Newsletter and Legislative Update:

PENC Members:

As PENC continues to transition, there are several changes we want communicate to continue to bring the membership up to speed on. Last week, we re-launched this newsletter format and legislative update by introducing you to our new lobbyist, Laurie Onorio.

Today I would like to touch base on a couple of more informational topics:

- As an organization, PENC now is working with FirstPoint Management Resources (FPMR) to assist with the administrative aspects of operating PENC.
  - FPMR, has been a partner with volunteer-led organizations who desire professional high-quality management. FPMR will be providing PENC with operational support. FPMR is firmly committed to helping volunteer-led organizations and was a Charter Accredited Association Management Company by the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE).
  - We introduced you to Teri Saylor who will now be the main, daily point of contact at the PENC office. Teri is dedicated to serving PENC; however, she is in fact a FPMR employee.
  - We would also like to introduce one more key partner to our team - Ellen Gioielli, who is the Director of Finance/General Manager. Ellen has over 15 years of experience in corporate accounting and non-profit organizations with extensive background in general ledger accounting, payroll, budgeting and information management. She also has extensive business experience specific to organization operations of volunteer-led organizations. She has been a resident of Raleigh North Carolina for over 20 years and holds a Bachelor’s degree in Business from Adelphi University.
- Regarding the legislative update, there is a lot going on. There are links in the update to below to listen in on committee discussions. I would encourage members to listen in.
- And lastly, as a reminder, The PENC summer conference is June 18-20 at the Marriott Resort and Spa at Grande Dunes in Myrtle Beach. Please go to www.penc.org to register for the conference.

Legislative Update:

Last week lawmakers spent long hours hearing and voting on bills required to pass in the originating chamber in order to remain eligible for consideration for the remainder of the biennial session. Through the full-days of committee meetings and legislative sessions, over 200 bills were added to the list of bills that were successfully in passing crossover. The House ended Wednesday’s session at midnight before reconvening for Thursday’s session at 12:30am. Final adjournment for the week occurred about 2:30am. The Senate concluded its business for the
week on Thursday morning around 10:00am. Among the bills that saw action was a House Regulatory Reform package and State Environmental Policy Act Reform bill. We are closely following these, and many other bills that remain before the legislature that affect PENC members.

This week the House is working to finalizing its budget proposal which leaders are hoping to have passed out of the House by May 15th. House leaders and appropriations committees will spend most of their time discussing the budget over the next two weeks as they work to pass the bill and send it to the Senate. Senate leaders are working on their own budget proposal as well, but will release their ideas once the House budget is officially received in the Senate.

In addition to budget work this week, the House Transportation Committee will discuss H927, Reestablish NC as the “Good Roads State” on Tuesday at 12:00pm. If you’d like to listen online to the discussion, you can do so by clicking this link and selecting the link for the ‘Appropriations Committee Room (Rm 643). Additionally, we’ll continue to analyze H760, Regulatory Reform Act of 2015 and talk to lawmakers about the different sections and implications for engineers. Changes were made to the bill on Wednesday and the bill will be discussed again on the House floor on Tuesday before it is expected to head to the Senate.

Your PENC lobbyist, Executive Committee and Action Groups continue to work hard to analyze, track and guide lawmakers on the various bills that affect PEs across the state.

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