

General Assembly Session is Jan 11



Leaders at the NC General Assembly announced recently the 2023-2024 biennium will begin January 11 with a ceremonial swearing-in session of the 120-member House and 50-member Senate.

"The opening day is usually a day filled with pageantry, traditions, floor speeches, and acknowledgement of family, friends, and campaign supporters," said NCTIA lobbyist Skye David. "It's also a day when committee chairs receive their gavels, including for House and Senate Finance, committees we follow closely for NCTIA."

David said the General Assembly will begin in earnest on January 25 – the start of committee work and floor votes at General Assembly.

The start of the January session kicks off a new biennium and the main order of business is to craft a state budget.

NCTIA lobbyists optimistically predict the 2023 long session will end sometime in late July or early August.

Top Legislative Leaders Announced



Senate Pro Tem Phil Berger, Senate Democratic Leader Dan Blue, House Speaker Tim Moore, and House Democratic Leader Robert Reives

Meet the new boss, the same as the old boss.

With apologies to The Who, but the British band's 1971 classic rock lyrics – taken out of context – describes the top leadership in both chambers' caucuses in 2023: They're the same as the 2021-2022 biennium.

Last week, this e-newsletter reported that Senator Phil Berger (R-Rockingham) will serve a seventh term as Senate President Pro Tem, the Senate's top job.

Senator Berger's Democratic counterpart will once again be Senator Dan Blue (D-Wake), a former Speaker of the House, who entered the upper chamber in 2009. Senator Blue has served as the Senate Democratic Leader since 2014.

Over on the House side, Speaker Tim Moore (R-Cleveland) was renominated by his Republican colleagues to serve another term in the lower chamber's top job, a position he has held since 2015. Speaker Moore was first elected to the General Assembly in 2002.

Speaker Moore's Democratic counterpart will once again be Rep. Robert Reives (D-Chatham), who has held the House Democratic Leader position since 2021. He was first elected to the General Assembly in 2014.

Other key leadership positions in the General Assembly are as follows:

- Sen. Paul Newton (R-Cabarrus) Senate Majority Leader
- Rep. John Bell (R-Wayne) House Majority Leader
- Sen. Ralph Hise (R-Mitchell) Senate Deputy President Pro Tem
- Rep. Sarah Stevens (R-Surry) House Speaker Pro Tem
- Rep. Jason Saine (R-Lincoln) House Conference Chair
- Rep. Ashton Clemmons (D-Guilford) House Deputy Democratic Leader