

Things at the N.C. General Assembly were in slow motion this week. The pace of things during last week's rush to crossover was exhausting, and legislators were catching their breath this week. Only two matters of note:

SB 957 – Special Enrollment Period/Group Health Plans is up this morning in House Health. This bill has passed the Senate, and would create a special enrollment period in North Carolina's group health insurance law and would provide eligible individuals with the same continuation rights as under the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. It should emerge easily from House Health, and will then be re-referred to House Insurance before heading to the floor. I'll keep you posted as it progresses towards passage in the House.

SJR 376 – Honor Jim Long is on today's Senate calendar, and is being managed on the floor by Senator Tony Foriest (D-Graham). This Senate Joint Resolution would honor the life, work and memory of our late Insurance Commissioner.

The House is at work on the State budget, having receiving the Senate's version of the budget several weeks ago. The State's fiscal year ends on June 30, and the goal will be to have a completed budget in place by then.

That does it for now. Things will gradually get back up to speed, and I will keep you posted. Hope your Memorial Day weekend is a safe and happy one.