



**Chatham County Democratic Party
News You Can Use
November 25, 2024**

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CCDP Events

[Volunteer to Staff Our Tent at Pittsboro First Sunday, December 1, 11:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Downtown Pittsboro](#)

We all need each other right now as we try to move forward after this painful and gut-wrenching loss! You can be there to support other Democratic Voters who need a safe place to vent, grieve, try to understand why, and band together to make a plan as we move forward.

They also need to know about our successes in the election this year. We have a lot of victories to celebrate!

Sign up [here](#).

Other Upcoming Events

Special Meeting of Chatham County Board of Elections and Hearing of Election Protest of Jefferson Griffin, November 26, 5 - 7 p.m., Board of Elections Office 984 Thompson Street, Suite D, Pittsboro

You can join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://meet.goto.com/211663149>

Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts:

<https://meet.goto.com/install>

You can also dial in using your phone.

Access Code: 211-663-149

United States: [+1 \(224\) 501-3412](tel:+12245013412)

Agenda: [24.11.21.Notice of Evidentiary Hearing](#)

###

News from the North Carolina Democratic Party

Justice Allison Riggs Wins Supreme Court Race

Once again, NC Democrats defied the odds with Justice Riggs coming from behind to take the lead in her race against Jefferson Griffin for a spot on our state's Supreme Court. Out of 5,541,013 votes cast, Justice Riggs won by 623 votes. With the GOP using the Republican-led state supreme court to rule in their favor, NCDP made it a priority to focus on judicial races.

Statement from Chair Anderson Clayton:

“North Carolina voters have spoken and Justice Allison Riggs has been elected to keep her seat on the North Carolina Supreme Court. This is a huge win for North Carolinians and the future of our state. Voters know Justice Riggs provides a last line of defense for our democratic values and protects our rights. We are confident that the recount will confirm Justice Riggs' victory, and fulfill the will of the people who made this win possible. Let this race serve as a reminder that every vote counts.”

Republicans Attempt to Strip Josh Stein, Jeff Jackson, and Mo Green of their Elected Duties and Powers

Under the guise of Hurricane Helene relief, Republicans introduced SB 382, a sweeping and blatant power grab that would strip significant power from key offices, undermine

fair elections, and threaten democracy and public accountability. Key provisions of SB 382 include:

- **Stripping Independence:** The bill removes critical powers from offices like the Attorney General and Superintendent of Public Instruction—positions chosen by the voters—and shifts that authority into Republican-controlled hands.
- **Politicizing Elections:** By transferring oversight of the State Board of Elections to the State Auditor, a role Republicans recently claimed, SB 382 undermines trust in election integrity and opens the door to political interference.
- **Attacking Judicial Independence:** SB 382 allows legislative leaders to further interfere with our courts, eroding the judiciary’s ability to serve as a fair and impartial arbiter.

In total, SB 382 represents an unprecedented centralization of power that undermines public trust, weakens our institutions, and prioritizes political partisanship over the needs of the people of North Carolina.

- “SB 382 is nothing more than a blatant power grab by Republicans who are punishing North Carolinians for voting them out of power in key offices. By taking control of the State Board of Elections and giving it to a political appointee, Republicans are rigging the rules to benefit their own party, silencing voters, and undermining fair elections. It’s the same story with our courts—Republicans are stacking the judiciary with handpicked partisans and stripping away independence to ensure their agenda always wins, even when voters don’t agree,” **said Senate Democratic Leader Dan Blue.**

- “North Carolinians deserve better than politicians trying to lock in their power at the expense of democracy and disaster recovery,” **said House Democratic Leader Roberts Reives.** “Instead of working to deliver for families still recovering from Hurricane Helene, Republican leaders are manipulating disaster relief efforts and slowing down much-needed recovery. They’ve made it clear: they care more about consolidating their power than helping people in need.”

- “SB 382 is retaliation for voters choosing change, and it’s an insult to everyone who showed up to participate in the last election. This is a lame-duck legislature using Hurricane Helene relief as a smokescreen to push through an egregious power grab,” **said NCDP Chair Anderson Clayton.** “While North Carolinians are focused on recovering from devastating storms, Republicans are dismantling fair elections, stripping power from voter-elected offices, and stacking the deck to secure their own control. The Democratic Party will not let this abuse of power go unchecked. We stand with the people of North Carolina in fighting for a government that works for everyone—not just those already in power.”

###

Reives Report, November 21

[Power Grab Dressed Up as Recovery](#)

District 20 Updates from NC State Senator Natalie Murdock (Highlights)

Senate Bill 382 - A Partisan Power Grab

Earlier this week, [Senate Bill 382 - Disaster Relief-3/Budget/Various Law Changes](#) was rushed through the house and senate, while masquerading as a Disaster Relief Bill. The bill strips authority from the incoming governor and attorney general, and makes various changes to the elections process. This move by the general assembly is undemocratic and is an insult to the 4.5 million North Carolinians who participated in the election. These citizens made their voices heard, electing a governor and attorney general they trusted to govern and oversee critical functions, only to see their choices undermined by an effort to strip those officials of their rightful authority. The bill is extensive, but here are several of the extreme policy changes that will occur if this bill becomes law.

Bill Summary:

Court Packing

Creates 2 Special Superior Court Judge Positions: 1 nominated by Speaker of House, 1 nominated by President Pro Tempore of Senate
Eliminates elected judicial seats for Bryan Collins (Wake) and L Todd Burke (Forsyth)
Abolishes the NC Court Commission
Takes supreme court and court of appeals vacancy appointment power away from governor by limiting his choices to a list provided by political party leaders.

Board of Elections Authority

Moves authority over the state's Board of Elections from the governor to the state auditor's office - Includes appointment and administrative authorities.
Bans the attorney general from taking stances in court that don't align with the opinions of state legislative leaders, which would prevent him from arguing against unconstitutional laws that violate voting rights, first amendment rights, and much more.
Requires the governor to fill judicial vacancies from a list of recommendations provided by the political party of the departing judge.
Shortens the ballot curing period from 10 days to 3, which would severely limit voters' ability to ensure their vote is counted.

Rural Life Initiative

Last week, I along with my colleague from the House, Rep. Donna White, joined Commissioner Beth Pugh Farrell, and Capitol Grange President, Barden Culbreth, to

announce The Rural Life Initiative. The Rural Life Initiative is a national project undertaken by a number of Granges in seven pilot states, including North Carolina. This partnership between Pfizer and the Grange is to bring resources to rural communities that are already struggling with addressing healthcare needs, whether its access to care or access to accurate information, local granges are taking this money and investing in grassroots community needs.

North Carolina was the largest recipient of grants funding. The Capitol Grange, the local Raleigh chapter, has reached out and directed its grant money to the [Carolina Cancer Foundation](#). For a video with more information about this partnership [watch here!](#)

Governor Cooper Signs Disaster Recovery Act - Part II

Governor Cooper signed the following bill into law: [The Disaster Recovery Act of 2024 - Part II](#).

Governor Cooper issued the following statement on his signing of SB 743:

“Western North Carolina needs significant investments to recover fully from the worst storm our state has ever seen. Legislators have taken a small step here and should follow it with a more comprehensive package to help families, businesses and communities build back stronger.”

Funding included in the Disaster Recovery Act - Part II:

\$16.7 million for the North Carolina Community College System

\$65 million for the Department of Public Instruction

\$20 million for the University of North Carolina

\$71.4 million to the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services

\$56 million to the Department of Commerce

\$139 million to the Department of Environmental Quality

\$130 million to the Department of Public Safety

\$106 million to general government, including the Office of State Budget and Management and the Treasurer.

Energy Funds for All Resource Library

[EnergyFundsforAll.org](#) is a mobile-accessible website created for residents across the Carolinas to learn more about ways to save money on energy bills, improve energy efficiency of homes and apartments, and install solar. Through the Energy Funds for All website, NC and SC residents can use the guide to access support for home and community energy projects that are funded by the Inflation Reduction Act. The resource guide can direct you to funding opportunities available to individuals, businesses, and

government entities. There are funding opportunities on their website available to all of the following:

Renters
Homeowners
Landlords
Nonprofits
Local Government
Tribal Government
Workforce Development & Labor
Businesses

Check out the Energy Funds for All Resource Library at: [Energy Funds for All](#) .

###

Links to Events, Trainings, and Actions by Affiliate Organizations

[Common Cause North Carolina](#) and [Common Cause](#)

[Community Organizing for Racial Equity \(CORE\)](#)

[County-to-County; Volunteer Opportunities, Events, and Petitions Near Me](#)

[Democracy North Carolina; Non-Partisan Voter Guides](#)

[MegaphoneNC](#)

[NC Counts Coalition](#)

[Neighbors on Call; Upcoming Events, Canvasses, NC Policy Update.](#)

[New North Carolina Project](#)

[Red, Wine, and Blue; https://redwine.blue/events/](#)

[Swing Left Durham/Chapel Hill/Chatham](#)

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Selected News and Opinion Stories

American Freakshow: [Predators' Ball](#)

Axios: [The Resistance Goes Quiet](#)

Axios Raleigh: [How federal job cuts could affect Raleigh and Durham's workforce](#)

Axios Raleigh: [North Carolina Republicans move to strip more of the governor's powers](#)

Ballotpedia: [Election results, 2024: Split-ticket voting in statewide elections](#)

Cardinal & Pine: [A powerful NC lawmaker spread misinformation about elections. Here's what NC's top election official has to say about it.](#)

Cardinal & Pine: [Weeks before they lose their supermajority, NC Republicans vote to take power from Democrats who won in November](#)

Cardinal & Pine: [NC to spend billions on private school vouchers over 10 years as Republicans override Cooper's veto](#)

Carolina Forward: [Time to get the lead out](#)

Carolina Public Press: [Election board overhaul snuck into NC storm relief bill by legislators](#)

Carolina Public Press: [Protest process puts some NC election results on hold](#)

Carolina Public Press: [Recounts to determine some NC election results in 2024](#)

Chapelboro: [North Carolina Democrats Find Electoral Success Further Down the Ballot and Hope To Build on It](#)

CNN Politics: [Tulsi Gabbard: Trump's pick for intel chief has deeply rooted distrust of agencies she would oversee](#)

Heather Cox Richardson: Letters from an American: [November 18](#), [November 20](#), [November 21](#)

Hopium Chronicles: (1) [John Della Volpe On The Youth Vote \(Video\)](#), (2) [Anderson Clayton Reports In From North Carolina](#), (3) [Fighting Trump's Unacceptable 4](#), (4) [Hopium Backs Abigail Spanberger for VA Gov](#), (5) [1 Down, 3 More To Go!](#)

Lucid: (1) [Project 2025 as Authoritarian Takeover](#), (2) [Jan. 6 as the Foundational Event for the Coming American Autocracy](#)

NC Health News: [N.C. House passed bill funding child care centers for three months](#)

NC Health News: [N.C. continues safe gun storage efforts](#)

NC Newsline: [Cooper asks Congress to send \\$25 billion for Helene relief](#)

NC Newsline: [NC lawmakers pass hurricane bill stripping power from Democrats](#)

NPR: [Who has Trump picked as Cabinet members and key advisers?](#)

NPR: [In the 2024 election, most of the U.S. shifted to the right](#)

NY Times (May Require Subscription): [The Surprising Impact of North Carolina's New Voter ID Law](#)

NY Times: [The Morning: Trump's tariffs](#)

NY Times: [The Evening: The new pick for attorney general](#)

NY Times: [The Evening: Gaetz withdraws](#)

NY Times: [The Evening: Republicans block release of Gaetz report](#)

NY Times: [The Evening: Trump's deportation plans](#)

NY Times: [On Politics: Matt Gaetz and the D-word](#)

NY Times: [On Politics: How to win Latino voters](#)

NY Times: [On Politics: The governor who helped get Trump re-elected](#)

NY Times: [Dr. Oz's health care record: What to know](#)

Politico: [After a Friday night flurry, Trump's Cabinet is complete](#)

Politico: [No, Trump's Win Wasn't 'Sweeping,' 'Commanding,' or 'Resounding'](#)

Politico: [Here Are the GOP Senators Best Positioned to Take on Trump](#)

Politico: [How Kamala Harris lost voters in the battlegrounds' biggest cities](#)

PoliticsNC: [False premises and baseless claims](#)

PoliticsNC: [Putting power politics ahead of disaster victims](#)

PoliticsNC: [Never give up](#)

Popular Info: ["Pro-LGBTQ" Republican launches vicious attack on first trans Congresswoman](#)

ProPublica: [Segregation Academies Get Millions From School Voucher Programs](#)

Public Notice: [Senate Republicans won't save us](#)

Public Notice: [Trump's corruption of the DOJ goes much deeper than Gaetz](#)

Public Notice: [RFK Jr. is a massive public health threat](#)

The Assembly NC: [Thom Tillis Has a Donald Trump Predicament](#)

The Assembly NC: [Moms for Liberty's Local Election Scorecard](#)

The Message Box: [Do Dems Need to Break Up with the Legacy Media?](#)

Time: [Gaetz's Withdraws: What It Tells Us About Trump's 2nd Term](#)

Time: [Nancy Mace Targets Incoming Trans Lawmaker With Bathroom Rule](#)

Time: [On Trump's Cabinet Picks, McConnell Issues a Warning](#)

Washington Post: [The Campaign Moment](#)

Washington Post: [Trump is Coming for the Executive Branch. Does He Know What He's Doing?](#)

WRAL: [Griffin calls for a recount as Dems claim victory for Riggs in NC Supreme Court race](#)

WUNC: [NC Senate leader defends move to strip power from Democrats as bill heads to governor](#)

WUNC: [NC's top elections official says Senate leader made false accusation about vote count](#)