

NC Alliance for Health – 2009 Bills of Interest

Tobacco-Related Bills of Interest

HB 640 – Increase Tobacco Products Tax

Sponsors: Representatives Weiss, Glazier, Luebke, Wainwright (Primary Sponsors); co-sponsors: M. Alexander and Insko.

Raises the cigarette tax by 75 cents.

Raises the tax on OTP by 31%.

HB 453/SB 410 - Increase Cigarette Tax/Proceeds to Mental Health Trust Fund

HB 453 Sponsors: [Insko](#); [Earle](#); [M. Alexander](#) (primary); Co-sponsors: [Bordsen](#); [England](#); [Hughes](#); [Ross](#).

SB 410 Sponsors: Martin L. Nesbitt, Jr. (primary); Co-Sponsors: [Bob Atwater](#); [Charlie S. Dannelly](#); [Eleanor Kinnaird](#); [Vernon Malone](#); [Floyd B. McKissick, Jr.](#); [William R. Purcell](#); [Larry Shaw](#); [John Snow](#).

These bills will raise NC's per pack cigarette tax by 84 cents to \$1.19, just under the national average of \$1.21 per pack. (This recommendation was developed by the Institute of Medicine at a time with the cigarette tax national average was \$1.19).

HB 692/SB 671 - Establish Policy/Smoking/Foster Care –

HB 692 Sponsors: Reps. Cotham; Holliman; Barnhart; Lucas (primary); Co-sponsors: M. Alexander; England; Glazier; Goodwin; Harrison; Insko; Jackson; Luebke; Mackey; Martin; Parmon; Pierce; Ross; Tarleton; Weiss.

SB 671 Sponsors: [William R. Purcell](#) (primary); [Katie G. Dorsett](#)

Directs the Division of Child Development to direct each county dept of social services to establish a policy regarding how the county DSS will address the issue of placing a child with a foster parent who smokes. Each DSS shall submit a policy to the Div of Child Development within one year from effective date.

HB 693/SB 673 - Ban Smoking in Foster Care Settings/Infants

HB 692 Sponsors: [Cotham](#); [Holliman](#); [Barnhart](#); [Pierce](#) (primary); Co-Sponsors: [M. Alexander](#); [Bordsen](#); [Bryant](#); [England](#); [Fisher](#); [Glazier](#); [Goodwin](#); [Harrell](#); [Harrison](#); [Insko](#); [Jackson](#); [Jeffus](#); [Justice](#); [Lucas](#); [Luebke](#); [Mackey](#); [Martin](#); [Parmon](#); [Ross](#); [Tarleton](#); [R. Warren](#);

SB 673 Sponsors: [William R. Purcell](#) (primary); [Katie G. Dorsett](#)

Directs the Social Services Commission to adopt and enforce a written policy prohibiting a foster parent from smoking in a private residence used for foster care of an infant. Policy shall also prohibit smoking in the presence of an infant in a motor vehicle and require the foster parent to prohibit others from smoking in the presence of an infant in that foster parent's care.

HB 694/ SB 672 – Study/Smoking Ban/Foster Care Homes

HB 694 Sponsors: [Cotham](#); [Holliman](#); [Barnhart](#); Co-sponsors: [M. Alexander](#); [Bordsen](#); [Bryant](#); [England](#); [Fisher](#); [Glazier](#); [Goodwin](#); [Harrell](#); [Harrison](#); [Insko](#); [Jackson](#); [Jeffus](#); [Justice](#); [Lucas](#); [Luebke](#); [Mackey](#); [Martin](#); [Pierce](#); [Tarleton](#); [R. Warren](#); [Weiss](#);

SB 672 Sponsors: [William R. Purcell](#) (primary); [Katie G. Dorsett](#)

The Legislative Research Commission may study whether smoking prohibitions that apply to foster care homes are having an impact on the availability of foster care homes. The Commission shall consider whether prohibitions on smoking is a sensible approach to protecting the health of foster care children or whether the prohibition may cause a reduction in the number of available homes. Due to the GA in 2011

Obesity-Related Bill of Interest

HB 148/SB 151 - The Congestion Relief and Intermodal Transportation 21st Century Fund

HB 148 Primary Sponsors: Reps. Carney, Allen, Ross, McGee

SB 151 Sponsors: Senators Stevens (primary), Atwater, Bingham, Clodfelter, Dannelly, Dorsett, Garrou, Goss, Graham, Hartsell, Hoyle, Jenkins, Kinnaird, Malone, McKissick, Purcell, Stein, and Vaughan

HB 148 was considered and approved last week by the House Transportation Committee with no amendments. The bill will now move to the House Finance Committee for consideration.

The bill would:

1. Grant two urban areas (the Triad and the Triangle) the authority to hold referenda on a ½ cent local options sales and use tax to be designated for transit purposes, including bike and pedestrian paths;
2. Allow all other counties to hold referenda on a ¼ cent sales and use tax to be designated for transit purposes, including bike and pedestrian paths;
3. Allow all counties the option to levy a local vehicle registration fee and county vehicle registration tax – capped at \$7.00 total for the combined fees - to be designated for transit purposes.

HB 387/SB 273 - School Nutrition Program Funds

SB 273 Sponsors: Senators Swindell (primary), Allran, Atwater, Dannelly, Davis, Dorsett, Goss, Jenkins, Jones, Malone, and Snow.

HB 387 Sponsors: Reps. Yongue, Johnson, Lucas and McLawhorn

These bill would appropriate \$20 million for the implementation of child nutrition standards in elementary schools across the state.

HB 774/SB 240 - Fund High Priority Public Health Initiatives

SB 240 Sponsors: Senators Purcell; Atwater, Dorsett, Forrester, Malone, Kinnaird, McKissick, and Swindell.

HB 774 Sponsors: Representatives England, Insko, Current, Justus (Primary); Adams, M. Alexander, Glazier, Hall, Hughes, Jones, Lucas, Luebke, Tarleton, Wainwright, Weiss, and Womble.

Among other things, this bill would appropriate approx \$3,829,454 in both the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 fiscal years for the Childhood Obesity Prevention Demonstration Projects (COPDP) to continue funding interventions in preschools, schools, communities, faith organizations, and health care settings that promote and support physical activity and healthy eating; and continue funding worksite chronic disease/obesity prevention programs for State employees. (\$3 m is expected for COPDP)

To view the bill, go to: <http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/Sessions/2009/Bills/House/PDF/H774v1.pdf>

These community projects are demonstrating how science-based interventions can create increased opportunities for healthy eating and physical activity and lead to reduced obesity rates in North Carolina.

HB 899 - Limit Foods in School Vending Machines

Sponsor: Rep. Insko

HB 900 - Nutrition Standards/All Food Sold at School

Sponsor: Rep. Insko

HB 901 - Honors Courses in Health and Physical Education Classes

Sponsor: Rep. Insko

SB 977 - Obesity Prevention in the Public Schools

SB 977 Sponsors: Senators Bingham (primary); Malone, Purcell, Rand.

This bill contains many recommendations made by both the Childhood Obesity Task Force (created by the General Assembly at the end of the 2008 session) as well as recommendations from the Institute of Medicine's Prevention Task Force.

SB 1067 – Establish Local Food Policy Council

SB 1067 Sponsors: Sen. [Charles Albertson](#) (primary); [Bob Atwater](#); [Don Davis](#); [Steve Goss](#); [Clark Jenkins](#); [Eleanor Kinnaird](#); [William R. Purcell](#); and [David Weinstein](#) are co-sponsors.

The legislation is in part the result of the work performed by individuals participating in the **Center for Environmental Farming Systems' Farm to Fork Summit**. The Summit—originally scheduled for March 2 and 3 but postponed until May 11 and 12 due to hazardous weather—will explore the potential and challenges of building sustainable local-food economies across the state. Visit www.cefsfarmtofork to learn more about the Summit and the many sponsoring organizations working to make it a success.