February 3, 2009

H 48. LINE-ITEM VETO. Filed 2/3/09. TO AMEND THE NORTH CAROLINA CONSTITUTION TO GRANT THE GOVERNOR A LINE-ITEM VETO OF APPROPRIATIONS ITEMS.

Subject to approval by the voters at the next statewide election, primary or otherwise, enacts a new Section 22 of Article II of the North Carolina Constitution, effective upon certification by the Board of Elections to the Secretary of State and applicable to all bills ratified after that date, to allow the Governor to disapprove, on a separate basis, any item or items of appropriations embracing distinct items when the Governor does not return the entire bill with objections. The remaining approved parts become law, notwithstanding rules and limitations for passing a bill over the Governor's objections. Provides consistency in the rules for returning bills and requires the Governor to state the item or items disapproved in writing, including the reasons for the objection. Prohibits the Governor from objecting to the appropriation without also objecting to the condition or limitation, and vice versa. Provides that if more than one item is objected to in a bill, the General Assembly may reconsider them separately or together.

Intro. by Blust. CONST