



This Bill Analysis reflects the contents of the bill as it was presented in committee.

# HOUSE BILL 795: Open Amusement Parks/Arcades/Playgrounds.

2019-2020 General Assembly

<b>Committee:</b>	Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate	<b>Date:</b>	June 25, 2020
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Reps. Ross, Torbett, Szoka, Riddell	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Amy Darden
<b>Analysis of:</b>	PCS to First Edition H795-CSBB-38		Committee Counsel

**OVERVIEW:** *The PCS to House Bill 795 would remove the original language and would do the following:*

- *Authorize amusement parks and gaming and business establishments with video games and arcade games, existing on March 10, 2020, to open and resume operations, provided specific conditions are met.*
- *Authorize public parks to open, provided specific conditions are met.*

## CURRENT LAW and BACKGROUND:

- On March 10, 2020, by Executive Order No. 116, Governor Cooper declared a State of Emergency to address COVID-19.
- On March 23, 2020, under Executive Order No. 120, Governor Cooper ordered entertainment facilities without a retail or dining component to close at 5:00 p.m. on March 25, 2020. Gaming and business establishments with video games and arcade games and other entertainment facilities were among the businesses ordered to close. The Order was to remain in effect for 30 days.
- On April 23, 2020, Governor Cooper extended the restrictions in Executive Order No. 120 to remain in effect until 5:00 p.m. on May 8, 2020.
- On May 5, 2020, by Executive Order No. 138 (Phase One), Governor Cooper extended the closure of gaming and business establishments with video games and arcade games and other entertainment facilities until 5:00 p.m. on May 22, 2020.
- On May 20, 2020, through Executive Order No. 141 (Phase Two), Governor Cooper ordered amusement parks, gaming and business establishments with video games and arcade games, and venues for receptions or parties to remain closed until June 26th at 5:00 p.m.
- On June 24, 2020, through Executive Order No. 147, Governor Cooper extended Executive Order No. 141 until July 17, 2020.

## BILL ANALYSIS:

Amusement Parks and Businesses – Section 1 of the PCS would allow amusement parks and gaming and business establishments with video games and arcade games to open and resume operations if all the following conditions are met:

Karen Cochrane-Brown  
Director



Legislative Analysis  
Division  
919-733-2578

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- In existence on March 10, 2020, or had valid certificate of occupancy and business licensed issued by that date.
- Total capacity, excluding employees, limited to 50% of the fire capacity.
- Employees must answer a health questionnaire, have their temperature taken, and wear a face mask.
- Contactless check-in is available, with proper social distancing in the check-in area.
- Sanitation spray bottles, disinfectant wipes, and hand sanitizer comprised of at least 60% alcohol are available.
- Employees conduct frequent cleanings of high-touch areas and a deep cleaning of the entire establishment once per day.
- Social distancing of at least 6 feet for equipment and signage directing foot traffic.
- Signage throughout about social distancing and sanitation requirements.

Public Parks – Section 2 of the PCS would allow public parks to reopen provided the following conditions are met:

- The playground was in existence on March 10, 2020, or had valid certificate of occupancy or business licensed issued by that date.
- Total capacity limited to 50%.
- Visitors strongly encouraged to wear masks.
- The premises is deep cleaned once every 24 hours.
- Equipment is used in a manner to ensure social distancing.
- Signage is posted to remind visitors of social distancing and sanitation requirements and maintains social distancing requirements by the CDC and NC DHHS.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Sections 1 and 2 of the PCS are effective when it becomes law and expire when Executive Order No. 141, issued on May 20, 2020, is repealed, replaced, or rescinded. Except as otherwise provided, effective when it becomes law.