

From the Desk of Representative



Proudly Serving Southern Wake County!

August 7, 2024

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

The NC House is not currently in active session, but I am hard at work in the District. This week I was happy to lead a meeting with DMV Commissioner Goodwin and our mayors to solve customer service problems within our DMV. Enough is enough. It's past time for bold solutions.

I also had the privilege of honoring our local first responders at a community breakfast event in Fuquay-Varina this week, which was very special.

With the storm upon us, please make sure you have a safety plan in place. See this newsletter for resources that may be helpful to you.

It continues to be my absolute honor and privilege to serve the people of District 37 in the North Carolina House.

-Representative Erin Paré



Click to Visit our offical website RepErinParé.com



Rep. Paré Leads on Providing DMV Improvements in Southern Wake



On Friday, Rep. Paré met with DMV Commissioner Wayne Goodwin at the Fuquay-Varina DMV site. Fuquay-Varina Mayor Blake Massengill, Holly Springs Mayor Sean Mayefskie, Rep. Howard Penny, Fuquay-Varina Commissioner Charlie Adcock, former Fuquay-Varina Police Chief Laura Fahnestock, and the Gov Ops team from the North Carolina General Assembly also joined the meeting.

Rep. Paré remarked about the meeting, "First, let me say that the management and staff working at our DMV are phenomenal. The site manager was so kind, professional, hard-working, and explained many of the challenges they deal with given population growth and new residents moving to the area from out of state and out of country, which creates a more complex and time-consuming workload. He also praised his staff, which is absolutely deserved."

Many positive improvements can be made, in the collective judgment of those attending, to provide relief to customers:

- Extending operating hours including Saturday hours,
- Allowing for all-day appointment slots not just mornings,
- Putting out the Q-anywhere code starting at opening each day,
- Customer kiosks at the local Harris Teeter,
- Increasing the number of full-time positions at the site,
- Possibly reworking the inside design of the DMV to allow for more service desks, and therefore, more technicians,
- Exploring a larger site for the DMV in the area,
- Exploring an additional DMV site for the area.

Commissioner Goodwin shared that since the Agency has started using an appointment confirmation tool that reminds customers to confirm their appointments ahead of time, this has resulted in a dramatic decrease in noshows for appointments, which is helpful.

Rep. Paré has also identified larger and more urgent reforms that are very necessary, and she plans to work on immediately:

- 1. The implementation of the new and modernized state-wide computer software system, as the General Assembly has already funded this going back years. This needs to get up and running as soon as possible.
- 2. Creating (or reinventing) a data-driven system within the Agency that "talks" to local DMV units to identify which sites around the state are experiencing the most demand for service, the most complexity of workload, how many of their customers are traveling from another area of the state to be serviced because of a lack of available appointments at their home site, what kind of DMV function is most often performed at the site, etc.

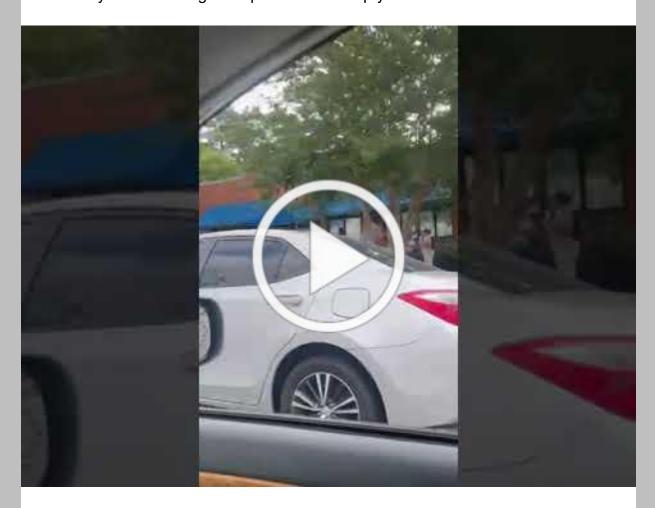
"I am frustrated to learn that there isn't any formal data-driven system within the Agency that collects data from local units and informs DMV officials about what and where the challenges are. The placement of additional full-time statewide DMV examiner positions must be informed by data, for example that Fuquay-Varina is experiencing high demand due to population growth and a uniquely complex workload in comparison to other sites and therefore needs to be a priority recipient of these additional funded staff positions vs. another area of the state that is not experiencing the same challenges."

"How can the Agency solve problems when there isn't a tool providing them with the data about what and where the challenges are? Bottom-line: It's about how money is spent, not just how much money is spent. And this should already be happening and it is not. Let's get this done now." said Rep. Paré.

After the meeting, an idea was proposed to explore repurposing the old vacant Fuquay-Varina middle school, at least a large portion of the building, perhaps in a lease agreement with the state, to expand DMV operations into this larger building so more South Wake customers can be served here given population growth.

"I have been told the school system does not have a plan at this time for the property. I've asked WCPSS to consider this and work with me on it. I hope to hear back from them soon."

"Thank you for reading this update. I will keep you informed."



This is the line at the Fuquay-Varina DMV one weekday morning recently. This video was filmed before Rep. Paré requested a site visit from DMV Commissioner Wayne Goodwin himself to discuss why the DMV in Fuquay-Varina is short-staffed and is not allowed to fill its full complement of authorized positions given the high demand for services and unique complexity of workload.

Fuquay-Varina Heroes Breakfast



Rep. Paré participated in the annual Fuquay-Varina Local Heroes Breakfast this week. She heard amazing stories of heroism, bravery, and professionalism from local first responders.

Afterward, Rep Paré said, "We live in the best state in the country and in the gem of Wake County because we can depend on safe and secure communities thanks to our local heroes. I appreciated the opportunity to make remarks, visit with other area leaders, and express my gratitude to our area's finest and their families."



Weather Emergency Information



NC Youth Legislative Assembly

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

N.C. YOUTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (YLA)



THE YLA IS A THREE-DAY PROGRAM THAT
ALLOWS STUDENTS TO DRAFT, DEBATE AND
VOTE ON MOCK LEGISLATIVE BILLS WHILE
DEVELOPING SKILLS IN RESEARCH, INTERVIEWING,
GROUP FACILITATION AND POLICY WRITING. THE
CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD MARCH 7-9, 2025.

APPLY AT NCLEG.GOV/YLA



If you have a high school student, this is a great opportunity for them. Applications will be out in September. If you need any information please contact Erica Gallion at erica.gallion@ncleg.gov or 919-301-1372.

2024 House Pages

During the short session, Rep. Paré was able to sponsor three House Pages. The House Page Program offers young men and women the opportunity to learn about, and participate in, the legislative process of our state. It is a four-day-long experience that allows high school students who are currently in grades ten, eleven, or twelve to observe firsthand how our laws are made. It provides them the unique privilege of working in the House Chamber during legislative action.

Thank you to our 2024 Pages: Calvin Hughes, Victoria Sawyer, and Graham Adcock.

2024 General Assembly Short Session

The 2024 General Assembly Short Session began on April 24th. Rep. Paré has introduced, sponsored, or co-sponsored the House Bills below.

Introduced bills:

HB 900, Certain CIHS Partners/Regulate Tobacco Prod.

HB 909, Various Local Provisions I

HB 1056, PA Licensure Interstate Compact.

Sponsored bills:

HB 903, Add Tianeptine to Controlled Substance List.

HB 942, SHALOM Act.

Co-Sponsored Bills:

HB 905, Disabled Veteran Motor Vehicle Tax Exemption.

HB 966, Expedited Removal of Unauthorized Persons.

HB 971, Human Trafficking Changes.

HB 984, Removal of Squatters from Private Property.

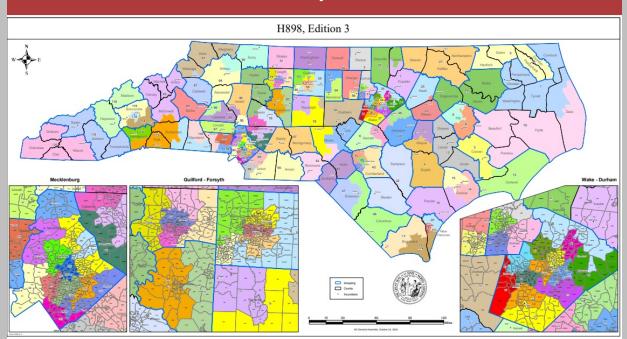
HB 1003, Jt Caucus for IDD/Omnibus.

HB 1029, Right To Try Individualized Treatments.

HB 1044, County Tier Designation Study Bill.

HB 1074, Constitutional Amendment/Citizens-Only Voting.

2024 House, Senate and Congressional District Maps



HB 898: House Redistricting Plan 2023/H898 Ed 2 (above).

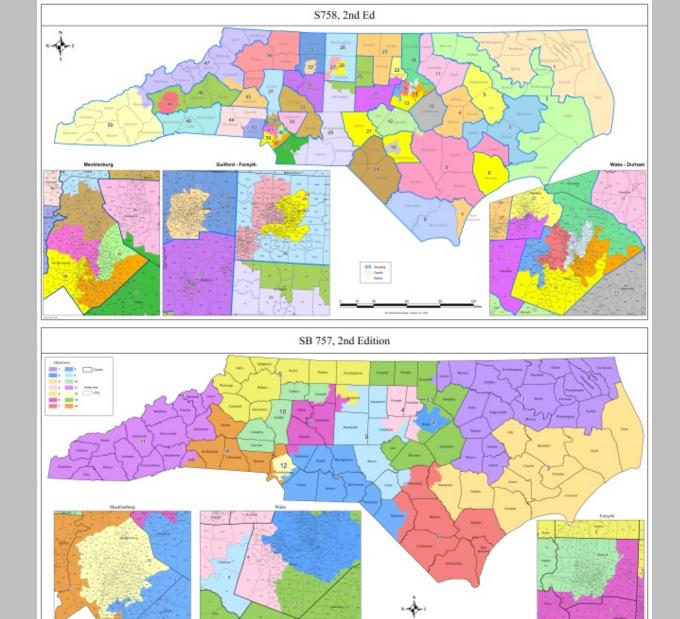
SB 758: Realign NC Senate Districts 2023/SB758,2 Ed.

SB 757: Realign Congressional Districts 2023/CST-4.

To drill down to precinct levels, please click the links above, and click on "19 x 36 Map."

Click here to check your 2024 voting districts by name.

Click <u>here</u> to check your current and 2024 districts by address.



News Clips

Amid Voucher Expansion, New Data on Private Schools Allows First Look at Impact on Marketshare - EdNC

NC's online court software expanding to all 100 counties in 2025 - CBS17

Rental regulations, cryptocurrency and speed limits: NC House overrides three vetoes – WUNC

Nearly 1 in 4 NC students don't attend traditional public schools, new figures show – Yahoo! News (News & Observer)

School choice advocates push NC lawmakers to boost voucher funding-WRAL

Registered Apprenticeship increases in North Carolina - Stanly News & Press

<u>LGC approves \$368M for joint project spanning several towns</u> – **North State Journal**

These are America's 10 best states for buying and selling a home in 2024, with a big caveat at No. 1 – NBC New York/CNBC

<u>Is Your Driver's License a Real ID? How to Make the Switch Before the Deadline – Time</u>

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



Click Here to Find Out!

Contact



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