



Representative W. David Guice
North Carolina House of Representatives
District 113

North Carolina House gavel back into session.

January 30, 2011

Greetings from Raleigh!

Dear Constituent,

The North Carolina General Assembly officially opened its historic 2011 session on Wednesday, January 26. For the first time in over a century both the North Carolina House of Representatives and the North Carolina Senate are controlled by Republicans. While change is good and healthy, it is extremely important that we use this change to make a lasting difference in the lives of people throughout North Carolina.



We were only in session two days this week; however, despite the fact that it was not a full week at the North Carolina General Assembly it was still a very busy time for all of us. I have learned that the beginning of each new session is an especially busy time. Representative Thom Tillis of Mecklenburg County was officially elected Speaker of the North Carolina House of Representatives. I have a deep respect for Thom and trust in his abilities to lead the House and our efforts on behalf of the people of North Carolina. Committee assignments were also made official and those of us leading committees were given leadership of our groups. After the election and swearing in of officers for the new session a temporary rules package was approved by the North Carolina House. This rules package seeks to streamline the legislative process, allow members to have more input on amendments to proposed legislation and allow all members the opportunity to participate in the creation, debate and passage of legislation. A permanent rules package will be debated and approved at a later date.

There were eight bills introduced on Thursday. I would like to talk with you about one specifically, House Bill 2. This piece of legislation, also known as the North

Carolina Health Care Protection Act, seeks to protect the freedom North Carolinians have to choose health care and health insurance. This bill has been filed in response to the healthcare reform legislation that was passed last year by the United States Congress. After its' initial reading this bill was referred to the Judiciary Committee for review. It has since received a favorable review from this committee and should be debated on the House floor this week. I encourage you to visit the North Carolina General Assembly's website, www.ncleg.net, and research this bill. I will keep you posted and updated on its' movement through the House and the Senate.

As I have said to you before, every crisis presents us with an opportunity - an opportunity for action and an opportunity to make a difference. We are standing in front of such an opportunity today. The issues we currently face in North Carolina are monumental, indeed historic, but we all have it within our capacity to do what needs to be done to make that difference. I am humbled to have been selected by the House leadership to serve as Chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Justice and Public Safety. As you are well aware our public safety system throughout North Carolina is experiencing some turmoil similar to that of many other aspects of state government. We are going to do the right thing; we are going to make North Carolina a safe place for all people - understanding that the right thing to do is almost always not the easiest thing to do.

I know that by working together we can do what needs to be done for the people of North Carolina. We can once again have a government that works for the people and places their needs first. I am truly humbled and honored to serve you, the people of District 113, in the North Carolina House of Representatives. I and my staff are always here for you. My office has moved so be sure to note the new address below and if you are in the Raleigh area please stop by and see us. Your input, feedback and questions are always appreciated.

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