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# SSPBA Legislative Crossover Update

**2025-2026 Long Session**

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## Gabe Torres Act (H363)

### Bill Sponsors:

#### House:

Sarah Crawford, Erin Pare, James Roberson, Jeff Zenger

#### Bill Recap:

A law enforcement officer in Raleigh was heading to work in uniform and lost his life while responding to an 'off-duty' call. Due to a loophole in current law, the officer's family was not eligible for death benefits. This legislation would fix the loophole and ensure families have the support they need.

#### Bill Status:

This legislation passed the North Carolina House 116-0 and is currently in Senate Rules.



Mrs. Torres with Sebastian King (NCPBA Lobbyist), David Rose (NCPBA Division President), John Midgette( NCPBA Executive Director)

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## Giglio Reform (H704)

### Bill Sponsors:

#### House:

Hugh Blackwell, Carson Smith, Dudley Greene

#### Senate:

Buck Newton, Warren Daniel and Danny Britt/Amy Galey/Benton Sawrey

#### Bill Recap:

This legislation is aimed at addressing the due process issues law enforcement officers face from Giglio Letters and the Giglio database that was established from SB 300. NCPBA team is working on due process with District Attorneys before giglio letters are written and before an officer is placed on a database.

A compromise was worked out between our team and the Conference of District Attorneys to eliminate the database for law enforcement officers but no due process before a giglio letter is issued. This compromise was solely to ensure the bill went from the House to the Senate for further negotiations. Our team is committed to ensuring due process is established before any letter is sent from a district attorney incriminating the reputation of a law enforcement officer.

Forsyth - Buncombe County

#### Bill Status:

This legislation passed the North Carolina House 91-25 and is currently in Senate Rules.

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## Civil Service Board Local Bill

### Bill Sponsors

House: Jeff Zenger, Jon Hardister, Kyle Hall

### Bill Recap:

This legislation would ensure that a manager is unable to fire city employees without just cause. Too many law enforcement officers have been fired in anti-law enforcement cities across North Carolina and this would put an end to the municipal overreach of city managers and ensure fair firing processes for municipal employees.

### Bill Status:

This legislation passed the North Carolina General Assembly and is now law.

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## PTSD Support for First Responders (H523)

### Bill Sponsors:

#### House:

Erin Pare, Chesser, Grant Campbell, Reeder

#### Senate:

Dana Caldwell Jones, Ashlee Adams, Vickie Sawyer/Kevin Corbin

#### Bill Recap:

This legislation is aimed at addressing the issues first responders deal with everyday. PTSD is a real issue and this legislation would aim at providing support for law enforcement officers that need help the most.

Funding DPS program - \$1million dollar allocation

Starting a fund for law enforcement or change to the current fund that is out there.

#### Bill Status:

While this legislation did not make it out of committee, our legislative team is working with Health Chair representatives to ensure it is funded in the conference report. The Department of Public Safety currently have PTSD support for first responders, and our legislative team is working to increase funding in the budget to expand coverage for SSPBA members.

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## **Seat On Training and Standards (House Bill 214/ S161)**

Bill Sponsors:

Senate: Jarvis, Johnson and Hise

House: Riddell, Ross, Faircloth, Jake Johnson

Bill Recap:

This legislation would add a permanent seat on the Training and Standards Commission for the PBA and FOP. This would ensure that rank-and-file law enforcement officers have a voice on the training and standards that North Carolina adopts.

The PBA has had a voice on this commission for the past 6 years and have advocated for rank-and-file members and helped leadership in the state understand the day-to-day issues law enforcement officers encounter.

Bill Status:

This legislation passed the NC House Judiciary 3 committee but was not taken into consideration by NC Rules. Our legislative team is working with the Speaker of the House to move the legislation in other ways.

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## 25 Year Retirement

### Bill Sponsors:

Senate: Paul Newton, Brad Overcash, Buck Newton

House: Zenger, Pare, **Chester**, Cotham

### Bill Recap:

This legislation would ensure law enforcement officers were protected from being punished for reporting misconduct observed in the line of duty. This would create a more transparent police force and help with public confidence and trust. This legislation is similar to the legislation that protects state employees and state troopers.

### Bill Status:

This legislation passed the NC House Judiciary 3 committee but was not taken into consideration by NC Rules. Our legislative team is working with bill sponsors and the Speaker of the House to move the legislation in other ways.

Will serve letter - the lines are on the boundaries & public right away.

After they were rezoned (tripled the tax bill) & then after closing they did not give any certainty on sewer.

COLA for a couple of years..

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## Whistleblower Protection