

LEGISLATIVE REPORT December 20, 2023

INTRODUCTION

Friday was the last day of candidate filing, and there have been surprise announcements right up until the very end. Please see below for campaign announcements from this week, as well as Senate leader Berger's appointments for interim committees.

SEN. JIM PERRY NOT SEEKING RE-ELECTION

In one of the biggest surprises of this filing season, Senate Majority Whip and Senate Finance Chair Jim Perry has announced that he will not run for re-election. Sen. Perry has been in office for over two terms. A prolific fundraiser, Sen. Perry quickly made a name for himself on Jones Street. The Lenoir County resident has been one to watch for future leadership positions. "Our life situations can change in an instant, and I finally reached the conclusion that I would not be able to make the time commitment necessary to be an effective Senator if I served an additional term," Perry said in a statement.

REP. GREY MILLS RUNNING FOR CONGRESS

House Elections and ABC Chairman Grey Mills has announced that he will run for a different House in 2024. Mills announced this week that he will run to represent the 10th Congressional District. This district is currently represented by Rep. Patrick McHenry, who has announced his retirement. Since McHenry's announcement, Speaker Moore's primary opponent Pat Harrigan announced that he will be moving to the 10th Congressional District and running there. The 10th Congressional District is favorable for Republicans, so the winner of the primary will likely tell us who will be the district's new congressman in 2024.

SEN. MARY WILLS BODE NOT SEEKING RE-ELECTION / REP. TERENCE EVERITT RUNNING

Freshman Sen. Mary Wills Bode has decided not to run for re-election, leaving an open seat in a toss-up district. It seems Democratic Rep. Terence Everitt will run for this seat in 2024, meaning he would not retire after all. After Rep. Everitt's current House district became exceptionally challenging to hold on to for a Democratic candidate, Everitt announced his plans to return home. Senate District 18 includes all of Granville County and much of northeastern Wake County.



NORTH CAROLINA COLLEGE OF EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS



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SEN. NATASHA MARCUS RUNNING FOR COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

Sen. Marcus has announced her plans to run for Commissioner of Insurance. The most recent map redraw left the Democratic Senator in a Republican-leaning district with Republican incumbent Sen. Vickie Sawyer. The Charlotte Democrat will be up against another former state Senator in the primary, David Wheeler, who announced his campaign for the position much earlier. Wheeler initially said he would step aside for Marcus to breeze through to the general, but he has had a change of heart. Wheeler will go head-to-head with Marcus to be the Democratic candidate for Commissioner in 2024.

SENATE LEADER BERGER'S POSSIBLE PRIMARY OPPONENT RUNS FOR LT. GOV. INSTEAD

Republican Rockingham County Sheriff Sam Page had been rumored to have been considering running against Senate leader Phil Berger in 2024. Constituents received polls in recent months to gauge the prospects of an uncommon challenge to the re-election of one of North Carolina's top politicians. Page was outspoken against Berger's involvement and support of casino expansions in North Carolina, which seemed to be the trigger for the possibility of a challenge to Berger this goround. In the end, however, Page opted not to run against Berger and stuck to his previous plan to run for Lieutenant Governor.

FORMER REP. MICHAEL SPECIALE RUNNING IN CURRENT SEN. JIM PERRY'S SENATE DISTRICT

Former Rep. Michael Speciale has filed to run again, but this time in a different chamber. The Craven County Republican served nearly 10 years in the House before deciding to retire in 2021. Speciale's is running in the newly drawn Senate District 3, which is currently represented by Republican Sen. Jim Perry.

SENATE INTERIM COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Senate leader Berger has announced interim committee appointments. Interim committees provide legislators an opportunity to take a more in-depth look at issues while the legislative session is not active. While they cannot pass bills in interim committees, they can hold hearings and make recommendations that could shape legislation when the legislature reconvenes.

Joint Legislative Administrative Procedure Oversight Committee: Amy S. Galey (co-chair), Danny Earl Britt, Jr., Warren Daniel, Julie Mayfield, Timothy D. Moffitt, Mujtaba A. Mohammed, Natalie S. Murdock, Norman W. Sanderson

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Natural and Economic Resources: Brent Jackson (co-chair), Lisa S. Barnes (vice-chair), Paul Newton, DeAndrea Salvador, Norman W. Sanderson, Eddie D. Settle

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Capital Improvements: Brent Jackson (co-chair), Jay J. Chaudhuri, Kevin Corbin, Joyce Krawiec, Michael A. Lazzara, Michael V. Lee, Tom McInnis, Kandie D. Smith

Joint Legislative Economic Development and Global Engagement Oversight Committee: David W. Craven, Jr., (co-chair), W. Ted Alexander, Jay J. Chaudhuri, Brent Jackson, Todd Johnson, Timothy D. Moffitt, Natalie S. Murdock, Brad Overcash, Bill Rabon, Vickie Sawyer, Joyce Waddell

Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee: Michael V. Lee (co-chair), Lisa S. Barnes, Danny Earl Britt, Jr., Amy S. Galey, Michael Garrett, Tom McInnis, Brad Overcash, Gladys A. Robinson, Benton G. Sawrey, Vickie Sawyer, Joyce Waddell

Joint Legislative Elections Oversight Committee: Warren Daniel (co-chair), Dan Blue, Amy S. Galey, Michael Garrett, Ralph Hise, Natasha R. Marcus, Paul Newton, Jim Perry, Bill Rabon

Joint Legislative Emergency Management Oversight Committee: Todd Johnson (co-chair), Val Applewhite, Danny Earl Britt, Jr., Bobby Hanig, Buck Newton, Jim Perry

Joint Legislative Commission on Energy Policy: Paul Newton (co-chair), Jim Burgin, David W. Craven, Jr., Joyce Krawiec, Paul A. Lowe, Jr.

Environmental Review Commission: Norman W. Sanderson (co-chair), Val Applewhite, Lisa S. Barnes, David W. Craven, Jr., Bobby Hanig, Brent Jackson, Todd Johnson, Paul A. Lowe, Jr.

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on General Government: W. Ted Alexander (co-chair), Dean Proctor (vice-chair), Mary Wills Bode, Carl Ford, Rachel Hunt, Steve Jarvis

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services: Joyce Krawiec (cochair), Kevin Corbin (vice-chair), Gale Adcock, Lisa S. Barnes, Sydney Batch, Jim Burgin, Amy S. Galey, Ralph Hise, Steve Jarvis, Benton G. Sawrey, Mike Woodard

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Information Technology: Ralph Hise (co-chair), Steve Jarvis (vice-chair), W. Ted Alexander, Jay J. Chaudhuri, David W. Craven, Jr., Todd Johnson, Paul A. Lowe, Jr., DeAndrea Salvador

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety: Danny Earl Britt, Jr. (cochair), Buck Newton (vice-chair), Warren Daniel, Lisa Grafstein, Bobby Hanig, Michael A. Lazzara, Michael V. Lee, Natasha R. Marcus, Mujtaba A. Mohammed, Dean Proctor, Norman W. Sanderson

Legislative Research Commission: Bill Rabon (co-chair), Dan Blue, Warren Daniel, Ralph Hise, Joyce Waddell, Phil Berger (ex officio)

Legislative Services Commission: Phil Berger (co-chair), Warren Daniel, Ralph Hise, Paul A. Lowe, Jr., Bill Rabon

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Local Government: Carl Ford (co-chair), Mary Wills Bode, Jim Burgin, Kevin Corbin, Steve Jarvis, Graig Meyer, Eddie D. Settle

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on the North Carolina State Lottery: Michael V. Lee (co-chair), Brent Jackson, Michael A. Lazzara, Tom McInnis, Brad Overcash, Dean Proctor, Kandie D. Smith

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Medicaid and NC Health Choice: Jim Burgin (cochair), Gale Adcock, Kevin Corbin, Ralph Hise, Joyce Krawiec, Gladys A. Robinson, Benton G. Sawrey

Municipal Incorporations Subcommittee of the Joint Legislative Committee on Local Government: W. Ted Alexander, Carl Ford, Rachel Hunt

Revenue Laws Study Committee: Paul Newton (co-chair), Dan Blue, Warren Daniel, Ralph Hise, Brent Jackson, Jim Perry, Bill Rabon, Gladys A. Robinson, Vickie Sawyer, Mike Woodard

Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee: Tom McInnis (co-chair), Vickie Sawyer (co-chair), Michael A. Lazzara (co-chair), Carl Ford, Michael Garrett, Julie Mayfield, Buck Newton, Dean Proctor, Bill Rabon, Eddie D. Settle, Mike Woodard

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Unemployment Insurance: Jim Perry (co-chair), Mujtaba A. Mohammed, Paul Newton, Timothy D. Moffitt

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