

Events

Monday, June 27, 5 p.m.
Abortion and Women's Rights Protest
Historic Courthouse
9 Hillsboro St.
Pittsboro

Abortion is a human right

WHEN?
Monday, June 27th, 5pm

WHERE?
Historic Courthouse
9 Hillsboro St.
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Charities we are supporting:

- CAROLINA ABORTION FUND
<https://www.carolinabortionfund.org/donate>
- NATIONAL NETWORK OF ABORTION FUNDS
<https://www.nnaofund.org/donate>

CANT MAKE IT BUT WANT TO SUPPORT? DONATE HERE:

Abortion and Women's Rights Protest	Abortion and Women's Rights Protest

Why are we protesting?

- Roe v Wade was OVERTURNED.
- This court ruling leaves state governments to decide whether or not abortions will be legal and accessible for people who need them. States that have already outlawed or have trigger laws outlawing abortion according to the New York Times:
- Alabama
- Arizona
- Arkansas
- Florida
- Georgia
- Idaho
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Mississippi
- Missouri
- Nebraska
- North Carolina
- Oklahoma
- South Dakota
- Tennessee
- Texas
- Utah
- West Virginia

MAKE A SIGN! YOUR VOICE MATTERS <3
It's never too late to make a change

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News from the North Carolina Democratic Party

North Carolina Democratic Party Responds to SCOTUS Decision on Dobbs v. Jackson

North Carolina Democratic Party Chair Bobbie Richardson released the following statement:

"Women have the right to make their own health care decisions without politicians getting in the way. This decision further emboldens Republicans to continue their harmful efforts to restrict reproductive rights, including U.S. Senate candidate Congressman Ted Budd who has made clear that he will ban abortion with no exceptions, not even for rape, incest, or to save the life of the mother. In 2022, it is critical that we elect Democrats who will stand up for our constitutional rights and who will focus on fighting for what North Carolinians need and want – not the agenda of extreme Washington politicians and corporate special interests."

NCDDP Talking Points on Dobbs v. Jackson:

- Let's be clear: Abortion is still legal.
- We are at a crisis moment for abortion access in North Carolina and across the US.
- The court, which is now dominated by justices hostile to our freedoms, has failed this country. We are devastated, we are furious, and we will fight back.
- The threat to abortion access across the country is not hypothetical—our right to abortion is being crushed right now.
- Here in North Carolina, Democrats have shown up and fought for reproductive rights, successfully stopping anti-choice bills from becoming law.
- Governor Cooper has upheld his promise to veto any anti-choice bill that comes to his desk, and Legislative Democrats have upheld that veto.
- But November's elections are critical to the future of safe and legal abortion access in North Carolina. If Republicans win enough seats to gain a supermajority, they can override the Governor's veto.
- Electing Democrats to the General Assembly has never been more important.
- We are in a fight to make sure everyone has the power to control their own bodies, lives, and futures. We deserve elected officials –at all levels of government– and judges who believe that as well. We'll keep fighting in every state in the nation – this won't stop us.
- No judge, no politician, no ban should ever block your personal medical decisions or set the course for your life. Abortion access should not be based on your ZIP code, income level, or immigration status.

Additional Dobbs v. Jackson Talking Points from the DNC:

- This opinion from conservative Supreme Court justices is a devastating blow to Americans' fundamental freedom to make their own health care decisions.
- This decision is the direct result of Republicans' unrelenting, decades-long, radical war on health care and the right to choose. Many MAGA Republicans want to ban abortion even in cases of rape and incest. Read more about their war on the right to an abortion HERE.
- Now, with Roe v. Wade overturned, Republicans are already taking steps to make abortion illegal.
- At the federal level, Republicans like Mitch McConnell have said that a federal abortion ban is on the table, which would put the right to choose at risk even in states that have abortion protections right now.
- In states across the country, MAGA Republican governors and state legislatures have already passed laws that would outlaw abortion, threaten doctors with prison time, and put women's lives at risk.
- Republicans' MAGA agenda is wildly out of touch and unpopular with the American people.
- More than two-thirds of Americans say Roe v. Wade should be upheld.
- A Gallup poll finds that over 80% of the American public thinks abortion should be legal in at least some circumstances.
- A Reuters poll found that more Americans prefer the Democratic Party's approach to abortion policy than the Republican approach.
- As Republicans push to make abortion illegal, in many states, electing Democratic governors, attorneys general, state legislators, and federal representatives is the last line of defense for Americans' reproductive rights.
- The choice this November is clear: Instead of focusing on the issues people are worried about, like working to lower costs and address inflation, Republicans are focused on taking away rights and dictating women's private health care decisions.

ICYMI: Cheri Beasley and North Carolina Leaders Speak Out on SCOTUS Decision Repealing Roe v. Wade

Today, North Carolina Democratic Party (NCDDP) Chair Bobbie Richardson, U.S. Senate Candidate Cheri Beasley, Reverend Dr. Jay Augustine and Stacey Burns, a Holly Springs mom held an in-person press conference in response to the Supreme Court's *Dobbs v. Jackson* decision that rolls back women's constitutional rights. Leaders underscored the stakes in the North Carolina U.S. Senate race and 2022 midterm elections. While access to safe, legal abortion is still legal in North Carolina thanks to Governor Cooper and Democrats, this decision further emboldens North Carolina Republicans to continue their harmful efforts to restrict reproductive rights, including U.S. Senate candidate Congressman Ted Budd who has made clear that he will vote to ban abortion with no exceptions, not even for rape, incest, or to save the life of the mother.

[Click here for a full recording of the event.](#)

"Make no mistake – this is the direct result of Republicans' decades-long, unrelenting war on health care and our rights. Throughout his time in Washington, Congressman Budd has supported completely defunding Planned Parenthood, voted for legislation that would impose a nationwide ban on abortion at 20 weeks of pregnancy, and supports legislation that could outlaw abortion and common forms of birth control. This November, we must elect Cheri Beasley to the U.S. Senate and defeat Congressman Budd who has consistently worked to take away those rights," said NCDDP Chair Bobbie Richardson.

"As a former Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, I know that access to reproductive freedom is a constitutional right. I also know this fight is not just about today - it is about ensuring that our young people and those who come after can make personal decisions about their health and their family. And I will always be committed to fighting for our rights in the U.S. Senate," said U.S. Senate candidate Cheri Beasley.

"I'm a proud faith leader in our state, and I'm also a father. As I proudly stand with Cheri Beasley and I think about the forthcoming election, no matter what type of pessimism can be cast on this day – it begs the question, what type of country do we want to be? We need a champion in Washington. We don't need someone who will cow down to a right-wing agenda. We need someone who will stand up for fundamental rights and human rights and for all North Carolinians, and that person is our next United States Senator, Cheri Beasley," said Reverend Dr. Jay Augustine.

"We have an opportunity to elect someone who has spent decades protecting our rights and upholding the constitution, working to serve North Carolinians. That's Cheri Beasley. We also know Congressman Ted Budd. We know he supports taking our rights away. We know he believes there should be NO exceptions to abortion, even in the case of rape, incest, or to save the life of a mother. I personally believe that every woman's decision about their pregnancy is 100% her business and no one else's thing but I don't know anyone who believes, as Congressman Budd does, that the government should force a woman whose life is in danger to give birth. As a mother and as a woman, the thought of him being in charge of making those decisions is terrifying... but it is also incredibly motivating. The choice couldn't be more clear. We must elect Cheri Beasley to be North Carolina's next U.S. Senator," said Stacey Burns, a Holly Springs mom and Area Coordinator for the Wake County Democrats.

Thanks to Biden-Harris Administration, Cooper and Democrats' Leadership, Nearly Every North Carolinian Now Eligible for COVID-19 Vaccine

In a testament to President Biden, Governor Cooper and Democrats' historic leadership in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, children ages six months to five years old can now [get vaccinated](#) against the virus. Late last week, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and Center for Disease Control authorized and recommended the use of this life-saving vaccine for young kids, bringing peace of mind to millions of parents and families across the country. As part of this announcement, the Biden-Harris administration also launched a nationwide effort to ensure pharmacies, pediatricians, and other trusted providers have enough supply to ensure every parent can get their children vaccinated.

This progress comes despite Republicans in Congress' unanimous opposition to the American Rescue Plan, which provided critical funding to help allow North Carolinians to return to work and school safely. It also comes as many Republicans continue to do everything in their power to slow our recovery by ignoring science and attacking public health officials.

"Parents across North Carolina are finally breathing a sigh of relief and making plans to get their young kids vaccinated thanks to President Biden, Governor Cooper and Democrats' leadership," said North Carolina Democratic Party Chair Bobbie Richardson. "When these same parents head to the ballot box this fall, they won't soon forget that Republican lawmakers fought every step of the way against the steps necessary to reach this milestone."

Under President Biden and Governor Cooper, Fewer North Carolinians Relying on Unemployment

New report shows the number of unemployment claims in North Carolina are down after peaking during the pandemic

A new [report from WalletHub](#) shows that the number of North Carolinians relying on unemployment has decreased by 11.92 percent since the start of 2020, and 33.76 percent since June of last year. This new data comes following month after month of strong job growth in North Carolina and across the country, as well as low unemployment rates following peaking unemployment during the pandemic.

This drop in unemployment comes after President Biden and Democrats passed the American Rescue Plan – without any votes from Republicans – which Governor Cooper has implemented in North Carolina to help get shots in arms, keep businesses open, and drive economic growth. After bringing unemployment rates down, Democrats have set their sights on cutting costs and lowering inflation, last week passing the Lower Food & Fuel Costs Act in the U.S. House to help lower food and gas prices – a bill that the vast majority of Republicans voted against.

"Before President Biden took office, unemployment claims were at their highest level in decades. Now, more North Carolinians have jobs and fewer are filing for unemployment thanks to President Biden and Democrats' American Rescue Plan and Governor Cooper's leadership. President Biden and Governor Cooper are leading an economic recovery that comes from the middle out and the bottom up, creating jobs here in North Carolina, and mobilizing the full force of government to fight inflation. As North Carolina Democrats are making cutting costs and bolstering our economy our top priority, Republicans are more concerned with pushing their unpopular ultra-MAGA agenda," said NCDDP Spokesperson Ellie Dougherty.

REMINDER: NC Republicans Voted Against Solutions to Help Lower Gas Prices As President Biden pushes to suspend the federal gas tax, the entire Republican U.S. House delegation from North Carolina, including U.S. Senate candidate Congressman Ted Budd, have a history of voting against solutions

Today, President Biden is calling on Congress to pass a three-month federal gas tax holiday as part of his efforts to lower inflated gas prices caused by Putin's price hike. The president's efforts stand in stark contrast with North Carolina Republicans, including U.S. Senate candidate Congressman Ted Budd, who have repeatedly [voted against](#) measures that would help lower gas prices and help combat inflation. Last week, North Carolina Republicans in the U.S. House of Representatives [voted against](#) the Lower Food & Fuel Costs Act and in May they voted against a bill that would help prevent oil and gas companies from price gouging.

"While President Biden and North Carolina Democrats are laser focused on lowering costs, Republicans are more interested in inflicting their extreme, ultra-MAGA agenda than joining Democrats in passing solutions," said North Carolina Democratic Party Spokesperson Ellie Dougherty.

Specifically, the Lower Food & Fuel Costs Act passed by House Democrats last week would help lower costs by:

- Increasing competition in the meat and poultry industries to prevent artificially high pricing
- Making E15 fuel available year-round and encouraging production of biofuels
- Making fertilizer more accessible to farmers to help lower produce costs
- Creating a supply chain task force

These "no" votes are the latest in a long pattern of Republicans actively working against cutting costs for working North Carolinians and addressing supply chain issues. In the past few months, House Republicans have also voted against bills to address the infant formula shortage, cap the cost of insulin at \$35 a month, and more. Additionally, every congressional Republican voted against the American Rescue Plan, which has saved North Carolinians money on everything from their [health care premiums](#) to [rent or mortgage to child care costs](#), and more.

N&O Editorial Board: Trump ally Ted Budd is avoiding Jan. 6 and the election lies he once helped spread

"Silence isn't a sign of leadership — it's a sign of cowardice."

Congressman Budd [voted](#) to overturn the 2020 elections, sided with former President Trump when it came to peddling election lies and questioning the legitimacy of our elections, and even said of the Capitol insurrection: ["It was nothing. It was just patriots standing up."](#)

Now, the News & Observer [Editorial Board](#) is taking Congressman Budd to task for his efforts to distract voters from that track record as the January 6th Congressional Hearings continue to reveal Republicans' coordinated efforts to incite a violent insurrection and subvert the will of American voters in 2020.

Read more:

News & Observer: Trump ally Ted Budd is avoiding Jan. 6 and the election lies he once helped spread

- It should be impossible to avoid the Jan. 6 committee hearings — especially if you're a politician asking people to vote for you in November. But it seems U.S. Rep. Ted Budd, the Republican nominee for North Carolina's open U.S. Senate seat, wants to do just that.
- But he's said nary a word about the conspiracy-fueled insurrection incited by the former president, nor the hearings that are seeking to remind us of it.
- Neither Budd's campaign nor his congressional office responded to questions from the Editorial Board regarding his thoughts on the Jan. 6 hearings and whether he'd changed his mind about voter fraud in the 2020 election.
- With democracy itself on the ballot in November, Budd should be frank with voters and tell them where he stands. Does he regret peddling lies and attempting to reject the outcome of a completely legitimate election? Or does he still think that what happened on Jan. 6 was "nothing"?
- Silence isn't a sign of leadership — it's a sign of cowardice. If Budd has had a change of heart, he should say so, and explain why he still supports the former president anyway. If not, it's time to own it.

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News from Neighbors on Call

Voting Rights

- [The North Carolina Republican Party submitted a written request to the NC State Board of Elections asking that county boards verify voter signatures on requests for absentee ballots and the ballots themselves.](#) Voting rights advocates spoke against signature verification requirements, warning that such a practice would be an unnecessary administrative burden, rely on subjective judgment about signatures (which often change), and would likely disenfranchise eligible voters. NCBOE is [accepting public comment on this issue until July 5.](#)

Economic and Housing Policy

- [A Republican-sponsored bill that would allow commercial builders to use a private-sector engineer or architect to approve construction plans when there is a delay in government permitting passed a committee in the NC Senate this week.](#) HB 291 would eliminate some unpredictability in the construction market stemming from backlogs at local code enforcement offices by setting a 21-day limit on review of construction plans at local offices and allowing builders to receive approval from a private-sector architect or engineer. The NC League of Municipalities opposes the bill.

Health Care Policy

- [A bill to legalize medical marijuana stalled in the NC House this week after passing the NC Senate.](#) Republican House Speaker Tim Moore opposes [SB 711](#) and said that he will not bring it to a vote in the House during this legislative session. Supporters of cannabis legalization were disappointed by the bill's stalling.

Education and LGBTQ Rights

- [A bill that has been called North Carolina's version of Florida's "Don't Say Gay" bill has stalled in the NC General Assembly.](#) On Wednesday Republican NC House Speaker Tim Moore said that [HB 755](#) does not have enough votes in the House to override an expected veto by Governor Cooper, so it will not be brought to the floor during this legislative session. While all Republicans in the NC House support the bill, three Democratic votes would be needed to override a veto. As reported by WRAL, Speaker Moore said, "We're feeling very bullish about next year and about the super majority. [This is] the kind of issue that we can take up in next year's session."

Criminal Justice

[An NC House bill that would give attorneys more opportunities to fight NC State Bar complaints against them passed its second reading on Thursday.](#) [HB 869](#), which has bipartisan sponsorship, would add a step to the existing process by which a committee reviews such complaints, allowing attorneys to appear before a new panel that would review the committee decision. The bill would also make certain state bar documents confidential, including documents related to requests for ethics advice.

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News from the New North Carolina Project

Recent SCOTUS Rulings

The Supreme Court of the United States has been releasing rulings from cases that they heard earlier this year and late last year. Here's a quick rundown of some of the cases released in the last week:

- [Dobbs v. Jackson](#) - Overrules Roe v. Wade and returns the decisions back to the states
- [NRA v. Bruen](#) - SCOTUS effectively de-regulates concealed carry permits.
- [Berger v. NC NAACP](#) - SCOTUS rules that NC Republicans are allowed to intervene in a case challenging North Carolina's voter ID law. Currently Attorney General Josh Stein is challenging the case that has been juggled around multiple courts in NC.
- [Vega v. Tekoh](#) - SCOTUS chips away at Miranda Rights and rules that people that have been arrested do not have grounds to sue police officers.
- [Carson v. Makin](#) - With the SCOTUS' decision, taxpayers will be forced to pay for private schools run by religious organizations in many states.
- [Marietta Memorial Hospital v. DaVita](#) - The SCOTUS ruling says that health insurance companies can limit paying for outpatient dialysis for patients in late-stage renal disease.
- [Shoop v. Twyford](#) - SCOTUS reverses an order that allowed incarcerated people on death row to search for new evidence that would help show that their sentences were unconstitutional.
- [George v. McDonough](#) - SCOTUS rules that veterans cannot challenge a denial of benefits due to a legal error.
- [Viking River Cruises, Inc v. Moran](#) - the court rules that the Federal Arbitration Act of 1925 preempts a California ruling that allowed workers to hold employers accountable for workplace-wide violations before judges and juries. This gives more power to corporations rather than to workers.

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Selected News and Opinion Stories of Note

- [Carolina Public Press: NC Officials Respond to Supreme Court Decision to Overturn Roe v Wade](#)
- [Chapelboro.com: Pittsboro Commissioners Vote to Investigate and Pursue Litigation Against PFAS and 1,4-Dioxane Polluters](#)
- [The AssemblyNC.com: The State of Last Resort?](#)
- [Carolina Public Press: NC Senate Waters Down DNA Collection Bill](#)
- [Chatham News + Record: Vinfast Speeds Toward July Start](#)
- [USAToday.com: Supreme Court: North Carolina Republicans May Intervene to Defend Voter ID, Ballot Law](#)