

State of the State / Freedom to Vote / Common Sense Gun Safety / NC Air National Guard Anniversary /NC Social Work Advocacy Day at the NCGA



From Representative Nasif Majeed <majeedla@ncleg.net>
To <sjohnston@tuesdayforumcharlotte.org>
Reply-To <majeedla@ncleg.net>
Date 2023-03-09 17:07

March 9, 2023



Representative Nasif Majeed
NC House of Representatives - District 99



Serving Mecklenburg County



Governor Cooper's State of the State Address



Mecklenburg Delegation in attendance at Governor Cooper's final State of the State address on March 6, 2023.

On Monday night Governor Roy Cooper delivered his fourth State of the State address. He emphasized the pivotal nature of this moment that has created a once-in-a-generation opportunity for historic investments in education, infrastructure, the economy and the workforce.

North Carolina's future is brighter than ever. Our state has emerged from challenging years stronger and more resilient, and thanks to significant bipartisan accomplishments under Governor Cooper and historic investments in our communities and economy, North Carolina is primed for decades of new opportunity.

Governor Cooper laid out a clear vision to seize this historic moment by investing in education and our workforce to ensure that every community can prosper for generations to come. Strong communities require strong infrastructure. And under Governor Cooper, North Carolina is making unprecedented investments in the core of our economy and state.

Thanks to historic federal funding from the American Rescue Plan and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, North Carolina is rebuilding roads, bridges and aging clean water infrastructure in hundreds of communities across the state. Better infrastructure means a better quality of life, allowing communities to grow and attract new jobs.

For the first time, North Carolina is investing the resources to connect every home with high-speed internet. Access to the internet isn't optional in today's economy or education system. This investment means connecting communities to jobs, families to healthcare and students to school, giving every community a chance to thrive. Under Governor Cooper, North Carolina is leading the transition to a clean energy economy, bringing in thousands of jobs by working with the business community to plan for the future.

The market has spoken: clean energy isn't just good for the planet, it's the future of the economy. Under Governor Cooper, state government and business leaders are working together to make sure North Carolina is ready for these new industries, and thousands of jobs have already been created. Working together is hard, but Governor Cooper has shown it yields big results. Passing Medicaid Expansion will be a monumental accomplishment for North Carolina.

By working together with Democrats and Republicans, Governor Cooper has put state climate goals into law, raised pay for teachers and created thousands of jobs.

Passing Medicaid expansion has been a top priority for Governor Cooper since taking office because it will cover more than 600,000 North Carolinians with good healthcare. Governor Cooper and legislators have shown that when parties commit to working together, major accomplishments are possible. Under Governor Cooper, North Carolina has avoided job killing culture wars, stood up for freedom, and become the #1 state in the country for business. We need to keep it that way.

The Governor and legislative Democrats will continue to stand up for women's freedom to make their own healthcare decisions. North Carolina must remain a welcoming state that doesn't use schools as weapons to fight culture wars and doesn't try to rewrite history for the purposes of partisan division.

The work's not done: North Carolina's future is bright but we need to:

- Invest in education and job training to give every child a shot at success and a good job without leaving home.
- Work to make our communities safer and to get guns out of the hands of criminals and people who are a danger to themselves and others.
- Rebuild our communities more to be safer and more resilient against climate change.

Bottom Line: This is a once-in-a-generation moment in North Carolina. We can make investments that will build enduring prosperity and help people thrive for generations to come. The future is bright but we need to continue to work together, stop divisive culture wars and focus on the needs of families and hardworking people to get the job done.

"Freedom to Vote" Bill Filed by House and Senate Democrats

All House and Senate Democrats introduced a “Freedom to Vote” bill this week. You can read the [House version here](#).

The “Freedom to Vote” bill seeks to make our elections safer, more secure and more transparent by clearly defining and prohibiting voter and election worker intimidation and harassment. The legislation also provides the State Board of Elections with the funding it needs to safely and securely administer elections.

While Democrats were fighting to protect people’s right to vote, Republican legislators were filing bills to amend the state constitution to [limit in-person Early Voting](#) and to [make it harder to cast a vote](#) by mail-in absentee ballot.

The “Freedom to Vote” bill would make voting more accessible to North Carolinians by establishing online voter registration. This would provide a convenient and efficient method for eligible voters to register. The bill also would expand early voting hours, giving North Carolinians more time to get to the ballot box. Additionally, this bill seeks to prevent voter roll purges that unfairly remove voters without notice. This measure ensures that eligible voters will not be disenfranchised and that everyone who is qualified to vote can do so.

Finally, the bill also requires that, by the next census, our state adopts a new redistricting process, which will create fair and impartial district lines that do not favor one political party over another. This measure ensures that every vote counts and that the political process is not manipulated for political gain. The people should pick their political leaders rather than with gerrymandering where the politicians pick their voters.

Common-Sense Gun Safety Bills Put Forward

Democratic legislators were joined this week by law enforcement officers, citizens impacted by gun violence, and advocacy groups like North Carolinians Against Gun Violence and Moms Demand Action to push for an array of common-sense gun safety bills.

“Allow Extreme Risk Protection Orders to Save Lives and Prevent Suicides” is [HB 281](#) and would follow the lead of other states to temporarily restrict a person’s access to firearms if there is evidence the person poses a danger of physical harm to himself or to others. Commonly called “red flag laws” these laws have worked in other states to prevent violence and suicides among people who are undergoing a crisis that may be temporary, but can cause permanent tragedy.

[HB 283](#) would extend North Carolina’s pistol permit requirement to include long guns as well. Closing this loophole will strengthen background checks and help keep guns out of the hands of people that local law enforcement know are dangerous.

A third bill, [HB 284](#), allows law enforcement agencies to destroy firearms that are unclaimed, surrendered to law enforcement, or confiscated from criminals rather than store these firearms indefinitely at taxpayer expense. This bill will save taxpayer money and also give law enforcement the discretion to destroy firearms rather than have them be stolen or lost and end up in the hands of criminals in the community.

In contrast to these common-sense gun safety reforms, House Republicans advanced in committee the [Firearms Liberty Act \(HB 101\)](#). This bill allows for lifetime concealed carry permits, removes the current requirement for some permit holders to take a firearm safety course, and, amazingly, allows a person who is the subject of a domestic violence order to maintain ownership of their firearms rather than having to turn them over to law enforcement.

NC Air National Guard 75th Anniversary

Last weekend, members of the Mecklenburg County Legislative Delegation visited the North Carolina Air National Guard (NCANG) at Charlotte-Douglas International Airport. The NCANG was celebrating its 75th Anniversary with the dedication of its new \$28 million dollar C-17 Hangar.

It was great to sit in the cockpit and reflect back on the times I was an Aircraft Commander.



NC Equity Advocacy Certificate Program



I had the pleasure to meet with participants from the NC Equity Advocacy Certificate Program. In this program, participants learn how to identify and evaluate what makes an advocate, develop valuation frameworks, and learn soft skills such as pitching deals, storytelling with data, and networking.

The participants are small business owners and nonprofit leaders in their communities.

NC Social Work Advocacy Day



Last week, I met Ticola Ross, Clinical Assistant Professor & Field Education Director at UNC-C and Ericka Ellis-Stewart, Director of Corporate Social Responsibility with Atrium Health. Both ladies were here at the General Assembly participating in North Carolina Social Work Advocacy Day.

Here's a quick snippet of Opening Day inside the House Chamber
https://f.io/e4Qb1Fk_

Enjoy your weekend...PEACE!



[Join Our Mailing List &
Follow Me on Facebook](#)



It's easy to join our mailing list! Just
send your email address by text
message:
Text MAJEEDN to 22828 to get started

Visit our Website



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

Unsubscribe_sjohnston@tuesdayforumcharlotte.org

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

Sent by majeedla@ncleg.net powered by



Try email marketing for free today!