

# A Working People's Agenda

Prepared by North Carolina State AFL-CIO  
James Andrews, President

2013-14 Legislative Session  
MaryBe McMillan, Secretary-Treasurer

*Times are still difficult for North Carolina's working families. The decisions made by the N.C. General Assembly in the 2013-14 legislative session will be crucial in determining the future of those families. As in the past, the N.C. State AFL-CIO will be a leading, and sometimes the only, voice for workers and their families on work-place related issues at the legislature.*

*It will be extremely challenging this session to garner support for our issues. As a result, it is more important than ever that legislators hear from union members about the issues important to working families. And it is equally important that we hold legislators accountable when they vote for policies that hurt workers' interests.*

*We have adopted an agenda that we believe addresses the most fundamental needs of North Carolina workers and their families. Our agenda promotes good jobs, safe workplaces, and strong protection of our rights as workers, voters, and consumers. It is an agenda that will move our economy forward by putting people back to work and enabling them to provide for their families. It is an agenda that recognizes that helping workers is how we help the overall economy.*

## Good Jobs

**The people of North Carolina deserve reliable, family-sustaining jobs in healthy communities.**

The people of North Carolina deserve reliable, family-sustaining jobs in healthy communities. Too many good jobs, especially in the manufacturing sector, have been lost, and far too many people are now unemployed or working at replacement jobs that provide lower wages and less stability. North Carolina needs to recruit and train our citizens for family-sustaining jobs – those that provide good wages and benefits.

Our state should develop policies that:

- Require that companies receiving tax incentives will provide

good jobs that will raise, not lower, the standard of living for working families.

- Expand apprenticeship programs and focus workforce development efforts on skills that enable workers to move into good-paying jobs.
- Create a work-sharing program to keep people employed, reducing both layoffs and costs to employers.

## Worker Protection

**In times of high unemployment, workers have fewer options and thus often are more likely to tolerate abuses in the workplace.** Therefore, we urge state policymakers to strengthen worker protections and safeguard fundamental labor rights.

For example:

- Maintain and protect our workers compensation system and unemployment insurance program, both of which are critical in this economy and pay reasonable benefits at relatively low costs for employers.
- Curb workplace fraud resulting from wage theft and the misclassification of employees—a practice that robs the state of millions of dollars in lost tax revenue.
- Insure workplace health and safety for all, including migrant workers. Adopt stronger pesticide regulations, a heat stress standard, and mandatory bathroom breaks. Provide improvements in migrant housing, such as privacy in the bathrooms and locks on the doors.
- Improve our state's labor law so that children who work in agriculture are treated the same as those in other industries as to minimum age, hours of employment, and rest breaks, while preserving the exemption for family farms.
- Allow government entities that wish to do so to engage in collective bargaining agreements with their employees.
- Make sure all public employees have access to a fair appeals process and the freedom of payroll dues deduction.

## A Strong Safety Net

Many families are still struggling to make ends meet. If severe budget cuts continue, our public infrastructure, including our schools, will suffer, and many people—including seniors, the disabled, and children—will lose the assistance they depend upon for survival. By providing necessary support to the vulnerable and those still struggling to find jobs, we provide a lifeline to families in need and also help stimulate local economies. A balanced approach to the budget that combines protection for the vulnerable with tax fairness is both a moral imperative and fiscally responsible.

For example, the legislature should:

- Protect vital public services for the elderly, children, and those with special needs.
- Modernize our tax code to ensure adequate revenue and progressive, fair taxation that doesn't ask more from those least able to pay. Generate revenue by closing the loophole that allows large, multistate corporations to avoid paying their fair share of NC taxes.
- Prevent the privatization of our education system through vouchers and charter schools and instead adequately fund our public schools so the future generation will have the skills and training needed to obtain good jobs.
- Expand Medicaid coverage under the Affordable Care Act and establish a consumer-friendly Health Benefits Exchange.
- Restore funding to the Housing Trust Fund.

## A Fair and Open Democracy

We believe in a government of the people, by the people, and for the people. In keeping with the founding principles of our democracy, we will oppose any efforts at voter suppression including ID requirements and the shortening of the early voting period. We will support an independent redistricting commission as well as public campaign financing and other efforts to level the playing field and take special interest money out of politics.

## Consumer Protection

We have seen how easy credit and unscrupulous lending practices can damage our economy and wreck families' lives. Now more than ever, we must guard against predatory lending, unnecessary garnishment of wages, and other abusive practices that weaken working families' financial security and economic well-being.

## Federal Issues

It will take more than just state legislative policies to get our economy back on track. We also need federal investment in job creation. We will lobby our congressional representatives to stop unfair trade deals and tax policies that have helped send manufacturing jobs overseas. We will fight for wage standards that make all jobs good jobs, and we will advocate for labor law reform, collective bargaining rights for first responders,

comprehensive immigration reform, and protection of critical federal assistance programs like Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid.

To create an economy that finally works for everyone, we need a working people's agenda passed at all levels of government. We are counting on you, our members, to help make that happen.

## Contacting Your Legislators

Use this information to reach out to your elected lawmakers in Raleigh and Washington, DC, and press them to adopt an agenda that works for working people.

## N.C. Senators

<u>Phone (all 919)</u>	<u>Senator</u>	<u>Office</u>
733-5876	Allran	625 LOB
733-5745	Apodaca	2010 LB
715-3036	Barefoot	623 LOB
733-5653	Barringer	411 LOB
733-5708	Berger	2008 LB
733-5665	Bingham	2117 LB
733-5752	Blue	1117 LB
715-0690	Brock	521 LOB
715-3034	Brown	300-B LOB
733-7850	Brunstetter	2022 LB
733-5878	Bryant	520 LOB
733-9349	Clark	1121 LB
715-8331	Clodfelter	620 LOB
715-8293	Cook	525 LOB
715-3038	Curtis	410 LOB
715-7823	Daniel	1127 LB
715-8363	Davis (Don)	518 LOB
733-5875	Davis (James)	2111 LB
733-5955	Ford	1119 LB
733-5190	Forest	2104 LB
715-2525	Goolsby	406 LOB
733-5650	Graham	622 LOB
301-1446	Gunn	312 LOB
733-5734	Harrington	2113 LB
733-7223	Hartsell	300-C LOB
733-3460	Hise	1026 LB
733-5850	Hunt	309 LOB
733-5705	Jackson	523 LOB
715-3040	Jenkins	621 LOB
733-5804	Kinnaird	628 LOB
733-4599	McKissick	516 LOB
733-5953	McLaurin	1118 LB
733-5776	Meredith	314 LOB
715-3001	Nesbitt	1129 LB
715-3030	Newton	408 LOB
733-5620	Parmon	519 LOB
733-5621	Pate	1028 LB
733-5748	Rabin	526 LOB
733-5963	Rabon	2108 LB
733-5743	Randleman	308 LOB
715-3042	Robinson	1120 LB
733-5655	Rucho	300-A LOB
733-5706	Sanderson	629 LOB

<u>Phone (all 919)</u>	<u>Senator</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Phone (all 919)</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Office</u>
733-5742	Soucek	310 LOB	733-5749	Hager	304 LOB
715-6400	Stein	1113 LB	733-5872	Hall (Larry)	506 LOB
715-3050	Tarte	2115 LB	733-5755	Hall (Duane)	1019 LB
733-5870	Tillman	627 LOB	733-5754	Hamilton	1313 LB
733-7659	Tucker	311 LOB	733-5829	Hanes, Jr.	1305 LB
733-5856	Wade	2106 LB	733-5191	Hardister	632 LOB
733-5651	Walters	517 LOB	733-5771	Harrison	1218 LB
733-4809	Woodard	515 LOB	715-2002	Hastings	2123 LB

Check the N.C. General Assembly website for more information: <http://www.ncleg.net/>

## **N.C. Representatives**

<u>Phone (all 919)</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Phone (all 919)</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Office</u>
733-5902	Adams	1219 LB	733-5904	Howard	302 LOB
733-5778	Alexander, Jr.	404 LOB	733-5865	Hurley	532 LOB
715-3007	Arp, Jr.	531 LOB	301-1450	Iler	637 LOB
733-5530	Avila	2217 LB	733-7208	Insko	502 LOB
733-5824	Baskerville	1315 LB	733-5974	Jackson	1013 LB
733-5863	Bell (Larry)	508 LOB	733-5654	Jeter, Jr.	1002 LB
715-3017	Bell (John)	418A LOB	733-5861	Johnson	301D LOB
733-5805	Blackwell	541 LOB	733-5779	Jones, Jr.	416A LOB
733-5781	Blust	2208 LB	733-7727	Jordan	420 LOB
733-5903	Boles, Jr.	528 LOB	733-5747	Lambeth	610 LOB
733-5825	Brandon, Jr.	1217 LB	733-5849	Langdon, Jr.	417B LOB
733-5741	Brawley (Robert)	303 LOB	715-3015	Lewis	1326 LB
733-5800	Brawley, Jr. (William)	534 LOB	733-5775	Lucas	509 LOB
733-5772	Brisson	405 LOB	733-7663	Luebke	513 LOB
715-3029	Brody	2219 LB	715-3010	Malone	603 LOB
715-0873	Brown (Rayne)	633 LOB	715-3023	Martin	306C LOB
733-5757	Brown (Brian)	604 LOB	733-6275	McElraft	634 LOB
733-5607	Bryan, III	536 LOB	733-5956	McGrady	419B LOB
733-5809	Bumgardner	608 LOB	733-0057	McManus	1319 LB
733-5908	Burr	307A LOB	715-4946	McNeill	418C LOB
733-5827	Carney	1221 LB	715-2528	Michaux, Jr.	1227 LB
733-5830	Catlin	638 LOB	715-9664	Millis	609 LOB
715-6707	Cleveland	417A LOB	733-5780	Mobley	501 LOB
733-5802	Collins	1106 LB	715-3012	Moffitt	2119 LB
733-5787	Conrad	606 LOB	733-4838	Moore (Timothy)	2301 LB
715-0706	Cotham	403 LOB	733-5606	Moore (Rodney)	1213 LB
733-5807	Cunningham	1109 LB	733-5602	Murry	2121 LB
733-5605	Daughtry	2207 LB	733-5803	Pierce	1204 LB
733-5786	Davis, Jr.	418B LOB	715-2009	Pittman	1321 LB
715-3021	Dixon	416B LOB	733-5732	Presnell	1025 LB
715-2526	Dockham	2204 LB	715-3005	Queen	1017 LB
715-0795	Dollar	307B1 LOB	733-5746	Ramsey	1004 LB
715-2530	Earle	514 LOB	733-5878	Richardson	1209 LB
733-5935	Elmore	306A3 LOB	733-5905	Riddell	533 LOB
733-5877	Faircloth, Jr.	613 LOB	733-5773	Ross (Deborah)	1023 LB
733-5898	Farmer-Butterfield	1220 LB	733-5820	Ross (Stephen)	1010 LB
715-2013	Fisher	504 LOB	733-5782	Saine	402 LOB
733-5959	Floyd	1325 LB	715-3009	Samuelson	2226 LB
733-5881	Ford	607 LOB	733-5886	Schaffer	1323 LB
715-3019	Foushee	1111 LB	733-4948	Setzer	1206 LB
733-5860	Fulghum, III M.D.	602 LOB	715-9644	Shepard	530 LOB
733-5880	Gill	1303 LB	733-5853	Speciale	1008 LB
733-5601	Glazier	1021 LB	733-2962	Stam	612 LOB
733-5823	Goodman	542 LOB	733-5931	Starnes	301F LOB
715-0875	Graham (Charles)	1309 LB	733-0010	Steinburg, Sr.	306A2 LOB
733-5995	Graham, Jr. (George)	1317 LB	715-1883	Stevens	635 LOB
			715-3026	Stone	529 LOB

**Phone (all 919)**

733-9892  
 733-5777  
 733-3451  
 733-5906  
 715-3024  
 733-5868  
 733-5661  
 733-5821  
 733-5784  
 733-5988  
 733-5859  
 715-4466  
 715-0850  
 733-5662

**Representative**

Szoka  
 Terry  
 Tillis  
 Tine  
 Tolson  
 Torbett  
 Turner  
 Waddell  
 Warren  
 Wells  
 West  
 Whitmire  
 Wilkins, Jr.  
 Wray

**Office**

2223 LB  
 1015 LB  
 2304 LB  
 1307 LB  
 510 LOB  
 538 LOB  
 1104 LB  
 1311 LB  
 611 LOB  
 2221 LB  
 1229 LB  
 537 LOB  
 1301 LB  
 503 LOB

Check the N.C. General Assembly website for more information: <http://www.ncleg.net/>

**Contacting the N.C. State AFL-CIO**

By Phone: 919-833-6678 (Office)  
 919-880-2265 (President Andrews)  
 919-523-2835 (Secretary-Treasurer McMillan)

By Fax: 919-828-2102

By Email: [info@afclionc.org](mailto:info@afclionc.org)

On the Web: **afclionc.org**

Facebook: **facebook.com/ncstateafclio**

Twitter: **twitter.com/@ncstateafclio**

By Mail: NC State AFL-CIO  
 P.O. Box 10805  
 Raleigh, NC 27605

In Person: 1408 Hillsborough St  
 Raleigh, NC 27605

**U.S. Senators****Phone**

202-224-3154  
 800-685-8916  
 202-224-6342  
 336-333-5311

**Senator**

Hon. Richard BURR (R)  
 Hon. Kay HAGAN (D)

**Office**

217-R  
 Winston-Salem  
 521-D  
 Greensboro

Check the U.S. Senate website for more information: <http://www.senate.gov/>

**U.S. Representatives****Phone**

202-225-3101  
 202-225-4531  
 202-225-3415  
 202-225-1784  
 202-225-2071  
 202-225-3065  
 202-225-2731  
 202-225-3715  
 202-225-1976  
 202-225-2576  
 202-225-6401  
 202-225-1510  
 202-225-3032

**Representative**

Butterfield, G.K. (D)  
 Ellmers, Renee (R)  
 Jones, Walter B. (R)  
 Price, David (D)  
 Foxx, Virginia (R)  
 Coble, Howard (R)  
 McIntyre, Mike (D)  
 Hudson, Richard (R)  
 Pittenger, Robert (R)  
 McHenry, Patrick T. (R)  
 Meadows, Mark (R)  
 Watt, Mel (D)  
 Holding, George (R)

**District**

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**Office**

2305-R  
 426-C  
 2333-R  
 2162-R  
 2350-R  
 2188-R  
 2428-R  
 429-C  
 224-C  
 2334-R  
 1516-L  
 2304-R  
 507-C

Check the U.S. House website for more information: <http://www.house.gov/>

**Office Legend**

LB=Legislative Building (16 W. Jones St, Raleigh, NC)

LOB=Legislative Office Building (300 N. Salisbury St, Raleigh, NC)

D=Senate Dirksen Building

R=Senate Russell Building

R=Rayburn House Building

L=Longworth House Building

C=Cannon House Building