

NC State AFL-CIO
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**WORKERS TO PICKET REPUBLICAN PARTY OVER WARPED POLICY
PRIORITIES**

Working families are tired of being asked to sacrifice while Republican leaders and the corporate executives who fund their campaigns sacrifice nothing.

Raleigh, N.C. – April 28, 2011 – While 37,000 North Carolinians who have been jobless more than 79 weeks continue to go without extended unemployment benefits and state lawmakers debate bills that would erode protections for injured workers, make deep cuts to public education and health, and roll back voting rights, working families are facing fresh attacks from Republican leadership at the federal level.

Earlier this month, freshman U.S. Representative Renee Ellmers joined four of her Republican colleagues from North Carolina to approve a federal budget for 2012 that would end Medicare as we know it, turn Medicaid into a block grant program, and lay the groundwork for privatizing Social Security. The Republican budget would cut funding for regulators who protect the public from the worst labor, environmental, health insurance, and financial company abuses. Most galling to working families, Republicans have coupled these program cuts with a ten-point reduction in taxes on corporations and top income earners – in addition to making permanent the Bush-era tax cuts – while continuing to give public subsidies to the highly profitable oil and financial industries.

“Republicans in Raleigh and in Washington, DC keep telling us we’re broke, and tough times call for shared sacrifice,” says retiree Duane Adkinson of Garner. “I can’t see how tax cuts for millionaires and corporations while turning Medicare into a voucher program and firing teachers is shared sacrifice.”

On Friday, April 29 at 10:30 am, workers and retirees will walk a picket line outside the headquarters of the North Carolina Republican Party on Hillsborough Street in Raleigh to call attention to its warped policy priorities.

What: Picket outside the NC Republican Party headquarters

When: Friday, April 29, 2011 at 10:30 am

Where: 1506 Hillsborough St, Raleigh, NC 27605

Why: From the legislature to Capitol Hill, Republican Party leaders are busy demanding sacrifices from working families while sacrificing nothing themselves.

Who: Organized by the NC State AFL-CIO

For more information or to schedule an interview with a worker or an officer of the NC State AFL-CIO, call Jeremy Sprinkle at 336-255-2711.

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