OVERVIEW: Section 12.23 of S.L. 2021-180 provides that if the Governor has not designated a chair of the North Carolina Mining Commission (Commission) by July 1 of the year following the expiration of the term of the previous chair, then the vice-chair must exercise the powers and duties of the chair until either the Governor designates a chair or upon the expiration of the vice-chair’s regularly appointed term, whichever comes first. Upon the expiration of the vice-chair’s regularly appointed term, the Commission must elect a vice-chair, who will exercise the powers and duties of the chair until the Governor designates a chair.

Notwithstanding the above, this section provides that if the Governor has not designated a chair from the current membership of the Commission by December 15, 2021, then the vice-chair must exercise the powers and duties of the chair until the Governor designates a chair or upon the expiration of the vice-chair's regularly appointed term, whichever comes first.

This section modifies the required qualifications for one of the ex officio, nonvoting members of the Commission—substituting the Chair of the North Carolina State University Minerals Research Laboratory Advisory Committee with the Executive Director of the North Carolina State University Minerals Research Laboratory, or the Executive Director's designee.

This section became effective July 1, 2021.