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March 28, 2019

Representative Nasif Majeed District 99



Updates for Raleigh:

PEACE. This has been a challenging week of fine tuning bills with our Bill Drafting department. The process of getting a bill to the floor of the House of Representatives is arduous. When I served on Charlotte City Council, there were perhaps fifteen considerations to get a statue enacted. Here in the state legislature, there is a plethora of considerations that can affect the success of a bill becoming law. The process requires working with many legislators and solidifying relationships in order to have successful passage. I am working smart to pass legislation that will benefit my constituents in House District 99 and North Carolina.

The University of North Carolina System has been called the "Crown Jewel" of North Carolina. It consists of 17 campuses and serves over 225,000 students. It is a major economic driver in the state. An economic study from a few years ago found that the UNC System is responsible for \$28 billion in added state income and 426,052 jobs when you account for visitor spending, construction, and all of the related economic activity related to the universities.

The UNC System is governed by a Board of Governors appointed by the General Assembly. In recent years the Board has consisted of 32 members, but a law enacted last session shrank the Board to 24 members. That is why this year there were eight Board members whose terms were expiring, but only six slots available to be filled. A term lasts for four years.

Last week the NC House voted for the six individuals to fill those six slots. Unfortunately, the vote reduced the Board's diversity (when it was already not very diverse) and maintained the status quo of a Board that is failing to do a good job governing the universities. I voted No.

First, let's look at how the current UNC Board of Governors is doing. Western Carolina still does not have a new chancellor over 19 months after a vacancy. East Carolina's chancellor was forced out after three years. UNC Chapel Hill's chancellor was forced out because of Silent Sam controversy. And UNC President Margaret Spellings was pushed out after just three years on the job. Board members are openly and publicly squabbling and calling for each other's resignations. National education leaders and state business leaders are saying that the UNC System is damaged and in crisis.

With all of that going on, it is very disappointing that the House voted for the status quo this week – to re-elect five Board members to continue serving on the Board. The Senate acted similarly with their appointments meaning the Board is basically unchanged for the

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next two years.

The one new person the House elected was a white male Republican chosen to replace one of four African-Americans on the Board. Now there are only three African-Americans and one of those three is a non-voting student representative.

How can we promote diversity at UNC when there is so little diversity on the Board? There are also only 7 women on the Board (and one is the student rep). We had stronger diversity twenty years ago than we have now.

The process the House used to elect the six Board of Governors did not include Democratic input, and was one that had not been used in years. It also did not allow for other people to be considered. In my opinion we needed six new Board members to change the course of our failing Board of Governors and to improve the diversity of the Board. That is why I voted No.



I was honored to stand with other legislators and advocates here at the General Assembly, to commemorate the 9th anniversary of the passage of the Affordable Care Act.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) – also known as the Affordable Care Act or ACA, and generally referred to as Obamacare – is the landmark health reform legislation passed by the 111th Congress and signed into law by President Barack Obama in March 2010.

The ACA has three primary goals: expand access to health insurance, protect patients against arbitrary actions by insurance companies, and reduce costs.

Health care reform requires insurance plans to cover important preventive services, including critical immunizations, numerous health screenings, and counseling services, with no cost-sharing by women.

Here I am pictured with Rev. Dennis Testerman, a Presbyterian minister and enumerator with the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA).

In addition to his ministerial obligation, Rev. Testerman serves in an agricultural extension capacity working with farmers gathering statistics and data about farm production. In his role as an enumerator, he collects statistics and data about farm production.

As an advocate working with Audubon North Carolina, Rev. Testerman provided me with vital information on clean water management, enhancing parks and recreation, and agricultural preservation.



Upcoming Events

HEALTHY NORTH CAROLINA 2030

COMMUNITY INPUT SESSIONS

Join us to help shape North Carolina's priorities for healthy communities!

8 LOCATIONS ACROSS NORTH CAROLINA

GREENVILLE – 2/27, EASTERN AHEC, 12:45-3:15
 HENDERSON – 3/5, PERRY MEMORIAL LIBRARY, 5:00-7:30
 PEMBROKE – 3/6, UNC PEMBROKE, 12:00-2:30
 JACKSONVILLE – 3/19, COASTAL CAR. COMM. COLLEGE, 12:00-2:30
 CHARLOTTE – 4/3, GOODWILL OPPORTUNITY CENTER, 11:30-2:00
 GREENSBORO – 4/3, GUILFORD TECH. COMM. COLLEGE, 5:00-7:30
 CHEROKEE – 4/9, CHEROKEE INDIAN HOSPITAL, 8:00-10:00
 MARION – 4/9, MARION SENIOR CENTER, 1:30-4:00

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 VISIT NCIOM.ORG/OURWORK/HNC-2030-COMMUNITY-INPUT-SESSIONS/
 OR CALL (919) 445-6156

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Partners and Funders:




Mecklenburg County

Goodwill Opportunity Campus
 Charlotte, NC

April 3rd, 2019
 11:30am-2:00pm

RSVP in English

Confírmaste en español



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Enjoy your weekend! PEACE!




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