



**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE**  
**NORTH CAROLINA STATE CONFERENCE**

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Rev. Dr. William J. Barber, II  
President

June 2, 2014

Honorable Phil Berger  
President Pro Tempore of the North Carolina Senate  
Honorable Thom Tillis  
Speaker of the NC House of Representatives  
16 West Jones Street  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

Dear President Pro Tem Berger and Speaker Tillis,

We come to your office today as a part of the Forward Together Moral Movement. We are North Carolinians calling on the NC General Assembly to **repeal** the harmful policies passed in the legislative body last year, **repent** for the harmful impact those policies are having on poor and working class North Carolinians and rise to higher ground to **restore** a legislative commitment to justice and love for all, especially those at the margins of our society.

Today, we place special emphasis on our request that you repeal the extremist policies that have allowed fracking and unsecured coal ash deposits in our state and that have denied 500,000 poor North Carolinians access to health coverage by refusing the Medicaid expansion, which would have saved 2,800 lives this year. We demand that you reject the current budget proposal that would further cut Medicaid in North Carolina to those with disabilities who can least afford it, that you reverse last year's list of regressive changes to environmental protection rules and repeal the recently passed fracking bill that will impact the health of North Carolinians for years to come.

We recognize that reversing these actions will not solve every problem that our state faces. We ask that you reverse course because your actions have made challenging situations even more painful for so many. We call on you today to reverse course by repenting, repealing and restoring our state to higher ground by eliminating the laws and policies pushed by this NC Legislature, led by Speaker Tillis and Senate Leader Berger and signed by Governor Pat McCrory, including:

- The denial federal funds for Medicaid to 500,000 poor North Carolinians;

- The cuts to unemployment benefits from 165,000 North Carolinians;
- The appropriation of millions of dollars from public education to a voucher plan that would hand out public money to private schools;
- The passage of the most extreme voter suppression law in the country since the days of Jim Crow, including but not limited to provisions cutting early voting by a full week, banning same-day registration, implementing a photo ID requirement that is more restrictive than the laws in Alabama and South Carolina;
- The tax increase on 900,000 of North Carolina's working poor by ending the Earned Income Tax Credit;
- The tax cuts to the wealthiest few and to corporations that have devastated our state revenues, making it increasingly more difficult for North Carolina to provide for its public education system;
- The repeal of the Racial Justice Act;
- Legislation allowing devastating fracking practices that are concentrated in poor and minority communities.

As our fellow North Carolinian, we pray and hope that you will help this legislature and our state turn away from a path towards political and moral tragedy. You have the opportunity to repeal extreme laws that target the poor, workers, women, children, the elderly, the disabled, African Americans, Latinos, Native Americans and other minorities. We need every North Carolinian to have the opportunity for a successful and healthy life if we are indeed to move forward together.

With love for the all the people of North Carolina and hope of a better state,

The Forward Together Moral Movement