



Session Adjourns

Very early this morning the 2015-2106 session of the General Assembly adjourned “Sine Die,” meaning they are done until a new session convenes next January. The session ended with a traditional “hankie drop” ceremony, which has not taken place in years, which felt appropriate as many veteran members and the irreplaceable House Principal Clerk - a fixture on Jones St. since 1977 - saying their goodbyes.

The last week of session was as interesting as we’ve seen in recent memories, with more than one surprising defeat for powerful legislators as measures they were pushing were voted down amidst loud, bipartisan complaints about process as much as policy. The resulting tumult led to several high-profile pieces of legislation, including an omnibus “regulatory reduction” bill, falling apart in the final hours. A package of partial changes to the controversial House Bill 2 was also abandoned when conservative Republicans and the majority of Democrats rejected the proposal (for very different reasons), though a repeal of one H2 provision, a restoration of the state cause of action, was approved near midnight. That change is very unlikely to stem the backlash over H2, which will figure significantly into a campaign season in which every major political office is up for grabs. The unexpectedly high number of legislative seats that are now seen as competitive, the retirements of many long-serving members and a Governor’s race that remains deadlocked in the polls combine to mean the 2017 session will likely convene with many new players and, potentially, a dramatically changed dynamic. There will be plenty of time to analyze and prepare, however, with an adjournment that has come earlier than many expected, after a session that was as eventful, unpredictable and tumultuous as it was relatively brief.



NORTH CAROLINA COLLEGE OF EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS



THIS LEGISLATIVE REPORT IS A
PUBLICATION OF KOCHANЕК LAW GROUP
AND IS A MEMBER BENEFIT OF NCCEP.
ANY USE OR REPRODUCTION OF THIS
REPORT IS LIMITED TO NCCEP
AND ITS MEMBERS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Colleen Kochanek
NCCEP Legislative Counsel
P.O. Box 12946
Raleigh, NC 27605
919.747.9988

colleen@kochaneklawgroup.com
www.kochaneklawgroup.com