

Keeping Our Eyes on Raleigh



From Alexa Roberts <info@newruralproject.org>
To Steve Johnston <sjohnston@tuesdayforumcharlotte.org>
Reply-To <info@newruralproject.org>
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New RURAL PROJECT

Dear Steve:

New Rural Project is closely watching what is happening in Raleigh, North Carolina's state capitol! On Friday, March 10th, I spoke at a Leandro Plan press event in Raleigh with other partner organizations advocating for every child in our state's constitutional right to a sound basic education.

I was back in Raleigh on Tuesday, March 14th, along with two other NRP staff members, Regional Organizer Quanisea Moses, and Administrative Assistant Maryjane Conti, to attend *A People's Rally at the Capitol* which was held across from the NC Supreme Court building.



The purpose of the rally was to shine a light on two NC Supreme Court cases we mentioned last week in our February Rural Roundup newsletter. The Supreme Court of North Carolina made a nearly unprecedented move to rehear two critical cases on March 14th and 15th: **Harper v. Hall**, which struck down North Carolina's congressional and legislative maps because of partisan gerrymandering, and **Holmes v. Moore**, which blocked a restrictive photo voter ID law that the court's Democratic majority found to have a "disparate impact" on African-American voters.

Since there are no new facts, new laws, or reasons (other than the recent change in the political composition of the NC Supreme Court), the decision to rehear these previously decided cases should be alarming to everyone who respects our government's system of checks and balances.

Speakers from various organizations from across North Carolina came together to let the Court and the Legislature know that we, the People, will not be silent when our democracy is being threatened. The rally culminated with a march to the Legislative Building where hundreds of people delivered invitations to House Speaker Tim Moore and Senate President Pro Tem Phil Berger, for an upcoming People's Town Hall on March 28th in Raleigh.

At New Rural Project, we don't just promote civic engagement, we practice and participate in it! Join us today to support our work fostering civic and electoral engagement within the marginalized communities of rural North Carolina.

HELP SUPPORT OUR WORK

In gratitude,

Alexa Roberts

New Rural Project
Program Director

P.S. Join us virtually on **Wednesday, March 22, 2023 beginning at 7:00 PM to talk about Medicaid Expansion** as we speak with a panel of experts and everyday citizens. [Register here to join us on Zoom.](#)

P.P.S. We are also working hard on the issue of Voting Rights! Join us virtually on **Thursday, March 30, 2023, beginning at 6:00 PM, as we phone bank** to reach out to thousands of rural citizens who have been removed from the voter registration rolls during the State Board of Election's routine purge. Help us ensure that these voters have the information they need to restore their right to vote - all you need is a phone, a computer/tablet with WiFi access, and a change-maker attitude. [Register here to join us!](#)



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