Redistricting Public Hearings /House Democrats Fight to Advance Gun Safety Bills /Search for Unclaimed Cash/Hispanic Heritage Month/Get Vaccinated for Flu



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Representative Nasif Majeed District 99 - Mecklenburg County



Redistricting Public Hearings: Make Your Voice Heard

Peace. Last week, the public hearing portion of the redistricting process started on September 8th and continues across the state through September 30th.

Redistricting determines so many things that affect our day-to-day lives, such as fair maps, equal representation, democracy, and so much more.

Speak out for a transparent and fair map drawing process. Here are some important messages that line-drawers need to hear:

- North Carolina is a competitive state that deserves districts that are also competitive, not a gerrymandered state that tries to eliminate one party.
- This state has a long history of finding itself in lawsuits after redistricting.
 We spent millions to fight about a map we all knew was illegal for the last ten years.

- When districts are fair, they assure that voters have the chance to elect politicians and the politicians picking their voters.
- Line-drawers should not: split precincts, split towns and cities, and divide communities of interest.
- Line-drawers should: draw compact districts that protect communities of interest.

Below is the schedule of hearings:



House Democrats Fight to Advance Gun Safety Bills

House Democrats took the unusual step of filing a discharge petition for two gun safety bills bottled up in committee by legislative leadership. A discharge petition, if successful, would move the bills out of committee and to the floor for a vote.

The first gun safety bill (HB 525) authorizes a judge to issue an extreme risk

protective order to temporarily restrict a person's access to guns if there is evidence the person poses a danger of suicide or violence towards others. A number of other states, including "red" states like Florida, have passed this common-sense measure to reduce suicides and gun violence.

The second gun safety bill (<u>HB 623</u>) requires a purchase permit for a long gun or rifle, similar to what is required to purchase a pistol in North Carolina. A state permit is needed to fill in loopholes in the federal background checks.

Gun violence remains at unacceptably high levels across our country. Two recent school shootings in North Carolina reinforce the need to discuss and pass common-sense gun safety protections

How to Search for Unclaimed Cash and Property in North Carolina

Companies are currently sending letters and reaching out to potential owners of unclaimed property as required by statute. If you have received such communications, please contact the company directly to claim your funds.

Funds not claimed by the owner are reported to the North Carolina Department of State Treasurer as unclaimed property, You may check nccash.com at the "Search Now" link to see if you have any unclaimed property.

Governor Cooper Proclaims Hispanic Heritage Month

Governor Roy Cooper has proclaimed September 15 - October 15, 2021 as Hispanic Heritage Month to recognize the culture, history and achievements of the Hispanic and Latinx community in North Carolina. This year's theme is

Esperanza: A Celebration of Hispanic Heritage and Hope to celebrate the community's resilience, strength and hope.

The Hispanic/Latinx population represents an important and growing demographic in North Carolina making up 9.6 percent of the state's population. In 2017, the Governor established the Governor's Advisory Council on Hispanic/Latinx Affairs to advise and collaborate on issues important to Hispanic/Latinx North Carolinians.

You may read the <u>proclamation here</u>.

Health Officials Urge North Carolinians to Get Vaccinated for Flu as COVID-19 Cases Remain High

Public health officials with the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services are urging North Carolinians to protect themselves, their families and those around them by getting flu vaccines as the state enters flu season while experiencing a surge of COVID-19 caused by the Delta variant.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends flu vaccination for everyone 6 months and older with any licensed, age-appropriate flu vaccine. Vaccination against the flu can make illness milder and reduce the risk of more serious outcomes, making it especially important for those at higher risk of complications, such as people over 65, children younger than 5, pregnant women and those with certain medical conditions such as asthma, diabetes, heart disease or obesity. Some of those same groups are also at high risk of complications from COVID-19.

Flu shots are available at hospitals, pharmacies, private medical offices, some federally qualified health care centers and local health departments. COVID-19 vaccines may now be administered at the same time as other vaccines, including the flu vaccine.

 More information about flu is available online at <u>flu.nc.gov</u> and from the CDC at <u>www.cdc.gov/flu</u>. For information about COVID-19 in North

Carolina, visit covid19.ncdhhs.gov

Stay safe and enjoy your weekend....PEACE!



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