Berger, Moore Appoint Members to New Storm-Related River Debris Committee

Committee to study options for flood mitigation involving river debris removal, spillways

Raleigh, N.C. – Senate Leader Phil Berger (R-Rockingham) and state House Speaker Tim Moore (R-Cleveland) today announced appointees to the newly created Joint Select Committee on Storm-Related River Debris/Damage in North Carolina.

In a joint statement, Senator Berger and Speaker Moore said, "Hurricane Florence’s devastation makes it clear that we need to work in every direction to protect lives and property from future flooding. This committee’s work will be integral to the comprehensive resiliency planning that will take place over the coming years.”

The committee, consisting of eight members each from the House and Senate, will study the means of mitigating flood damage caused by extreme rainfall events. The options the committee will consider include increased efficiency in debris removal, flood control techniques such as spillways and other water redirection methods, and modifications to riverbed courses to lessen sediment accrual. The scope of the study will be river basins that experienced at least 10 inches of rainfall during Hurricane Florence. The committee will submit a report on its work by 2020.

Senator Berger appointed the following Senators to the new committee:

Senator Bill Rabon, Co-Chair (R-Bladen)
Senator Danny Britt (R-Robeson)
Senator Ben Clark (D-Cumberland)
Senator Michael Lee (R-New Hanover)
Senator Tom McInnis (R-Richmond)
Senator Norm Sanderson (R-Pamlico)
Senator Erica Smith (D-Northampton)
Senator Andy Wells (R-Catawba)

Speaker Moore appointed the following Representatives to the new committee:

Representative Brenden Jones (R-Columbus), Co-Chair
Representative Jimmy Dixon (R-Duplin)
Representative Pat McElraft (R-Carteret)
Representative Elmer Floyd (D-Cumberland)
Representative Charles Graham (D-Robeson)
Representative Holly Grange (R-New Hanover)
Representative Phil Shepard (R-Onslow)
Representative John Szoka (R-Cumberland)

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