

N.C. General Assembly Passes Budget

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The North Carolina General Assembly has passed the proposed \$19 billion budget.

WXII reports Governor Bev Perdue said she will reluctantly sign the budget into law despite the budget including higher taxes and reduced state services.

One of the most notable cuts is a \$225 million cut for public education from grades 4-12. Local officials will decide how to cut, but school officials will be in a bit of a pinch because the school year begins in less than a month.

The bill includes other cuts to education, health and human services, natural and economic resources, and justice and public safety.

According to the Raleigh News & Observer, taxes will also increase about \$990 million this year. The budget also includes an increase to several state-mandated fees.