



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE FROM  
**REP. DENNIS RIDDELL**



**NC House**

**District 64 – Alamance County**

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**Halftime**

We concluded the busy weeks leading up to ‘crossover’ last Thursday. We can call this “halftime” at the NCGA. What will follow next is the continuing hard work on the biennial budget and the taking up of bills and resolutions sent over to us from the Senate.



On the floor of the House presenting one of several bills that passed last week.

**The Scoreboard (of my bills)**

**HB 309 - Got Natural Milk** passed the House Health Committee with strong bi-partisan support. This would permit the purchasing of ‘cow-shares’ by individuals who are interested in purchasing natural (unpasteurized) milk. Currently 30 states permit the purchase of natural milk. The bill is currently being held in the House Agriculture Committee....it may need CPR.

**HB 429 - Amend Medical Malpractice Definition** to include a few of our EMS personnel was passed by the House 109-6 and is in the Senate. This will help protect some of our First Responders from frivolous

lawsuits. These wonderful men and women deserve this added protection as they respond to emergencies in our communities 24/7.

**HB 812 - Grant Recipients Info Posted** is an open gov’t/transparency bill that will require all state agencies that host a website to have a link to the NC Open Books website on their HomePage. NC Open Books is a site that allows you to search state databases so you can see how your money (grants and contracts) is being spent...and by whom. Passed 117-0 in the House.



With an outstanding House Page from Williams High School  
Mr. Chris McCain

**HB 814 - The William C. Lindley Jr SUDEP Law** will require additional training of Medical Examiners in our state in order to help them identify SUDEP (Sudden Unexplained Death in Epilepsy). This is a very mysterious illness that afflicts young adults and brings untold heartache to families that have lost a loved one to this rare illness. The first step in finding answers is to be able to accurately

identify the cause and then do follow-up forensic investigations to unlock the mystery surrounding this tragic illness. Passed the House 116-1.

**HB 760 Regulatory Reform Act of 2015** is this year's version of our continuing attempts to get state gov't on your side. Regulatory Reform has become a signature issue of the Republican majority. Reducing expensive, excessive regulatory burdens on business is important as we try to improve our economy. Reducing complicated and tedious paperwork requirements can have the same beneficial impact as a tax reduction. State gov't should be a friend to the fair-playing job creators in our state - not their adversary. This bill should pass the House next week.



A pleasant visit with our hometown friends from the Alamance County Farm Bureau

**HB 763 - Regulatory Reform Task Force** is created to identify continuing sources of excessive regulations, compliance burdens and other red tape issues from around NC. This Task Force will be commissioned to hold hearings across our state to learn from as many businesses and individual citizens as possible - where they live - on what reforms are needed going forward. Passed the House 119-0. I am co-primary sponsor on these two reg reform measures with two outstanding colleagues - Rep. John Bell and Rep. Chris Millis. It is a pleasure to work beside these two legislators on reform measures.

“What if you woke up today with only what you thanked God for yesterday?”

These bills were passed earlier in the session: **HB 428 - Plates for Charter Schools** passed Transportation and due in Finance Committee soon. This bill will give Charter Schools the right to have permanent plates (like other state institutions) on their vehicles that are used to transport students.



4<sup>th</sup> grade class of Elon Elementary stopped by to say 'hello' and brighten my day.

**HB 373 - Paper Ballots in 2020** will give Alamance County and a handful of other counties additional time to make the costly transition from our current touchscreen voting machines to the required paper ballot machines. This proved to be a very popular bill that passed the House 116-1.

**HB 58 Sheriff's Local Food Bill** permits our Sheriff's dept. to purchase food locally as every school district in the state may currently do if they so choose.



On the House floor taking a question from a colleague.

**I love my job!**  
Thank you for the privilege of representing and serving you in the NCGA.

*Dennis*