

NCTIA Conference Registration Open

Registration for the [NCTIA Tourism Leadership Conference](#) on November 15-16 is now open. The conference will be held at the Westin Raleigh-Durham Airport.

Use this [hotlink](#) to register.

The two-day conference features sessions on artificial intelligence technology, tourism policy and politics, Visit NC marketing updates, and more.

"The NCTIA Tourism Leadership Conference also includes many opportunities to socialize and learn from each other in social settings," said NCTIA Executive Director Vince Chelena. "We look forward to seeing our members at this conference."

This year's annual gathering features an exclusive dinner where NCTIA members and influential state legislators convene for intimate conversations on tourism policy.

Following the dinner, a brief ceremony will follow for NCTIA to present the recipient(s) of the Tourism Legislator of the Year Award.

Participation in this event requires an additional fee of \$500 per person, with the proceeds earmarked to bolster NCTIA's public policy initiatives.

General Assembly on Pause for Now

While the budget is finally done and for the most part so is session.

However, the General Assembly has not technically adjourned for the year and according to NCTIA's sources, legislative leaders may not hit the final gavel until late October or even November.

"The General Assembly's main legislative work is on pause right now as they work on redistricting legislative and congressional maps for the 2024 elections," said NCTIA Lobbyist Skye David. "The redistricting process will take weeks to complete and it is being suggested that legislators will resume its regular work afterwards. We believe session will adjourn shortly thereafter and will return in the spring of 2024."

NCTIA Executive Director Vince Chelena said the 2024 legislative session has been a success for NCTIA, which included enactment of the [Hotel Safety Issues Act](#), a [movie deregulation bill](#), appropriations to the Tourism Education Foundation of NC, and no legislation enacted that harmed the summer calendar or occupancy tax.

"The icing on the cake for NCTIA would be the passage of [Senate Bill 527](#), a bill that would modernize so much of North Carolina's outdated alcohol laws," Chelena said. "Many NCTIA provisions are in [Senate Bill 527](#) and we remain hopeful the General Assembly will make passage of Senate Bill 527 a priority before adjournment this year."



As reported in this e-newsletter, [SB527](#) was on track for passage two weeks ago until the casino debate. With both chambers frustrated with each other, the House took Senate bills and parked them in the House Rules Committee. The Senate did the same to House bills.

With the casino-budget debate in the past, NCTIA lobbyists thought [SB527](#) would get the go-ahead last week, however the bill did not move out of the [House Rules Committee](#).

"Our lobbyists will keep us informed on how this develops," said Chelena.

Follow [NCTIA on X \(Twitter\)](#) for daily updates.