NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY



NORTH CAROLINA STATE GOVERNMENT RESOURCE GUIDE

Senator Joel D. M. Ford

District 38 - Mecklenburg County 2013-2014



North Carolina General Assembly Senate Chamber State Legislative Building Raleigh, NO 27601-2808

SENATOR JOEL D. M. FORD

38TH DISTRICT

OFFICE ADDRESS: STATE LEGISLATIVE BUILDING

16 W. JONES STREET, ROOM 1119

RALEIGH, NC 27601-2808

TELEPHONE:

(919) 733-5955 (919) 754-3254 FAX COMMITTEES:

APPROPRIATIONS ON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION APPROPRIATIONS/BASE BUDGET AGRICULTURE/ENVIRONMENT/NATURAL

RESOURCES FINANCE INSURANCE

TRANSPORTATION

Dear Constituents and Friends,

I am honored to be able to represent you in North Carolina's Senatorial District 38. As you know, Mecklenburg County has a very rich history and holds the distinction of being the most populous county in the state of North Carolina.

North Carolina state government is the state's largest employer. It is the epicenter of our state's political process. As your state Senator, I believe it is important for you to be actively involved in issues of importance which may directly impact you, your family, friends, or neighbors.

I trust that you will find the State Government Resource Guide helpful to contact some of the agencies within state government. Please feel free to utilize the North Carolina state government website as well, http://www.ncgov.com, for more in-depth information regarding our state resources.

Sincerely,

District 38

Mecklenburg County



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Congressional Representatives for District 38

UNITED STATES SENATE-

The Honorable Richard Burr 217 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510 Phone: (202) 224-3154 Fax: (202) 228-2981 http://burr.senate.gov

The Honorable Kay R. Hagan 521 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510 'Phone: (202) 224-6342 Fax: (202) 228-2563

Phone: (704) 334-2448 (Charlotte office) Fax: (704) 334-2405 (Charlotte office)

http://hagan.senate.gov

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES-

The Honorable Robert M. Pittenger US House District 9 224 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Phone: (202) 225-1976 Fax: (202) 225-3389

Phone: (704) 362-1060 (Charlotte office) Fax: (704) 365-6384 (Charlotte office)

http://pittenger.house.gov

US House District 12**
2304 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Phone: (202) 225-1510 Fax: (202) 225-1512

Phone: (704) 344-9950 (Charlotte office)** Fax: (704) 344-9971 (Charlotte office)**

**(Pertains to contact information for former US Representative Mel Watt, who was appointed as head of the Federal Housing Finance Agency. Information subject to change upon election of new US Representative.)

NOTE: Contact your Congressional representatives for matters relating to the federal government, e.g. Bankruptcy Courts, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), Immigration, Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Job Corps, Medicare, Military, Postal Service, Social Security Administration, Veterans Administration (VA), White House, etc.

North Carolina State Government

GOVERNOR-

The Honorable Pat McCrory, Governor Office of the Governor 20301 Mail Service Center Raleigh, N.C. 27699-0301

Phone: (919) 733-5811 Fax: (919) 733-2120 www.governor.nc.gov

The Governor is the chief executive for the State of North Carolina.

LT. GOVERNOR-

The Honorable Dan Forest, Lt. Governor Office of the Lt. Governor 20401 Mail Service Center Raleigh, N.C. 27699-0401 Phone: (919) 733-7350

Fax: (919) 733-7350 Fax: (919) 733-6595 www.lt.gov.state.nc.us

The Lt. Governor is the second highest elected official in the State of North Carolina and is the President and presiding officer of the North Carolina Senate.

SECRETARY OF STATE-

The Honorable Elaine F. Marshall, Secretary of State Office of the Secretary of State P.O. Box 29622

Raleigh, N.C. 27626-0622 Phone: (919) 807-2000

www.sosnc.com

The Office of the Secretary of State oversees many of the economic and business-related operations of the state government. The Corporations Division is responsible for the examination, custody and maintenance of the legal documents filed by more than 400,000 corporations. Iimited partnerships and limited liability companies in the state.

ATTORNEY GENERAL-

The Honorable Roy A. Cooper, Attorney General North Carolina Department of Justice 9001 Mail Service Center Raleigh, N.C. 27699-9001

Phone: (919) 716-6400 Fax: (919) 716-6750

www.ncdoj.gov

The Attorney General is the head of the state's Department of Justice, serves as the chief law enforcement officer for the State of North Carolina, and provides legal representation and advice to all state agencies.

<u>Consumer Protection Division</u>: -Toll free 877-5-NO-SCAM or 1-877-566-7226, or (919) 716-6000- responsible for fraud and scam investigations on behalf of North Carolina consumers.

ADMINISTRATION-

The Honorable Bill Daughtridge, Secretary North Carolina Department of Administration

1301 Mail Service Center Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1301

Phone: (919) 807-2425 Fax: (919) 733-9571 www.doa.nc.gov

The Department of Administration acts as the business manager for the State of North Carolina and oversees such operations as building construction, courier mail, purchasing and contracts, state and federal surplus property, etc.

AGRICULTURE-

The Honorable Steve W. Troxler, Commissioner
North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
1001 Mail Service Center

Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1001 Phone: (919) 707-3000

www.ncagr.gov

The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' mission is to promote and improve agriculture, agribusiness and forests; protect consumers and businesses; and conserve farmland and natural resources for the prosperity of all North Carolinians.

AUDITOR-

The Honorable Beth A. Wood, Auditor Office of the State Auditor

20601 Mail Service Center Raleigh, N.C. 27699-0601

Phone: (919) 807-7500 Fax: (919) 807-7647

www.ncauditor.net

The Office of the State Auditor provides North Carolina citizens and state leadership with independent, unbiased and professional assessments of whether public resources are being properly accounted for.

<u>State Auditor's Hotline</u>: 1-800-730-TIPS or 1-800-730-8477- investigates allegations of improper governmental conduct by state agencies or state employees within statutory authority.

COMMERCE-

The Honorable Sharon Decker, Secretary North Carolina Department of Commerce 4301 Mail Service Center Raleigh, N.C. 27699-4301

Phone: (919) 733-4151 www.nccommerce.com

The Department of Commerce is the state's leading economic development agency, working with local, regional, national and international companies. Programs run by the Department of Commerce include business and community development, employment security, film, international trade, labor and economic analysis, tourism, etc.

<u>Unemployment Insurance Benefits:</u> 1-888-737-0259 (Customer Service line), or online, https://www.ncesc1.com/individual/webinitialclaims/applybegin.asp

North Carolina Utilities Commission: The oldest regulatory body in state government which regulates electric, telephone, natural gas, water, and transportation. There are seven Utility Commission members, who serve six-year terms appointed by the governor-the Chairman serves as chief executive officer with a four-year term, http://www.ncus.net

<u>The Public Staff's Consumer Complaints Division:</u> 919-733-9277 or toll free in N.C. 1-866-380-9816, is responsible for assisting the public with complaints against regulated public utilities, http://www.pubstaff.commerce.state.nc.us/pscons/pscser.htm

CULTURAL RESOURCES-

The Honorable Susan W. Kluttz, Secretary

North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources

4601 Mail Service Center

Raleigh, N.C. 27699-4601

Phone: (919) 807-7300

Fax: (919) 733-1620

www.ncdcr.gov

The Department of Cultural Resources recognizes and promotes cultural awareness and heritage through its various programs in the arts, history and state libraries.

EDUCATION-

The Honorable June Atkinson, Superintendent

North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

6301 Mail Service Center

Raleigh, N.C. 27699-6301

Phone: (919) 807-3430

www.ncpublicschools.org

The Department of Public Instruction is charged with implementing the state's public school laws and the State Board of Education's policies and procedures governing pre-kindergarten through 12th grade public education.

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES-

The Honorable John E. Skvarla, III, Secretary

North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources

1601 Mail Service Center

Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1601

Phone: (919) 707-8600, or toll free(877) 623-6748

www.ncdenr.gov

The primary mission of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources is to protect North Carolina's environment and natural resources. To report an environmental emergency, please call 1-800-858-0368.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES-

The Honorable Aldona Wos, Secretary

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

2001 Mail Service Center

Raleigh, N.C. 27699-2001

Phone: (919) 855-4800

Fax: (919) 715-4645

www.ncdhhs.gov

The Department of Health and Human Services is responsible for ensuring the health, safety and well-being of all North Carolinians, providing human service needs for special

populations including individuals who are deaf, blind, developmentally disabled and mentally ill, and helping poor North Carolinians achieve economic independence.

<u>DHHS Customer Service Hotline</u>: 1-800-662-7030 - Inquire here to find the appropriate health and human service program(s) and/or person(s) to assist you.

INSURANCE-

The Honorable Wayne Goodwin, Commissioner North Carolina Department of Insurance 1201 Mail Service Center Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1201

Phone: (919) 807-6750

www.ncdoi.com

The Department of Insurance provides services to the people of North Carolina by regulating the insurance industry, licensing insurance professionals and others, educating consumers about different types of insurance, handling consumer complaints, etc.

<u>Consumer Services Division</u>: 1-800-546-5664, toll free in N.C. only or (919) 807-6750 - answers questions about insurance-related issues.

<u>Health Insurance Smart NC</u>: 877-885-0231, toll free in N.C. only, or (919) 807-6860, or Fax: (919) 807-6865 – answers questions regarding most health insurance issues. <u>Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP)</u>: 1-800-443-9354 or (919) 807-6900, Monday thru Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.- answers questions regarding most Medicare insurance issues.

LABOR-

The Honorable Cherie L. Berry, Commissioner North Carolina Department of Labor 1101 Mail Service Center Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1101 Phone: (919) 807-2796

www.nclabor.com

The Department of Labor is charged with promoting the "health, safety and general well-being" of more than four million workers in the State of North Carolina. Its operations consist of three divisions: Administration, Occupational Safety and Health, and Standards and Inspections.

Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Complaint Desk: 1-800-NC-Labor or 1-800-625-2267 (in-state only), or (919) 779-8560 – to file a complaint regarding workplace safety or report hazardous conditions at your worksite. Web site information: http://www.nclabor.com/osha/complaince/complaints/complaint.htm.

LEGISLATURE-

North Carolina General Assembly Legislative Building 16 W. Jones Street Raleigh, N.C. 27601 Phone: (919) 733-4111

www.ncga.state.nc.us

The North Carolina General Assembly (NCGA) is made of two bodies or houses; the Senate, which has 50 members; and the House of Representatives, which consists of 120 members. Each legislator represents either a Senatorial District or a House District. Laws of North Carolina, known as statutes, are made by the General Assembly. Please

reference the NCGA web site, <u>www.ncga.state.nc.us</u>, to access information on members, legislation, committees, etc.

The Honorable Philip E. Berger Senate President Pro Tempore North Carolina Senate District 26 2008 Legislative Building Raleigh, N.C. 27601-2808 Phone: (919) 733-5708

Fax: (919) 733-8740 Phil.Berger@ncleg.net

President Pro Tem Berger is the highest ranking officer of the North Carolina General Assembly and leader of the North Carolina Senate.

The Honorable Thom Tillis Speaker of the House North Carolina House District 98 2304 Legislative Building Raleigh, N.C. 27601-1096 Phone: (919) 733-3451 Fax: (919) 715-0772

<u>Thom.Tillis@ncleg.net</u>

Speaker Tillis is the presiding officer and leader of the North Carolina House of Representatives.

The Honorable Joel D. M. Ford North Carolina Senate District 38 1119 Legislative Building Raleigh, N.C. 27601-2808 Phone: (919) 733-5955

Fax: (919) 754-3254 Joel.Ford@ncleg.net

Senator Ford represents Senate District 38 in southwest Mecklenburg County.

The Honorable Beverly M. Earle North Carolina House District 101 514 Legislative Office Building Raleigh, N.C. 27603-5925 Phone: (919) 715-2530

Fax: (919) 754-3158

Beverly.Earle@ncleg.net

Representative Earle represents House District 101 in Mecklenburg County

The Honorable Charles Jeter North Carolina House District 92 1002 Legislative Building Raleigh, N.C. 27601-1096 Phone: (919) 733-5654

Fax: (919) 754-3210

Charles.Jeter@ncleg.net

Representative Jeter represents House District 92 in Mecklenburg County

PERSONNEL-

Mr. Neal Alexander, Director Office of State Human Resources 1331 Mail Service Center Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1331

Phone: (919) 807-4800 Fax: (919) 733-0653 www.oshr.state.nc.gov

The mission of the Office of State Human Resources (formerly Office of State Personnel) is to provide high quality human resources services that enable agencies and universities to attract, motivate, develop and retain a competent, diverse workforce to meet their business objectives. Visit the State Personnel web site, www.oshr.state.nc.gov, to view state government employment opportunities.

PUBLIC SAFETY-

The Honorable Frank Perry, Secretary North Carolina Department of Public Safety 4201 Mail Service Center Raleigh, N.C. 27699-4201

Phone: (919) 733-2126 Fax: (919) 733-8477 www.ncdps.gov

The overall mission of the Department of Public Safety is to improve the quality of life for North Carolinians by reducing crime and enhancing public safety. In addition to natural disasters, the Department oversees prisons and is constantly updating plans and providing training for local officials to respond to emergencies such as terrorism, communicable diseases, nuclear power plant incidents and civil unrest.

REVENUE-

The Honorable Lyons Gray, Secretary North Carolina Department of Revenue P.O. Box 871

Raleigh, N.C. 27602 Phone: (919) 733-7736

www.dornc.com

The Department of Revenue's mission is to administer the tax laws and collect the taxes due the State in an impartial, uniform and efficient manner.

Individual Income Tax Refund questions: 1-877-252-4052

General Information (ex. Corporate & Franchise Tax, Sales & Use Tax, Tax Payments, Tax

Forms, etc.): 1-877-252-3052 <u>Tax Fraud Hotline</u>: 1-800-232-4939

TRANSPORTATION-

The Honorable Anthony Tata, Secretary North Carolina Department of Transportation 1501 Mail Service Center Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1501

Phone: (919) 707-2800

www.ncdot.gov

The Department of Transportation (DOT) serves to connect people and places safely and efficiently, with accountability and environmental sensitivity while enhancing the economy, health and well-being of North Carolina. Nineteen men and women from across the state make up the North Carolina Board of Transportation. Each member represents a specific Transportation Division or at-large area of interest and works with NC DOT staff members to make decisions about transportation priorities.

<u>DOT Customer Service Office</u>: 1-877-DOT-4YOU or 1-877-368-4968, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., with extended hours as necessary for emergencies - answers the Department's toll-free customer service line.

<u>Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV)</u>: (919) 715-7000, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.- answers questions about issues such as driver license renewal, vehicle registration, etc.

TREASURY -

The Honorable Janet Cowell, Treasurer Office of the State Treasurer 325 North Salisbury Street Raleigh, N.C. 27603-1385

Phone: (919) 508-5176 www.nctreasurer.com

The mission of the State Treasurer's Office is to exercise fiduciary oversight and provide outstanding customer service that provides value to, and instills confidence by, the state's citizens, customers, and financial community. The State Treasurer's Office is responsible for oversight of the retirement fund for active and retired state employees.

<u>Firemen's and Rescue Squad Workers' Pension Fund:</u> 1-877-508-5360 or (919) 508-5360 <u>Retirement Systems Division (Active Employees):</u> 1-866-627-5267 - for questions about retirement, send an email that includes name, mailing address, phone number and inquiry to nc.retirement@nctreasurer.com.

<u>Benefit Recipients Information (Retirees, Beneficiaries, Disability Recipients):</u> (919) 733-4191

<u>Unclaimed Property (NC Cash Program)</u>: visit the State Treasurer's Office web site, <u>https://www.nctreasurer.com/Claim-Your-Cash/Claim-Your-NC Cash/Pages/default.aspx.</u>