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Legislative Updates
 Representative Nasif Majeed [majeedla@ncleg.net]
 Sent: Thursday, October 17, 2019 11:32 PM
 To: Steve Johnston

October 17, 2019

**Representative Nasif Majeed
 District 99 - Mecklenburg County**



PEACE. No Progress on Paltry Education Pay Raises

Most public employees in North Carolina have already received a 5 percent pay raise for the next two fiscal years. Teachers, school employees, community college employees, and UNC employees have not received anything.

That is because **the State Budget bill vetoed by Governor Cooper provided smaller raises for teachers, school employees, community college employees, and UNC employees than what other state employees received.** For example, the State Budget bill gave a 2% raise for a custodian in a school and a 5% raise for a custodian in a state agency.

Governor Cooper and legislative Democrats have offered a [counter budget proposal](#) that offers larger raises for teachers and public school employees, but Republican legislative leaders have refused to consider it. The larger raises would be paid for by not cutting corporate taxes. North Carolina already has the lowest corporate tax rate in the country and the GOP State Budget bill would lower it further.

My hope remains that legislative leaders will back down and work with us on investing in higher pay raises for teachers and all public school employees.

Part-Time Legislature?

The United States Congress is a full-time legislative body. It is in session for most of the year and serving in Congress is a full-time job with full-time pay.

Most states, including North Carolina, have part-time legislatures. The idea is that legislators can do their work in part of the year and the rest of the year they can return to their districts and their regular jobs.

This year North Carolina's "part-time" legislature started on January 9th and will continue at least through the end of October. Legislative leaders control the calendar and they are determined to drag out session for as long as possible rather than negotiate a compromise State Budget.

I wish I could report to you that legislators are making good use of all of this time in session. The cost to taxpayers is around \$40,000 to \$50,000 a day. **Unfortunately, many days go by with no action or votes on significant bills.** Here is just a partial list of issues that I think are very important that we never work on:

- Equal Pay for Equal Work
- Gun Safety
- "Polluter Pay"
- Independent Redistricting
- Climate Change
- Equal Rights Constitutional amendment
- Raising the Minimum Wage

The NC State Fair began today and runs through Sunday, October 27!



- [Info on Discounts and Deals](#)
- [What's New in 2019](#)
- [100 Free Things to Do at the Fair](#)
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You can listen to Daily Sessions on the General Assembly's website at www.ncleg.gov - Once on the site, select either House or Senate, then look for the audio speaker.

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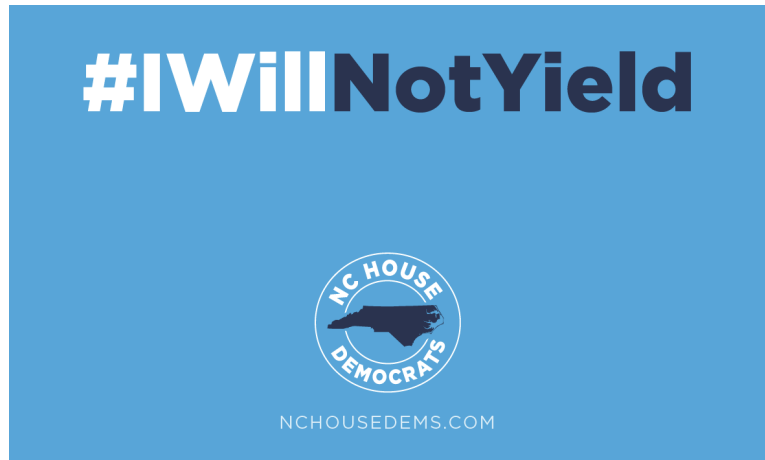
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PEACE,



View inside House Chambers




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