



Representative Ric Killian

North Carolina
General Assembly

2009 Session; Mid Term
May 1, 2009

Budget Overview

The 2009—2010 budget will be the most significant legislation in 2009.

Revised revenue shortfall estimates of 3.3B for the current 2008-2009 budget are 50% greater than initial estimates of 2.1B. Therefore, it's reasonable to assume that actual revenue shortfalls in 2009—2010 will be greater than the projected 3.4 B.

Earlier this year the Governor proposed a budget that made up the shortfall with federal stimulus money, and tax increases. The Senate followed along the same lines, passing a budget with an undetermined set of tax increases of \$500M. Thus far, both the Governor and the Senate have failed to adequately address the problem of projected expenditures far exceeding projected revenues. Now the House has the budget, and has yet to announce their plan for balancing the budget.

In my opinion, the rapid growth of our state economy over the past several years led to extraordinary tax revenue. The average annual increase in the

North Carolina budget from 2000—2008 was six percent, exceeding inflation and population growth.

The simple solution is the same one currently employed by families and businesses across America; we must reduce our expense to the level of our income. This proves a very difficult task as we raised the expectation of our citizens in recent years. Many have grown accustomed to an expanded and an increased scope of government, and we have added many individuals to state government. Unfortunately, the state can no longer afford this level of service. Many programs must be eliminated, and many employees will be released. The alternative is to increase taxes. However, raising taxes, even in prosperous times is not the answer. **Currently, discussions focus on expanding the tax base. I do not agree with these alternatives, and will oppose them in any form.** Now is the time reduce the scope of government and for our state to show it can live within the means of its taxpayers.



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Major Legislation Summary

HB 2—Smoking Ban

Passed House; In Senate

HB 88—Healthy Youth Act

Passed House; In Senate

HB 120—Public Municipal Campaigns

Passed House; In Senate

HB148— Public Congestion/ Intermodal

Passed House; In Senate

HR 990— Permanent House Rules

Passed House

SB 287—State Health Plan

Signed by Governor Perdue

Links:

- Personal Website:
www.rickillian.com
- General Assembly Website:
<http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/gascrpts/members/viewMember.pl?sChamber=H&nUserID=562>



Ric's Major Legislation (Partial)

Bill Summary:

Cosponsored - 93

Primary Sponsored -24

Partial List:

HB 97 — Hunting/Fishing License for Military

Passed House; In Senate

HB 98 — Drivers License Renewal for Military

Passed House; In Senate

HB 417—Increase restrictions on Younger Drivers

Passed House Committees; In budget process

HB 912 — Encourage Use of Veteran Contractors

Passed House/Homeland Security Committee; In House/State Government Committee

HB 914—Tax Credit for National Guard/Reserve

Planned to be heard in House/Homeland Security committee

HB 335—Education Tax Credit

Not Heard in Committee

HB 663 — Housing Tax Credit

Not Heard in Committee

HB 1149 — Revise Transportation Equity Funding Formula

Not Heard in Committee

HB 1406 — Make Terrorism a Crime

Planned to be heard in Judiciary I committee



North Carolina House of Representatives honors UNC basketball team for National Championship

District #105; South Charlotte(Ballantyne)

Transportation remains the most significant state issue in district #105.

North Carolina is in desperate need of transportation reform. I submitted a series of bills to advance an agenda for reform that will restore public trust, begin to address the need

for additional funds for transportation, and relieve congestion.

HB 1146 puts Governor Perdue's executive order #2 essentially a politicizing the NC Board of Transportation into General Statutes.

HB 1147 & HB 1148 stop the transfers from the Highway Fund to the General Fund, thus increasing funds for transportation by 250M/year.

HB 1149 revises the Equity Formula so we spend money on roads where people live and drive.

Constituent Services Summary(2009)

Through April 23, 2009:

Office Visits — 7

Letters — 56

Telephone Calls — 50

E-Mails — 287

Jan Copeland is Ric's Legislative Assistant. Jan is the only staff member, other than a part time intern who is shared with another House member and works specifically on the Homeland Security Caucus this summer. Jan's primary role is con-

stituent services and is responsible for making an initial response to all constituent contacts.

When necessary, Ric coordinates directly with state departments on behalf of constituents.

Federal Service

Ric also serves as a Lieutenant Colonel in the US Army Reserve.

In April he was selected to attend the *United States Army War College* (Distance Education Program). This is a two year online program that will culminate with a **Master of Strategic Studies** degree.



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North Carolina General Assembly

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D=562](http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/gascripts/members/viewMember.pl?sChamber=House&nUserID=562)

Members of the **North Carolina General Assembly** are elected for **two year terms**, in the fall election of even numbered years. The term consists of a long session during the odd numbered year, and a short session in the even numbered year. **The long session begins in January, and has no end date.** During the long session the General Assembly establishes a budget for the first year of the two year biennium, and considers all legislation. **The short session begins one week following the spring primary election and has no end date.** During the short session the General Assembly establishes a continuation budget for the second term of the biennium and considers selective legislation. During session, each week begins with a floor debate on Monday evening, and ends on Thursday afternoon.

Homeland Security Caucus

Ric established the Homeland Security Caucus in March. Including Ric, who serves as a Co-Chair, the caucus leadership team consists of Rep. Larry Hall (D), Co-Chair; Rep. Danny McComas (R), Vice-Chair; Rep. Bob England (D), Vice-Chair; Sen. Harry Brown (R), Vice-Chair, & Sen. Joe Sam Queen (D), Vice-Chair.

The purpose of the Homeland Security Caucus is to educate members about Homeland Security issues affecting our constituents, and if

necessary, advance legislation to better protect the citizens of North Carolina. The caucus leadership will identify potential issues and prepare an agenda that reflects the most significant and timely issues.

Our first meeting is scheduled for May 6th. Dr. Engel State Public Health Director will make a presentation on the current status of the Swine Flu in North Carolina including overall state readiness, current activities, and suggestions for members to communi-

cate to constituents.

The second meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 20th. Mr. Doug Hoell, the Director for Emergency Preparedness will make a presentation on overall emergency preparedness and Homeland Security issues.

We expect another three or four meetings in June and July. Other possible presentation topics include port security, nuclear plant security, natural disasters, and terrorism.



Ric speaking in the North Carolina House of Representatives