

Legislative Updates from the Office of Rep. Nasif Majeed



From Representative Nasif Majeed <majeedla@ncleg.net>
To <sjohnston@tuesdayforumcharlotte.org>
Reply-To <majeedla@ncleg.net>
Date 2021-12-09 15:51

December 9, 2021

Representative Nasif Majeed



Representing District 99 Mecklenburg County

Court Order Stops Filing/Courts Tackle Gerrymandered Legislative and Congressional Maps and Order Primary Moved to May 17th

Peace! Monday morning, I was anticipating filing with our Mecklenburg Delegation for the upcoming election. Well, to my surprise and just as I entered the Mecklenburg County Board of Elections office to file, I was informed that a court order had been filed to block candidates from filing to run in the 2022 elections under the districts drawn by Republican state lawmakers.

The order came from the N.C. Court of Appeals in a lawsuit which claims the political districts, drawn to be used in every election from 2022 to 2030, are unconstitutionally gerrymandered. I heard that the Primary would be moved back to May 17th which means that a new filing date will have to be

established. Stand by for, the latest episode of, “As The World Turns.”

Also, North Carolina’s General Assembly has passed the most gerrymandered Congressional, State Senate, and State house maps in the country. The national Princeton Gerrymandering Project graded the new maps as an F. In analyzing the maps, the Cook Political Report’s nonpartisan elections analyst declared, “NC Republicans are going for the jugular.”

Basically, the lines divide communities so that Democrats are lumped into a few districts, leaving Republicans in the majority in a large number of districts. If you look at North Carolina’s 14 Congressional seats, 10 would elect Republicans, 3 would elect Democrats by overwhelming margins, and 1 seat could be won by either party. The lopsided result comes in a state where Donald Trump beat Joe Biden by less than one percentage point in 2020.

A number of citizens and groups have filed a lawsuit to block the maps and have the General Assembly or the courts draw new maps. This week the NC Supreme Court ordered the 2022 primary election moved to May 17th in order to give the courts time to hear the redistricting case and possibly order that more fair lines are drawn. It is the first step toward fairness and ending one of North Carolina’s worst traditions – gerrymandering voters for political gain.

Pay Raises and Bonuses for State Employees and Teachers

North Carolina state employees can expect to see raises and bonuses in upcoming paychecks. State employees who make less than \$75,000 will receive \$1,500, while employees above that amount should receive \$1,000.

As far as pay raises for state employees, most will see a 2.5% raise for 2021-2022 fiscal year and a 2.5% raise for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. That raise will go into effect on January 1, 2022 and employees will receive a lump sum payment in January 2022 to account for the retroactive raise that should have been in effect from July 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021.

Teachers will also receive bonuses and pay raises. On average, teachers will receive a 2.5% pay increase in the 2021-2022 fiscal year and a 2.5% pay increase in the 2022-2023 fiscal year. This is an average that includes step increases. The actual amount of the pay increase will depend on where a teacher sits on the salary schedule. Similar to state employees, teachers will receive a January lump sum payment to account for the pay raise they should

have received starting July 1, 2021 and their new pay rate will start January 1, 2022.

As for bonuses, most teachers will receive a \$2,800 bonus that includes the \$1,500 state employee bonus plus \$1,000 in federal COVID funds designated for teacher bonuses and \$300 using funds that typically pay for performance EVAAS bonuses that could not be paid out this year due to the pandemic.

All non-certified school employees, like bus drivers and teacher assistants, will receive the \$1,500 bonus plus an increase in their hourly rate to \$13/hour this year and \$15/hour next year. If they were already making more than those rates, then they receive a 2.5% pay raise similar to other state employees including the January 2022 lump sum payment.

Retired state employees also received a cost-of-living bonus in the budget, raising their payments by 5% over the next two years, 2% this year and 3% in 2022-2023.

What's Coming to North Carolina in Federal Infrastructure Bill

The Infrastructure Bill that President Biden signed into law last month will have a big impact on North Carolina. We have decades of underfunded roads and bridges that need improvements, and that help is finally on the way. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act will:

- **Repair and rebuild roads and bridges in North Carolina.** We have more than 1,400 bridges and over 3,100 miles of highway in poor condition. The infrastructure bill will bring about \$7 billion for highway funding and more than \$450 million for bridge upgrades.
- **Improved public transportation.** Nearly \$1 billion in funding to improve public transportation options, connecting more North Carolinians to work and family and reducing carbon emissions.
- **Connecting North Carolinians to high-speed internet.** Broadband internet access is a necessity in the 21st century. This law allocates at least \$100 million to expand broadband internet access across the state, with about one-third of people eligible for benefits to offset costs.
- **Rebuilding water lines.** Nobody should have to go without clean water. The infrastructure bill provides for more than \$1 billion to improve water infrastructure to ensure that every North Carolinian has access to clean,

safe drinking water.

PEACE,



#IWillNotYield



NCHOUSEDEMS.COM

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

[Unsubscribe sjohnston@tuesdayforumcharlotte.org](mailto:sjohnston@tuesdayforumcharlotte.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by majeedla@ncleg.net powered by



Try email marketing for free today!