amend Various Gun Laws/Castle Doctrine

HB 650: Representative Mark Hilton (R-Catawba)

NCRMA Position: Amended

Outcome: Passed (Employer provision removed)

Effective Date: December 1, 2011

HB 650 is Representative Hilton's omnibus bill on gun laws related to school campuses, state property, and courthouses, among many other changes. The main provision of **HB 650, the Castle Doctrine, provides protection from criminal and civil liability for defending oneself or others with the use of deadly force against an unlawful intruder in the home, car or workplace.**

NCRMA and the **business community** proposed **compromise language for immunity from civil liability and OSHA violation**. Representative Hilton **redrafted the bill** to limit the exception for storing firearms in a closed container within a locked vehicle to someone with a **concealed carry permit** and added our language **providing civil liability and OSHA protections** to businesses in the event someone is harmed by a firearm on their property.

An amendment on the House floor **removed the provision** that would have required businesses to allow concealed carry permit holders to store firearms in a locked vehicle in an employer's parking area. The **Senate maintained the House position**. Provisions that remain in the final legislation include: **accepting all states' concealed handgun permits**, cutting the amount of time sheriffs have to process concealed carry permit applications, **reducing the penalty for knowingly carrying a gun on school property from a low-level felony to a misdemeanor**, among others.

Handgun Permit Valid in Parks & Restaurants

HB 111: Representatives Mark Hilton (R-Catawba), Jeff Barnhart (R-Cabarrus), Fred Steen (R-Rowan), Kelly Hastings (R-Gaston)

NCRMA Position: Monitor

**Outcome: Made Crossover,
Eligible in 2012**

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HB 111 passed the House and will be eligible for the 2012 Short Session. The bill **allows persons with valid concealed weapons permits to carry a gun, rifle or pistol on the premises of a park or restaurant.** Current concealed carry law does not allow guns carried into establishments where alcohol is sold. HB 111 adds an exception to allow concealed carry into restaurants. It **maintains the prohibition against anyone carrying a concealed weapon while consuming alcohol. Restaurants can post notice that concealed weapons are not allowed on their property at all.**

Ban Mobile Phones While Driving

SB 36: Senator Charlie Dannelly (D-Mecklenburg)
HB 31: Representative Garland Pierce (D-Scotland)

NCRMA Position: Monitor

Outcome: Did Not Make Crossover, Dead

On the heels of North Carolina's "no texting while driving" law taking effect on December 1, 2010, **SB 36** and **HB 31** would **ban the use of all mobile phone technology (including hands-free wireless)** while operating a moving motor vehicle. The only exception allowed is for communicating to an emergency response operator (ambulance, fire, law enforcement agency, etc.). A violation is an infraction subject to a \$100 fine.

Prohibit Mobile Phone Use / Hands-Free Only

HB 44: Representative Garland Pierce (D-Scotland)

NCRMA Position: Monitor

Outcome: Did Not Make Crossover, Dead

HB 44 would prohibit a person to use a phone while driving unless using "hands-free technology."



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License Plate Covers Unlawful

HB 499: Representative Frank McGuirt (D-Union)

NCRMA Position: Monitor

Outcome: Did Not Make Crossover, Dead

This bill would make it illegal to affix a clear or color-tinted license plate cover on a motor vehicle's license plate.

Special Plate for Ronald McDonald House

SB 69: Senator Debbie Clary (R-Cleveland)

HB 102: Hager (R-Rutherford)

NCRMA Position: Support

Outcome: Did Not Pass

Filed at the request of a local McDonald's franchisee in the sponsor's district, this bill authorizes the Division of Motor Vehicles to produce a special Ronald McDonald House Charity license plate.

Prohibit Automatic Renewal of Credit Card Contracts/Study

HB 773, Section 2.14 (Originally in HB 450):
Representative Edgar Starnes (R-Caldwell)

NCRMA Position: Monitor

Outcome: Did Not Pass, Dead

Representative Starnes filed this legislation at the request of a credit card processing-business constituent.

The bill **only** pertains to **contracts between a company and their credit card processing vendor.** HB 450 originally would **require a signature in order to continue the contract.** It would not prohibit contract renewals following a 60-day notice of expiration and acceptance of the renewal signed by the merchant.

Prohibit Surcharge for Use of Credit or Debit Card

HB 626: Representative Hugh Blackwell (R-Burke)

NCRMA Position: Oppose

Outcome: Did Not Make Crossover, Dead

This bill would **prohibit imposing a surcharge on credit card, charge card, or debit card purchases for goods or services in lieu of payment by cash, check or similar means.** **NCRMA met with the bill sponsor expressing concerns about the bill's implications for retailers.** □

Coming Up in our Next Issue...
2011 Legislative Wrap-Up -Part 4

- **Store Operations (con't)**
- **Environmental Issues**
- **ABC Issues**

Our mission is to create and re-create an industry marketplace in which North Carolina retailers can thrive, by:

- Effective legislative and regulatory actions
- Targeted member services, and
- Hi-tech distribution of information

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