



## DURHAM COUNTY LOCAL LEGISLATIVE GOALS

2025

*(If a bill was introduced, it is noted along with name of sponsor and status)*

**Goal Title:** Amend legislation to add Durham County to the local governments contained in G. S. § 132-1.11A.

**Goal Description:** Resources for Youth Success & Empowerment (RYSE) Assessment Center, based in our Durham County Youth Home, provides a non-threatening, inclusive atmosphere for parents who are simply looking for information for their youth who are exhibiting social, emotional, or behavioral challenges. The RYSE Assessment Center is a community-focused program that connects youth and their families to a plethora of resources in Durham County. To support this work, they are asking that Durham County be added to this legislation:

§ 132-1.11A. Limited access to identifying information of minors participating in local government programs and programs funded by the North Carolina Partnership for Children, Inc., or a local partnership in certain localities.

(a) A public record, as defined by G.S. 132-1, does not include, as to any minor participating in a program sponsored by a local government or combination of local governments, a program funded by the North Carolina Partnership for Children, Inc., under G.S. 143B-168.12, or a program funded by a local partnership under G.S. 143B-168.14, any of the following information as to that minor participant: (i) name, (ii) address, (iii) age, (iv) date of birth, (v) telephone number, (vi) the name or address of that minor participant's parent or legal guardian, (vii) e-mail address, or (viii) any other identifying information on an application to participate in such program or other records related to that program. Notwithstanding this subsection, the name of a minor who has received a scholarship or other local government-funded award of a financial nature from a local government is a public record.

(b) The county, municipality, and zip code of residence of each participating minor covered by subsection (a) of this section is a public record, with the information listed in subsection (a) of this section redacted.

- (c) Nothing in this section makes the information listed in subsection (a) of this section confidential information.
- (d) This section applies to the County of Chatham, the Towns of Apex, Cary, Fuquay-Varina, Garner, Holly Springs, Knightdale, Morrisville, Rolesville, Wake Forest, Wendell, and Zebulon, and the City of Raleigh only. (2008-126, s. 1; 2012-67, s. 1; 2012-139, s. 1(a), (b); 2012-194, s. 70.5(a), (c).)

**Status: SB 209 Data Privacy for Minors.. Sponsors: Sens. Chitlik, Murdock.**

**Status Senate Rules**

**Goal Title: Seek funding of \$30 million to enhance Utility System and upgrades to support ongoing Economic Growth in RTP service area**

**Goal Description:** Seek increased funding to support the Utility System upgrades to support ongoing Economic Growth in the Research Triangle Park Service area. This will include additional work for Phase IV as well as identified collection system work, additionally it will support feasibility studies for expansion to ensure appropriate timing/planning for RTP growth needs.

**Status: SB 210 Funds/Durham Co. Wastewater Utility/RTP. Sponsors: Sens. Murdock, Chitlik.**

**Status: Senate Rules**

**Goal Title: Increase Funding for Community College System**

**Goal Description:** Seek increased funding to support the 58 campuses of the North Carolina Community College System, and to provide high quality, accessible educational opportunities for an increasing numbers of students

**Status: No action currently, but I will note the proposed Senate Budget includes a reduction in administrative funding for the Community College System**

**Goal Title: Increase state funds for Economic Development**

**Goal Description:** Continue to seek legislation to grow North Carolina's statewide economy through state investments, including public infrastructure funding, competitive incentives, and coordinated efforts with county economic development services.

**Status: No action currently**

**Goal Title: Increase the minimum wage/living wage for all state and local government workers.**

**Goal Description:** Seek legislation to increase the minimum wage for all state and local government workers. The increase can be aligned with current data as found in the NC Budget and Tax Center latest report now listed as \$18.50.

**HB 353 Fair Minimum Wage Act. Sponsor: Rep. Morey**

**Status-House Rules**

**Goal Title: Support Transit Funding for Urban and Rural Communities**

**Goal Description:** Support increased state funding for existing and new transportation construction and maintenance needs, and support legislation to ensure that the Strategic Transportation Investments (STI) funding formula recognizes that one size does not fit all and that projects in both rural and urban areas are prioritized and funded.

**Status: No action currently**

**Goal Title: Support increased State funding for Women, Children and Families**

**Goal Description** Seek additional funding to increase access to high quality childcare, early childhood education, child welfare services, adult protective services and guardianship, including grant funding to local health departments for critical services like maternal health, child health and women's health services.

**Status: No action currently**

**Goal Title: Increase the compulsory school attendance age from 16-18**

**Goal Description:** Seek legislation to increase mandatory school attendance age from 16-18. Pilot programs exist currently in our state, and a possible implementation strategy might be to make the increase over a period of 3-5 years. Students who stay in school longer and finish have statistically better life outcomes. They can receive job training, avoid a life of poverty and contribute positively to our society.

**Status: No action currently**

**Goal Title: Seek legislation to increase funding for childcare funding structures that provide affordable childcare to help workers remain in the work force.**

**Goal Description:** According to the NC Chamber, when employees don't have access to reliable, affordable care, they can't work. In fact, [20% of working parents quit](#) or reduce their working hours due to lack of child care, resulting in costly productivity losses for employers. Providing assistance to parents and increasing salaries for childcare workers benefits our entire economy.

**SB 281 [Essential Relief for Child Care Act](#). Sponsor: Sen. Chitlik**

**Status: Senate Com On Appropriations/Base Budget**

**Goal Title: Seek legislation to reduce the expansion of private school vouchers and prioritize investing in the state's public schools.**

**Goal Description:** We have seen that expanding private school vouchers is disproportionately impacting rural North Carolina counties, where access to private education is limited and public schools serve as the backbone of communities. Data indicates that nearly  $\frac{1}{4}$  of our counties, or all rural counties, have no or just one private school participating in the voucher program. By diverting public funds to wealthier urban areas, private school vouchers are deepening the resource gap and undermining the educational opportunities for rural students. Funds should be prioritized to improve our public schools and requisite teacher pay instead.

**Status: No action currently**