

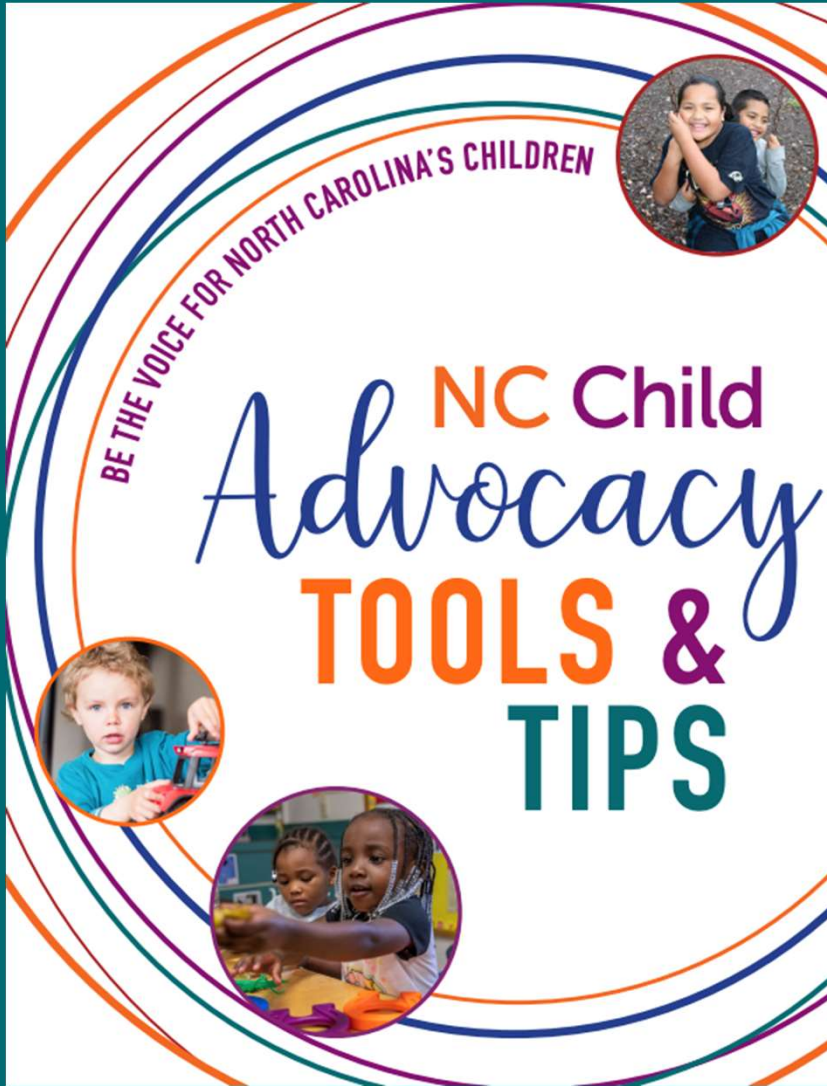


NC
Child

The Voice for North Carolina's Children

Voices for Kids Learning Series 2022

Effective Meetings with Elected Leaders



bit.ly/adv_toolkit

Why meetings with elected leaders?

LOW IMPACT

- Sign an online petition
- Send a form email
- Connect with an elected official on social media
- Use social media to connect with fellow advocates



MEDIUM IMPACT

- Send an original email or letter
- Make a phone call to an elected official
- Write a letter to the editor (LTE) or opinion piece
- Attend a community town hall hosted by an elected official




HIGH IMPACT

- Schedule a meeting at the NC General Assembly with your legislator
- Schedule a one-on-one meeting with your legislator in the home district
- Host a community event or forum and invite your legislator



INCREASING TIME COMMITMENT



What do elected leaders do anyways?

You Can Vote, a nonprofit organization based in Durham, has some great resources that explain the impact that different elected offices have on all of us.

<https://youcanvote.sellarsdesign.com/>



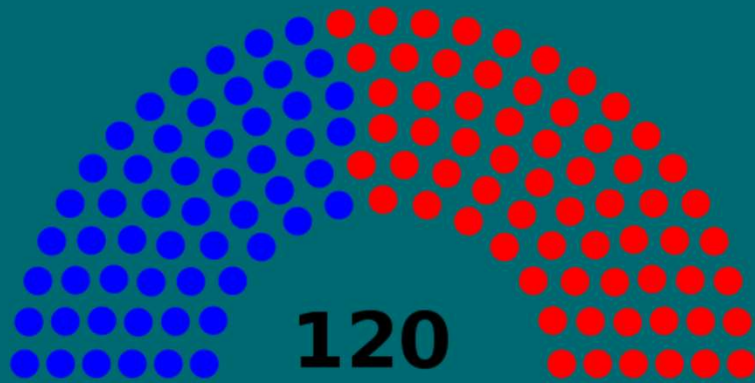
Who Represents You?

Find out using the voter lookup tool at

www.ncsbe.gov or more specifically

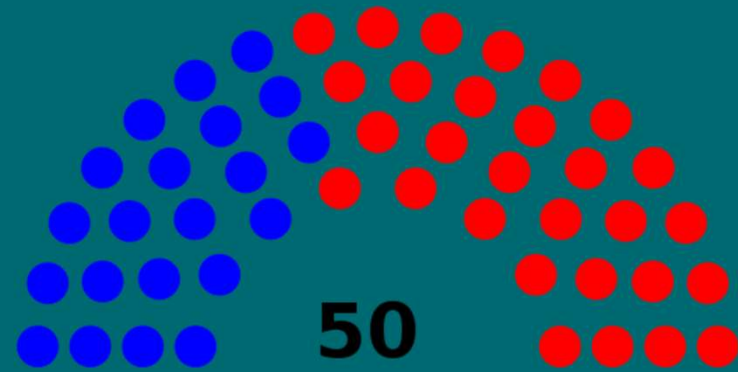
<https://vt.ncsbe.gov/RegLkup/>

NC General Assembly



HOUSE

Speaker of the House
Rep. Tim Moore (R-Cleveland)



SENATE

Senate President Pro Tem
Sen. Phil Berger (R-Caswell)



Meeting with Legislators





Meetings with Elected Leaders

Scheduling

Preparation

The Actual Meeting

Follow up



Scheduling

- Get the right messengers
- Agree to dates and times within your group
- Contact the elected leader
- Re-confirm prior to meeting



Prepare: Do Your Homework!

- What committees are they on?
- What issues are important to them?
- What's their voting record?
- What can you thank them for?



Prepare

- Make sure your group is on the same page
- What are you specifically asking for?
- What are your main points and who will make them?
- Who's the captain of the meeting?



The Meeting

- Keep introductions quick
- State the issue, explore concerns
- The “ask”
- Support and opposition
- Confirm next steps, agreements
- Thanks and photo op!

Meeting with Legislators



Rep. Graig Meyer
(D-Caswell, Orange Counties)

“It’s helpful to make a concrete ask that can be followed up on by the legislator. One thing not to do is to make a general ask because when constituents walk out the door, I haven’t committed to anything. A specific ask means I have something to think about. It does make a difference if the ask comes from someone I know.”



After the Meeting

- Debrief with your group
- Complete any follow-up tasks
- Send a thank you note (share on social media, too)
- Share your notes with NC Child
- Plan your next meeting with an elected leader!

Getting into Action!

Small group exercise – plan a meeting with an elected leader.

Use the scenario handouts. You can also refer to the Citizen Legislative Visits worksheet for ideas.