

March 18, 2009

**S 653. EXCUSE GOVERNING BODY FROM VOTING.** Filed 3/18/09. *TO ALLOW A MEMBER OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF A MUNICIPALITY TO BE EXCUSED FROM VOTING WHEN THE MEMBER HAS A CONFLICT OF INTEREST.*

Amends GS 160A-75 to allow a member of a city's governing board to be excused from voting on matters for which the member believes he or she has a conflict of interest, even if a conflict of interest does not in fact exist.

**Intro. by Rucho.**

GS 160A

July 29, 2009

**S 653. CITIES - DO NOT AUTOMATICALLY COUNT VOTE (NEW).** Filed 3/18/09. House committee substitute makes the following changes to 1st edition. Deletes proposed language in GS 160A-75 allowing a city council member to be excused from voting on matters which the member believes there is a conflict of interest even if the conflict of interest does not in fact exist. Instead, removes existing language in GS 160A-75, which provided that a failure to vote for a reason other than permitted by the statute by a member who is physically present in the council chamber, or who has withdrawn without being excused by majority vote of the remaining members present, must be recorded as an affirmative vote.

Requires the NC League of Municipalities, NC Association of County Commissioners, and the NC School Boards Association, with the assistance of the School of Government at UNC-Chapel Hill, to study the issues of conflicts of interest for local elected officials and report any recommendations to the 2010 Regular Session by May 1, 2009.

Changes the effective date to October 1, 2009 (was, when the act becomes law).

Changes the title to *AN ACT TO NOT AUTOMATICALLY RECORD AN AYE VOTE FOR A MEMBER OF A CITY COUNCIL WHEN THAT MEMBER FAILS TO VOTE, SIMILAR TO VOTING BY BOARDS OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.*