Greetings,

The North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University Student Government Association: Vandergrift Administration would like to thank all of the candidates who participated in the creation of the Real Aggies Vote: Voter Guide. All questions asked to the candidates were crafted by The Student Government Association: The Vandergrift Association. We decided to create our own Voter Guide to ensure that the issues our student body cared about were directly addressed by the candidates vying for our votes. The days of issue based campaigning to college students have arrived and we are excited to be at the forefront of this movement.

In essence of Aggie Pride,

Student Government Association 2018-2019
Vandergrift Administration

REAL AGGIES Vote

For questions about this Guide, call (336) 334-7820.


Learn more about the candidates at their specific websites.
FULL LIST OF CANDIDATES

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 6: BLAIR HALL, MCCAIN HALL, MCNEIL HALL, RICHMOND HALL, COOPER HALL, HALEY HALL, PRIDE HALL, SUITES E, SUITES F, SEBASTIAN APARTMENTS, COLLEGIATE COMMONS, ACADEMIC POINTE, AGGIE TERRACE:

RYAN WATTS (D)
MARK WALKER (R)

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 13: BARBEE HALL, VANSTORY HALL, HOLLAND HALL, CURTIS HALL, MORRISON HALL, MORROW HALL, CAMPUS EVOLUTION:

KATHY MANNING (D)
TOM BAILEY
TED BUDD (R)
ROBERT CORRIHER

STATE SENATE DISTRICT 28:

GLADYS ROBINSON (D)
CLARK PORTER (R)

NC STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DISTRICT 57:

ASHTON CLEMMONS (D)
TROY LAWSON (R)

NC STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DISTRICT 61:

MARY PRICEY HARRISON (D)
ALISSA BATTS (R)

DISTRICT ATTORNEY:

avery crump (D)

SHERIFF:

DANNY ROGERS (D)
BJ BARNES (R)

NC SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE 18A:

LORA CHRISTINE CUBBAGE (D)
MARK CUMMINGS (D)

NC DISTRICT COURT SEAT 2:

LARRY ARCHIE
JONATHAN G. (JON) KREIDER

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AT-LARGE:

KAY CASHION (D)

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT 8:

SKIP ALSTON (D)

BOARD OF EDUCATION AT-LARGE:

WINSTON MCGREGOR (D)
MARC W. RIDGILL (R)

BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 8:

DEENA HAYES (D)
REAL AGGIES

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 6 CANDIDATES

Vote
B. MARK WALKER
WEBSITE: walker4nc.com

PARTY: Republican
BIO: After sixteen years in vocational ministry, Mark Walker followed a new calling and launched an improbable campaign for Congress. Since swearing-in January of 2015, Walker is making a difference in reducing the waste and excess of the federal government; leading on anti-human trafficking legislation, removing Washington out of our classrooms and pushing for criminal justice reform. Walker also taught as a college lecturer on mentorship and administration at Liberty University. Along with international work, Rep. Walker worked in our nation’s larger inner cities hosting music and sports camps for underprivileged communities. Walker’s wife, Kelly, is a family nurse practitioner and flight trauma specialist with Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center. Mark and Kelly have three children and are celebrating twenty-five years of marriage.

CANDIDATE FOR U.S. CONGRESS DISTRICT 6

QUESTION & ANSWER

Statistically, black children in North Carolina underperform academically in comparison to their white counterparts. How will you ensure that public schools, regardless of the racial and economic breakdown of their students, provide comparable and competitive education?

Education is the key to solving many of the problems facing our country and should be a top priority for state and local government. To assist in their efforts, I have introduced legislation to direct federal funds back to and localities, and remove any strings attached so that families, teachers, administrators and communities can spend these dollars how they see fit. Legislature, we WILL adopt laws that Protect women and anyone who says NO.

Prisons are disproportionately filled with black people. Once convicted and imprisoned, it greatly limits your ability to fully participate in society. Consequently, upon leaving the prison system, black people are left without the societal support to ensure they don’t end up back in prison. What is your stance on mass incarceration and what steps have you taken to dismantle this attack on the humanity of African Americans?

This year, I joined Cedric Richmond, the Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, in an op-ed calling for continued conversations and legislation on criminal justice reform. Together, we said, “Our conversations about criminal justice reform should reach beyond crime and punishment. We have to focus on restoration and rehabilitation. We have to rebuild the relationships between police and the communities they serve. Children should not bear the consequences of the actions of their mothers and fathers, nor should we leave them trapped in a cycle of crime and poverty. Moreover, crime should have a cost, but, once paid, society should help lay a path to success for those who have paid their debt.”
REAL AGGIES Vote

RYAN WATTS
WEBSITE: wattsforcongress.com

PARTY: Democrat
BIO: Ryan Watts was born and raised in North Carolina, he was educated in our public schools and earned his Bachelor’s Degree in Business and Political Science from UNC Chapel Hill. His family and close friends identify all over the political spectrum, and conversations with them have taught him the value of listening to all sides of an argument. This perspective has served Ryan well in his work as a consultant. He’s helped small and large businesses navigate a changing economy without throwing workers under the bus. Ryan wants to bring this experience to Washington. He is dedicated to being accountable to the citizens of District 6 and hopes he can count on your vote.

CANDIDATE FOR U.S. CONGRESS DISTRICT 6

QUESTION & ANSWER

Statistically, black children in North Carolina underperform academically in comparison to their white counterparts. How will you ensure that public schools, regardless of the racial and economic breakdown of their students, provide comparable and competitive education?

I would start by moving to rescind the recent tax break on corporations and the wealthiest 1% and sending that money to underfunded and under-served schools. When schools have more money, they can spend it on updating textbooks, technology, curricula, etc. to make sure their students have all the resources they need to achieve success. I am also advocating for a National High-Speed Internet Initiative which would modernize our informational infrastructure to ensure every community has equal access to the internet. With such infrastructure in place, students would be able to keep up with their coursework from home in the event of inclement weather so they don’t get behind students in other regions.

How will you successfully and efficiently advocate for the needs of HBCUs?

I have committed to Representative Alma Adams to maintain and expand the HBCU Internship program she created. In addition, I would like to work with students and University officials to schedule regular town halls; you deserve a representative who listens to you and I am committed to showing up and being accountable to you.
REAL AGGIES

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 13 CANDIDATES
KATHY MANNING
WEBSITE: kathymanning2018.com

PARTY: Democrat
BIO: After graduating from Harvard University and the University of Michigan Law School, Kathy moved with her husband to his hometown of Greensboro, NC in 1987, where they have raised their three children. After serving as a partner at a major law firm for 15 years, Kathy left to start her own small business. As a community and nonprofit leader, Kathy has held leadership positions within numerous organizations, including United Way, Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro, and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. In her community and nonprofit work, Kathy worked to provide job retraining, mortgage assistance, food and healthcare for people thrown out of work by the Great Recession. She also worked to ensure school readiness programs for underprivileged children, make college more affordable for local high school students, and to help retired North Carolinians live with dignity. Kathy has also worked tirelessly to spur economic development in Greensboro so our area could attract new businesses that will provide the good paying jobs we need.

CANDIDATE FOR U.S. CONGRESS DISTRICT 13

What is your stance on mass incarceration and what steps have you taken to dismantle this attack on the humanity of African Americans?

The school to prison pipeline is a cycle that must be broken through significant reforms to our educational and judicial systems, and community relations. The United States incarcerates more people than any other nation on the planet and our track record of recidivism is abysmal. Comprehensive reforms are necessary to decrease the number of people being incarcerated, rehabilitate those who have committed crimes, and to improve the support systems available to people once they’ve served their time. We need to work together as a community, with the cooperation of local law enforcement, to improve the relationship between the police and the people they’re sworn to protect. The goal of our criminal justice system should be to keep us safe while ensuring that everyone is treated equally under the law.

I have worked extensively with organizations like the National Conference for Community and Justice, where we worked to fight against racism, bias, and bigotry. My faith and family have always taught me that everyone should be treated with fairness, dignity, and respect. Those are three values I have carried with me throughout my life and will continue to carry in Washington.

Statistically, black children in North Carolina underperform academically in comparison to their white counterparts. How will you ensure that public schools, regardless of the racial and economic breakdown of their students, provide comparable and competitive education?

Quality public education and an equal playing field are the keys to opportunity. I will fight to ensure every child goes to a great public school regardless of their zip code, race, or socioeconomic status. This includes providing multiple pathways to success for our children, including increased vocational and technical training, skills-based apprenticeships, community colleges, HBCUs, and four-year universities. We must continue to innovate, develop, and execute programs that provide support to those who need it most in our schools. Finally, we need to address the student debt problem. We must ensure our students aren’t graduating with so much debt that they are unable to begin careers or invest in their futures. We need to increase access to Pell Grants to make college more affordable for low-income students and their families.

Prisons are disproportionately filled with black people. Once convicted and imprisoned, it greatly limits your ability to fully participate in society. Consequently, upon leaving the prison system, black people are left without the societal support to ensure they don’t end up back in prison.
REAL AGGIES

VOTE

N.C. STATE SENATE DISTRICT 28 CANDIDATES
GLADYS ROBINSON
WEBSITE: gladysrobinson.com

PARTY: Democrat

BIO: Senator Robinson has served 4 terms in the North Carolina Senate and is the Senior Democratic Woman and Deputy Minority Leader. Receiving her undergraduate degree from Bennett College, she received the masters and Ph.D in Leadership Studies from NC A&T. Gladys A. Robinson has expertise in aging, health and education, having worked in nonprofit leadership for 45 years before retiring. As a consultant she conducts board development and nonprofit management training. She was recently received the Legacy of Leaders Distinguished Alumnus Award at the National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame, nominated by NC A&T State University. Active in her community, she is Asst. Church Clerk and Sunday School Teacher at Providence Baptist Church; chairs the Board of Trustees of Bennett College; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., National Council of Negro Women, NC Legislative Black Caucus Foundation, NAACP.

CANDIDATE FOR NC STATE SENATE DISTRICT 28

What is your stance on the NC law that women cannot legally revoke consent once consensual sex has begun, that resulted from a 1979 state supreme court ruling and in what ways might you attempt to abolish this reality?

"No means NO under any circumstances and at any point in a sexual encounter". My colleague Senator Jeff Jackson drafted a bill recently to change the 1979 supreme court ruling to which you refer, but of course, Republicans refused to support the legislation. As a woman and the mother of two women and two granddaughters, my intent and prayer is that their bodies are never violated by an aggressor. However, my aim is to protect all women. My intent is to sponsor or join Senator Jackson as a cosponsor of the legislation again in 2019, to change the 1979 law. North Carolina is the only state that still adheres to such medieval laws. As a proponent of women's rights to determine their own health and what happens to their bodies, I will work with my colleagues to ensure that as we get control of the Legislature, we WILL adopt laws that Protect women and anyone who says NO.

QUESTION & ANSWER

How do you intend to effectively advocate for and preserve HBCUs in North Carolina?

I am a graduate of two HBCUs, Bennett College, and NC A&T State University (M.Ed, and Ph.D). I began advocating for HBCUs in the 1980's as a member of the National Alumni Council of HBCUs. As a member of the UNC Board of Governors from 2000-2010, I was the NC A&T representative on the board in 2000. I strongly argued for the continuation of A&T's nursing program at the time when others wanted to close it. The nursing program not only survived but has grown tremendously with funding. With the support of others, NC A&T moved forward in implementing several other doctoral programs, which required our approval and funding on the BOG. In the General Assembly since 2010, I encouraged my fellow Aggies who came to the Senate in 2012 and beyond to support NC A&T and we have become four Aggies strong in the Senate. I also urged the Legislature to fund NC A&T as a Research I Doctoral Institution, awarding it the same $10 million given to other such institutions in our state. Although A&T only received a portion of the funds, we intend to complete that funding in 2019 as the Legislature changes. As students, YOU also must support HBCUs on campus, in corporate America and across the nation.
REAL AGGIES

ASHTON CLEMMONS

WEBSITE: clemmonsfornc.org

PARTY: Democrat

BIO: Born in Alamance County, Ashton Clemmons has always had a passion for serving the people of the state she proudly calls home. After graduating from UNC-Chapel Hill as a NC Teaching Fellow, she taught school in Durham and Guilford counties, and went on to earn Master’s in School Leadership from Harvard University. Her commitment to education led her to serve as principal of schools in Rockingham and Guilford counties, where she led the turn-around of one of the state’s lowest performing schools. Most recently serving as assistant superintendent of the Thomasville City Schools, Ashton was selected one of the Triad Business Journal’s “40 Leaders under 40” and has also been honored by the United Way with its Human Rights Advocate award. The mother of three young children, Ashton is an energetic and passionate advocate for better schools and job training programs, as well as policies that protect our health care, environment and voting rights. She lives in Greensboro with her husband Bryan Clemmons.

CANDIDATE FOR STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DISTRICT 28

QUESTION & ANSWER

What is your stance on the NC law that women cannot legally revoke consent once consensual sex has begun, that resulted from a 1979 state supreme court ruling and in what ways might you attempt to abolish this reality?

As a woman and mother to a young daughter, building a state where women are respected in all ways is a top priority. This is an incredibly dangerous law that disempowers women and opens the door to the possibility of sexual assault and harassment. When elected I will work with my colleagues to pass legislation to empower women in all choices, including abolishing this unjust law.

How do you intend to effectively advocate for and preserve HBCUs in North Carolina?

Our HBCUs in North Carolina are critical to ensuring academic success for students of color in our state and for furthering our leadership as a state with strong higher education. A student of color is thirteen times as likely to graduate from an HBCU university which demonstrates clearly their importance. I will continue to rely on the leadership of our HBCUs - and NC A&T in particular - to ensure I advocate for the needs that most support their work. Expanded doctoral programming at NC A&T is one example of a specific need identified by the leadership of NC A&T I learned the conversations on the campaign.
What is your stance on the NC law that women cannot legally revoke consent once consensual sex has begun, that resulted from a 1979 state supreme court ruling and in what ways might you attempt to abolish this reality?

In 1979, the North Carolina Supreme Court, in State v. Way, ruled that a man cannot be guilty of rape if the woman first consented to sex, even if she later asks him to stop. In Way, a woman said a date threatened to kill her if she did not have sex with him. The state Supreme Court found that: “If the actual penetration is accomplished with the woman’s consent, the accused is not guilty of rape, although he may be guilty of another crime because of his subsequent actions.” North Carolina is the only state in the country where no doesn’t really mean no. I have co-sponsored several bills over the years to change the law, because I believe we have an obligation to fix this defect in our law. None of these bills have yet passed, but I am committed to continue to work on this issue. These are links to bills I have sponsored recently:

https://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2017/Bills/House/PDF/H793v0.pdf

https://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2015/Bills/House/PDF/H815v0.pdf

How do you intend to effectively advocate for and preserve HBCUs in North Carolina?

I understand the critical role HBCUs play in the education of African American students, many of whom are first generation college students. North Carolina has many strong historically black colleges and universities, including Shaw University: the oldest in the South, the largest HBCU in the nation, NC A&T, and North Carolina’s newest HBCU, North Carolina Central University. Today, the nation’s HBCUs make up just 3 percent of America’s colleges and universities, yet they produce almost 20 percent of all African American graduates and 25 percent of African American graduates in the critically important STEM fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Several HBCUs in other states have closed in recent years due to lack of state support and decreasing levels of Pell grant and other federal financial help. Past NC budgets have not funded our HBCUs at the same level as other state institutions. I support increased funding for HBCUs, and I understand the importance of keeping tuition rates low at HBCUs, so that more students, especially low-income, first-generation college students, are able to take advantage of the stable and nurturing environment they provide for their students. The importance of this is evident in a recent Gallup-Purdue poll which found that African-American graduates of HBCUs are significantly more likely to have felt supported while in college and to be thriving afterward than their African-American peers who graduated from predominantly white institutions.

In an effort to support these important institutions in our state, I have sponsored legislation to provide for critical support for our HBCUs, including creating an HBCU advisory board and an endowment fund to help ensure fiscal stability for North Carolina’s HBCUs. I remain committed to continue to fight for better funding and needed resources for our state’s HBCUs.
CANDIDATE FOR STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DISTRICT 61

ALISSA BATTS
WEBSITE: alissabatts.com

PARTY: Republican
BIO: Alissa Batts is a proud Greensboro resident and an active member of the community. She is the youngest of four from a single parent household. Alissa dedicated herself to learning and promoting good information governance, ultimately becoming the Company's youngest SME. She graduated with a Business degree and an IT Management minor from Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College. As a businesswoman, she is experienced at bringing people together to resolve their differences and gain alignment to move forward. Her job at ITG Brands brought her here but her connections and love for North Carolina has kept her here. Alissa hopes to bring more jobs to Greensboro, keep taxes low and continue to fight for affordable and accessible healthcare. She believes we need better leaders fighting for our citizens and we haven’t had that in a while.

QUESTION & ANSWER

What is your stance on the NC law that women cannot legally revoke consent once consensual sex has begun, that resulted from a 1979 state supreme court ruling and in what ways might you attempt to abolish this reality?

I believe in the rule of law and the presumption of innocence regardless of the crime perpetrated. I believe that NO means NO and that men and women alike should respect and uphold human decency. It’s crucial to have verifiable evidence when a victim comes forward and that’s why I stand with the recent efforts to address the thousands of rape kits that were backlogged for years in our state. I also support the work that Sheriff BJ Barnes and others are continuing to do to address this issue.

Note:

How do you intend to effectively advocate for and preserve HBCUs in North Carolina?

NC A&T is now the largest HBCU in the nation, and along with other HBCUs, have been great at preparing students for jobs that will continue to build on our growing economy, specifically those that are STEM-related. I hope to continue encouraging public-private partnerships and building relationships between our local communities and our elected officials.
Avery Crump

Party: Democrat

BIO: I graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1994 with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and graduated from North Carolina Central University School of Law in 1997. I worked as an assistant district attorney in Bronx County, New York from 1997 to 1999, where I prosecuted various criminal charges. I also worked as an assistant district attorney here in Guilford County from 2000-2008 prosecuting serious violent felonies in Superior Court, such as, murder, rape, sex offenses against women and children, kidnapping, child pornography, and assaults with deadly weapons. During this time, I also worked in juvenile court for over five years in High Point, North Carolina. During the past 9 years, I served as a district court judge here in Guilford County presiding over cases in both criminal and civil courts. In addition, I presided over Juvenile Drug Treatment Court, a specialty court in Greensboro, which helps juveniles overcome their addiction to drugs and alcohol. I am also a proponent for the "Raise the Age" legislation that was passed last year with an effective date of December 1, 2019.

Candidate for District Attorney

Question & Answer

What would your office policies be regarding plea bargaining in drug offense cases?

First Offender programs will be offered to those defendants that qualify and do not have prior convictions for drug offenses.
What role should the Guilford County Sheriff’s Office play in enforcing immigration laws?

Local law enforcement agencies are not required by law to enforce immigration laws. That responsibility falls at the doorstep of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). It is the role of the Guilford County Sheriff’s Office or arresting agencies to ensure all arrestees are fingerprinted and their information is processed through a federal database checking for criminal records and immigration status that will be shared with ICE should the information return with an illegal or wanted status. However, I will not allow any of my officers to racially profile or unlawfully detain individuals for the purpose of checking their immigration status. My primary objective as Sheriff will be to serve all people in an equitable manner that does not violate their civil rights.

Assess the current performance of the sheriff’s department, and if elected, would you keep it in the same direction or change course?

The Guilford County Sheriff’s Office has not been accredited since 1994 when my opponent, BJ Barnes took office and did away with that oversight. As a result, there have been inmate escapes (two inmates escaped from the High Point Jail with more than 50 child molestation charges between the two of them), officer killed by an inmate at his home, PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act) violations with officers having inappropriate sexual relationships with inmates inside their cells, inmate deaths not reported to the DHHS (Department of Health and Human Services), death of innocent citizens due to failed vehicle pursuit policies, inmate suicides and inadequate policies to address inmates with mental health concerns, EEOC Complaints & Federal Lawsuits by current and former employees due to racial/gender/religious discriminatory employment practices costing the tax payers thousands of dollars in legal fees, inmates property stolen, officer vehicle stolen by an arrestee left unattended due to short staffing, high attrition rates costing tax payers millions of dollars, etc. I plan to change the course of the Sheriff’s Office and gain CALEA (Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies) to help the agency meet national standards to limit liability and risk exposure while preventing incidents like the ones mentioned with the current administration. It’s time for a change!
What role should the Guilford County Sheriff’s Office play in enforcing immigration laws?

The Guilford County Sheriff’s Office only has the role of assisting Immigration and Custom Enforcement as requested. Local law enforcement cannot enforce federal immigration laws except in conjunction with federal officers at their request. Should we arrest someone, say for rape, we can arrest them for the state charge of rape, but if we were to find they are here as an undocumented person, we would contact federal authorities and they would press any immigration issues they may have, not us.

Assess the current performance of the sheriff’s department, and if elected, would you keep it in the same direction or change course?

The Guilford County Sheriff’s Office is recognized as an award-winning office that enjoys the respect of law enforcement agencies across the nation. We, during my administration, have maintained a continued decrease in crime, amounting to a crime reduction of 65% during my tenure. This is with population increases as well as increases in responsibility and expectations. Other agencies in the area have not done half as well during the same time period. This is verified by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, State Bureau of Investigation and News 2. My answer, I plan to continue the same successful direction we are heading.
REAL AGGIES

NC SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE 18A CANDIDATES
In the area of hate crimes, what are some of the issues in balancing free speech rights against the need to control offensive activity?

The issues regarding hate crimes as it relates to balancing free speech rights vs need to control offensive activity. The issue is the mens rea (intent) of the person committing the offensive activity. While free speech is a protected constitutional right the intent criminally harm another is not. The issue is trying to determine what one’s intent is behind the speech. In cases of rallies, where there are folks on one side that has a right to speak about dislike of other we can only provide law enforcement to police those crowds. If someone acts on their intent to harm we have to punish to the full extent of the law to ensure we send the message that hate crimes will not be tolerated.

What is your vision for the future of our judicial system: What changes would you advocate and why?

My vision for the future regarding our justice system is to do away with convicted felons who are no longer on probation to have to disclose their past history if they have been out of jail and off probation for two (2) years or more with no recidivism. Also, to restructure the structured sentencing in North Carolina as well as the bond system.
In the area of hate crimes, what are some of the issues in balancing free speech rights against the need to control offensive activity?

On a philosophical level, it is easy to argue the position that the bedrock principle undergirding our Democratic Republic is the right to freely speak. To be sure, any retort encouraging the body politic to “make their voices heard”, recognizes the power of speaking up and speaking out. Words, have more than meanings; they have power.

The ultimate power of words reside in their ability to cause movement; command action. They are the catalyst of the cause and effect dynamic. Thus, hateful, offensive speech begets hateful, offensive activity. It therefore seems axiomatic that to control and prevent offensive conduct, one must control and prevent offensive speech. Yet, in our Country, such has never been the prevailing view – although its logic seems itself to be an evident truth.

The biggest issue we face in confronting hate crimes is whether we as a country are ready for the necessary paradigm shift on how we view the Constitutional right to free speech. Having realized more than a generation ago that the right to free speech is not absolute (for example, you cannot run into a crowded theatre and yell fire), can our system of justice proclaim and recognize the obvious, that the point of speech is action. And therefore, to prohibit certain actions, i.e. hate crimes, certain speech must too be prohibited.

What is your vision for the future of our judicial system: What changes would you advocate and why?

Any honest neutral observer of the judicial system will admit that justice is not blind or equal. How could it be? It is made up and operated by people who bring their own biases and prejudices to bear upon the process. The old adage that justice is blind is not so much a statement of fact, but rather an ideal whose realization we hope for. The biggest issue concerning the administration of (and access to) justice and equal protection under the law is Bail (the right to Bond). The fact that Bail can be used as leverage against Defendant’s who are presumed innocent requires this aspect of the judicial system be scrutinized and changed. Many a Defendant often times plead guilty to crimes they did not commit just to be released from jail, or sent to prison where at least they can go outside. Right now, there is a 17 year old girl who has set in juvenile detention for 3 years waiting on trial. Though she has been convicted of nothing, she has in reality spent almost 1,100 days behind bars, some in solitary confinement, because her family is not financial able to post bail for her. And although the Constitution guarantees her the right to a speedy trial, no Judge has seen fit to help her realize that right, or give her bail while the State dithers about her case.

I would ensure that bonds not be used as a means to gain leverage for any party. I would also guarantee that if the State failed to give a compelling reason for the delay in a case more than 18 months old, the Defendant would be entitled to an unsecured bond.
RIGHT TO HUNT AND FISH

This amendment would acknowledge the right to hunt, fish and harvest wildlife, and to use traditional methods to hunt, fish and harvest wildlife. The amendment does not define “traditional methods.” This right would be subject to laws passed by the Legislature and rules (i) to promote wildlife conservation and management and (ii) to preserve the future of hunting and fishing. If it passes, the amendment will not affect any laws regarding trespassing, property rights or eminent domain. The amendment does not address its effect on local laws concerning public safety or on commercial hunting and fishing. The amendment would also establish that public hunting and fishing are a preferred means of managing and controlling wildlife.

CAP MAXIMUM STATE INCOME TAX AT 7%

The current maximum personal and corporate income tax rate in our State Constitution is 10%. This proposed amendment makes the new limit 7%. This proposed amendment does not reduce your current taxes. It does not change the current individual income tax rate of 5.499%, and it does not change the current corporate income tax rate of 3%. Instead, it limits how much the state income tax rate could go up. This proposed amendment applies only to state income taxes. It does not affect sales taxes, property taxes, or federal taxes. Income taxes are one of the ways State government raises the money to pay for core services such as public education, public health, and public safety. The proposed amendment does not include any exceptions. Therefore, in times of disaster or recession, the State could have to take measures such as cutting core services, raising sales taxes or fees, or increasing borrowing.
CHANGES TO CURRENT VICTIMS’ RIGHTS AMENDMENT

Currently, the North Carolina Constitution guarantees victims of certain crimes the following rights:

- The right to be informed of and present at proceedings related to the accused.
- The right to be heard at sentencing of the accused.
- The right to receive restitution.
- The right to information regarding the crime, how the criminal justice system works, and the rights and services available to victims.
- The right to be informed about the final result of the case.
- The right to be informed of an escape, release, or pardon.
- The right to express views to the Governor or appropriate agency considering release.
- The right to confer with the prosecutor.

If this amendment is adopted, the Constitution would also guarantee victims the following rights:

- To be treated with dignity and respect.
- Reasonable, accurate, and timely notice of a proceeding, upon request.
- To be present at any proceeding, upon request.
- To be reasonably heard at additional kinds of court hearings.
- Restitution in a reasonably timely manner, when ordered by the court.
- Information about the crime, upon request.
- To reasonably confer with the prosecutor.

Today, victims have legal rights if the crime was a major felony, certain domestic violence cases, or one of several other kinds of serious crimes. The amendment would expand the types of offenses that trigger victims’ rights to include all crimes against the person and felony property crimes. These rights would also apply in these cases if committed by juveniles. This amendment directs the Legislature to create a procedure, by motion to the court, for a victim to assert his or her rights. Nothing in this proposed amendment creates a claim against the State or allows the victim to challenge any decision the court makes. The defendant may not use failure to provide these rights as a ground for relief in any civil or criminal matter. The public fiscal note that accompanied this legislation estimates that these changes to our justice system will cost about $1.1 million per year.
LEGISLATURE TO CONTROL JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS

This proposed constitutional amendment would create a new process for filling judicial vacancies. The Legislature would play the dominant role in this process. In North Carolina, the people have a constitutional right to elect judges. Currently, when a judge leaves office before the end of his or her term, the Governor appoints a new judge. In most instances, the person who is appointed by the Governor holds office for less than 2 years, until the next general election.

This proposed amendment would take away the Governor’s current authority to select a replacement judge. The amendment would give the Legislature most of the control over judicial appointments.

Under the amendment, the Legislature chooses 2 or more finalists after they are reviewed by a commission to determine if they are qualified. A person is qualified to hold the office of Justice or Judge if the person is an attorney who is licensed to practice law in North Carolina, is registered to vote, and has not yet reached mandatory retirement age. The Governor then must choose one of the 2 or more finalists that the Legislature selected. If the Governor does not appoint someone from the Legislature’s approved list within 10 days, the Legislature elects someone to fill the vacancy. Under the amendment, the Governor cannot veto any bill that recommends or selects the person to fill a judicial vacancy.

This proposed amendment weakens voters’ constitutional right to elect judges by lengthening how long an appointed judge will serve before an election is held. Today, appointed judges serve until the next election. If the amendment passes, appointed judges would serve up to 4 years before voters could elect or replace them. The amendment applies to judges on the State Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, and trial courts in each county.

The Legislature has the constitutional authority to add 2 additional seats to the Supreme Court. If this amendment passes, then the Legislature could use this newly granted power to choose unelected Supreme Court Justices for 2 newly created vacant seats. These legislatively-chosen judges would serve for up to 4 years before voters could elect or replace them.
PARTY LEADERS IN LEGISLATURE TO CONTROL ETHICS AND ELECTIONS BOARD APPOINTMENTS; ELIMINATE NONPARTISAN REPRESENTATION ON BOARD

Today, North Carolina has a 9-member Bipartisan Board of Ethics and Elections to administer ethics and elections law. The Governor appoints 8 of 9 members of this board from nominees provided by the 2 largest political parties. The Governor appoints the 9th member, who is not a member of a political party, from nominations provided by the other 8 members.

The Legislature passed a law in 2017 establishing an 8-member board to administer elections, ethics, and lobbying laws. The North Carolina Supreme Court struck that law down as unconstitutional because it took executive authority from the Governor. The 2017 law also lacked representation of unaffiliated voters.

This proposed amendment would overturn that Supreme Court decision. It would reduce the current board from 9 members to 8 by removing the only member who represents unaffiliated voters.

If the amendment passes, majority and minority political party leaders in the Legislature would nominate the potential members of the board. There is an argument that nominated members could include members of the Legislature itself. The Governor then would have to choose the 8 members from the finalists the legislative leaders selected. This process would likely create a board of 4 Democrats and 4 Republicans. If the amendment passes, there would be no 9th nonpartisan member.

Removing the 9th board member may result in a 4-4 partisan deadlock vote. Under current law, a tie on this board could drastically restrict early voting opportunities. The board’s responsibilities would include enforcing ethics and elections laws, which includes lobbying, campaign finance, and early voting, among other things. So, the board would oversee the legislative leaders and the Governor who picked them.

If this Amendment passes, it would be only the 2nd board authorized in our constitution. The other is the State Board of Education.
REQUIRE PHOTOGRAPHIC IDENTIFICATION TO VOTE

Require Photographic Identification to Vote

This amendment requires you to show photographic identification to a poll-worker before you can vote in person. It does not apply to absentee voting.

The Legislature would make laws providing the details of acceptable and unacceptable forms of photographic identification after passage of the proposed amendment. The Legislature would be authorized to establish exceptions to the requirement to present photographic identification before voting. However, it is not required to make any exceptions.

There are no further details at this time on how voters could acquire valid photographic identification for the purposes of voting. There is no official estimate of how much this proposal would cost if it is approved.
Guilford County Board of Elections
One-Stop Early Voting Schedule
November 6, 2018 General Elections

1. Old Courthouse - Blue Room
   First Floor
   301 W. Market St, Greensboro
2. Washington Terrace Park
   101 Gordon St, High Point

Additional Locations:
3. Ag Center (Barn)
   3309 Burlington Rd, Greensboro
4. Brown Recreation Center
   302 E. Vandalia Rd, Greensboro
5. Bur-Mil Club
   5834 Bur-Mill Club Rd, Greensboro
6. Craft Recreation Center
   3911 Yanceyville St, Greensboro
7. Deep River Recreation Center
   1529 Skeet Club Rd, High Point
8. Jamestown Town Hall
   301 E Main St, Jamestown
9. Leonard Recreation Center
   6324 Ballinger Rd, Greensboro

Wednesday
Oct 17
Locations 1 & 2
8am - 5pm
Locations 3 - 9
7am - 7pm

Thursday
Oct 18
Locations 1 & 2
8am - 5pm
Locations 3 - 9
7am - 7pm

Friday
Oct 19
Locations 1 & 2
8am - 5pm
Locations 3 - 9
7am - 7pm

Saturday
Oct 20
ALL SITES CLOSED

Sunday
Oct 21
ALL SITES CLOSED

Monday
Oct 22
Locations 1 & 2
8am - 5pm
Locations 3 - 9
7am - 7pm

Tuesday
Oct 23
Locations 1 & 2
8am - 5pm
Locations 3 - 9
7am - 7pm

Wednesday
Oct 24
Locations 1 & 2
8am - 5pm
Locations 3 - 9
7am - 7pm

Thursday
Oct 25
Locations 1 & 2
8am - 5pm
Locations 3 - 9
7am - 7pm

Friday
Oct 26
Locations 1 & 2
8am - 5pm
Locations 3 - 9
7am - 7pm

Saturday
Oct 27
ALL SITES CLOSED

Sunday
Oct 28
Locations 3 - 9
12pm - 5pm

Monday
Oct 29
Locations 1 & 2
8am - 5pm
Locations 3 - 9
7am - 7pm

Tuesday
Oct 30
Locations 1 & 2
8am - 5pm
Locations 3 - 9
7am - 7pm

Wednesday
Oct 31
Locations 1 & 2
8am - 5pm
Locations 3 - 9
7am - 7pm

Thursday
Nov 1
Locations 1 & 2
8am - 5pm
Locations 3 - 9
7am - 7pm

Friday
Nov 2
Locations 1 & 2
8am - 5pm
Locations 3 - 9
7am - 7pm

Saturday
Nov 3
All Sites Open
8am - 1pm

CLOSED
CLOSED

Tuesday
Nov 6
Election Day
Voting at your assigned precinct
6:30am - 7:30pm

For further election related information visit our website at
www.guilforddelections.org or call:
Greensboro - 336-641-3836
High Point - 336-641-7895

EARLY VOTING