

**North Carolina General Assembly Legislation with Potential Impact on the City of Asheville Budget - 2015 Regular Session - Updated 4/27/15**

**Advocacy Principle: Municipal Authority**

*Like all municipalities in North Carolina, Asheville has unique economic, environmental, and cultural interests. Maintaining municipal authority to promote, regulate, and celebrate these interests is essential to enable local officials to best address local needs.*

Policy Issue	Bills	Monitor	Bill Notes	Legislative Agenda	Cross Over	Status
<b>Eminent Domain</b>	<a href="#">H3/ S74 Eminent Domain.</a>		This act amends the Constitution to include prohibition of condemnation of private property except for a public use, to provide for the payment of just compensation with right of trial by jury in all condemnation cases, and to make similar statutory changes.		Passed Cross Over	(House) 1/14/15 Filed; 1/28/15 Passed 1st Reading; 2/5/15 Passed 2nd Reading; 2/10/15 Passed 3rd Reading; (Senate) 2/12/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
	<a href="#">S380 Local Accountability Act.</a>		S380 asks voters to amend the N.C. constitution to require the approval of local governing boards for eminent domain or taxation decisions made by any subdivision of that local board, including special districts or authorities.			(Senate) 3/24/15 Filed; 3/25/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
	<a href="#">H875 Restrict Municipal Eminent Domain.</a>		H875 would require county commission approval of all municipal condemnation actions outside a municipality's corporate limits (with limited exceptions). The bill essentially gives county commissioners a veto over municipal officials' decisions.			(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Local Government, if favorable, Judiciary II
<b>Stomwater Management to Private Property</b>	<a href="#">H141 Stormwater/Flood Control Activities.</a>					(House) 3/4/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Environment, if favorable, Local Government; 4/21/15 Reptd Fav; Re-ref Com On Local Government
	<a href="#">S552 Sedimentation Control Civil Penalty Reforms.</a>		S552 limits the amount the State or a locally-delegated sedimentation/erosion control program may charge for certain violations; requires in-person service of certain first-time penalties.			(Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 4/6/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref Com On Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources
<b>MPO/ RPO Studies</b>	<a href="#">S396 Limit Number of Studies/MPOs and RPOs.</a>					(Senate) 3/24/15 Filed; 3/25/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 3/30/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref Com On Transportation
<b>Bicycle Safety</b>	<a href="#">H232 Study/Update Bicycle Safety Laws.</a>		This bill directs the Department of Transportation to perform a study on the bicycle safety laws in North Carolina and provide recommendations as to how the laws may be revised to better ensure the safety of bicyclists and motorists on the roadways.		Passed Cross Over	(House) 3/16/15 Passed 1st Reading; 3/31/15 Passed 2nd Reading; Passed 3rd Reading; 4/1/15 Regular Message Sent To Senate; (Senate) 4/1/15 Regular Message Received From House; Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
<b>Regulation of Bee Hives</b>	<a href="#">S225 The Birds and the Bees Act.</a>		This bill clarifies the authority of local governments to adopt ordinances related to bee hives and requires the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to study strategies for protecting and supporting pollinators.			(Senate) 3/10/15 Filed; 3/11/2015 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 3/23/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref Com On Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources
	<a href="#">S617 Local Government Reg. Reform.</a>		S617 restricts city and county authority to regulate ownership or possession of five or fewer beehives.			(Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 4/20/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref to Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources. If fav, re-ref to Finance

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<b>Regulations of Fire Arms</b>	<a href="#">S394 Preemption Affirmation Act.</a>		S394 increases the legal liability for local government boards that act to regulate firearms, including disallowing "acting in good faith or upon advice of counsel" as a defense and authorizing additional remedies (such as attorney's fees) for plaintiffs bringing suit against local governments; expands the scope of prohibitions on local government regulation of firearms by adding "taxation, manufacture, or transportation" to the list of prohibited local government regulations			(Senate) 3/24/15 Filed; 3/25/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
<b>Municipal Campaigns</b>	<a href="#">H621 Public Financing of Municipal Campaigns.</a>					(House) 4/9/15 Filed; 4/13/15 Passed 1st Reading; 4/13/15 Ref to the Com on Elections, if favorable, Local Government, if favorable, Finance
	<a href="#">H710/ S350 Allow Special Elections/Odd-Numbered Years.</a>		H710/ S350 reverses a 2014 law that forces all special elections, such as those for local government referenda, to be called in even-numbered years			(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Elections; (Senate) 3/19/15 Filed; 3/23/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
<b>Digital Dispatching Services</b>	<a href="#">S414 Regulate Transportation Network Services.</a>					(Senate) 3/24/15 Filed; 3/25/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 3/30/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref to Commerce. If fav, re-ref to Insurance
	<a href="#">H680/ S541 Regulate Transportation Network Companies.</a>					(House) 4/13/15 Filed; 4/13/15 House Filed; 4/14/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Commerce and Job Development, if favorable, Transportation, if favorable, Finance (Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 4/9/15 Withdrawn From Com; 4/9/15 Re-ref to Transportation. If fav, re-ref to Finance
<b>Local Government Lobbyist</b>	<a href="#">S664 Study Local Gov't Contract Lobbyists.</a>		S664 directs a legislative study of local government practices with respect to designating employees as legislative liaisons or hiring contract lobbyists			(Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
<b>Minimum Wage</b>	<a href="#">H885 Let Local Gov'ts Set Local Minimum Wage.</a>					(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/2015 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the
<b>Public Contracts</b>	<a href="#">H783 Define Locally Sourced/Public Contracts.</a>					(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Local Government, if favorable, Commerce and Job Development, if favorable, Finance
<b>Drones</b>	<a href="#">H4 Clarify Unmanned Aircraft System Law.</a>		This law gives agencies and agents of the state or a political subdivision of the state the authority to use unmanned aircraft systems upon the approval of the state Chief Information Officer.			(House) 1/29/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Local Government, if favorable, Judiciary I; 4/16/15 Reptd Fav Com Substitute; 4/16/15 Re-ref Com On Judiciary IV
	<a href="#">S622 UAS/No LEO Surveillance of Private Property.</a>		S622 disallows law enforcement agencies from using drones to photograph gatherings on private property.			(Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate

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**Advocacy Principle: Municipal Revenue**

*The fiscal health and responsibility of municipalities require stable revenue sources that are proportionate to the need for local services. Responsible fiscal management requires the protection of revenue sources both under, and outside of, municipal control.*

Policy Issue	Bills	Monitor	Bill Notes	Legislative Agenda	Cross Over	Status
Sales Tax Redistribution	<a href="#">S369 Sales Tax Fairness Act.</a>		S369 converts the current 2% local sales tax to a state sales tax. It then changes the 75% that remains in the county where it is collected to a per capita distribution (over a three year phase in) to each county and within each county.			(Senate) 3/23/15 Filed; 3/24/15 Passed 1st Reading; 3/24/15 Ref To Com On Finance
	<a href="#">S608 Simple and Fair Formula for Sales Tax Distrib.</a>		S608 converts the current 2% local sales tax to a state sales tax and only redistributes the sales tax growth beyond the FY2013-14 distributions. S608 allows the counties to continue to choose per capita or ad valorem for distribution within the county.			(Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 4/9/15 Withdrawn From Com; 4/9/15 Senate Re-ref Com On Finance
	<a href="#">H518 County Sales Tax Flexibility.</a>					
Transportation Funding	<a href="#">S20/ H40 IRC Update/Motor Fuel Tax Changes</a>		The bill will very quickly cut the state motor fuels tax by 2.5 cents per gallon, but subsequently create a new, higher floor for the tax which should provide stability for the transportation revenue stream going forward. Cities and towns maintain the majority of road miles within their borders, and roughly one quarter of the money spent for this purpose comes from state Powell Bill funds. If the gas tax remains unchanged, it is expected to fall by as much as 6 to 8 cents per gallon.		Ch. SL 2015-2	(Senate) 2/4/15 Passed 1st Reading; 2/11/15 Passed 2nd Reading; 2/12/15 Passed 3rd Reading; Engrossed; (House) 2/18/15 Passed 1st Reading; 3/4/15 Passed 2nd Reading; 3/5/15 Passed 3rd Reading; 3/5/15 Engrossed; 3/31/15 Ratified; Pres. To Gov.; Signed by Gov.; Ch. SL 2015-2
	<a href="#">H203 Phase-out of Fuel Tax.</a>		This bill replaces the motor fuels tax with a transportation usage fee.			(House) 3/10/15 Filed; 3/12/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Transportation, if favorable, Finance
	<a href="#">S639 Transportation Funding Bill.</a>		S639 establishes a new method for funding transportation, combining a reduced gas tax and increased vehicle fees; requires a voter referendum for any highway toll project.			(Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
Local Debt	<a href="#">H128 Referendum for Certain Local Debt.</a>		H128 would allow voters to force a referendum on debt secured by local issuances of certificates of participation (COPs) and other non-general obligation bond indebtedness. H128 would require a referendum on all borrowing for local government capital projects when 5 percent of that local government's voters sign a petition requesting a vote. In 1991, the North Carolina Supreme Court upheld local governments' use of certificates of participation and other "special indebtedness" that does not require a voter referendum. Since then, both local governments and the state have extensively used this form of borrowing, with the state having last put a bond referendum before voters in 2000. The General Assembly in 2013 placed limits on the state's use of state special indebtedness going forward.		Did Not Pass Cross Over	(House) 3/3/15 Filed; 3/4/15 Passed 1st Reading; 3/4/15 Ref to the Com on Local Government, if favorable, Finance, if favorable, Elections; 4/23/15 Reptd Unfav
Tax Value for Property Improvements	<a href="#">H168/ S321 Exempt Builders' Inventory.</a>		H168 would exclude from builders' property taxes any increase in property value attributable to subdivision or other improvements made to the property until the builder sold the property. H168 would limit the amount of time a builder could exclude the improved property value from taxation to five years. <b>Not currently calendared.</b>			(House) 3/5/15 Filed; 3/9/15 Passed 1st Reading; 3/9/15 Ref To Com On Finance; (Senate) 3/17/15 Filed; 3/18/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 3/24/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref to Commerce. If fav, re-ref to Finance

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Legal Notices	<a href="#">H156/ S129 Legal Notices/Require Internet Publication.</a>		This bill requires Internet Web site publication of legal notices. Legislators in both chambers filed companion electronic notice bills Wednesday that failed to allow municipalities the option to publish their own electronic legal public notices in lieu of publication in a newspaper. Instead of granting that authority to local governments, H156/ S129 Legal Notices/Require Internet Publication would continue a monopoly for the press regarding electronic notice while providing little or no financial relief for taxpayers. H156/S 129 would require newspapers to publish legal notices online at no additional charge, when a governmental entity had paid for the statutorily-required print notice.		Passed Cross Over	(House) 3/4/15 Filed; 3/5/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Judiciary III; 3/30/15 Passed 2nd Reading; Passed 3rd Reading; 3/31/15 Regular Message Sent To Senate (Senate) 3/31/15 Regular Message Received From House; Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On State and Local Government
	<a href="#">S210 Notice Publication by Counties and Cities.</a>		This bill provides the governing boards of counties and cities with an option to give public notices electronically.		✓	(Senate) 3/10/15 Filed; 3/11/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
	<a href="#">S518 Broader Publication of Legal Notices.</a>					✗
PSAP Funding	<a href="#">H506 911 Fund Distribution.</a>					(House) 4/1/215 Filed; 4/2/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Local Government, if favorable, Finance; 4/16/15 Reptd Fav; Re-ref Com On Finance
	<a href="#">H730 County Provide 911 Dispatch Services.</a>					(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Local Government
Business Registration Fee	<a href="#">H362 Cities/Business Registration.</a>					(House) 3/25/15 Filed; 3/26/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Finance
Local Options Sales Tax	<a href="#">H394/ S246 Increase Options for Local Option Sales Tax.</a>		This bill gives Robeson County the authority to use the proceeds of the Local Government Sales and Use Tax for Public Transportation for school construction instead of public transportation.			(House) 3/30/15 Filed; 3/31/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Finance; (Senate) 3/11/15 Filed; 3/12/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 3/23/2015 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref Com On Finance
	<a href="#">H903 County Tax Flexibility/Municipal Rev Opts.</a>		H903 gives cities the option to levy a quarter-cent city-only sales tax by resolution. Projections of the revenue that could be derived from such a tax are not yet available, but it would almost certainly be more than enough to make up for the loss of privilege license tax revenues. It could also help to offset some of the city losses projected under sales tax reallocation plans.			(House) 4/15/15 Filed; 4/16/15; Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Local Government, if favorable, Finance
Property Tax	<a href="#">S458 Religious Orgs: Clarify Prop. Tax Exemption.</a>					(Senate) 3/25/15 Filed; 3/26/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 3/30/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref Com On Finance
Nonprofits	<a href="#">S700 Limit Sales Tax Refund for Nonprofits.</a>		S700 lowers the allowed amounts for refunds of sales tax payments to non-profits; for local governments, the annual refund cap is reduced from \$13.3 million to \$29,630.			(Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
	<a href="#">H430/ S422 County Omnibus Legislation.</a>		H430/ S422 creates a study commission on payment in lieu of taxes relating to state properties in local government jurisdictions, with two appointments by the League and four by the N.C. Association of County Commissioners; also directs a legislative study of noxious aquatic weeds that endanger water supplies.			(House) 3/31/15 Filed; 4/1/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Environment, if favorable, Finance; 4/16/15 Reptd Fav Com Substitute; Re-ref Com On Finance (Senate) 3/25/15 Filed; 3/26/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 4/22/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref to Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources. If fav, re-ref to Finance

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<b>Privilege License Tax</b>	<a href="#">H470 Harnett Municipal Privilege License Tax.</a>					(House) 4/1/15 Filed; 4/2/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Local Government, if favorable, Finance
	<a href="#">H507 Durham Privilege License Tax.</a>					(House) 4/1/15 Filed; 4/2/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Local Government, if favorable, Finance
	<a href="#">H739 Repeal Business License Fees.</a>					(House) 4/14/15 Filed; Passed 1st Reading; 4/15/15 Ref to the Com on Local Government, if favorable, Finance; 4/23/15 Reptd Fav; Re-ref Com On Finance
<b>Local Government Employees Retirement System (LGERS)</b>	<a href="#">H616 Local Governmental Employees' Retire. COLA.</a>					(House) 4/9/15 Filed; 4/13/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Pensions and Retirement, if favorable, Appropriations; 4/21/15 Reptd Fav; Re-ref Com On Appropriations
	<a href="#">H759 Retirement System COLAs.</a>					(House) 4/14/15 Filed; Passed 1st Reading; 4/15/15 Ref to the Com on Pensions and Retirement, if favorable, Appropriations
<b>Video Sweepstakes Regulation and Taxation.</b>	<a href="#">H922 Video Sweepstakes Regulation and Taxation.</a>		A county or city may impose an excise tax on each electronic sweepstakes establishment. An excise tax may be levied by the county or by the city but not by both the county and the city. A county or city may impose an annual excise tax at the rate of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) on each electronic sweepstakes establishment. A county or city may impose an annual excise tax at the rate of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) on each electronic sweepstakes device. At least three percent (3%) of the net revenues collected under this section must be distributed to the county sheriff's department or the municipal police department of the taxing jurisdiction. The remainder may be used for any public purpose.			(House) 4/16/15 Filed; 4/20/15 Passed 1st Reading Ref To Com On Finance
<b>Site Development Loans</b>	<a href="#">H108 Site and Building Development Fund</a>		This bill provides a fund to provide loans to local government units to develop sites and buildings.		Passed Cross Over	(House) 2/27/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Commerce and Job Development, if favorable, Appropriations; 3/18/15 Reptd Fav Com Substitute; Re-ref Com On Appropriations; 4/13/15 Withdrawn From Com; Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b); Placed On Cal For 4/14/15; 4/14/15 Passed 2nd Reading; 4/15/15 Amend Adopted; Amend Failed; Passed 3rd Reading; Ordered Engrossed; 4/16/15 Regular Message Sent To Senate; (Senate) 4/16/15 Regular Message Received From House; Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate

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**Advocacy Principle: Mandates**

*Unfunded and burdensome legislative and regulatory mandates undermine the efficiency, effectiveness and success of municipal programs and services.*

Policy Issue	Bills	Monitor	Bill Notes	Legislative Agenda	Cross Over	Status
<b>E-Verify</b>	<a href="#">H318 Protect North Carolina Workers Act.</a>		This bill will increase the number of employers who are required to participate in the federal e-verify program; to undo the e-verify changes enacted in S.L. 2014-119; to repeal the e-verify exemption for temporary employees; to exclude farm workers from the definition of employee; to give the Department of Labor the authority to enforce e-verify requirements pertaining to county and city contractors and subcontractors; and to provide that certain consulate or embassy documents may not be used to determine a person's identification or residence for governmental and law enforcement purposes.		Passed Cross Over	(House) 3/19/15 Filed; 3/23/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Commerce and Job Development, if favorable, Judiciary IV; 4/15/15 Reptd Fav Com Substitute; Re-ref Com On Judiciary IV; 4/22/15 Reptd Fav Com Sub; Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b); Placed On Cal For 4/23/15; 4/23/15 Passed 2nd Reading; Passed 3rd Reading; Regular Message Sent To Senate
<b>Police Body/ Dashboard Cameras</b>	<a href="#">H395 Body and Dashboard Cameras/Law Enforcement.</a>					(House) 3/30/15 Filed; 3/31/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Appropriations
	<a href="#">H713 Body &amp; Dash Cam Recording/Public Access.</a>				Passed Cross Over	(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Judiciary I; 4/22/15 Reptd Fav Com Substitute; Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b); Added to Calendar; Withdrawn From Cal; Postponed To 4/23/15; 4/23/15 Passed 2nd Reading; Passed 3rd Reading; Regular Message Sent To Senate

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**Advocacy Principle: Economic Vitality**

*An economically vital community enables Asheville to provide for opportunity, mobility, and a high quality of life for its residents.*

Policy Issue	Bills	Monitor	Bill Notes	Legislative Agenda	Cross Over	Status
<b>Economic Development</b>	<a href="#">H117 NC Competes Act.</a>		H117 NC Competes Act would double an existing cap on funding for the state's key jobs recruitment program, the Jobs Development Investment Grant program. It also would restore money for an infrastructure grant program.		Passed Cross Over	(House) 2/24/15 Filed; 2/27/15 Passed 1st Reading; 3/4/15 Passed 2nd Reading; 3/5/15 Passed 3rd Reading; Engrossed; (Senate) 3/9/15 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 3/23/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref Com On Finance
	<a href="#">S338 Economic Development/Tax Modifications.</a>		S338 proposes multiple measures to attract businesses to the state, including lowered corporate tax rates and changes to a key state jobs recruiting fund; supported by over half of Senate members			(Senate) 3/18/15 Filed; 3/19/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 3/25/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref to Commerce. If fav, re-ref to Finance. If fav, re-ref to Appropriations/Base Budget
	<a href="#">S500 NC Infrastructure Development Act.</a>		S500 proposes a new authority to encourage public-private partnerships by the State and local governments for infrastructure projects, and to undertake transportation, public works, and IT projects such as high-speed internet, if the Authority was appropriated state funding or issued revenue bonds.			(Senate) 3/25/15 Filed; 3/26/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 3/30/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref to Transportation. If fav, re-ref to Finance
	<a href="#">H920 Omnibus Economic Development Improvements.</a>					(House) 4/16/15 Filed; 4/20/15 Passed 1st Reading; 4/20/15 Ref to the Com on Finance, if favorable, Appropriations
<b>Jobs Development Investment Grant</b>	<a href="#">S326 Increase JDIG Program Funding.</a>				Passed Cross Over	(Senate) 3/19/2015 Passed 1st Reading; 3/24/15 Passed 2nd Reading; Passed 3rd Reading; Special Message Sent To House; (House) 3/24/15 Special Message Received From Senate; Passed 1st Reading; 3/25/15 Ref to the Com on Finance, if favorable, Appropriations
	<a href="#">S342 Econ. Dev./JDIG Extension.</a>		This bill will extend the authority of the Department of Commerce to award new grants under the Job Development Investment Grant Program.			(Senate) 3/19/15 Filed; 3/23/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 3/25/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref to Appropriations/Base Budget. If fav, re-ref to Commerce
	<a href="#">H89 Omnibus Economic Development Improvements.</a>		This bill restores various tax credits and incentives for economic development.		✓	(House) 2/16/15 Passed 1st Reading; 2/16/15 Ref to the Com on Commerce and Job Development, if favorable, Finance, if favorable, Appropriations; 3/4/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref to the Com on Finance, if favorable, Appropriations
	<a href="#">S526 Job Creation and Tax Relief Act of 2015.</a>					(Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref to Finance. If fav, re-ref to Commerce

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<b>Jobs Catalyst Fund</b>	<a href="#">S340 Econ. Dev./Job Catalyst Fund.</a>					(Senate) 3/19/15 Filed; 3/23/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
	<a href="#">H89 Omnibus Economic Development Improvements.</a>		This bill restores various tax credits and incentives for economic development.	✓		(House) 2/16/15 Passed 1st Reading; 2/16/15 Ref to the Com on Commerce and Job Development, if favorable, Finance, if favorable, Appropriations; 3/4/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref to the Com on Finance, if favorable, Appropriations
<b>Historic Preservation Tax Credits</b>	<a href="#">H152/ S287 New Historic Preservation Tax Credit.</a>		H152 would create an historic tax credit of 10 to 20 percent of expenses, depending on the size of the renovation project and where it occurred. In poorer, Tier 1 and Tier 2 counties and for projects under \$10 million, the higher percentage would apply. A previous state historic tax credit, worth up to 30 percent of a project's value, expired on Dec. 31.	✓	Passed Cross Over	(House) 3/4/15 Filed; 3/5/15 Passed 1st Reading; 3/25/15 Passed 2nd Reading; 3/26/15 Passed 3rd Reading; (Senate) 3/30/15 Regular Message Received From House; Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Ways & Means
	<a href="#">S202 Reenact Preservation Rehab Tax Credits.</a>		This bill reenacts the Rehabilitation Tax Credits.			(Senate) 3/9/15 Filed; 3/10/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 3/18/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref Com On Finance

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<b>Film Grant Fund</b>	<a href="#">H171/ S193 Modify Film Grant Fund.</a>		H171/ S193 would put \$66 million toward the state's film incentive grants established last year in lieu of a film and TV production tax credit. That program has \$10 million currently appropriated to it.	✓		(House) 3/5/15 Filed; 3/9/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Finance; (Senate) 3/5/15 Filed; 3/9/15 Passed 1st Reading; 3/9/15 Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 3/18/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref to Commerce. If fav, re-ref to Appropriations/Base Budget
	<a href="#">S204 Reenact Film Credit.</a>		This bill reenacts the Film Tax Credit.			(Senate) 3/9/15 Filed; 3/10/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 3/18/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref Com On Finance
	<a href="#">S472 Local Incentives for Historic Rehabilitation.</a>					(Senate) 3/25/15 Filed; 3/26/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 3/30/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref to State and Local Government. If fav, re-ref to Finance; 4/21/15 Reptd Fav; Re-ref Com On Finance
<b>State Budget</b>	<a href="#">H940 2015 Governor's Budget.</a>					(House) 4/16/15 Filed; 4/20/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Appropriations
<b>Renewable Energy Credit</b>	<a href="#">S329 Econ. Dev./Renewable Energy Credit.</a>					(Senate) 3/18/15 Filed; 3/19/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
<b>Land Tax Deferral</b>	<a href="#">H418 Displaced Residential Land Tax Deferral.</a>					(House) 3/31/15 Filed; 4/1/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Finance

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<b>Medical Cannabis</b>	<a href="#">H78 Enact Medical Cannabis Act.</a>				Did Not Pass Cross Over	(House) 2/11/15 Filed; 2/16/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Judiciary I, if favorable, Health, if favorable, Regulatory Reform; 3/9/15 Serial Referral To Finance Added; Serial Referral To Appropriations Added; Serial Referral To Appropriations Added; 3/25/15 <b>Reptd Unfav</b>
	<a href="#">H317 Medical Marijuana for Terminally Ill Patients.</a>					(House) 03/19/15 Filed; 3/23/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Judiciary I, if favorable, Health, if favorable, Regulatory Reform
<b>Tips/Wages for Service Workers</b>	<a href="#">S710 Service Worker Tax Reduction Action.</a>					(Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
<b>Brewery Limits</b>	<a href="#">H278 Increase Small Brewery Limits.</a>					(House) 3/18/15 Filed; 3/19/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Alcoholic Beverage Control
	<a href="#">H625 Brewery Law Revisions.</a>					(House) 4/9/15 Filed; 4/14/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Alcoholic Beverage Control, if favorable, Finance; Serial Referral To Finance Stricken
<b>Liquor Sales</b>	<a href="#">S171/ H178 Spirituous Liquor Tastings/ABC Stores.</a>		This bill allows spirituous liquor tastings at ABC Stores.			(Senate) 3/4/15 Filed; 3/5/15 Held As Filed; (House) 3/9/15 Filed; 3/10/15 Passed 1st Reading; 3/10/15 Ref To Com On Alcoholic Beverage Control
	<a href="#">H107/ S24 Liquor Sales - Permitted Distilleries.</a>		This bill provides distillery permit holders with the authority to sell spirituous liquor distilled on premises to visitors of the distillery for consumption off the premises and to expand the list of places at which free spirituous liquor tastings may be held.			(House) 2/24/15 Filed; 2/27/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Alcoholic Beverage Control, if favorable, Finance; (Senate) 2/3/15 Filed; 2/4/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate

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**Advocacy Principle: City Services**

*The City of Asheville, which provides high quality services to meet the dynamic needs of its residents, requires adequate authority and flexibility to finance, operate, and manage these services.*

Policy Issue	Bills	Monitor	Bill Notes	Legislative Agenda	Cross Over	Status
Parking Meters	<a href="#">H43/ S8 Winston-Salem/Parking Meters.</a>		This bill allows parking meters in Winston-Salem to be activated by coins, tokens, cash, credit cards, debit cards, or electronic means. The Asheville City Council requested similar state-wide authority through its Legislative Agenda.	✓	Passed Cross Over	(House) 2/3/15 Filed; 2/5/15 Passed 1st Reading; 3/10/15 Passed 2nd Reading; Passed 3rd Reading; (Senate) 3/11/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
	<a href="#">S52 Cities/Means For Activating Parking Meters.</a>		This bill allows parking meters to be activated by coins, tokens, cash, credit cards, debit cards, or electronic means. The Asheville City Council requested this state-wide authority through its Legislative Agenda.	✓	Passed Cross Over	(Senate) 2/11/15 Passed 1st Reading; 4/1/15 Passed 2nd Reading; Passed 3rd Reading; (House) 4/6/15 Passed 1st Reading; 4/6/15 Ref To Com On Local Government
Utility Rates	<a href="#">H351 Clarify Utility Rates.</a>					(House) 3/25/15 Filed; 3/26/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Public Utilities; 3/30/15 Serial Referral To Finance Added; 4/1/15 Reptd Fav Com Substitute; 4/1/15 House Re-ref Com On Finance
Water Services	<a href="#">S547 Interconnection of Public Water Systems.</a>		S547 allows the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources to require local water systems to interconnect with nearby systems, as a permit condition for system construction or alteration.			(Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 4/6/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref to State and Local Government. If fav, re-ref to Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources; 4/21/15 Reptd Fav Com Substitute; Com Substitute Adopted; Re-ref Com On Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources
	<a href="#">H874 Cities/Availability Charge/Improved Property</a>					(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Local Government, if favorable, Finance
Public Records	<a href="#">S553 Public Records/Access for NC Citizens Only.</a>					(Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
	<a href="#">S633 State and Local Gov. Transparency Act.</a>		S633 requires posting of an extensive amount of information related to operations of local governments that maintain a website, including, among other items: budget and financial audit information, procedures for public records requests, employee salaries, contracts with registered lobbyists, detailed list of all taxes and fees imposed, detailed lists of expenditures, and reports of all incentives; failure to comply with this statute would constitute a denial of access to public records.			(Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
	<a href="#">H499 Study/Public Records &amp; Open Meetings.</a>					(House) 4/1/15 Filed; 4/2/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

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<b>Back Up PSAPs</b>	<a href="#">H512 Amend/Clarify Back-Up PSAP Requirements.</a>					(House) 4/1/15 Filed; 4/2/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Local Government
<b>Body Cameras</b>	<a href="#">H537 Protect Law Enforcement &amp; Comm. Relationships.</a>		This act would require law enforcement officers wear body-worn cameras during certain interactions with the public, would establish video retention guidelines, and creak a \$5 million dollar nonrecurring matching grant fund with a maximize allocation of \$100k.			(House) 4/1/15 Filed; 4/6/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Appropriations
	<a href="#">H395 Body and Dashboard Cameras/Law Enforcement.</a>					(House) 3/30/15 Filed; 3/31/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Appropriations
	<a href="#">H713 Body &amp; Dash Cam Recording/Public Access.</a>				Passed Cross Over	(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Judiciary I; 4/22/15 Reptd Fav Com; Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b); Added to Calendar; Withdrawn From Cal; Postponed To 4/23/15; 4/23/15; Passed 2nd Reading; Passed 3rd Reading; Regular Message Sent To Senate
	<a href="#">H811 Law Enforcement Body-Worn Camera/Study.</a>					(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House; 4/22/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref Com On Judiciary I
<b>Criminal Records for Public Employment</b>	<a href="#">H605 Reduce Unfair Barriers to Public Employment.</a>					(House) 4/9/15 Filed; 4/13/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Judiciary I, if favorable, State Personnel, if favorable, Commerce and Job Development
	<a href="#">H612 "Ban the Box".</a>					(House) 4/9/15 Filed; 4/13/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Judiciary I, if favorable, State Personnel, if favorable, Commerce and Job Development
<b>Fireworks</b>	<a href="#">H367 NC Consumer Fireworks Safety Act.</a>		H367 would legalize all 1.4g fireworks. Though a city may opt out under one section, unregulated fireworks could be brought into the city to discharge.			(House) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Regulatory Reform, if favorable, Finance
<b>Provision of Services</b>	<a href="#">H348/ S550 NC Religious Freedom Restoration Act.</a>		H 348/ S550 establishes new legal standards for measuring whether the actions of State and local governments burden the exercise of religion.			(House) 3/24/15 Filed; 3/26/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Judiciary I; Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref Com On Judiciary IV; (Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate

**North Carolina General Assembly Legislation with Potential Impact on the City of Asheville Budget - 2015 Regular Session - Updated 4/27/15**

**Advocacy Principle: Community Standards**

*Asheville, the largest city in Western North Carolina, is nationally known for its natural beauty, rich architectural legacy, and entrepreneurial energy. In order to promote economic vitality in a manner that maintains the unique features that make our community a desirable place to live, work, and play, municipalities and local officials need to be enabled with the tools and authority to make local decisions.*

Policy Issue	Bills	Monitor	Bill Notes	Legislative Agenda	Cross Over	Status
<b>Planning and Zoning</b>	<a href="#">S617 Local Government Reg. Reform.</a>		S617 addresses complications created by a recent court decision that placed infeasible requirements on local government finance officers for pre-audit certifications of all disbursements; allows owners of property that is partially in a county and partially in a municipality to choose which government's development ordinances would apply to development of the entire tract; requires local governments that provide electric vehicle charging stations to charge user fees to recoup costs; requires a supermajority when the N.C. Board of Transportation takes a vote to approve reduction of travel lanes for state roads within municipalities to accommodate bike travel lanes; permits local governments to lease property for the purposes of telecommunications towers for a period of up to 25 years without treating the lease as a sale; among other provisions, restricts city and county authority to require compliance with State rules or regulations that were deemed voluntary, regulate hospital or free-standing emergency room signage, regulate ownership or possession of five or fewer beehives			(Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 4/20/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref to Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources. If fav, re-ref to Finance
	<a href="#">H548 Zoning/Modernize &amp; Reorganize.</a>					(House) 4/2/15 Filed; Rules Suspended; Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Judiciary IV
	<a href="#">H483 Land Use Regulatory Changes.</a>					(House) 4/1/15 Filed; 4/2/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Judiciary II
	<a href="#">H721 Subdivision Ordinance/Land Develop. Changes.</a>					Passed Cross Over (House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Judiciary IV; 4/22/15 Reptd Fav Com Substitute; Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b); Added to Calendar; Passed 2nd Reading; Passed 3rd Reading; 4/23/15; Regular Message Sent To Senate; Regular Message Received From House; Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
<b>Building Code and Inspections</b>	<a href="#">H255/ S324 Building Code Reg. Reform.</a>		The House this week gave its approval to legislation that would affect how building inspectors go about their jobs, but only after one provision that could have threatened public safety and created building code compliance issues was removed. Representative Brody agreed to drop a provision that would have eliminated authority to conduct plan review for residential construction prior to the start of construction.		Passed Cross Over	(House) 3/18/2015 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Regulatory Reform; 3/31/15 Reptd Fav Com Substitute; 3/31/15 Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b); 4/1/15 Withdrawn From Cal; Re-ref Com On Finance; 4/14/15 Reptd Fav Com Sub; Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b); Amend Adopted; Amend Adopted; Amend Adopted; Passed 2nd Reading; Passed 3rd Reading; Ordered Engrossed; 4/15/15 Regular Message Sent To Senate; (Senate) 4/15/15 Regular Message Received From House; Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
	<a href="#">H530/ S442 Local Gov'ts/Inspect. Bldgs &amp; Structures.</a>					(House) 4/1/15 Filed; 4/2/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Local Government, if favorable, Regulatory Reform; 4/16/15 Reptd Fav; Re-ref Com On Regulatory Reform (Senate) 3/25/15 Filed; 3/26/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate

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<b>Graffiti Penalties</b>	<a href="#">H552 Graffiti Vandalism.</a>		Would make the act of graffiti vandalism a Class I felony if either of the following applies: 1) The cost to repair damage caused by the violation is in excess of \$1,000. 2) The person has 2 or more prior convictions. If a person is convicted of 5 or more violations in a single session of district court or in a single week of superior court, and at least 5 of the offenses occurred within a 60-day period, the court shall consolidate the offenses for judgment and the consolidated offenses shall be punishable as a Class I felony.	✓	Passed Cross Over	(House) 4/2/15 Filed; 4/6/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Judiciary II, if favorable, Finance; 4/15/15 Serial Referral To Finance Stricken; Reptd Fav Com Substitute; Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b); Added to Calendar; Amend Adopted A1; Passed 2nd Reading; Passed 3rd Reading; Ordered Engrossed; 4/16/15 Regular Message Sent To Senate; (Senate) 4/16/15 Regular Message Received From House; Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate	
	<a href="#">H626 Amend Prop Damage Offenses.</a>						(House) 4/9/15 Filed; 4/14/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Judiciary II
<b>Short Term Rentals</b>	<a href="#">H379 Simplify OT Collection by Intermediaries.</a>		H379 requires STRs to pay sales and occupancy tax and requires state registration if advertised on website.				(House) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Finance
	<a href="#">H781 Vacation Rental Act Changes.</a>						(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Finance
<b>Protest Petitions</b>	<a href="#">S285 Zoning/Protest Petition Changes.</a>		This bill will alter qualification requirements for zoning protest petitions.				(Senate) 3/12/15 Filed; 3/16/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
	<a href="#">S300 Zoning Changes/Majority Rule.</a>		This bill will restore majority rule to municipal zoning ordinance amendments by repeal of the qualified protest petition process.				(Senate) 3/17/15 Filed; 3/18/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
	<a href="#">H201 Zoning Changes/Citizen Input.</a>		This bill amends the process by which the city councils receive citizen input in zoning ordinance amendments.			Passed Cross Over	(House) 3/11/15 Passed 1st Reading; 3/19/15 Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b); 3/24/15 Amend Failed; Passed 2nd Reading; 3/25/15 Amend Adopted; Passed 3rd Reading; Ordered Engrossed; (Senate) 3/26/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate

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<b>Historic Preservation</b>	<a href="#">H799 Zoning/Changes to Hist. Preserv. Procedures.</a>					(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/15 Passed 1st Reading; House Ref to the Com on Local Government, if favorable, Judiciary II; 4/23/15 Reptd Fav Com Substitute; Re-ref Com On Judiciary II
<b>Regulatory Reform</b>	<a href="#">H760 Regulatory Reform Act of 2015.</a>					(House) 4/14/15 Filed; Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Environment, if favorable, Regulatory Reform; 4/16/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref Com On Regulatory Reform reform; 4/27/15 Reptd Fav Com Substitute; Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b)
	<a href="#">S453 Regulatory Reform Act of 2015.</a>		S453 contains provisions that would: change the burden of proof in contested cases such as those for water or wastewater permits; create a mechanism for entities subject to environmental regulations to conduct self-audits of those activities and receive privileges and immunities in return for self-reporting violations; abolish the Sedimentation Control Commission and transfer the Commission's current responsibilities to the regulatory Environmental Management Commission; direct a state agency study of current electronics recycling practices; and conform state brownfields laws to corresponding federal laws			(Senate) 3/25/15 Filed; 3/26/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 4/20/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref to Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources. If fav, re-ref to Finance
	<a href="#">H836 Local Government Regulatory Reform.</a>					(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Local Government, if favorable, Regulatory Reform; 4/22/15 Serial Referral To Regulatory Reform Stricken; 4/27/15 Reptd Fav Com Substitute; 4/27/15 Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b); Added to Calendar; Passed 2nd Reading
<b>Bill Boards</b>	<a href="#">H304/ S320 Revisions to Outdoor Advertising Laws.</a>		An Act to Increase Permit Fees for Outdoor Advertising, to Establish a Reasonable Timeframe for Making Agency Decisions Regarding Permits and Appeals, to Clarify the Standards for Determining Just Compensation in State and Local Government Eminent Domain Actions that Cause the Removal of Lawfully Erected Outdoor Advertising, to Clarify Provisions of the Outdoor Advertising Control Act, and to Promote Uniformity of Regulation and Modernization of Outdoor Advertising.			(House) 3/18/15 Filed; 3/19/15 Passed 1st Reading; 3/19/15 Ref to the Com on Commerce and Job Development, if favorable, Finance; (Senate) 3/17/15 Filed; 3/18/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate

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<b>Design and Aesthetic Controls</b>	<a href="#">H36/ S25 Zoning/Design and Aesthetic Controls.</a>		This legislation would prevent municipalities from imposing design and aesthetic controls on certain family dwellings, including exterior color, roof style, location of windows and doors, etc. Historic districts are exempted from this bill.	✓	Passed Cross Over	(House) 2/4/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Local Government; (Senate) 2/4/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 4/20/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref Com On Commerce; 4/23/15 Reptd Fav; 4/27/15 Passed 2nd Reading; Passed 3rd Reading
<b>Municipal Elections</b>	<a href="#">H402 Study Municipal Elections in Even Years.</a>				Passed Cross Over	(House) 3/31/15 Filed; 4/1/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Elections; 4/16/15 Reptd Fav; Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b); Added to Calendar; Passed 2nd Reading; Passed 3rd Reading; Regular Message Sent To Senate; 4/20/15 Regular Message Received From House; Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
	<a href="#">S650 Elections Transparency.</a>		S650 makes partisan all elections that are currently non-partisan, including municipal, school board, and judicial elections.			(Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
<b>Overgrown Vegetation Notice</b>	<a href="#">H44/ S53 Cities/Overgrown Vegetation Notice.</a>		This bill authorizes cities to provide annual notice to chronic violators of overgrown vegetation ordinances by regular mail and posting.		Passed Cross Over	(House) 2/3/15 Filed; 2/5/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Local Government, if favorable, Regulatory Reform; 3/9/15 Reptd Fav; 3/9/15 Re-ref Com On Regulatory Reform; 4/21/15 Reptd Fav; Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b); Added to Calendar; Passed 2nd Reading; Passed 3rd Reading; 4/22/15 Regular Message Sent To Senate; (Senate) 4/22/15 Regular Message Received From House; Passed 1st Reading Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate

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**Advocacy Principle: Environmental Stewardship**

*As a community committed to sustainability and environmental stewardship, Asheville needs adequate regulatory authority in order to maximize its partnership in environmental protection with state and federal agencies. As a city with a proud mountain heritage and identified as a destination for ecotourism and "green" industry, the Blue Ridge mountain region's natural beauty is recognized as a great benefit to the community. Environmental protection is essential to a high quality of life, cultural heritage, and economic development.*

Policy Issue	Bills	Monitor	Bill Notes	Legislative Agenda	Cross Over	Status	
<b>Hydraulic Fracturing</b>	<a href="#">H76/ S72 Disapprove MEC Oil and Gas Rules.</a>	  	This bill disapproves a rule adopted by the Mining and Energy Commission providing for management of oil or gas exploration and development.			(House) 2/12/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Commerce and Job Development, if favorable, Regulatory Reform, if favorable, Environment, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House; (Senate) 2/11/15 Filed; 2/12/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 3/9/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref to Commerce. If fav, re-ref to Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources	
	<a href="#">H172 Fracking-Protecting the Public.</a>	  	This bill requires the Environmental Management Commission, while working with the Mining and Energy Commission, to adopt rules establishing technical requirements and best management practices to minimize leaks and other unpermitted releases of air pollutants from activities and infrastructure associated with gas exploration, development, production, processing, and compression infrastructure.			(House) 3/9/15 Filed; 3/10/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Environment, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	
	<a href="#">H772 Protect NC Citizens From Compulsory Pooling.</a>	  					(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House
	<a href="#">H773 Fracking-Public Disclosure/Drilling Fluids.</a>	  					(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House
	<a href="#">H787 Additional Rqmts. for Fracking Operations.</a>	  					(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House
<b>Coal Ash Management</b>	<a href="#">H656 Amend Coal Ash Management Act of 2014.</a>	  		✓		(House) 4/13/15 Filed; 4/14/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	
	<a href="#">H732 No Recovery for Coal Ash Costs.</a>	  		✓		(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	
 = Consistent with City of Asheville Interests  = Monitor  = Potentially Inconsistent with City of Asheville Interests			 = Consistent with the Asheville City Council's Legislative Agenda  = Inconsistent with the Asheville City Council's Legislative Agenda				