



LEGISLATIVE BRIEF: ANNEXATION

Municipal annexation has become an issue to a number of county commissioners across the state. The Association Board of Directors responded by endorsing a series of recommendations developed by county commissioners in underlying policy committees – including the call for a moratorium on the initiation of new involuntary municipal annexations, and the creation of a legislative study. The intent is to create a situation where municipal annexation policy can be meaningfully discussed, and the statutes can be updated as needed.

Meanwhile, the House Select Committee on Municipal Annexation endorsed a bill that would establish a moratorium on municipal involuntary annexation activity (H2367 – Reps. Bruce Goforth, Paul Luebke, Nelson Dollar and Fred Steen). The legislation, which has been referred to the House Finance Committee, prevents the initiation of new involuntary annexations and the passage of annexation ordinances at the end of the annexation process until June 30, 2009.

Status: It remains to be seen what action, if any, the House will take on HB 2367. The Senate does not have any pending legislation related to involuntary annexation, or annexation generally.

Key players: Sponsors of H2367

Rep. Bruce Goforth (Buncombe) – 1220 Legislative Building; (919) 733-5746

Rep. Paul Luebke (Durham) – 529 Legislative Office Building; (919) 733-7663

Rep. Nelson Dollar (Wake) – 1209 Legislative Building; (919) 715-0795

Rep. Fred Steen (Rowan) – 514 Legislative Office Building; (919) 733-5881

Action needed: Talk with House members about the possibility of a balanced conversation concerning the municipal annexation laws.