

HB 721 Passes / NC House Democrats Fight to Promote Local School Health and Safety / GOP Leaders Agree of State Budget / NC New Business Creations Hit Record Levels / Mecklenburg Co Listening Session



From Representative Nasif Majeed <majeedla@ncleg.net>
To <sjohnston@tuesdayforumcharlotte.org>
Reply-To <majeedla@ncleg.net>
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October 1, 2021

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



House Bill 721 Passes

Peace. I'm elated that a bill I was the primary sponsor of, passed on the floor of the House with a **99 to 0 favorable vote** and now it has moved to the Senate.

Earlier this year, I was asked by residents in my district to help them to get their street repaired. They were confronted with a towering road repair bill because the developer of their subdivision was defunct and did not repair the roads to the standard that would enable Mecklenburg County to take them over. This was the genesis of House Bill 721 [Counties/Semiannual Assessment Payments] that would permit the county to pay up front and provide some tax repayment relief for property owners, in the form of spaced out repayments over 10 to 20 years.

In my research, I discovered that 'Orphan Roads' have been a problem in North Carolina and other states for years. I received feedback from numerous legislators on both sides of the aisle that were experiencing similar problems and were glad to support this bill. Improving the roadways such that they can be taken over for maintenance by NCDOT is very important to the financial longevity of neighborhoods, as well as protecting property values.

NC House Democrats Fight to Promote Local School Health and Safety and In-Person Learning for Students

This week NC House Democrats supported an amendment to a non-controversial education bill to allow local school boards the discretion to hold meetings on school mask policies as the public health situation changes in their communities. Current law requires unnecessary monthly meetings. Too many of these meetings are turning into forums for abuse and attacks on local school boards by anti-mask activists.

The amendment was defeated when every House Republican except one voted against it.

Local school boards have very difficult jobs. The last thing they need is a state law requiring them to revisit the decision to require masks month-after-month if there has been no change in the public health situation.

Our priority should be to create safe and healthy environments for our students, teachers and school employees. We must do all we can to keep students in the classroom with in-person learning. Politics should not be a part of this decision.

GOP Leaders Agree on State Budget

The state's fiscal year began on July 1, but it took GOP House and Senate leaders until the end of September to finally reach a budget agreement with themselves. Now they are sending the document to Governor Cooper to see if an agreement can be reached to include more Democratic priorities in the State Budget. Democratic priorities include:

- Medicaid Expansion to draw down billions of dollars in federal money to expand health care coverage, lower health care costs, and create health care jobs.
- Larger pay raises for teachers, school employees, and public employees.
- Stopping new tax cuts for corporations.
- Investing the state's unprecedented fund availability in the Leandro plan to provide a sound, basic education for all students.

North Carolina is the last state in the country to adopt a State Budget this year. If an agreement is reached, it will back date to July 1, 2021 and last

through June 30, 2023. Any budget agreement may be amended next year during the legislature's Short Session.

NC New Business Creations Hit Record Levels In Just Over Eight Months

North Carolinians have set a record for new business creations in 2021, surpassing the previous record set in 2020 according to N.C. Secretary of State Elaine Marshall. The record set late last week was accomplished in just a little over eight months, meaning that the new record will be far higher than the previous one.

Additional surveying of new businesses by the Secretary of State's Office confirms that the vast majority of those responding launched their business in search of new opportunities, and not as a result of a job loss.

Filings for new business creations are far outpacing 2020's unprecedented numbers, with 129,000 new business creation filings processed between January and September 13—a 55% increase over the same period last year. At the current pace, new business filings are forecast to top 185,000 for the year.

THE MECKLENBURG COUNTY
DELEGATION TO THE NC GENERAL
ASSEMBLY INVITES YOU TO

2021 MECKLENBURG COUNTY LISTENING SESSION

Thursday, October 7 | 7 - 8PM

Sign up here:

<https://bit.ly/listeningsessionmeck>

**Attendees must sign up in advance to join the
Listening Session*



The Mecklenburg County Delegation to the NC General Assembly is hosting their third virtual listening session of the year. The Delegation wants to hear from you about what is on your mind, what you would like us to know about your community, and what you would like us to work on. This is your opportunity to talk to us and for us to listen.

Use this link to register: <https://bit.ly/listeningsessionmeck>

PEACE!



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Representative Nasif Majeed, District 99 | Legislative Building, 16 W. Jones Street, Room 1008,
Raleigh, NC 27601

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