



## **NORTH CAROLINA MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMISSION**

### **Minutes of the 3rd Quarter Legislative Affairs July 17, 2018** **Legislative Office Building, 300 N. Salisbury, Raleigh, NC**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Sally-Ann Gupta AR for Sen Harry Brown  
Rep George Cleveland  
Steve Ratti (by-phone)  
John Broome AR Senator John Bell

#### **ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES:**

Whitney Christensen, ACT  
Larry Hall, Secretary for DMVA (phone)  
Angella Dunston, DMVA (phone)  
Robert Johnson, DMVA  
Kelly Jackson, DMVA

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Chuck Allen  
ET Mitchell

#### **CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME REMARKS:**

Ms. Sally-Ann Gupta chaired today's meeting on behalf of Senator Brown, and called the meeting to order at 10:02 am. Ms. Gupta said that we did not have a quorum to approve the minutes from the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter committee meeting dated Jan 31, 2018. The committee will approve the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter minutes at the NCMAC meeting on Aug 21, 2018.

#### **NEW LEGISLATION:**

Sally-Ann Gupta shared a Legislative Update Brief hand out to the committee. See attached Legislative Update Brief. She talked about Senate Bill 99 which was the appropriations bill.

#### **Legislation Passed in the 2018 Short Session:**

- S99 Conference Committee Report – P.311/F-16 – Patriots Charity \$50,000 – The purpose of the Patriot's Charity is to raise funds to financially assist non-profit organizations and local programs within the Carolinas concerned with the immediate welfare, care and support of our wounded military and their families.
- S99 Conference Committee Report – P. 311/F-16 – Veterans Bridge Home \$75,000 – Veteran Bridge Home helps Charlotte – are Veterans successfully transition home after military service by identifying their education, employment and/or healthcare needs and connecting them to available community, state and federal resources.
- S99 Conference Committee Report – p. 314/F-19 - Coastal Veterans Cemetery \$57,382 – Provides federal funds and the required state match for improvements to the Coastal Carolina Veterans Cemetery. The Federal Grant is \$556,610 and the state allocated \$57,382 to obtain these funds.
- Senate Bill 99 – p.143/D-76 – Provides \$2 million (\$2,000,000) grant-in-aid support to the lift fan repair and maintenance facility at the Marine Corps Air State, Cherry Point.

**Minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Legislative Affairs Meeting**  
**Tuesday, July 17, 2018**  
**Page 2**

- S99 – p.27 – Section 7.18 (d) – amends G.S. 115C-407.5 Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military Children – PERMIT MILITARY CHILDREN TO ENROLL PRIOR TO RESIDENCY IN NORTH CAROLINA. Allows military children the opportunity to enroll in classes before residing in the state. Previously military children could not enroll therefore missing out on educational and extracurricular activities. Effective January 1, 2019.
- S99 – p. 161 – Section 19.3(a) – SECTION 19.3 (b) Section 19.1 of S.L. 2017-57 is amended by adding a new subsection to read as follow: “SECTION 19.1. (f1) The Department shall pay expenses authorized by subsection (f) of this section and approved by the North Carolina Military Affairs Commission within 30 days of receiving a request from the Commission that payment be made. Notwithstanding the 30-day time period provided for in this subsection, the Department shall make payment on a contract or grant awarded by the Commission no later than the date payment is due according to the terms of the contract or grant, and the Commission shall not be required to request that the Department make the contract or grant payment. The chair may authorize a member of the Commission’s Executive Steering Group or another representative to make a request for payment. Upon request of a request for payment, the Department shall issue written acknowledgement of the request to the Commission or duly authorized representative and shall, once payment has been made, provide proof of payment to the Commission or duly authorized representative. “
- S99 – p. 161 – SECTION 19.3. (d) G.S. 143B-1311 reads as rewritten: 143B-1311. Membership. (f) The Chair of the Commission shall be appointed by the Governor from the voting members of the Commission. A member of the General Assembly who is appointed to the Commission shall not vote on matters that expend funds appropriated by the General Assembly. ....”
- S99 – p. 1221 – AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND FARMLAND PRESERVATION TRUST FUND SECTION 12.4. Funds appropriated by this act to the North Caroling Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund Shall be used by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in a manner that maximizes eligibility of the Fund for additional funding from federal and local governments as well as private funding sources.
  - The Conference Committee Report showed additional recurring and nonrecurring funding for the Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund (ADFPTF) SPECIAL FUND. The revised net appropriate for ADFPTF is \$4.3 million recurring (which includes a new additional \$1.7M recurring) and \$13 million nonrecurring for FY2018-19.

**Technical Corrections Made in the 2018 Short Session:**

- S335 (SL 2018-97) – p.19 “TRANSFER ADDITIONAL FUNDS FROM ESCHEATS FUND FOR VA SCHOLARSHIPS Senate Bill 335 – Ratified Page 19 “ SECTION 21.2. The Department of State Treasurer shall transfer to the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs the sum of two million four hundred thousand dollars (\$2,400,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2018-2019 fiscal year from the Escheats Fund for scholarships for the children of veterans. These funds are hereby appropriated. “
- S335 – P.19 – “PROVIDE GRANT-IN-AID TO VETERANS LIFE HOME” SECTOPM 19.4. Notwithstanding G.S. 143B-1293(b), the sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) in nonrecurring funds for 2018-2019 fiscal year is transferred from the North Carolina Veterans

**Minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Legislative Affairs Meeting**  
**Tuesday, July 17, 2018**  
**Page 3**

Home Trust Fund to the Office of State Budget and Management to provide a grant-in-aid to The Veterans Leadership Council of North Carolina-Cares to be used for the Veterans Life Center in Butner. To the extent any of the funds described in this section are deemed unappropriated, the funds are appropriated for the purpose set forth in this section.”

- S335 – P. 24 – “SECTION 36.7. (d) The General Assembly authorizes the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs to fund the construction of two new State veterans homes located in the Triangle and Triad Regions with funds available to it from the North Carolina Veterans Home Trust Fund established under G.S.1438-1293 in an amount not to exceed twenty-seven million two hundred twenty-three thousand five hundred sixty dollars (\$27,223,560). The funds shall be used to provide the required State match for federal funding of the veterans home construction projects, and the matching funds and any federal dollars received for that purpose are hereby appropriated.
- S335 – P. 24 – “SECTION 36.7. (g) The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (hereinafter “Department”) is authorized to apply for federal funds for the expansion of Sandhills State Veterans Cemetery and Western Carolina State Veterans Cemetery to make site improvements at the cemeteries. The Department is authorized to use the fund balance from Budget Code 23050 and any other funds available to the Department, up to eight hundred seventy-four thousand fifty-three dollars (\$874,053) for the required ten percent (10%) match for this grant, and the funds are hereby appropriated for that purpose.”

June 6<sup>th</sup> 2018 North Carolina General Assembly Military and Host Community Appreciation Day.

- Location: Raleigh, General Assembly
- Mission Statement – This is a day to honor NC military and in particular, our host communities. Our host communities lead the charge on the ground to make NC the most military friendly state in the nation. They work to ensure that service members and their families feel welcomed and appreciated in their communities, and work to preserve and grow the economic and cultural ties between the community and installation. On this day, we are honoring the individuals who selflessly volunteer their time to work with their local Military Affairs Committees and to ensure that the military installations in their communities enjoy broad support for all the years to come.
- Participants: Civilian community members of Military Affairs Committees from Jacksonville, New Bern, Havelock, Fayetteville, Goldsboro and Elizabeth City. Officers representing our major installations – Marine Corps Camp Lejeune, Army Fort Bragg, Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, Coast Guard Air Station Elizabeth City, and Coast Guard’s Sector Wilmington.

Sally-Ann Gupta said that this was a great event. We hosted delegations from the local Military Affairs committees or commissions. There were also officers from each installation that attended. They were all recognized on the Senate floor by name for their attendance. Secretary Hall also spoke that day. There was a lot of great spirit in the room and committee. We thought it was important to recognize the military communities who are on the ground. They make these service members that transition into these communities and their families feel welcome and absorb them into their communities every day. Steve Ratti said that he saw the pictures and the write up on the event and thought that it is very valuable. He asked if this type of event would reside with the Legislative

**Minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Legislative Affairs Meeting**  
**Tuesday, July 17, 2018**  
**Page 4**

Affairs Committee and do they plan to have more of these events in the future? Sally-Ann Gupta said that she had not had that conversation with Senator Brown. Whitney Christensen thanked Sally-Ann Gupta for her hard work on this successful event.

**DISCUSSION/QUESTIONS:**

No discussion or questions

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Sally-Ann Gupta invited all participants to introduce themselves. Sally-Ann Gupta requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Rep George Cleveland made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Steve Ratti and passed with a unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 10:20.