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Legislative Updates

Representative Nasif Majeed [majeedla@ncleg.net]

Sent: Monday, September 23, 2019 8:54 PM

To: [Steve Johnston](#)

September 23, 2019

Representative Nasif Majeed District 99 - Mecklenburg Count



Peace. The North Carolina General Assembly has made na again, and once again, it is for all the wrong reasons.

House Republican leadership held a State Budget vote af Democrats not to show up because there would be no votes Harbor" type of attack during the morning of 9/11 remembra vote was held, Speaker Moore refused to allow the few De debate the bill and he rammed the vote through.

“No-vote sessions” are fairly common in a part-time General Assembly. Legislators receive part-time pay and typically have other jobs. A nonpartisan House Clerk to take care of routine housekeeping without legislators having to be present. This was the first time in memory that House leadership promised a “no-vote session” and stuck back on that promise.

What does it all mean? Two things.

First, House Republicans will do anything to avoid negotiating public school funding and Medicaid Expansion. Governor Cooper vetoed the State Budget bill over two months ago. At that time we offered a deal that would:

- Expand Medicaid to close the coverage gap for Carolinians and help save struggling rural hospitals and create care jobs.
- Double the teacher pay raise to 8.5% over two years.
- Allow voters to consider a statewide bond for public school upgrades.
- Substantially expand on the 5% state employee raise increases for non-certified local school personnel and employees, 4% increases for Community College employees, doubling the retiree COLA.

Republicans have never responded to our offer to negotiate. House Republicans were so opposed to even negotiating Medicaid Expansion, higher teacher pay, pay raises to more state employees, a statewide education bond that they pulled a sneak attack during the 9/11 remembrances.

Second, and most importantly, the fight is not over. The State Assembly must sustain the veto. You can help by contacting your senator and asking her to hold the veto. So long as the veto stands, public pressure will force the Republicans to finally come to the negotiating table.

What happened in the North Carolina House is wrong and it hurts the people of North Carolina. My focus as your state representative is making our public schools better and making health care more

accessible to all North Carolinians, no matter where they live or their skin.

General Assembly Draws New Legislative Districts After Old Districts Were “Extreme Partisan Gerrymanders”

The current General Assembly was elected using extremely gerrymandered district lines. Don't take my word for it – that was the ruling of a unanimous Republican and Democratic judges.

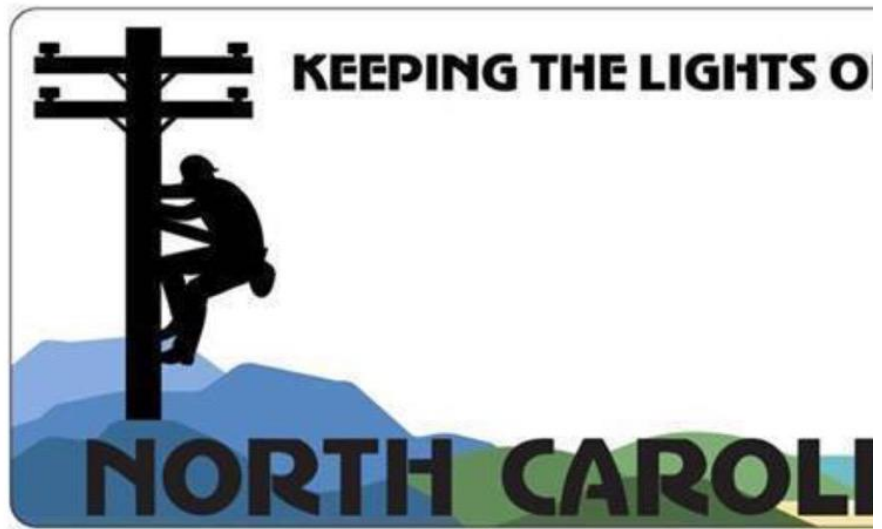
What does extreme gerrymandering get you? It elects a legislature that passed the State Budget Sneak Attack of last week, the infamous H. 850 suppression laws struck down by the courts, racial gerrymandering struck down by the courts, and the list could go on and on and on.

This week the General Assembly redrew the lines. There were many parts in the process, but it was largely a missed opportunity to do the right thing. Too many decisions were made in back rooms. Too little was given to the public for input. Too little consideration was given to complying with the court's instructions.

Roughly half of the state will have new district lines. The new redistricting maps that were better than the ones we used to have are fatally flawed partisan gerrymanders in some parts of the state. It is for the court to review the new maps and make any adjustments to comply with the court order.

In light of the recent Hurricane Dorian recovery efforts, we are proud of the work of all lineworkers and utility employees from North Carolina Electric Cooperatives, Duke Energy, and Electricities who work tirelessly to keep the lights on, especially after natural disasters. Our recently passed **Lights On” license plate honors these workers.**





PEACE & Enkutatash!!!! (Happy New Year) I celebrated New Year at Providence Day School with the Ethiopian Association of Charlotte. I thoroughly enjoyed the dances and the food was scrumptious. Thanks to Sergew, Businessman Haile Mesfin and Event Organizer, wonderful time.





[Left to Right] Rev. Israel Gebregziaber, Getachew Kassa, Chairman Na Haile Mesfin and Mimi Kiros





[Left to Right] Haile Mesfin, Dr. Robbie Akhere, Liya Kiros, Me, Mimi Kir Kassa



UPCOMING EVENTS



You can listen to Daily Sessions on the General Assembly website at www.ncleg.gov - Once on the site, click on the House or Senate, then look for the audio speaker icon.

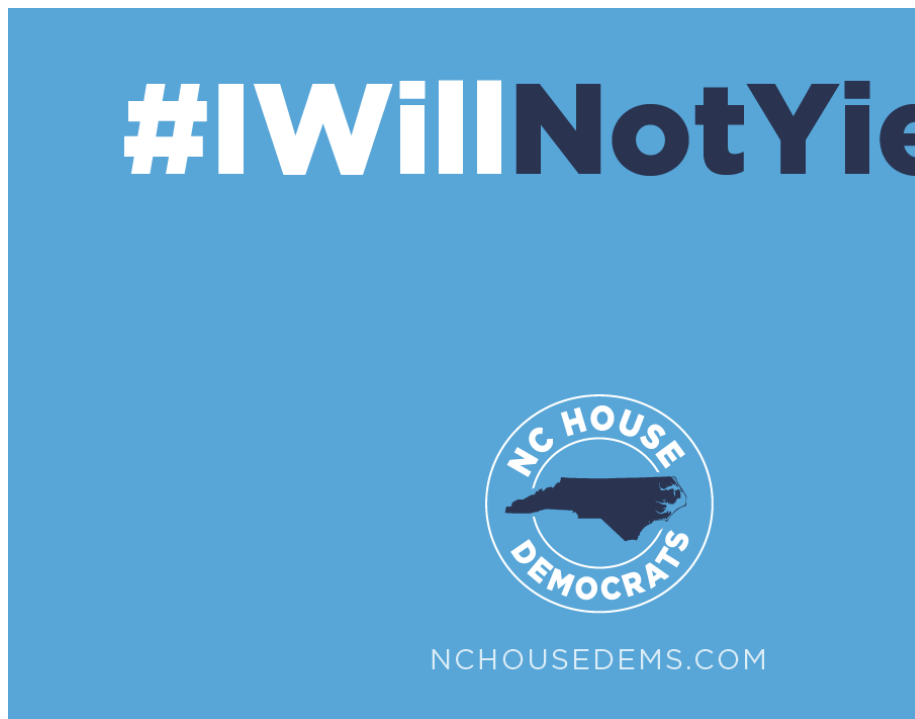
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Have a great weekend, PEACE!



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