

Gov. Perdue signs public safety bills into law

Gov. Bev Perdue signed four bills this week to create safer communities and reduce crime.



"Resetting government to better protect the public and to strengthen the way we rehabilitate criminals has been one of my top priorities since day one of my administration," said Gov. Perdue. "Getting these bills passed has been a true bipartisan effort. Overall, they make innovative and sensible changes to the way our justice system operates. All four of these bills are examples of government at its best – working for the people of North Carolina to make our streets and communities safer."

House Bill 49 – Laura's Law creates harsher punishment for repeat DWI offenders. The bill was named after 17-year-old Laura Fortenberry who was killed last July by a driver who had three previous drunk driving convictions.

House Bill 642 – Justice Reinvestment Act strengthens current probation laws and increases penalties for

habitual felons. The law also expands the scope of felony drug treatment programs offered by the state.

Senate Bill 268 – Enhance Protection of Victims and Witnesses enhances protection for victims and witnesses by increasing the criminal penalty for intimidating or interfering with a witness.

Senate Bill 449 - Task Force on Fraud against Older Adults creates a task force that protects older adults against fraud.

Gov. Perdue is working through a stack of some 200 bills sent to her desk when the General Assembly adjourned. On Thursday and Friday, she took action on 117 of those bills. [To download a list, click here.](#)

Compass Group to create 200 jobs

Gov. Bev Perdue announced today that Compass Group USA, Inc., a hospitality and support services company will move some corporate jobs from several regional headquarter operations to Charlotte.

The company plans to create 200 jobs over the next four years with an \$8.5 million capital investment in Charlotte. The project was made possible in part by a state grant from the Job Development Investment Grant program.

"Compass Group PLC is the 17th largest employer in the world," Gov. Perdue said. "The fact that international corporations, which clearly have a choice as to where they do business, continue to bring these kinds of projects to North Carolina proves that our investment in education and job training is paying off."

Compass Group USA and its subsidiaries provide dining and support services to corporate clients, educational and healthcare facilities, and sports and entertainment venues in the United States, and Canada. Compass Group USA is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Compass Group PLC, which is based in London and traded on the London Stock Exchange. Compass Group PLC employs over 428,000 associates worldwide and currently employs more than 1,000 people in its Charlotte headquarters.

While individual wages for the 200 jobs will vary by job function, the overall average for the new jobs will be \$52,500 a year, not including benefits. The Mecklenburg County average annual wage is \$51,584.

Governor's Schedule for the week

Monday, June 27

Speak at Southern Regional Education Board Meeting, Pinehurst

Tuesday, June 28

Speak at Western Region Education Service Alliance's Annual Conference, Asheville

Staff meetings

Office Time

Wednesday, June 29

National Guard Pinning Ceremony, Raleigh

Thursday, June 30

Staff meetings

Office Time

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