

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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The calm before the storm. That is what it seems like right now at the General Assembly. A few committees are meeting but most are winding down in anticipation of the short session that begins May 14. Recommendations from the interim committees should be complete soon and any recommended legislation should be ready for introduction when the session starts.

I do not know about you, but I am glad Tuesday has come and gone for another year. Whoever said two things are certain, death and taxes, said it right. Some of you are feeling happy right now that you are going to receive back the extra money the government held from you last year but others have had to figured out another way to rob Peter to pay Paul, not literally of course. In either event, next year tax changes passed during this session will take effect and that will hopefully make the process a little less painful.

Next week I will be in Raleigh to attend two committee meetings. On Monday afternoon the Food Desert Zones Committee will meet to vote on its final report. Although the name may not sound typical, the objective of the committee affects the entire state and goes a long way in helping North Carolina families make healthy and affordable choices in nutrition. I have read a copy of the draft report and will support it.

The Common Core meeting will be held on Thursday morning. It will be interesting to see what the report and recommendations are going to be from the committee membership. This has been a very controversial topic and something major will need to be done to bring all sides to the table. Stay tuned.

This week is an especially important week for so many in the community. Passover and Easter are being celebrated throughout our community and the world. Whether you are religious or not, it is a good time to celebrate the fact that we live in a country where guaranteed freedoms make it possible for all of us to make our own choices. Please take time to remember those who are defending those rights for you.

May you have a blessed week!

“Together We Can”

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