



From the Desk of **Representative**

Erin Paré
District 37

Proudly Serving Southern Wake County!

June 2, 2025

Thank you for reading my newsletter for legislative updates and District 37 news.

This newsletter is a Special Edition on the NC House Budget. As an Appropriations Chair, I have spent many hours with my colleagues helping to put together this House budget proposal. This is a smart and strategic plan, which makes meaningful investments in our state and its people, while prudently saving for the future and lowering taxes.

The NC House budget passed with bipartisan support 86-20. Now the House and the Senate will come together and negotiate the differences to craft a final budget for NC.

At the same time, the NC House passed another Hurricane Helene relief bill for Western North Carolina. The total investment from the state in Western North Carolina recovery to date is \$1.82 billion.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve!

-Representative Erin Paré



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our official website

RepErinParé.com



NC House Budget: Boosts Teacher Pay, Delivers Tax Relief and Cuts Government Waste

**COMMITTED TO
CAROLINA**

NC HOUSE BUDGET 2025

EDUCATION · BUSINESS · WESTERN NC · HEALTHCARE

NC House Republicans

Key Highlights:

- Raises starting teacher pay to \$50,000, making NC #1 in the Southeast for entry-level teacher compensation.
- Increases teacher compensation by 8.7% over the biennium.

- Restores master's pay, rewarding teachers who pursue advanced training.
- Delivers a 2.5% across-the-board raise for state agency employees, community college staff, and UNC System personnel.
- Grants state retirees a 1% cost-of-living bonus in year one and a 2% bonus in year two.
- Keeps taxes low while offering targeted tax relief to North Carolinians.
- Reinstates the back-to-school sales tax holiday starting in 2026.
- Exempts the first \$5,000 in tips from state income tax, supporting service industry workers.
- Increases the standard tax deduction by \$500 for individuals and \$1,000 for married couples.
- Holds down the growth of net general fund expenditures to a historically low 5% over the biennium.
- Restores the Rainy Day Fund to \$4.75 billion.
- Eliminates wasteful spending by cutting nearly 3,000 vacant government positions.
- Funds dozens of new positions at NC DMV and authorizes a privatization pilot program for license renewal.
- Redirects NCInnovation funding toward ongoing Hurricane Helene disaster relief and recovery efforts.
- Delivers \$50 million in school safety grants.

House Passes Additional Relief for Western NC Hurricane Helene Recovery

DAVE ALLEN PHOTOGRAPHY
NC House Republicans

\$1.82 BILLION

TOTAL RELIEF FOR WNC SO FAR

Raleigh, NC – Today, the North Carolina House of Representatives introduced a fifth round of Helene relief funding. **The Disaster Recovery Act of 2025 Part II allocates more than \$450 million to support ongoing recovery efforts** in Western North Carolina, including critical infrastructure and building repairs, as well as relief for small businesses.

Key funding provisions include:

- **\$70M in additional state funds to match critical federal recovery programs.**
- **\$60M in Small Business Disaster Grants, up to \$100k per small business with eligibility based on a 20% loss threshold.**
- **\$50M for local governments to fulfill unmet and unreimbursed capital needs.**
- **\$30M in additional funds to support reconstruction of private roads and bridges.**
- **\$30M for agricultural and general debris removal.**
- **\$25M to support reconstruction of destroyed schools.**
- **\$25M to improve airport infrastructure in WNC to expand emergency response capacity and repair Helene damage.**
- **\$25M toward rebuilding damaged and destroyed farm infrastructure such as fences, barns, greenhouses, and farm roads.**

- \$20M for flood mitigation grants to rebuild at-risk infrastructure.
- \$20M to support our volunteer organizations directly supporting recovery efforts.
- \$18M to provide \$50,000 grants to fire stations and EMS units across WNC.
- \$15M in firefighting equipment and contract personnel to the NC Forest Service to enhance wildfire preparedness.
- \$8M for damaged schools.

This legislation is the culmination of several months of work by the NC House Western delegation. The NC House has previously allocated over **\$1.4 billion** in relief before this bill, which would bring the total to **\$1.85 billion**.

Important DMV Information Re: House Budget

As a House Budget Chair, I am pleased to announce that the NC House Budget directs the DMV to expand the Fuquay-Varina site to a larger location in Fuquay-Varina to accommodate demand and population growth.

The House budget provides funding for this and 85 new examiner positions at new and existing DMV offices.

It also requires the DMV to (which is what the agency should already be doing) report customer data at each site back to the agency in order to make informed decisions about needs and resources.

This is another giant step forward in addressing the utter disaster which is the NCDMV, particularly for the people of southern Wake and District 37.

I have no problem banging doors down and being everyone's pain in the neck until this gets fixed, and that's exactly what I will continue to do.

<https://amp.newsobserver.com/.../article306467331.html>

Opportunity for High School Students

NC HOUSE PAGE PROGRAM

The program offers high school students a firsthand look at the legislative process.

- ✓ 4-DAY LONG EXPERIENCE
- ✓ OPEN TO GRADES 10-12
- ✓ FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVE

APPLY NOW

[ncleg.gov/House/PageProgram](https://www.ncleg.gov/House/PageProgram)



The 2025 Long Session House Page Applications are available online beginning **Monday, January 6, 2025**. The Page website can be accessed by visiting the following: <https://www.ncleg.gov/House/PageProgram/>.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

- Pages may only serve one time in the House.
- Each Representative is allotted **up to 5 Page appointments** during the 2025 Long Session.
- **Current sophomore, junior, and senior high school students will be eligible to apply.**
- Check the House Page website for participant eligibility requirements and available dates to serve as a House Page.
- House Pages are processed on a first-come, first-served basis.
- House Page applications are accepted until all weeks are full.

2025-2026 General Assembly Biennium

Rep. Pará introduced, sponsored, or co-sponsored the following bills.[Please](#)

Introduced bills:

HB 14 "Gambling Losses Tax Deduction"
HB 56 "Publish Central Office Employment Information"
HB 59 "Expand Elderly/Disabled Homestead Exclusion"
HB 94 "Dis. Veteran Homestead Excl. Prequalification"
HB151 "SchCalFlex/Wake/CC"
HB156 "Increase Access for Small Employers/Insurance"
HB 173 "Wake County ETJ"
HB 189 "Red Light Camera Interval"
HB 192 "Raise Teacher Pay & Dollar Allotment Study"
HB 352 "Modify Water and Sewage Project Bid Req."
HB 571 "Funds for PTSD Treatment for Police Officers"
HB 672 "Physician Assist. Omnibus/Team based/Compact"
HB 811 "Taxpayer Transparency Act"
HB 837 "Study Alternative Methods for Highway Funding"
HB 896 "Jesse's Law"

Sponsored bills:

HB 4 "Sam's Law"
HB11 "No Tax on Tips, Overtime, Bonus Pay"
HB 15 "Support Private Property Rights"
HB 46 "Make Health care Affordable"
HB 76 "Protect Access to In Vitro Fertilization"
HB124 "Adopt Official State Cookie"
HB125 "Adopt Official State Star"
HB137 "Gabe Torres Act"
HB 35 "Establish Military Appreciation Month"
HB 39 "Disabled Veteran Motor Vehicle Tax Exclusion"
HB 67 "Interstate Medical Licensure Compact"
HB118 "Disabled Veterans Tax Relief Bill"
HB133 "NC Farmland and Military Protection Act"
HB 137 "Gabe Torres Act"
HB 186 "Stars and Stripes Commitment Act"
HB 309 "Bldg. Code Fam. Child Care Home Class"
HB 364 "STIP Grant Anticipation Notes"
HJR 379 "Application for a Convention of States"
HB 389 "Child Care Workforce Pilot Program/Funds"
HB 402 "NC REINS Act"
HB 406 "Clarify Motor Vehicle Dealer Laws"
HB 412 "Child Care Regulatory Reforms"
HB 418 "K-5 Performing and Visual Arts Requirement"
HB 465 "Waive Renewal Fee/Military Drivers Licenses"
HB 480 "Medical Board Licensing Efficiency Act"
HB 488 "Modify School Performance Grades"
HB 523 "School Social Workers/Master's Pay"
HB 542 "Child Care Mental and Behavioral Services/Funds"
HB 581 "Career Pathways Transparency Act"

HB 588 "School Psychologist Omnibus"
HB 610 "Study Year-Round School"
HB 611 "Increase AP's in Public School"
HB 794 "Study Highway Patrol Staffing/Salary Scale"
HB 800 "Review Effectiveness & Delivery of Child Care"
HB 814 "Power Infrastructure Resiliency & Eff. (PIRE)"
HB 854 "Require Licensure of Educational Interpreters"
HB 877 "Childcare Pilot"
HB 912 "The Hometown Opp. for Mentoring Educators Act"

Do You Have Unclaimed Cash with the State Treasurer's Office?



Click Here to Find Out!

Contact



The Office of Rep. Erin Paré

Legislative Office Building
300 N. Salisbury St. Rm. 531
Raleigh, NC 27601
Phone: 919-733-2962
Email: erin.pare@ncleg.gov

Rep. Erin Paré, District 37 | 300 N. Salisbury St. Rm. 306B2 | Raleigh, NC 27603 US

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