

Fwd: Newsletter from Senator Joel Ford

Joel Ford [joelford@gmail.com]

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Happy New Year Constituents and Friends,

The 2015 Long Legislative Session has officially convened and I am honored to be returning to Raleigh for a second term to represent District 38. I am committed to continue to fight for North Carolina values and support policies that will create jobs for North Carolinians. As a public servant, I am committed to hear the needs of my district and the needs of the great state of North Carolina, which is why I am asking for your input on how to properly run our state government.

I believe that good government is based on the individual and that each person's ability, dignity, freedom, and responsibility must be honored and recognized. These are the values that have made North Carolina a great state, and to this date, continues to be a friendly state to raise a family, open a business, and seek out economic opportunity. As the Legislature begins to tackle complex issues, I will support and advocate for pro-business policies that expands our state's economic health.

As always, please continue to refer to the North Carolina General Assembly www.ncleg.com, to track information on committee meetings, bill status, legislative updates, etc. The North Carolina state government www.ncgov.com is helpful for in-depth information regarding our state resources.

*****Legislative Update*****

Economic Growth- This session I intend to continue to fight for smart pro-business policies that'll expand our state's economy. However, the NCGA needs to act on improving our crumbling infrastructure. Transportation infrastructure is the gateway to economic growth because it creates opportunity for economic mobility.

Transportation Crisis

- Transportation funding will face a deficit ranging from \$34B-\$94B by 2040.
- 30% of the state's bridges are structurally deficient.
- Statewide congestion cost are rising
- By mid-2015, transportation revenues will begin to decline

Room for growth

- We must ensure that we properly invest in our state's infrastructure demands.
- Proper investment will have a significant return on investment as it provides room for growth in jobs, wages, and grow NC's gross state product.

Total Impacts of Infrastructure Spending (Construction and Long Term)

Level of Service	D (Current)	C	B	A
Level of Investment	\$3.5 Billion	\$5.7 Billion	\$7.0 Billion	\$10 Billion

[Congresswoman Alma Adams- NC 12th District](#)

	50,050	81,510	100,100	143,000
Jobs				
Employee Compensation	\$36.15 Billion	\$58.87 Billion	\$72.3 Billion	\$103.28 Billion
Output	\$38.06 Billion	\$61.98 Billion	\$76.11 Billion	\$108.73 Billion

Level of service categorizes the performance of a highway by quality of service it provides on a scale "A" (best) to F
Sources: NCDOT 2040 Plan and IMPLAN modeling Software

The Hunt Institution: On January 12, I attended the 2015 Holshouser Legislators Retreat, which was sponsored by the Hunt Institute. Legislators from across the state came together to discuss the challenges our state faces with our public education. It gave us an opportunity to discuss specific education policies such as ways to capitalize on success. I believe that the material from this retreat will help the legislator develop common sense education policies.

SPECIAL THANKS

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General Assembly



Thank you for voicing your issues, thoughts, and concerns through your many e-mails, phone calls, and office visits. I appreciate receiving input from you and am honored to be serving you in the 2015 Long Legislative Session. Please feel free to contact me, or my office.

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